



# Wetland News Digest

## Editor's Note

Dear Wetlanders,

The last few weeks have been a whirlwind of traveling and meetings for NAWM staff, including our own annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting that was held May 2-4, 2023, at the Arbor Day Farm Lied Lodge in Nebraska City, NE. NAWM staff also participated in the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) annual conference in Raleigh, NC and the National Mitigation & Environmental Markets annual conference in Jacksonville, FL. In every instance, we heard multiple conversations regarding permitting reform – both in regard to streamlining wetland and floodplain restoration projects, and in reference to House Bill 2811 that would create statutory changes to the Clean Water Act as part of the [debt ceiling bill](#).

In this edition of *Wetland News Digest*, we have included information regarding an historic proposed rulemaking by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) -- its first proposed federal [baseline water quality standards for waterbodies on Indian reservations](#) that do not have Clean Water Act standards. EPA estimates this proposed water quality standard "will increase protections for 76,000 miles of rivers and streams and 1.9 million acres of lakes, reservoirs, and other open surface waters within Indian reservations, protecting aquatic life and the health of over half-a-million residents living within reservation boundaries."

For now, the Biden WOTUS Rule has survived Congressional rescission via President Biden's veto ([see National News](#)) but the future of the Administration's changes to the [Endangered Species Act](#) is now uncertain. Much has changed since the 1970s when both political parties agreed on the need for stronger federal protections for wetlands and wildlife.

Best regards,

Marla Stelk, Editor  
*Wetland News Digest*, NAWM

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*Dedicated to  
Protecting  
the Nation's  
Wetlands*



# Editor's Choice

## **EPA Proposes to Establish First-Time Clean Water Act Protections for Over 250 Tribes**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – May 3, 2023

On May 3, EPA announced proposed federal baseline water quality standards for waterbodies on Indian reservations that do not have Clean Water Act standards, ensuring protections for over half a million people living on Indian reservations as well as critical aquatic ecosystems. Fifty years ago, Congress established a goal in the Clean Water Act (CWA) that waters should support fishing and swimming wherever attainable. All states and 47 Tribes have established standards consistent with that goal. However, the majority of U.S. Tribes with Indian reservations lack such water quality standards. This proposal would extend the same framework of water quality protection that currently exists for most other waters of the United States to waters of over 250 Tribes and is the result of decades of coordination and partnership with Tribes. The Agency will accept comments on this proposal for 90 days. EPA will also hold two online public hearings on this proposal. [More information.](#)

## **Public hearings to begin on rule opening leases to conservationists**

By Zack Budryk – The Hill – May 15, 2023

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is set to begin public hearings on a proposal to open federal lands leasing to conservationists with the first public presentation to take place Monday evening. The proposed rule, first announced at the end of March, would open the leasing process to those seeking to preserve public lands, along with the oil, mining and grazing interests to which they are traditionally leased. [Read more.](#)

## **Senate passes two resolutions overturning Biden endangered species protections**

By Zack Budryk – The Hill – May 11, 2023

The U.S. Senate passed two Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolutions Thursday undoing Biden-administration rules regarding the Endangered Species Act (ESA). In a 51-49 vote, the chamber passed a resolution sponsored by Sen. Cynthia Lummis (R-Wyo.), rescinding a Biden regulation expanding the ESA's definition of a species's critical habitat. The Trump administration had tightened the definition to areas that could currently support an endangered species, rather than those that might support it at a later date. [Read more.](#)

## **AK, NE: Alaska, Nebraska Wetlands Takeover Tied to Federal Waters Ruling**

By Bobby Magill – Bloomberg Law – May 9, 2023

Alaska and Nebraska are the only states that say they're actively pursuing taking over the EPA's dredge-and-fill permitting program for waters and wetlands as the agency prepares to update its rule governing such takeovers. The states' fervor to assume control of wetlands permitting within their borders is partly linked to the Supreme Court's upcoming ruling in Sackett v. EPA. The states are watching to see whether the justices narrow the number of wetlands that fall under federal protections as waters of the US, or WOTUS. [Read more.](#)



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

**THANK YOU!**

Image by Mariah Lundgren  
Platte Basin Timelapse

[www.nawm.org](http://www.nawm.org)

**Thank you to all the Speakers and Participants for making the 2023 Annual meeting a great success!**

**Thank you to the Donors who provided items for the Jon A. Kusler Student Scholarship Raffle!**

**Thank you to our Sponsors:**

**Host Sponsor**



**Kingfisher Sponsors**



**SAVE THE DATE**

**NAWM's 2024 Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting**

**June 18-21, 2024**

**National Conservation Training Center  
Shepherdstown, WV**

# National News

## **Brett Kavanaugh protege urged SCOTUS to target agency powers**

By Niina H. Farah – E&E News – May 15, 2023

A Trump-appointed judge on the nation's second-most-powerful bench is making the case for curbing federal agencies' regulatory authority — and his views may be finding sympathetic ears on the conservative-dominated Supreme Court. Judge Justin Walker, a former clerk for Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh who now serves on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, has made clear in a trio of recent dissents that he would like to see new guardrails placed on Chevron deference, which says courts should lean toward favoring agencies' reading of their power to regulate when a law is ambiguous. [Read more.](#)

