



Wetland News Digest

Editor's Note

Dear Wetlanders,

NAWM staff are busy preparing for our annual [State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting](#) that we are hosting at the Arbor Day Farm Lied Lodge, in Nebraska City, NE from May 2-4, 2023. This year marks NAWM's 40th anniversary, and we are excited to celebrate at this new, beautiful, conservation-focused facility in America's heartland. May will also be American Wetlands Month and Migratory Bird month – I hope to see many of you there in person!

In this month's edition of *Wetland News Digest*, there are of course, a few stories tracking the Waters of the U.S. debacle - which I'm certain will continue to dominate the news for some time. There are also two articles in [Editor's Choice](#) focused on issues regarding the Colorado River shortages and in [National News](#), you'll find information on FEMA's new nature-based solutions guide. As usual, we keep you up to date with [state and tribal news](#), [wetland science](#), and more!

I hope you will all follow us on social media as we celebrate American Wetlands Month in May – we will be posting fun trivia, videos, games, and more on a daily basis. You can find us on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter!



Best regards,

Marla Stelk, Editor
Wetland News Digest
NAWM

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*Dedicated to
Protecting
the Nation's
Wetlands*

Editor's Choice

Biden's Waters Rule Blocked in 24 More States by Federal Judge

By Bobby Magill – Bloomberg Law – April 12, 2023

A federal judge on Wednesday enjoined the EPA's new waters and wetlands protection rule from being enforced in 24 states, issuing a preliminary injunction similar to a ruling in March blocking the rule in Texas and Idaho. The Biden administration's 2023 waters of the US, or WOTUS, rule that took effect March 20 is now enjoined in more than half the country. A Kentucky federal judge declined to issue an injunction against the rule there in a similar lawsuit in early April. [Read more.](#)

Biden vetoes congressional bid to undo his water regulations

By Rachel Frazin – The Hill – April 6, 2023

President Biden on Thursday vetoed an attempt by Congress to undo waterway pollution regulations put forward by his administration — marking the second veto of his presidency and effectively killing the attempt to nullify the water rule. Majorities of both chambers of Congress had voted to nix the Biden rules, which defined which waters are subject to federal protections. [Read more.](#)

Interior unveils plans for Colorado River cuts

By Jenifer Yachnin E&E News – Greenwire April 11, 2023

The Biden administration on Tuesday released its initial proposals to address shortages on the drought-ravaged Colorado River — offering contrasting plans that would either force California to forfeit a significant portion of its flows or concentrate the pain of cuts on Arizona and Nevada. The emergency plans attempt to save hydropower production on the river — which serves some 40 million individuals in seven states — by raising water levels in Lake Powell and Lake Mead, which have dropped precipitously in recent years. [Read more.](#)

Biden Administration Invests \$343 Million in Tribal Water Resources and Colorado River Conservation

By Nicholas Vincent – One Green Planet – April 11, 2023

In an effort to improve water conservation and enhance tribal water resources, the Biden administration has announced a \$343 million investment in projects across the Colorado River Basin. This investment is part of a \$15.4 billion allocation from the bipartisan infrastructure law and Inflation Reduction Act, aimed at increasing the West's resilience to drought. [Read more.](#)

NAWM's Wetlands One-Stop Mapping

National Data Sets & Information

LLWW Date & Information

LLWW Classification

LLww Reports

Wetland Functional Assessments

Funding for Wetland Mapping

Wetland Mapping Consortium

New updated webpages



National Association of Wetland Managers

Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting

Protecting and Restoring Wetlands for People and Wildlife

May 2 - 4, 2023

*Optional field trip on May 5th.

Arbor Day Farm's Lied Lodge
Nebraska City, NE



Image by Mariah Lundgren
Platte Basin Timelapse

www.nawm.org

Remote Participation is Now Open

Registration Deadline is Wednesday, April 26th at 3:00 p.m. ET

The National Association of Wetland Managers' (NAWM) [Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting](#) will be held on May 2-4, 2023 at the Arbor Day Farm's Lied Lodge in Nebraska City, NE. We look forward to catching up with everyone in person and learning about all the diverse and innovative projects happening in agencies across the country. We realize, however, that not everyone can participate in person. In the past we have provided a platform for [remote participation](#). We are pleased to once again be able to provide this service.

Visit the meeting website for more information and to register.

Host Sponsor



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National News

EPA issues strongest statement to date about danger of PFAS in drinking water

By Chloe Johnson – PHYS.org – April 10, 2023

EPA Administrator Michael Regan last month made one of his agency's strongest statements to date about the danger of "forever chemicals." New restrictions on those pollutants in drinking water would "prevent thousands of deaths and prevent tens of thousands of serious PFAS-related illnesses," Regan said. [Read more.](#)

Rounds offers NRCS Wetland Compliance and Appeals Reform Act

By Ripon Advance News Service – The Ripon Advance – April 5, 2023

To safeguard farmers, ranchers and landowners from bureaucratic overreach, U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds (R-SD) recently proposed legislation that would reform programs at the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The NRCS Wetland Compliance and Appeals Reform Act, S. 1078, which has two original cosponsors, including U.S. Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND), also aims to empower producers to continue protecting their land as they see fit, according to a bill summary provided by Sen. Rounds' staff. [Read more.](#)

