

The WRE ST sub-committee met through the course of the summer of 2020, to complete the three required components of NY – NRCS Wetland Restoration Criteria Guidance (WRCG), as required by the FY 2018 Farm Bill.

The three completed sections are:

- 1) Historic Wetlands
- 2) Alternative Communities
- 3) Adjacent Lands

Participants in the development of these sections are as follows:

- 1) Carl Schwartz - USFWS
- 2) Marcello Del Puerto – NSYDEC
- 3) Tom Lagan – Clarkson University
- 4) Kim Farrell – NY NRCS State Biologist
- 5) Teresa Schwartz – NY NRCS Area Biologist
- 6) Mike Shaw – NY NRCS Area Biologist
- 7) Carrie Hoffa – NY Area Biologist
- 8) Peter Gibbs – NY NRCS Easement Programs Manager

This subcommittee will work on additional sections of the WRCG during FY 2021. The 4<sup>th</sup> section to be developed will address Compatible Use Authorizations (CUA). We will review of our 10 template CUAs, to determine if any of the templates need updates. We will also look to see if we can streamline the document packets that are submitted for approval.

We may work on additional sections but that has yet to be decided.

New York will develop revised Geographic Area Rate Caps (GARC), which set our WRE easement payments, for FY 2021. The revised GARCs will be based on the findings of a new Area Wide Market Analysis (AWMA), which has been ordered. The AWMA will look at six Property Class Code (PCC) values (the selected PCCs are the six typically enrolled into WRE) within each of the seven delineated watersheds (Lower Hudson/Long Island, St. Lawrence/Champlain, Hudson/Mohawk, Susquehanna/Delaware, Oneida/Ontario, Finger Lakes, Great Lakes/Allegany). The State Technical Subcommittee will be provided an opportunity to review and comment on the FY 2021 GARCs, as we do each year. This will likely be provided to you via an email with attachments and a deadline for commenting.