## **EPA Launches New Webpage on State Revolving Loan Funds and BIL**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – May 11, 2023

The State Revolving Funds (SRFs) have been the successful foundation of water infrastructure investments, with states, Tribes, and territories working to steward more than \$200 billion in SRF funds since 1988. That is why the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law allocates most of these water infrastructure dollars—\$43 billion—through the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRFs. Distributing this investment through the SRFs allows states maximum flexibility to be creative and responsive to their communities' specific needs and challenges. To procure Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding, each state must publish an Intended Use Plan and then apply for funding. Each state can access five different BIL funding streams: Clean Water SRF General Supplemental funding, Clean Water SRF Emerging Contaminants funding, Drinking Water SRF General Supplemental funding, Drinking Water SRF Emerging Contaminants funding, and Drinking Water SRF Lead Service Line Replacement funding. Because each state manages these funds differently, statuses may vary across states and funding categories. Check out the [new webpage](#) to learn more about your state's funding status.

## **Debt ceiling deadline opens path for permitting**

By Jeremy Dillon and Emma Dumain – E&E News – May 3, 2023

News that the federal government faces a debt limit deadline far sooner than previously expected could give supporters of overhauling the nation's permitting process a rare boost: an actual deadline to complete negotiations. It's an open question whether lawmakers can reach a permitting deal within that time frame, and senators on Tuesday were split on what could be achievable by June 1. Still, a firm deadline gives them ambition to compromise. [Read more.](#)

## **Biden Prevails in Override Vote on Water and Wetlands Rule**

By Chuck Abbott – Successful Farming – April 19, 2023

A Republican-led attempt to overrule President Biden on clean water regulation failed in the House on Tuesday on a 227-196 roll call that fell well short of the two-thirds majority needed for passage. As a result, the administration's waters of the United States rule remains on the books, although under challenge in federal court. [Read more.](#)

# Upcoming Hot Topics Webinar



## Celebrating the Endangered Species Act at 50 and the Importance of Conserving Wetlands and Wetland-dependent Species

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. EDT

### Presenters:



**Elizabeth Homes Gaar**  
NOAA



**Kara Moore-O'Leary**  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
Service



**Aimee Weldon**  
U.S. Fish and  
Wildlife Service

Register

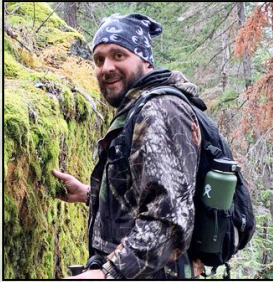
Information

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](#).

# 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



**Mike Knudson**

GIS Analyst

Saint Mary's University of Minnesota  
GeoSpatial Services

Register



**Dustin Carl**

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

Chugach Regional Resources Commission

Information

## 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

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](#).

# State and Tribal News

## **CA: \$50-million Huntington Beach oil spill settlement wins final approval**

LA Times – Daily Pilot – April 25, 2023

A federal judge in Santa Ana Monday signed off final approval of a \$50-million settlement of a class-action lawsuit involving the pipeline oil leak that gushed thousands of gallons of crude into the ocean off Huntington Beach in 2021. U.S. District Judge David O. Carter gave final approval to the lawsuit against Amplify Energy. [Read more.](#)

## **FL: Climate change forces a rethinking of mammoth Everglades restoration plan**

By Amy Green – WLRN – May 9, 2023

In 1948, work got underway in the Florida Everglades on a public works project hailed as the nation's largest, aimed at reigning in once and for all the mighty river of grass that once spanned much of the peninsula. The effort would take decades to complete and involve some of the most complex water management infrastructure in the world, including some 2,200 miles of canals, 2,100 miles of levees and berms, 84 pump stations and 778 water control structures. The framework would alter the Everglades forever and transform the state: Today it provides flood control and supports the drinking water supply for some 9 million people in central and south Florida. Meanwhile the natural river of grass has been reduced to a remnant of its former self. [Read more.](#)

## **FL: DeSantis' Big Bet on Florida's EPA Takeover Isn't Paying Off**

By Bobby Magill – Bloomberg Law – April 18, 2023

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, determined to untangle housing, mines, and other development from time-consuming environmental reviews, asked the Trump administration in its closing months to let the state take over permits for building on federal wetlands from the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers. Allowed under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act but only done by two other states, the takeover was a big bet that states can both streamline development and better control water pollution than the federal government can. It has provided an early window into how DeSantis might view environmental regulation as president if he decides to run. But two and a half years into the state takeover, it isn't yet the deregulatory panacea state officials and the EPA had hoped for. [Read more.](#)