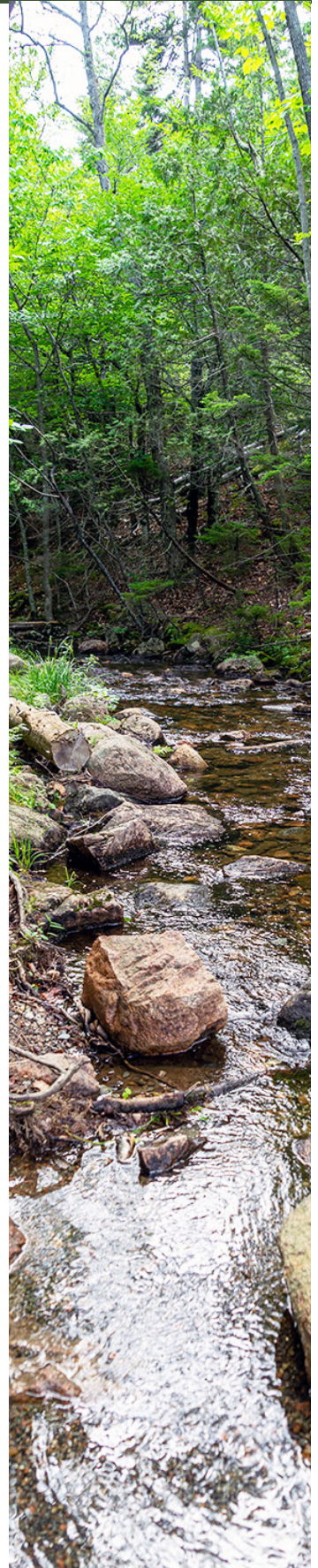
Northwest shellfish growers want 'blitz' against invasive green crabs

By Tom Banse – knkx – April 5, 2023

Shellfish growers in Willapa Bay in southwest Washington, the self-styled "Oyster Capital of the World," are alarmed by an invasion of potentially destructive non-native European green crabs. Some are asking for an all-out trapping offensive to corral the invasive species. The spread of the voracious eaters is a coast-wide concern from northern California to Alaska, but the stakes are particularly high on the productive tidelands alongside the Long Beach Peninsula. [Read more.](#)

FEMA Releases New Nature-Based Solutions Guide

On March 21, 2023, FEMA released a second guide in a series focused on nature-based solutions to minimize the risk of natural hazards. The first guide, [Building Community Resilience With Nature-Based Solutions: A Guide for Local Communities](#), makes the case for using nature-based solutions. It tells readers how to include nature-based solutions in community planning, and it goes over funding options. The second guide, [Building Community Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions: Strategies for Success](#), gives community leaders five main strategies to carry out nature-based solutions projects, with some case studies.



Upcoming Tribal Wetland Programs Webinars

Monitoring and Assessment Data: Collection and Applications for Tribal Wetland Programs

Thursday, April 20, 2023 - 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EDT



Kerryann Weaver
Wetlands Section Supervisor
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Michelle Bahnick
Wetland Biologist
Tulalip Tribes of Washington
Natural and Cultural Resources Division



Buddy Gopher
Wetland Coordinator
Chippewa Cree Tribe



Laurel Wilson
Wetlands Specialist
Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

[Register](#)

[More Information](#)

A **Certificate of Attendance** to be used toward Continuing Education Credits is available when participating in NAWM's live webinars. All NAWM members receive free Certificates of Attendance for webinars. Non-Members who request a certificate will be charged a processing fee of \$25.00. You will have up to 60 days to retrieve your certificate. Certificates are not available for viewing recorded webinars. [More information can be found here](#). Membership information can be [found here](#).

Members' Only Webinar Series

Developing a Statewide Hydraulic Modeling Tool

Wednesday, April 26, 2023 - 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EDT



Scott Jackson

Extension Professor
Department of Environmental
Conservation
University of Massachusetts
Amherst



Gardner Bent

Surface-Water Specialist
New England Water
Science Center



David Hilgeman

Senior Environmental
Engineer, MassDEP

[Register](#)

[More Information](#)

Members' Webinar Recording Now Available

Mitigating Environmental Impacts of the Abandoned Interstate I-95 Embankment across Rumney Marsh

Held March 22, 2023



Ed Reiner

Senior Wetland Scientist
U.S. EPA, New England
Regional Office

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Select year

Scroll to view webinars

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Wetland Mapping Consortium Webinar

Examples of semi-automation for mapping Cowardin classes and wetland vegetation in Alaska

Thursday, April 27, 2023 - 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. EDT



Timm Nawrocki
Alaska Center for Conservation Science

[Register](#)

[More Information](#)

Recording Now Available - Hot Topics Webinars

Introduction to the new national manual on the Ordinary High Water Mark

Held Wednesday, March 29, 2023



Gabrielle C. L. David, Ph.D.
Research Physical Scientist
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Research Development Center

[View Recording](#)

Receive Information on Upcoming NAWM Webinars



Photo Credit: Matt Schweisberg, Wetland Strategies and Solutions, LLC, New England

Upcoming Tribal Wetland Programs Webinars

Geospatial Mapping Tools and Techniques for Tribal Wetland Programs

Thursday, June 15, 2023 - 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EDT

[Register](#)

Education and Outreach Efforts to Support Tribal Wetland Programs

Thursday, September 21, 2023 - 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

[Register](#)

Approaches to Sustainable Funding for Tribal Wetland Programs

Thursday, November 2, 2023 - 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EDT

[Register](#)

Recorded Tribal Wetland Programs Webinar

Developing Your Tribal Wetland Program

Held Thursday, February 16, 2023



Marla Stelk

National Association of
Wetland Managers



Blair Libby

Confederated Salish and
Kootenai Tribes



Rick Gitar

Fond du Lac Reservation
Office of Water Protection

[View Recording](#)

State and Tribal News

CA: Floodplain restoration projects on the Carmel River hold promise to protect against future floods.

