

State Wetland Mapping Conventions Update

South Dakota (SD)

Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended; the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR, Part 1500); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regulations (7 CFR, Part 650); the NRCS gives notices that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the State Wetland Mapping Conventions Update in SD.

The environmental assessment of this federal action indicates the action will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Janet Oertly, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement is not needed for this action. This action is in accordance with NRCS regulations (7 CFR, Part 12.6 (c) (6)) and policy in the National Food Security Act Manual (NFSAM), Part 514.1 A (3).

The purpose of the action is to provide timely customer service. The recommended action allows the optional use of offsite wetland procedures on certain potential wetlands and is described as follows: Potential wetlands that are depressionnal, not manipulated, not mapped on National Wetland Inventory (NWI), and have less than or equal to 30 percent wetland signatures would be labeled as Nonwetland (NW). Potential wetlands that are depressionnal, manipulated, not mapped on the NWI, and have less than or equal to 30 percent wetland signatures would be labeled NW/Prior Converted (PC). Potential wetlands that are depressionnal, not manipulated, have greater than or equal to 65 percent wetland signatures regardless of NWI status would be labeled as Wetland (W) if the soil was mapped hydric or had mapped hydric inclusions. All sites identified on NWI having less than 65 percent wetland signatures would continue to be field verified. Scope and effect would continue to be field verified for wetland sites labeled as Farmed Wetland (FW). Participant appeal rights would remain unchanged.

The notice of FONSI has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various federal, state, and local agencies and interested parties. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests and basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Kevin Luebke, Biologist, USDA-NRCS, 200 4th St. SW, Rm. 203, Huron, SD 57350. Mr. Luebke may be reached by phone at (605) 352-1242, or by e-mail at kevin.luebke@sd.usda.gov. A copy of the FONSI and Environmental Assessment is available on the SD NRCS Web site at: http://www.sd.nrcs.usda.gov/Public_Notices.html.

No administrative action on the implementation of this action will be taken until 30 days after the date of this notice.



JANET L. OERTLY
State Conservationist