## **FL: Wetland banks causing FL council uncertainty**

By Hannah Davis – Forest Lake Times – April 17, 2023

The Forest Lake City Council is struggling to determine whether or not to put a ban on wetland banks within the city after it put a yearlong moratorium on the practice. The council is seeking input before voting on the topic, which went into effect in June 2022. The moratorium was put in place last summer because there had been interest in prime developable land in Forest Lake. [Read more.](#)

## **IA: Sixteen Iowa urban water quality projects awarded \$2.8 million**

By Brittney J. Miller – The Gazette – May 9, 2023

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship is investing nearly \$2.8 million in 16 urban water quality projects across the state, including in Linn and Johnson counties. The funding comes from the [Iowa Water Quality Initiative](#) and the [Conservation Infrastructure Program](#), both of which work toward implementing the state's [Nutrient Reduction Strategy](#). The ag department will use the money to provide cost-share grants that cover up to 50 percent of the costs of each project. [Read more.](#)

## **NC: NC farm bill would restrict how state defines wetlands**

By Trista Talton – Coastal Review – April 25, 2023

Thousands of acres of wetlands in North Carolina stand to lose state protections under a new farm bill that would restrict how the state's wetlands are defined. The [N.C. Farm Act of 2023](#) proposes to limit the definition of "wetlands to waters of the United States," a rule that is currently being challenged in the nation's highest court. Environmentalists say the bill, if enacted, would strip the state's ability to fill in gaps to protect federally nonjurisdictional wetlands, including isolated wetlands, which are those not directly connected to any body of water, but are hydrologically and ecologically valuable. [Read more.](#)

## **OH: Etna Township trustees vote to drain pond, then learn it's on U.S. wetlands inventory**

By Maria DeVito – Newark Advocate – April 25, 2023

The Etna Township Trustees approved draining a pond on township-owned land that is causing flooding for an adjacent property owner, but that decision could be complicated by the fact that the pond is on a national wetland's registry, according to county soil and water experts. Trustees Rozland McKee and Jeff Johnson voted April 18 to allow township employees to drain and fill a pond on land that is slated to become a park on Smoke Road north of U.S. 40. Trustee Mark Evans voted against the move. [Read more.](#)



Photo Credit: Lauren Driscoll, WA Dept. of Ecology

## **TX: Restoration of wetland impacted by airport jet-fuel storage facility construction site leak nearing completion**

By Nina Hernandez – Austin Monitor – April 25, 2023  
Work to remediate a non-toxic mud spill on a protected wetland near Austin-Bergstrom International Airport will conclude at the end of this month. The spill occurred in September as crews bored a tunnel underneath the airport runway. The Environmental Commission reviewed the status of the cleanup during an April 19 update on the construction of the project. [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.](#)

## WI: Wisconsin State Senator Romaine Quinn: Improving Wetlands To Manage Flooding

By Senator Romaine – Quinn Dryden Wire – April 26, 2023

It is spring, and the floods have started again. We in the north are all too familiar with this pattern. Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, Burnett, Washburn, Sawyer, Iron, and Barron Counties have all been the sites of flooding disasters in the past 10 years. Over that time, the state of Wisconsin reported roughly \$365 million in property damage from flooding. And for the most part, our state programs have focused on replacing structures, repairing roads and bridges, and cleaning up after flood events – only to see the same culverts destroyed and the same roads washed out year after year. [Read more.](#)

### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Funding

U.S. EPA announced the availability of \$30 million for restoration projects that advance environmental justice in underserved and overburdened communities across the Great Lakes. This RFA expects to provide funding for two types of applications: applications that aim to provide funding for projects in a particular region of the Great Lakes Basin, and applications that aim to provide funding for projects across the entire Great Lakes Basin.

A webinar to discuss the RFA is scheduled for **May 23rd at 10:00 CST**. For additional information, please visit the website. Responses to questions will be updated weekly and posted to this [website](#).

If you have general and technical questions that have not yet been addressed, please contact Cara Walsh ([glri-rfa@epa.gov](mailto:glri-rfa@epa.gov)).

Applications will be accepted through **August 11, 2023**.

Sign up for the [Great Lakes News email list](#) to receive information about funding opportunities to support Great Lakes environmental work and updates about Great Lakes environmental projects.