By David Schmalz – Monterey County Weekly – April 10, 2023

The good news for those who live in the Carmel River floodplain is that Big Sur Land Trust's Carmel River FREE (Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement) project, [which will use a former artichoke field east of Highway 1 as an overflow when waters get too high](#), plans to help protect the lower Carmel Valley from flooding. Another initiative in this vein, which was approved by the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District's board on April 5, is the [Rancho Cañada Floodplain Restoration](#) project that will widen the river channel as it passes through Palo Corona Regional Park, and restore 40 acres of riparian habitat along a mile-long corridor. [Read more.](#)

CA: Groundwater report could ease residents' concerns about future East Bay wetland

By Judith Prieve – The Mercury News – March 26, 2023

A planned wetland in far eastern Contra Costa County is not likely to affect the nearby groundwater, a new report concludes – but it remains to be seen if that will sway some neighbors who fear the project could harm their drinking water drawn from wells. The 645-acre wetland project aims to curb potential flooding and poor stormwater quality while fending off encroaching development and improving habitat for threatened wildlife such as red-legged frogs, fairy shrimp and burrowing owls. [Read more.](#)

FL: Wetland Protection to be Weakened in Manatee County

By Glenn Compton – The Bradenton Tunes – April 2, 2023

Manatee County is rewriting the wetlands protection policies of the Comprehensive Plan & Land Development Code. The proposed revisions will further weaken the already weak wetlands protection policies in Manatee County and are a significant step backward for wetlands protection. The anticipated changes to the Land Development Code and Comprehensive Plan will encourage developers to design wetlands around projects instead of projects around wetlands. The proposed revisions do nothing to encourage a landowner to modify their land use plans around wetlands. [Read more.](#)

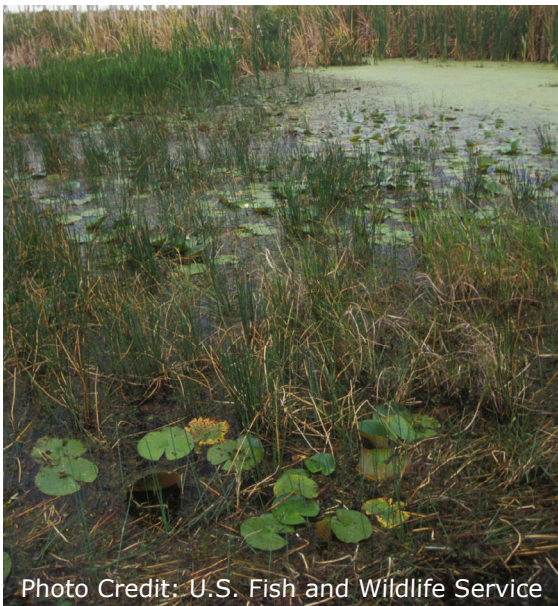


Photo Credit: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FL: South Florida's wading birds nested at near-record numbers

By Tom Bayles – WGCU – March 15, 2023

In 2021, the Western monarch butterfly made an astounding comeback in California, the Great Barrier Reef displayed unmistakable signs of recovery in Australia, and a giant tortoise thought to be extinct for more than a century was deemed alive, well, and in desperate need of a mate in the Galapagos Islands. Nature launched another environmental marvel closer to home in 2021, one just made public. Wading birds, long-considered sentinel species because the health of their populations track closely with the well-being of the environment they inhabit, nested throughout the Florida Everglades in vast numbers not seen since the 1930s. [Read more.](#)

GA: 'Why mine so close?': the fight to protect the pristine Okefenokee swamp

By Oliver Milman – The Guardian – April 1, 2023

Humans, as a general rule, are rather unkind to swamps. They are disparaged as rotten places that must be drained, either literally, to make way for farmland and houses, or metaphorically, to make way for demagogues. It's to this backdrop that one of the last remaining intact large swamps in the US, a pristine wetland almost unrivaled anywhere in the world, finds itself under threat from a planned mining project. The Okefenokee swamp, found in the deep southern reaches of Georgia, may lack the fame of the fabled national parks of the US, but it is no less remarkable. Untouched by development, the 440,000-acre (180,000-hectare) swamp is a sort of time machine, offering an idea of what this mosaic of pine islands, with its riot of wildlife, would have looked shortly after its formation about 7,000 years ago. [Read more.](#)

GA: After decades, project to fix a Georgia salt marsh shows early results

By Emily Jones – WABE – March 24, 2023

On the southern end of the Georgia coast, old scars left in the marshes by the logging industry are starting to heal, thanks to new federal funds. Officials announced the completion of the first stage of the project Friday. Back in the 1930s, logging companies and the Army Corps of Engineers made straight cuts through the tidal salt marshes to make it easier to transport timber from Georgia's rich forests via the rivers and the Intracoastal Waterway. Almost immediately, problems arose. [Read more.](#)

HI: 'Forever Chemicals' Have Been Found In Hawaii's Environment. Now What?

By Christina Jedra – Civil Beat – March 15, 2023

For years, Ron Fitzgerald and Sam A'i have tended to their farm in Waiawa. What began as a dream of raising their family on the land led to teaching students Native Hawaiian practices of caring for the aina. But now, they're worried about how "forever chemical" pollution could impact their taro patch and fish ponds. The Hawaii Army National Guard has identified toxic chemicals known as PFAS in the nearby groundwater and is now in the process of testing local private wells. [Read more.](#)

IL: Are Floating Wetlands Making a Difference in Urban Rivers? Chicago Researchers Say the Ecosystem Life Rafts Are Working

By Patty Wetli – wttw – March 31, 2023

Chicago may be unique in having reversed its river's flow, but in terms of corralling and despoiling a waterway, it has plenty of company among cities around the globe. Now, as the pendulum has swung away from treating these channels like dumping grounds for human and industrial waste, the challenge has become how to clean up and revitalize urban rivers within the confines of what they've become, not what they were. [Read more.](#)

