



Natural Resources Conservation Service
One Credit Union Place, Suite 340
Harrisburg, PA 1700-2993

January 28, 2010

**NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY ACT MANUAL
PA 180 – CPA
Part 514, Supplement No. 2**

SUBJECT: CPA – Wetland Determination Job-Approval Authority

Purpose. To supplement the NFSAM to establish wetland determination job-approval authority requirements in Pennsylvania.

Effective Date. This Supplement is effective when received.

Background. The State Conservationist is responsible for maintaining a roster of employees who are qualified to conduct wetland determinations and delineations.

Filing instructions. This Supplement should be filed immediately following Title 180, Part 514, Subpart A, 514.1, B.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. C. Brown".

DAVID C. BROWN
Acting State Conservationist

DIST: NFSAM Holders

Title 180 – Conservation Planning and Application
PART 514 – Wetland Determination and Labels
Subpart A – Wetland Determination and Delineation

CONTENTS

PART 514.1 – Requirements for Job-Approval Authority
PA Supplement No. 2

Sec.

PA514.1.B.-2 Job-Approval Authority

Off-Site Office Wetland Determinations

Only Field Office employees who have both received training and demonstrated the ability to satisfactorily complete Certified Wetland Determinations will receive job-approval authority to independently complete off-site (office) wetland determinations. Initial training will consist of participating in or reviewing remote training, such as net meetings, provided by designated State Office specialists; or, receiving one-on-one training from a designated Area or State Office specialist.

After completing the initial training, Field Office employees will be required to demonstrate proficiency in making Certified Wetland Determinations by submitting their first wetland determination completed after the initial training to a designated Area or State Office specialist with job-approval authority to review and train others. The State Biologist will grant job-approval authority in writing for making certified wetland determinations and for reviewing the work of others and training others.

On-Site Field Determinations

Only employees who have both received on-site wetland identification training approved by the State Office and satisfactorily demonstrated the ability to conduct field delineations of wetland boundaries will receive job-approval authority to independently complete on-site (field) wetland determinations. Examples of approved training are U.S. Army Corps of Engineers “Regulatory IV” or equivalent training, NRCS National Employee Development courses on the Wetland Conservation Provisions of the Food Security Act, and supplemental training in Soils, Hydrology, and Botany.

The State Biologist will grant job-approval authority in writing for making on-site (field) wetland determinations and delineations of boundaries.

Roster of qualified employees

The State Resource Conservationist will maintain the roster of employees who are qualified to conduct off site wetland determinations and/or on site field visit based wetland delineations.