## ***Hot Topics Webinar***

### **Development of Rapid Streamflow Duration Assessment Methods for Nationwide Coverage**

**Held Thursday, April 13, 2023**

**Presenters:**

- **Brian Topping**, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OWOW
- **Tracie Nadeau**, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

## ***Tribal Wetland Programs Webinar***

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

**Held Thursday, April 20, 2023**

**Presenters:**

- **Kerryann Weaver**, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- **Michelle Bahnick**, Tulalip Tribes of Washington
- **Buddy Gopher**, Chippewa Cree Tribe
- **Laurel Wilson**, Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

## ***Wetland Mapping Consortium Webinar***

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

**Held Thursday, April 27, 2023**

**Presenter:**

- **Timm Nawrocki**, Alaska Center for Conservation Science

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Recordings  
Available  
Soon*



*Hot Topics  
Webinar*

*Tribal  
Wetland  
Programs*

*Wetland  
Mapping  
Consortium  
Webinar*

# Members' Only Webinar Series

## Developing a Statewide Hydraulic Modeling Tool

Held Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Recording  
available  
soon

### Presenters:

- **Scott Jackson**, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- **Gardner Bent**, New England Water, Science Center
- **David Hilgeman**, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

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NAWM Webinars

# Wetland Science News

## Restoring Freshwater Mussels to Improve Delaware River

By Katherine Rapin – Public News Service – May 10, 2023

On a recent summer morning near Camden, New Jersey, two divers from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency hovered over a patch of sediment 10 feet below the surface of the Delaware River. With less than two feet of visibility in the churning estuary, they were transplanting a species crucial to the ecosystem: *Vallisneria americana*, or wild celery grass. This was the first planting of a new restoration project led by Upstream Alliance, a nonprofit focused on public access, clean water, and coastal resilience in the Delaware, Hudson, and Chesapeake watersheds. [Read more.](#)

## Water warming study shows unexpected impact on fish size

Contact: Emily Packer – EurekAlert! – May 9, 2023

The theory that water-breathing animals such as fish will shrink due to global warming has been called into question by a study published today in eLife. The study found that warm water pollution increased growth rates but also death rates, resulting in a population of younger, but larger fish. The finding is at odds in part with general predictions of the effect of warming on natural ecosystems and highlights that these need to be tested in large-scale experiments. [Read more.](#)

## CELEBRATE WETLANDS!

NAWM is joining with the [Wisconsin Wetlands Association](#) to share their new videos highlighting the work of the [Bad River Tribe](#) and [Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians](#) in Northern Wisconsin. The long-term landscape approach both the Bad River and Red Cliff Bands take to protect and manage their reservations is maintaining high water quality, managing flood waters, and providing vital habitat. It's also helping to sustain their culture and way of life. [View the videos:](#)

- Protecting our Waters: Watershed Conservation and the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Water is Life: Watershed Conservation and the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Preserving a Way of Life: Wetland Conservation and the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Managing Watersheds in an Age of Climate Change: the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Creating a Path: Watershed Conservation and the Oneida Nation
- Planting a Seed: Revitalizing Land and Culture

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



Photo credit: Tom Douglas, Turtle Bayou Nature Preserve, near Anahuac, TX

Membership Monday  
Topical Tuesday  
Wetlands Wednesday  
Throwback Thursday  
Funday Friday

**Follow us on:**



## Funding Opportunities

### [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

### [Southeast New England Program \(SNEP\) 2023 Stormwater and Natural Infrastructure Grant](#)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Apply by June 30, 2023; No.: EPA-I-R1-SNEP-2023B

### [Great Lakes Environmental Justice Grant Program \(GLEJGP\)](#)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency;  
Apply by August 11, 2023; Funding No.: EPA-I-R5-GL2023-GLEJGP

# Resources and Publications

## The Power of Urban Trees

By Climate Central – May 2023

Around [80% of the U.S. population](#) lives in urban areas—and faces particular climate risks. Cities are dominated by pavement, buildings, and dense infrastructure that hold heat and are prone to flooding from stormwater runoff. These built environments can amplify the risks associated with extreme heat and heavy rainfall events made more likely in our warming climate. Alongside buildings and pavement, U.S. urban areas also contain an estimated [5.5 billion trees](#) that provide important benefits to people. A [growing body of research](#) shows that urban trees and greenspaces support healthy, equitable, and [resilient cities](#). At the same time, urban forests are themselves vulnerable to urbanization and climate change; they require adequate stewardship to continue benefiting communities. [See full report](#).

## From Antiquated to Automated: USACE wetland delineation tool helps revolutionize regulatory process

By Crystal Maynard – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – April 25, 2023

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, United States has lost more than half of its wetlands since the 1600s, and approximately 35 percent of the world’s wetlands were lost between 1970 and 2015. To protect against further impairment of wetlands and the essential functions they provide, the U.S. established a policy of “no net loss” of wetlands, as well as procedures to ensure responsible management of wetland resources. As a result, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) requires the completion of a wetland delineation for essentially all construction activities that occur in the nation’s wetlands to establish the location and extent of those wetlands to comply with federal, state and local regulations. There are approximately 74,000 USACE regulatory actions each year related to wetland and aquatic resource permitting. To simplify and expedite this process for the public, scientists with the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) collaborated with regulatory staff of the USACE Detroit District (LRE) to develop Automated Wetland Determination Data Sheets (ADS), which were released for public use in April 2022. [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**

[View Updated Webpages](#)

# Support NAWM

## **MEMBERSHIP**

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.