IN: Indiana House Republicans Push Forward Bill Reducing Few Remaining State Wetland Protections

By Enrique Saenz – Indiana Environmental Reporter – March 28, 2023
Indiana House Republicans defeated an attempt to remove language that weakened the few remaining state protections for wetlands in the state from a bill originally addressing on-site sewage systems. [Senate Bill 414](#) was originally a widely supported bill establishing state-wide rules for the use of onsite residential sewage discharge disposal systems, but a last-minute amendment by Indiana Builders Association member and real estate broker Rep. Doug Miller tightened restrictions on which wetlands could receive state protections. [Read more.](#)

KY: Judge Rules Against Kentucky Challenge to Biden WOTUS Rule

By Tom Ichniowski – ENR – April 3, 2023
A federal judge in Kentucky has denied the state’s request to block the Biden administration’s new regulation redefining federally regulated “waters of the United States” from taking effect within the commonwealth. In a March 31 decision, U.S. District Court Judge Gregory F. Van Tatenhove wrote that Kentucky and a group of construction and other business organizations lacked legal standing to bring the case. He stated that “the claimed financial and sovereignty injuries are too speculative to constitute injuries in fact.” [Read more.](#)

ME: Bill aims to prevent invasive species from bypassing 2 eastern Maine dams

By Pete Warner – WGME – March 28, 2023
The illegal introduction of invasive species poses a serious threat to the health of existing native fish populations in Maine’s lakes and rivers. In some places, illegally placed fish such as northern pike have wiped out existing populations of coldwater game fish, overtaking the lakes where they were introduced, and have quickly spread to adjacent waters. Making sure that doesn’t happen in some of the state’s most prized landlocked salmon and brook trout fisheries in the Penobscot River watershed is the aim of LD 1049. [Read more.](#)

MA: Most of world’s salt marshes likely to be underwater by 2100, study concludes

By Marine Biological Laboratory – Newswire – March 30, 2023
Cape Cod’s salt marshes are as iconic as they are important. These beautiful, low-lying wetlands are some of the most biologically productive ecosystems on Earth. They play an outsized role in nitrogen cycling, act as carbon sinks, protect coastal development from storm surge, and provide critical habitats and nurseries for many fish, shellfish, and coastal birds. And, according to new research from the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL), more than 90 percent of the world’s salt marshes are likely to be underwater by the end of the century. The findings come from a 50-year study in Great Sippewissett Marsh in Falmouth, Massachusetts. [Read more.](#)



Long Beach Mitigation Bank, Pacific Co., WA
Photo Credit: Lauren Driscoll, WA Dept. of Ecology

MA: Environmental Agencies to Fund Wetland, Floodplain, and Groundwater Restoration in Tewksbury

Contacts: Ed Coletta and Keith Shannon – U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – March 30, 2023
The Natural Resource Damages Trustee Council for the Sutton Brook Disposal Area Superfund Site will fund two projects located at Poplar Street and Mollie Drive in Tewksbury, Massachusetts, that will restore wetland, floodplain, and groundwater resources using \$1.65 million in Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration settlement funds. The restoration at Poplar Street will restore buried wetlands, reestablish connections between existing wetlands, and increase the floodplain storage capacity and the ability of the site to recharge groundwater. The restoration at Mollie Drive will restore buried wetlands, as well as restore floodplain storage capacity. The projects are more fully described in the final restoration plan and environmental assessment released this week. [Read more.](#)

MA: A small army of citizen scientists cluster at Cape rivers each spring to count fish. Why?

By Heather McCarron – Cape Cod Times – April 6, 2023

In the early morning, just as the stars are fading out of view and the eastern sky is separating into the layered colors of dawn, Jane Ward makes her way to the edge of Centerville's Long Pond, flashlight in hand. Here, she trains her attention on the spot where the Centerville River — really a stream — begins to pour down toward the Herring River, which eventually lets out into East Bay at Dowses Beach, and finally into Nantucket Sound. She watches for river herring, at last arriving after untold miles of ocean travel and about a mile of upstream pushing against the current in their instinctual drive to return to the pond of their birth to spawn. [Read more.](#)

MI: Whitmer allocates \$10 million to wetland conservation

By Liz Nass – The State News – March 27, 2023

Michigan State University was built on marshy land, looking more like a wetland than a college campus when it was founded. Many institutions and infrastructure in Michigan have been based in wetland areas due to the Great Lakes, yet wetlands are not seen as frequently as they used to exist in the state. In early March, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed an appropriations bill, which allocated \$10 million to help with the restoration and preservation of Michigan's Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands. [Read more.](#)

MI: \$1.7M in conservation grants to improve water quality, habitat resilience in southeast Michigan

By Kaniqua Welch – The Kresge Foundation – March 15, 2023

The Southeast Michigan Resilience Fund partners announced this week \$1.7 million in grant funding to six projects that will benefit communities and wildlife habitats in southeast Michigan. These investments will strengthen regional resilience and improve water quality for communities by installing green infrastructure, increasing urban tree canopy and restoring riparian and floodplain habitat. The projects selected for funding will provide critical habitat for wildlife such as monarch butterflies and migratory birds, while also creating and enhancing public access. [Read more.](#)

OH: Volunteers are rallying to preserve a hidden wetland in Mt. Healthy

By Tana Weingartner – WVXU – March 16, 2023

An important but neglected preserve in Mt. Healthy is getting some much-needed TLC. A small band of volunteers is determined to make a difference at Forest Avenue Wetland Park. The Forest Avenue preserve is one of two parks created in Mt. Healthy in the mid-'90s as a federal requirement to offset wetlands destroyed by constructing Cross County Highway. The other is Heritage Park by the Hamilton Ave. exit ramp. [Read more.](#)