## **DONATIONS**

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.

## **SPONSORSHIP**

Take advantage of one of NAWM's many sponsorship opportunities and reach thousands of engaged webinar audience members, publication readers, and attendees at our Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting.

## **NAWM Learning Options Available**

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.



# Potpourri

## Coastal Protection Is Too Important Not to Experiment With

By John Sabo – Forbes – May 16, 2023

To realize a future in which we thrive with water in a place as precarious as New Orleans, we need to tinker—to experiment with strong inference and learn from success and failure. A very controversial wetland construction project underway in Louisiana presents a prime opportunity to demonstrate that this approach—intentional investments in clinical trials for planetary health—can catalyze progress. Should we tinker with it? [Read more.](#)

## EPA looks to toss 'deceptive' plastics recycling symbol

By Ellie Borst – E&E News – May 15, 2023

EPA is urging the Federal Trade Commission to ditch the iconic chasing arrows recycling symbol for plastics, a move the environmental agency says will help prevent more plastic material from entering landfills and incinerators. EPA's recommendation comes as the agency struggles to address the nation's low recycling rates and as calls mount to curb the global plastic pollution crisis. [Read more.](#)

## Nonprofit set to buy proposed gold mine near Yellowstone

By Rob Hotakainen – E&E News – May 15, 2023

The nonprofit Greater Yellowstone Coalition said it plans to spend \$6.25 million to buy out a proposed gold mine on the northern border of Yellowstone National Park in Montana. The coalition said that it had already raised \$3.8 million with hopes of finalizing the deal with Crevice Mining Group by Oct. 1. "If successful, the effort would extinguish the last real and significant mining threat on the border of Yellowstone National Park, forever," the coalition said in a statement Friday. [Read more.](#)

## Wetlands contribute to farmland quality

By Alena Whitaker – Farm Progress – April 19, 2023

May is American Wetlands Month. Throughout the year, but especially in May, numerous groups from Iowa State University work tirelessly to elevate awareness about wetlands among Iowans of every age who live in towns, cities and rural areas. Water Rocks! is one of the programs that focuses primarily on the learning generation of K-12 students. During the school year, Water Rocks visits schools in person and through livestreams every week, providing science- and research-based lessons about conservation, natural resources, biodiversity and all things related to water quality. [Read more.](#)

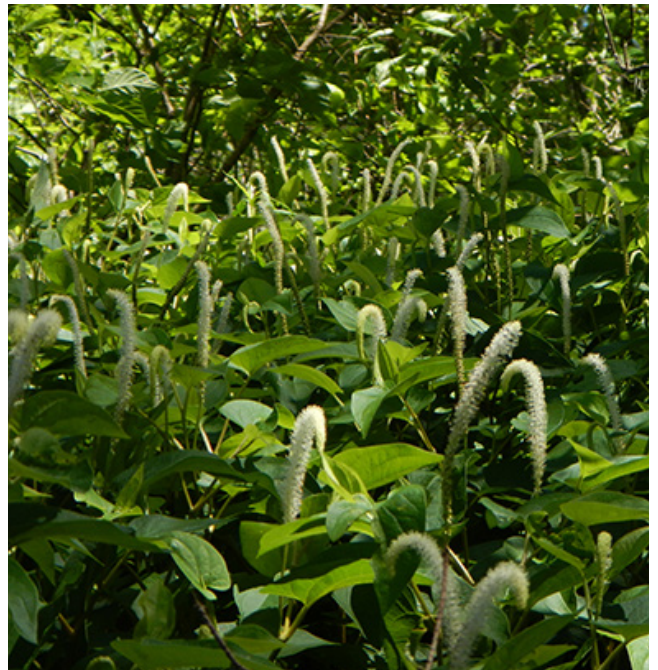


Photo Credit: Tom Douglas, Bayou Preservation Association



## NAWM Jobs Boards

### [Natural Resources Specialist](#)

Plantation, FL; Apply by May 26, 2023

### [Wetland Plant Ecologist](#)

Champaign, IL; Apply by May 30, 2023

### [Biologist](#)

Redmond, OR; Apply by May 18, 2023

[Visit the NAWM Job Board](#)



Photo Credit: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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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](#).