OH: Fairborn, B-W Greenway acquire 9 acres that may extend Garland Wetland Reserve

By London Bishop – Dayton Daily News – February 24, 2023

Fairborn has acquired nine acres of wetland at the intersection of Garland Avenue and Commerce Center Boulevard. Called Garland Reserve East, the property is located across the street from the existing Garland Wetland Reserve and is home to a wide variety of plant, animal and bird species, said Bob Jurick of Fairborn-based conservation nonprofit B-W Greenway. The nine-acre wetland is part of the same vernal pool as Garland Reserve. Vernal pools are a type of wetland that is dry for a portion of the year, Jurick said. This means there are no fish, but the area hosts a variety of insects, lizards, many species of birds, as well as beavers and other mammals. [Read more.](#)

OR: Federal, state and tribal officials join together for a new plan to eradicate an invasive species of trout in Eastern Oregon

By Rolando Hernandez – OPB – March 27, 2023

In the waterways of the Malheur National Forest, the invasive brook trout has been outcompeting the native bull trout, which is listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. But now, a new project from federal, state and tribal governments plans to eradicate the invasive fish with a poison, Rotenone, which is derived from a plant. [Read more.](#)

TN: Company eyes Duck River for landfill, Tennessee moves forward with bill to protect it

By Jordan Whittington – Fox 17 – March 22, 2023

A Louisiana-based company is proposing to put two landfills on Maury County's Duck River, one of the state's most biologically diverse waterways. Residents, however, are fighting to keep the river clean. It provides drinking water to 250,000 people. Trinity Corp submitted an application earlier this year to put two landfill sites—one for residential waste, one for construction debris—on 1,300 acres of property on Monsanto Road along the Duck River. The landfills would be located on the old Monsanto Chemical Corporation property: a superfund site. [Read more.](#)

TX: A hidden gem of wetland near the Texas border fence

By Danielle Prokop – Las Cruces Sun News – March 8, 2023

More than 300 acres of Rio Grande wetland is tucked away at the edge of El Paso city limits, abutting the border fence. The Rio Bosque Park, managed by the University of Texas at El Paso, is a prime example of water use in the West, requiring layers of red tape and years of negotiations between multiple federal agencies, county and city governments, nonprofits, the irrigation district and the water utility. Even with decades of effort, much of the park remains dry most of the year. In May, the earth cracks like eggshells in the wetland cells. There's only the memory of winter water there, as wind whistles through dry cattails. [Read more.](#)

UT: Logan City Council updates rules for building within city floodplains

By Aimee Van Tatenhove and Jacob – Scholl UPR – March 29, 2023

According to local flood maps, over 85% of the future Willow Lakes subdivision in southwest Logan is located within the Logan River's 100-year flood zone. When the development was proposed, it received an outpouring of public comments concerned about impacts to sensitive wetlands that help soak up flood waters. In response, the Logan City Council passed a series of changes to local development codes, to better define local wetlands and floodplains. The amendments also define what can be built in them in the future. [Read more.](#)

WI: Planned Wetland Project Pays for Itself

By Graham Kilmer – Urban Milwaukee – April 12, 2023

Milwaukee County Parks is working on a wetland mitigation project that will create a new wetland on the parkland at no cost to the county and will pay for its own maintenance. The way it works is this: the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will commit \$155,000 to create a new wetland on 20 acres of county-owned farmland that has been too boggy from stormwater to farm in recent years, according to Erica Goblet, contracts manager for Milwaukee County Parks. Once completed, the DNR will sell a financial instrument, regulated by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Wisconsin, called a wetland mitigation credit to finance the long-term maintenance of the wetland. [Read more.](#)



Forested wetland, Mt. Rainier, Photo Credit: Lauren Driscoll, WA Dept. of Ecology

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NAWM has a long history of blazing trails in advocating for sound wetland science and sensible water policy. By joining NAWM, your membership carries many benefits including our Members' Webinar Series, Federal Policy Tracker, opportunities for involvement on committees, and exclusive publications.

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Your private donations directly support NAWM's (501(c)(3) nonprofit) ability to respond to time-sensitive issues as they arise and allow us to provide information, expert analysis, and recommendations regarding the impacts of potential policy and law on wetland protection programs and efforts. You may also opt to support the Jon A. Kusler Student Scholarship.

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We have three online training modules readily available to you:



The recordings are free to view, anytime/anywhere. There is an option to take a quiz to test your knowledge and earn a Certificate of Completion. NAWM Members may access this free membership benefit by logging on to your [Membership Portal](#). Non-members may also access the quizzes on a fee basis.

Our fourth training series - [USDA-NRCS Conservation Planners Training Webinar](#) - is available to view and build knowledge. The quiz/certificate options for this series will be added at a later date.



Wetland Science News

Sedimentation missing from pollution priorities, says researcher

By Colin Hutchins, Griffith University – PHYS.org – March 22, 2023

Sediment runoff from land use change and unsustainable development is missing from global priorities despite being one of the greatest threats facing freshwater and marine ecosystems, Griffith University researcher reveals. Published in *Science*, Dr. Caitlin Kuempel from the Australian Rivers Institute outlines how the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), targeted to halt biodiversity loss and restore natural ecosystems by 2030 overlooks sediment runoff, a key driver of poor water quality that threatens freshwater and marine ecosystems. [Read more.](#)