Photo Credit: Laura Burchill, NAWM

# Calendar of Events

## WEBINARS

### May 2023

May 17, 2023 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EDT	National Association of Wetland Managers: Hot Topics Webinar: <a href="#">Celebrating the Endangered Species Act at 50 and the Importance of Conserving Wetlands and Wetland-dependent Species</a>
May 18, 2023 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. EDT	Society of Ecological Restoration Webinar: <a href="#">Restoring Communities Through Ecological Thinking &amp; Action</a>
May 24, 2023 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. EDT	Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute Webinar: <a href="#">Linking Wetland Plant Functional Traits to Disturbance</a>
May 25, 2023 1:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m. EDT	First Nations Development Institute Webinar: <a href="#">Pathways to Resilience: Facilitating Indigenous Climate Adaptation through Wildlife Connectivity</a>
May 30, 2023 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. EDT	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Webinar: <a href="#">Harmful Algal Blooms and Algal Toxins</a>

### June 2023

June 10, 2023 1:00 p.m. EDT	Coastside Land Trust Webinar: <a href="#">The Ecology of Soil</a>
June 15, 2023 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EDT	National Association of Wetland Managers: Tribal Wetland Programs Webinar: <a href="#">Geospatial Mapping Tools and Techniques for Tribal Wetland Programs</a>
June 23, 2023 10:30 a.m. EDT	Wisconsin Wetlands Association Webinar: <a href="#">Wetland monitoring and protection on the Red Cliff reservation</a>

### September 2023

September 21, 2023 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EDT	National Association of Wetland Managers: Tribal Wetland Programs Webinar: <a href="#">Education and Outreach Efforts to Support Tribal Wetland Programs</a>
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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: <a href="#">Approaches to Sustainable Funding for Tribal Wetland Programs</a>
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# CONFERENCES/EVENTS

## May 2023

May 20, 2023 Coos Bay, OR	Coos Watershed Association: <a href="#">Mayfly Festival</a>
May 22-25, 2023 Winter Harbor, ME	Schoodic Institute <a href="#">2023 Spring Birds of Acadia, with Puffin Cruise</a>
May 27, 2023 Georgetown, SC	Carolina Wetlands Association: <a href="#">Wetland Treasure Tour: Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge</a>
May 31-June 3, 2023 Las Vegas, NV	<a href="#">Ducks Unlimited National Convention</a>

## June 2023

June 2, 2023 Redwood, NY	Indian River Lakes Conservancy: <a href="#">Indian River Lakes Water Quality Conference</a>
June 3-7, 2023 Brisbane, Australia	Society for Freshwater Sciences Annual Meeting: <a href="#">Freshwater Sciences 2023</a>
June 5-7, 2023 Arizona State University / Virtual	<a href="#">Digital Data 2023: Leveraging Digital Data in Service to Conservation, Ecology, Systematics, Phylogenetics, and Novel Biodiversity Research</a>
June 5-8, 2023 Corvallis, OR	U.S. Geological Survey: <a href="#">Interagency Conference on Research in the Watersheds</a>
June 11-14, 2023 Tahoe City, CA	<a href="#">2023 CUAHSI Biennial Colloquium</a>
June 11-15, 2023 Quebec City, CANADA	Society for Ecological Restoration – Eastern Canada and the Canadian Land Reclamation Association Joint Conference: <a href="#">From Reclaiming to Restoring and Rewilding</a>
June 15, 2023 Lancaster, VA	Friends of the Rappahannock: <a href="#">Wetland Walk at Hickory Hollow Natural Area Preserve</a>
June 22, 2023 Pittsfield, MA	Lake Onota Preservation Association's Conference: <a href="#">Protection of Freshwater Lakes &amp; Watersheds of Western Mass</a>
June 26-29, 2023 Des Moines, IA	<a href="#">2023 North American Prairie Conference</a>
June 27-30, 2023 Spokane, WA	Society of Wetland Scientists Annual Meeting: <a href="#">Wetland adaptation from floodplains to ridgelines</a>

## July 2023

July 17-19, 2023 Denver, CO	American Water Resources Association 2023 Summer Conference: <a href="#">Connecting Land &amp; Water for Healthy Communities</a>
July 24-27, 2023 Seattle, WA	National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA) <a href="#">45th Annual Meeting</a>

## August 2023

August 6-11, 2023 Portland, OR	<a href="#">2023 ESA Annual Meeting: For All Ecologist</a>
August 20-24, 2023 Stockholm, Sweden	<a href="#">World Water Week</a>

## September 2023

September 12-15, 2023 Kalamazoo, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Conference: <a href="#">Visions for the Future</a>
September 13, 2023 New Gloucester, ME	Maine Association of Wetland Scientists: <a href="#">2023 Natural Resources Workshop</a>
September 13-17, 2023 Tulcea Romania	Romanian Limnogeographical Association: <a href="#">6th International Water Resources and Wetlands Conference (Hybrid)</a>
September 16, 2023 Fredericksburg, VA	Friends of the Rappahannock: <a href="#">Riverfest</a>
September 17-24, 2023 New York, NY	Climate Group: <a href="#">Climate Week NYC</a>
September 26-28, 2023 Bonn, Germany	Integrated Carbon Observation System: <a href="#">5th European Conference on Biodiversity and Climate Change, Riverine and Coastal Wetlands</a>
September 26-30, 2023 Darwin Australia	Society of Ecological Restoration: <a href="#">2023 10th World Conference on Ecological Restoration</a>



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

## October 2023

October 12-13, 2023 Cleveland, OH	Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition: <a href="#">Great Lakes Conference</a>
October 15-18, 2023 Corpus Christi, TX	<a href="#">Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies 77th Annual Conference</a>
October 23-28, 2023 Santa Marta, Columbia	17th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Ecological Economics: <a href="#">Economies for life: Alliances for practicing ecological economics in a world in transition</a>
October 27, 2023 Las Vegas, NV	Clark County Wetlands Park: <a href="#">Haunt the Wetlands</a>

## November 2023

November 2, 2023 Virtual	Natural Areas Association: <a href="#">2023 Natural Areas Virtual Conference</a>
November 2-4, 2023 La Crosse, WI	<a href="#">2023 Midwest Environmental Education Conference</a>
November 6-8, 2023 Cary, NC	American Water Resources Association: <a href="#">2023 Annual Water Resources Conference</a>
November 6-9, 2023 Minneapolis, MN	NEIWPC: <a href="#">National Nonpoint Source Workshop</a>
November 22-24, 2023 Neuquén - Patagonia Argentina	Ecological Restoration Network of Argentina: <a href="#">International Symposium of Ecological Restoration Practices and III National Meeting of Ecological Restoration of Argentina</a>

## February 2024

February 20-22, 2024 Greenbay, WI	Wisconsin Wetlands Association: <a href="#">Wetland Science Conference</a>
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## June 2024

June 18-21, 2024 Shepherdstown, WV	National Association of Wetland Managers: <a href="#">2024 Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting</a>
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## November 2024

November 12-14, 2024 Duluth, MN	<a href="#">Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference</a>
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# TRAINING COURSES

May 2023	
May 21-27, 2023 Steuben, ME	Eagle Hill Institute Course: <a href="#">Marine Macroalgae: Ecology, Identification, Distribution, and Importance</a> <i>NAWM Members receive a 20% Discount.</i>
May 22-23, 2023 Charleston, SC	Duncan & Duncan West Course: <a href="#">Hydrophytic Vegetation</a> <i>NAWM members receive a 15% Discount.</i>
May 31-June 2, 2023 Shepherdstown, WV	The Conservation Fund Course: <a href="#">2023 Balancing Nature and Commerce</a>
June 2023	
June 5, 2023 Online	Swamp School Course: <a href="#">National Ordinary High Water Mark Field Delineation for Rivers and Streams</a> <i>NAWM members receive a 10% Discount.</i>
June 6, 2023 Charleston, SC	Duncan & Duncan West Course: <a href="#">Endangered Species Identification</a> . <i>NAWM members receive a 15% Discount.</i>
June 6, 2023 Grande Prairie, Alberta Canada	Ducks Unlimited Canada Training: <a href="#">Wetland Classification Knowledge Exchange</a>
June 8-9, 2023 Online	Northwest Environmental Training Center Course: <a href="#">Habitat Site Restoration</a>
June 12-13, 2023 Northern Lower Peninsula, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: <a href="#">Hyrdic Soils Identification</a>
June 12-15, 2023 Seattle, WA	Richard Chinn Environmental Training, Inc. Course: <a href="#">Wetland Delineation Training</a> . Other dates and locations available.
June 14-15, 2023 Seattle, WA	Richard Chinn Environmental Training, Inc. Course: <a href="#">Regional Supplement Wetland Delineation Training</a> . Other dates and locations available.
June 14-16, 2023 Online	Northwest Environmental Training Center Course: <a href="#">Wetlands: Science and Regulatory Management</a>
June 19-22, 2023 Raleigh, NC	Swamp School Course: <a href="#">Wetland Delineation Training</a> <i>NAWM members receive a 10% Discount.</i>
June 21-23, 2023 St. Michaels, MD	Environmental Concern Course: <a href="#">Wetland Plant ID</a>
June 26-30, 2023 Shepherdstown, WV	The Conservation Fund Course: <a href="#">Compensatory Mitigation Training Course</a>

## July 2023

July 9-15, 2023 Steuben, ME	Eagle Hill Institute Course: <a href="#">Wetland Identification, Delineation, and Ecology</a> <i>NAWM Members receive a 20% Discount.</i>
July 13, 2023 Various Locations Marquette County, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: <a href="#">Fern Identification Workshop</a>
July 15, 2023 Portsmouth, NH	University of New Hampshire Workshop: <a href="#">Wetland Classification</a>
July 19-20, 2023 Jackson, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: <a href="#">Wetland Grass Identification</a>
July 27-28, 2023 Atlanta, GA - Piedmont	Duncan & Duncan West Course: <a href="#">Hydrophytic Vegetation</a> <i>NAWM members receive a 15% Discount.</i>
July 31-August 4, 2023 Logan, UT	Utah State University Course: <a href="#">Sediment Transport in Stream Restoration and Design</a>