'Exceptional' surge in methane emissions from wetlands worries scientists

By Ayesha Tandon – Carbon Brief – March 20, 2023

Methane emissions from wetlands have risen faster this century than in even the most pessimistic climate scenarios, new research finds. From the Arctic to the tropics, wetlands encompass around 6% of the planet's surface. These waterlogged soils are the planet's largest natural source of methane – a potent greenhouse gas that plays a key role in global temperature rise. As climate change raises global temperatures and disrupts rainfall patterns, wetlands are releasing methane into the atmosphere more rapidly – a phenomenon known as the "wetland methane feedback". New research, published as a "brief communication" in *Nature Climate Change*, finds that 2020-21 marked "exceptional" growth in wetland methane emissions. [Read more.](#)

Why huge masses of seaweed are floating to Florida and the Gulf

By Allyson Chiu and Maria Luisa Paul – The Washington Post – March 15, 2023

Masses of tangled brown seaweed that typically spend most of the year floating around in the open waters of the Atlantic Ocean are once again drifting toward shore, where they could pose a significant threat to coastal environments and beach communities. [Read more.](#)



NAWM Jobs Boards

[Environmental Planning Internship](#)

Morro Bay, CA; Apply by May 5, 2023

[Biological Science Technician](#)

Neosho, MO and Portage, WI;
Apply by April 28, 2023 #10293

[Field Ecologist- Aquatic Ecology](#)

Kingston, NY; Apply by June 7, 2023

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Photo Credit: Roy Lowe, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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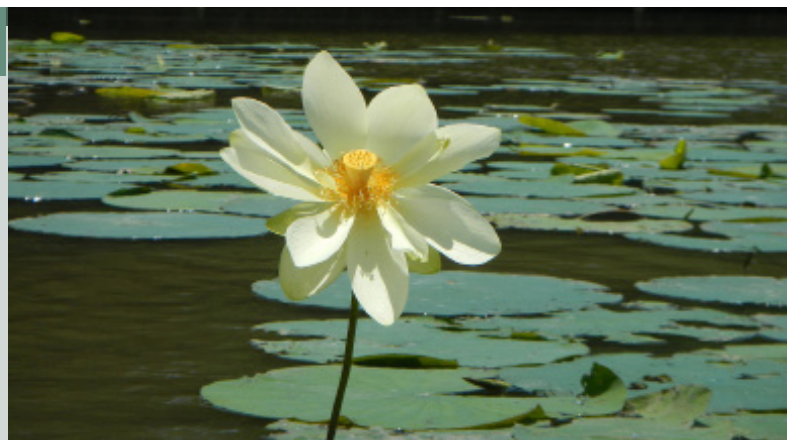


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Wetland Photos

We are always looking for new wetland photos. If you'd like to share your wetland views in our publications and social streams, [submit your photo\(s\) here.](#)



American Lotus in Lake Miller, Wallisville, TX; Photo Credit: Tom Douglas, Bayou Preservation Association

Resources and Publications

Study shows temperature is stronger than light and flow as driver of oxygen in US rivers

By Mary Fetzer – Pennsylvania State University – PHYS.org – April 7, 2023

The amount of dissolved oxygen in a river is a matter of life or death for the plants and animals living within it, but this oxygen concentration varies drastically from one river to another, depending on their unique temperature, light and flow. To better understand which factor has the greatest impact on the concentration of dissolved oxygen, researchers at Penn State used a deep learning model to analyze data from hundreds of rivers across the United States. [Read more.](#)

Aquatic Barrier Prioritization Tool

Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership – March 13, 2023

Fish and other aquatic organisms depend on high quality, connected river networks. A legacy of human use of river networks have left them fragmented by barriers such as dams and culverts. Fragmentation prevents species from dispersing and accessing habitats required for their persistence through changing conditions. Recently improved inventories, brought to you by the [Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership](#) (SARP) and partners, enable us to describe, understand, and prioritize aquatic barriers for removal, restoration, and mitigation. Through this tool and others, we empower you with information on documented barriers and standardized methods to prioritize barriers of interest for restoration efforts. [Read more.](#)

Funding Opportunities

[Evaluating Restored Wetland Biogeochemical Cycling Following Thin-layer Sediment Introduction](#)

Department of Defense, Engineer Research and Development Center;
Apply by May 15, 2023; Search: W81EWF-23-SOI-0003

[USDA NRCS' Conservation Innovation Grants](#)

Apply by May 29, 2023; Search: USDA-NRCS-VA-CIG-23-NOFO0001280

[Fisheries Restoration and Irrigation Mitigation Act Fiscal Year 2023](#)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Apply by June 6, 2023; Search: F23AS00329

[Modeling relationships of hydromorphology, nutrient dynamics, and algal production in backwaters of the Lower Mississippi River](#)

Department of Defense, Engineer Research and Development Center
Apply by June 11, 2023; Search: W81EWF-23-SOI-0005

[2024 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program](#)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Apply by June 23, 2023; Search: F24AS00005

Potpourri

Acres of LA County sewage sludge threaten to contaminate Tulare Lake floodwaters

By Brennon Dixson and Susanne Rust – PHYS.org – April 6, 2023

Here at the western edge of the Tulare Lake Basin dwells a smelly industrial site the size of 150 football fields. Roughly eight times a day, its operations are replenished with a truckload of human waste from the residents of Los Angeles County. Since 2016, the Tulare Lake Compost facility has been converting Southland sewage sludge into high-grade organic fertilizer, and sparing L.A. County the bother of burying its waste in local landfills. [Read more.](#)

The National Association of Wetland Managers celebrates **American Wetlands Month**



Photo credit: Hilary Morey, Waterfowl in Hughes County, South Dakota

Coming in May:

Membership Monday

Topical Tuesday

Wetlands Wednesday

Throwback Thursday

Funday Friday

Follow us on:



Membership Monday (#MembershipMonday) - would you like to participate in sharing why you are a NAWM member? Send photos, short videos, brief paragraphs to dawn@nawm.org (from 4/24-5/17)

Topical Tuesday (#TopicalTuesday) - sharing news and updates from across the nation from our wetland friends and partners

Wetlands Wednesday (#WetlandsWednesday) - want to share photos from your favorite wetland? [Submit your photos here.](#)

Throwback Thursday (#ThrowbackThursday) - we're featuring past recordings from our webinar library

Funday Friday (#FundayFriday) - art /media /fun wetland facts ... be on the lookout for 1983 fun facts, in honor of our 40th anniversary

Calendar of Events

WEBINARS

April 2023

April 20, 2023 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EDT	National Association of Wetland Managers: Tribal Wetland Programs Webinar: Monitoring and Assessment: Data Collection and Applications for Tribal Wetland Programs
April 21, 2023 11:30 a.m. EDT	Wisconsin Wetlands Association Webinar: Karst hydrogeology & wetlands
April 26, 2023 1:00 p.m. EDT	Michigan Wetlands Association Webinar: Stream Identification
April 26, 2023 3:00 p.m. EDT	National Association of Wetland Managers: Members' Webinar Series: Developing a Statewide Hydraulic Modeling Tool
April 27, 2023 3:00 p.m. EDT	National Association of Wetland Managers: Wetland Mapping Consortium Webinar: Examples of semi-automation for mapping Cowardin classes and wetland vegetation in Alaska

May 2023

May 10, 2023 4:00 p.m. EDT	Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center Webinar: The Status of Tribes and Climate Change Report and the NE CASC Region
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June 2023

June 10, 2023 1:00 p.m. EDT	Coastside Land Trust Webinar: The Ecology of Soil
June 15, 2023 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EDT	National Association of Wetland Managers: Tribal Wetland Programs Webinar: Geospatial Mapping Tools and Techniques for Tribal Wetland Programs

September 2023

September 21, 2023 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EDT	National Association of Wetland Managers: Tribal Wetland Programs Webinar: Education and Outreach Efforts to Support Tribal Wetland Programs
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November 2023

November 2, 2023 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EDT	National Association of Wetland Managers Tribal Wetland Programs Webinar: Approaches to Sustainable Funding for Tribal Wetland Programs
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CONFERENCES/EVENTS

April 2023

April 22, 2023	Earth Day 2023: Invest in Our Planet
April 24-27, 2023 Anchorage, AK	National American Fish and Wildlife Society: 2023 Annual National Conference
April 24-27, 2023 San Diego, CA	Centre for Watershed Protection: 2023 National Watershed and Stormwater Conference
April 24-28, 2023 Virginia Beach, VA	North American Lake Management Society: 13th National Monitoring Conference: Working Together for Clean Water
April 27-28, 2023 Meredosia, IL	Save The Frogs! Day (15th Annual) Wetland Workshop
April 28-29, 2023 Suffolk, VA	Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge: Birding Festival
April 29, 2023 Las Vegas, NV	Clark County Wetlands Park Bio Blast: Celebrate World Migratory Bird Day

May 2023

May 2-4, 2023 Field Trip: May 5, 2023 Nebraska City, NE	National Association of Wetland Managers: State/Tribal Federal Coordination Meeting: Protecting and Restoring Wetlands for People and Wildlife
May 5-6, 2023 Thompsonville, MI	Michigan Lakes & Streams Association 62nd Annual Conference: Protecting and Restoring Michigan's Lakes and Stream
May 7-11, 2023 Raleigh, NC	Association of State Floodplain Managers Conference
May 8-11, 2023 Jacksonville, FL/Virtual	National Mitigation & Environmental Markets Conference: Invest in the Environment
May 8-12, 2023 Toronto, Ontario Canada	IAGLR's 66th Annual Conference on Great Lakes Research
May 10-12, 2023 Sandusky, OH	Ohio Stormwater Association 2023 Ohio Stormwater Conference
May 13, 2023 & October 14, 2023	World Migratory Bird Day 2023: Water
May 14-19, 2023 Bonita Springs, FL	University of Florida Conference: Species on the Move

May 2023 Continued	
May 20, 2023 Coos Bay, OR	Coos Watershed Association: Mayfly Festival
May 22-25, 2023 Winter Harbor, ME	Schoodic Institute 2023 Spring Birds of Acadia, with Puffin Cruise
May 31-June 3, 2023 Las Vegas, NV	Ducks Unlimited National Convention
June 2023	
June 3-7, 2023 Brisbane, Australia	Society for Freshwater Sciences Annual Meeting: Freshwater Sciences 2023
June 5, 2023	World Environment Day: Solutions to plastic pollution
June 5-7, 2023 Arizona State University / Virtual	Digital Data 2023: Leveraging Digital Data in Service to Conservation, Ecology, Systematics, Phylogenetics, and Novel Biodiversity Research
June 11-14, 2023 Tahoe City, CA	2023 CUAHSI Biennial Colloquium
June 11-15, 2023 Quebec City, CANADA	Society for Ecological Restoration – Eastern Canada and the Canadian Land Reclamation Association Joint Conference: From Reclaiming to Restoring and Rewilding
June 26-29, 2023 Des Moines, IA	2023 North American Prairie Conference
June 27-30, 2023 Spokane, WA	Society of Wetland Scientists Annual Meeting: Wetland adaptation from floodplains to ridgelines
July 2023	
July 17-19, 2023 Denver, CO	American Water Resources Association 2023 Summer Conference: Connecting Land & Water for Healthy Communities
July 24-27, 2023 Seattle, WA	National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA) 45th Annual Meeting
August 2023	
August 6-11, 2023 Portland, OR	2023 ESA Annual Meeting: For All Ecologist