## August 2023

August 2-3, 2023 Oakland County, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: <a href="#">General Wetland Plant Identification</a>
August 6-12, 2023 Steuben, ME	Eagle Hill Institute Course: <a href="#">Aquatic Flowering Plants, with a Review of the Potamogetonaceae</a> <i>NAWM Members receive a 20% Discount.</i>
August 8, 2023 Lowell, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: <a href="#">Freshwater Mussel Identification</a>
August 12 and 19, 2023 Portsmouth, NJ	University of New Hampshire Workshop: <a href="#">Summer Plant Identification for Wetland Boundary Determination</a>
August 13-19, 2023 Steuben, ME	Eagle Hill Institute Course: <a href="#">EPT Taxa: Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera</a> <i>NAWM Members receive a 20% Discount.</i>
August 21-24, 2023 Aliquippa, PA	Swamp School: <a href="#">Wetland Delineation Training</a> <i>NAWM members receive a 10% Discount.</i>
August 22-23, 2023 Logan, UT	Utah State University Course: <a href="#">Basic Wetland Delineation</a>
August 23-24, 2023 Lansing, MI	Michigan Wetlands Association Training: <a href="#">Wetland Shrub Identification</a>
August 24-25, 2023 Logan, UT	Utah State University Course: <a href="#">Field Botany: Wetland and riparian plants</a>

<b>September 2023</b>	
September 11-12, 2023 San Diego, CA	Wetland Training Institute, Inc. Course: <a href="#">Riparian Habitat Restoration for the Arid Southwest</a>
September 11-15, 2023 St. Michaels, MD	Environmental Concern Course: <a href="#">Basic Wetland Delineation</a>
September 21-22, 2023 Charleston, SC	Duncan & Duncan West Course: <a href="#">Identification of Grasses, Sedges, and Rushes</a> <i>NAWM members receive a 15% Discount.</i>
September 26-28, 2023 Whitefish, MT	Wetland Training Institute, Inc. Course: <a href="#">Wetland Delineation with Emphasis on Soils and Hydrology</a>
<b>October 2023</b>	
October 2-5, 2023 Raleigh, NC	Swamp School: <a href="#">Wetland Delineation Training</a> <i>NAWM members receive a 10% Discount.</i>
October 9-10, 2023 St. Michaels, MD	Environmental Concern Course: <a href="#">Evaluating Hydric Soils in the Field</a>
October 25-27, 2023 Online	Northwest Environmental Training Center Course: <a href="#">Wetlands: Science and Regulatory Management</a>
<b>November 2023</b>	
November 6-7, 2023 Online	Northwest Environmental Training Center Course: <a href="#">Habitat Site Restoration</a>
November 6-9, 2023 Charleston, SC	Wetland Training Institute, Inc. Course: <a href="#">Federal Wetland/Waters Regulatory Policy</a>
November 16, 2023 Bellingham, WA	Wetland Training Institute, Inc. Course: <a href="#">Demystifying Wetland and In-Water Permitting in Washington State</a>
<b>December 2023</b>	
December 2 and 16, 2023 Portsmouth, NH	University of New Hampshire Workshop: <a href="#">Winter Plant Identification for Wetland Boundary Determination</a>
December 4-7, 2023 San Diego, CA	Wetland Training Institute, Inc. Course: <a href="#">Federal Wetland/Waters Regulatory Policy</a>
December 5-6, 2023 Portage, WI	Wetland Training Institute, Inc. Course: <a href="#">Problematic Delineation Seminar</a>



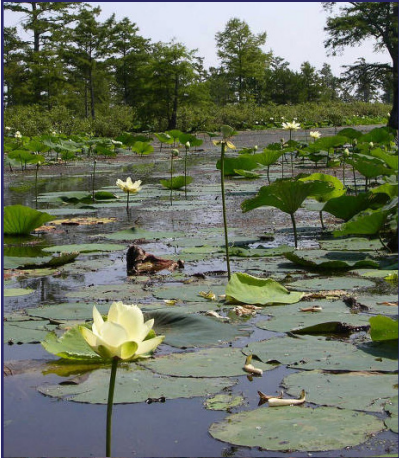


Photo Credit: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# ***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](mailto:news@nawm.org).

## **Compiled and Edited by:**

- Marla Stelk, Executive Director, NAWM and
- Justin Farino, Administrative Assistant

## **Assistant Editors:**

- Laura Burchill, Office Manager
- Sharon Weaver, Webmaster
- Dawn Smith, Communications Specialist

## **Contact Us:**

NAWM  
500 Washington Avenue, Suite 201  
Portland, ME 04103  
(207) 892-3399  
[laura@nawm.org](mailto:laura@nawm.org)