September 2023	
September 13-17, 2023 Tulcea Romania	Romanian Limnogeographical Association: 6th International Water Resources and Wetlands Conference (Hybrid)
September 26-30, 2023 Darwin Australia	Society of Ecological Restoration: 2023 10th World Conference on Ecological Restoration
October 2023	
October 15-18, 2023 Corpus Christi, TX	Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies 77th Annual Conference
October 27, 2023 Las Vegas, NV	Clark County Wetlands Park: Haunt the Wetlands
November 2023	
November 2, 2023 Virtual	Natural Areas Association: 2023 Natural Areas Virtual Conference
November 6-8, 2023 Cary, NC	American Water Resources Association: 2023 Annual Water Resources Conference
November 22-24, 2023 Neuquén - Patagonia Argentina	Ecological Restoration Network of Argentina: I International Symposium of Ecological Restoration Practices and III National Meeting of Ecological Restoration of Argentina



Chahiers, NC; Photo Credit: Heather Gregory, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

TRAINING COURSES

May 2023	
May 1-4, 2023 Aliquippa, PA	Swamp School: Wetland Delineation Training Also August 21-24, 2023 <i>NAWM members receive a 10% Discount.</i>
May 8, 2023 San Diego, CA	Wetland Training Institute, Inc. Course: Beginners Plant ID for Wetland Delineation
May 14-20, 2023 Steuben, ME	Eagle Hill Institute Course: Lichen Biology, Ecology, & Identification . <i>NAWM Members receive a 20% Discount.</i>
May 15-19, 2023 Lansing/Charlotte, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: Wetland Delineation Training
May 21-27, 2023 Steuben, ME	Eagle Hill Institute Course: Marine Macroalgae: Ecology, Identification, Distribution, and Importance <i>NAWM Members receive a 20% Discount.</i>
May 22-23, 2023 Charleston, SC	Duncan & Duncan West Course: Hydrophytic Vegetation <i>NAWM members receive a 15% Discount.</i>
May 31-June 2, 2023 Shepherdstown, WV	The Conservation Fund Course: 2023 Balancing Nature and Commerce
June 2023	
June 5, 2023 Online	Swamp School Course: National Ordinary High Water Mark Field Delineation for Rivers and Streams
June 6, 2023 Charleston, SC	Duncan & Duncan West Course: Endangered Species Identification . <i>NAWM members receive a 15% Discount.</i>
June 12-13, 2023 Northern Lower Peninsula, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: Hyrdic Soils Identification
June 12-15, 2023 Seattle, WA	Richard Chinn Environmental Training, Inc. Course: Wetland Delineation Training . Other dates and locations
June 14-15, 2023 Seattle, WA	Richard Chinn Environmental Training, Inc. Course: Regional Supplement Wetland Delineation Training . Other dates and locations available.
June 21-23, 2023 St. Michaels, MD	Environmental Concern Course: Wetland Plant ID
June 26-30, 2023 Shepherdstown, WV	The Conservation Fund Course: Compensatory Mitigation Training Course

July 2023	
July 9-15, 2023 Steuben, ME	Eagle Hill Institute Course: Wetland Identification, Delineation, and Ecology <i>NAWM Members receive a 20% Discount.</i>
July 13, 2023 Various Locations Marquette County, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: Fern Identification Workshop
July 19-20, 2023 Jackson, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: Wetland Grass Identification
July 27-28, 2023 Atlanta, GA - Piedmont	Duncan & Duncan West Course: Hydrophytic Vegetation <i>NAWM members receive a 15% Discount.</i>
July 31-August 4, 2023 Logan, UT	Utah State University Course: Sediment Transport in Stream Restoration and Design
August 2023	
August 2-3, 2023 Oakland County, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: General Wetland Plant Identification
August 6-12, 2023 Steuben, ME	Eagle Hill Institute Course: Aquatic Flowering Plants, with a Review of the Potamogetonaceae
August 8, 2023 Lowell, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: Freshwater Mussel Identification
August 13-19, 2023 Steuben, ME	Eagle Hill Institute Course: EPT Taxa: Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera
August 21-24, 2023 Aliquippa, PA	Swamp School: Wetland Delineation Training Also August 21-24, 2023
August 22-23, 2023 Logan, UT	Utah State University Course: Basic Wetland Delineation
August 23-24, 2023 Lansing, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: Wetland Shrub Identification
August 24-25, 2023 Logan, UT	Utah State University Course: Field Botany: Wetland and riparian plants

September 2023

September 11-15, 2023
St. Michaels, MD

Environmental Concern Course: [Basic Wetland Delineation](#)

September 21-22, 2023
Charleston, SC

Duncan & Duncan West Course: [Identification of Grasses, Sedges, and Rushes](#)

NAWM members receive a 15% Discount.

October 2023

October 9-10, 2023
St. Michaels, MD

Environmental Concern Course: [Evaluating Hydric Soils in the Field](#)



Pickerelweed in bloom along the Trinity River, Wallisville, TX
Photo Credit: Tom Douglas, Bayou Preservation Association



Photo Credit: Michael Carlo,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Wetland News Digest

The National Association of Wetland Managers' *Wetland News Digest* (WND) is a monthly compilation of wetland-related stories and announcements submitted by readers and gleaned from listservs, press releases and news sources from throughout the United States. WND chronicles the legislative, national, state and tribal news relevant to wetland science, policy, practice and law. It also links to new publications, tools and resources available to wetland professionals as well as events and training opportunities for those working in water resources and related fields. *Wetland News Digest* (formerly "Wetland Breaking News") has been published for over twenty years and NAWM has been a nationally recognized resource for information on wetland science and policy since 1983. The items presented in *Wetland News Digest* do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or of the National Association of Wetland Managers. Send your news items, comments, corrections, or suggestions to news@nawm.org.

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