



## SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES 2008-09

Institute for Wetland Science and Public Policy  
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### 2008 SYMPOSIA, WORKSHOPS, TRAINING SESSIONS

**ASWM's Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Workshop.** *May 27-30<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Washington, DC.* ASWM's Annual State/Federal Coordination Workshop will be part of symposia at the Society of Wetlands Scientists 2008 Annual Conference planned for May 27-30 in Washington, DC. Each year this workshop addresses State/Federal coordination and focuses on opportunities for restoring, protecting and enhancing wetlands by applying sound science to national, state, tribal and local wetland policy and programs.

**Wetlands 2008: Wetlands and Global Climate Change.** *September 15-18, 2008, DoubleTree Hotel, Portland, OR.* Plans are underway for Wetlands 2008. Global climate change will be the primary topic at ASWM's annual conference. Carbon sequestration and wetlands, sea level change, and strategies for managing wetlands in response to long term changes in temperature and precipitation will be important topics. Other related topics will include wetland research priorities, monitoring trends in wetlands and related resources, management strategies, invasive species, biodiversity and policy responses to a changing environment. The purpose of this symposium is to describe challenges, identify opportunities, and share cooperative strategies for protecting, restoring and conserving wetlands in response to climate change.

### FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

**Wetlands and a National Water Resources Map.** Mapping and geospatial information systems (GIS) are changing dramatically in response to advances in technology and remote sensing. However, there are significant problems with aquatic resource maps including maps of wetlands, rivers, streams, floodplains, lakes and estuaries. Some maps are old, others are not accurate, and in some places they don't exist. This publication will summarize challenges, describe current efforts to address those challenges and make recommendations on specific actions that must be undertaken and completed to develop a national water resources map.

**Model Ordinances for Regulating Wetlands and Riparian Habitats/Stream Buffers.** – Draft. Jon Kusler, Esq. The goal of this paper is to help communities protect and restore vulnerable wetlands and related riparian ecosystems by adopting or upgrading regulations. Available for review and comment: [http://www.aswm.org/propub/jon\\_kusler/model\\_ordinance\\_051407.pdf](http://www.aswm.org/propub/jon_kusler/model_ordinance_051407.pdf).

**Wetlands and Natural Hazards.** Jon Kusler, Ph.D. This overview paper discusses the relationship between wetlands and natural hazards and suggests how wetlands may be better managed to reduce flood losses. It also considers the existing policies and regulations adopted at federal, state, and local levels to address these hazards. It suggests measures which could be taken by regulatory and other agencies at all levels of government to better address these hazards while simultaneously achieving broader wetland management objectives. The paper is based upon a review of scientific literature, a web search, an examination of federal, state, and local regulatory policies and court cases, and ASWM's workshops and symposia deal with wetlands, rivers, streams, and floodplains over the last decade. This paper is available for review and comment at: [http://www.aswm.org/propub/jon\\_kusler/wetlands\\_natural\\_hazards\\_100107.pdf](http://www.aswm.org/propub/jon_kusler/wetlands_natural_hazards_100107.pdf)

### NEW PUBLICATIONS

**State Wetland Delineator Certification Programs.** Leah Stetson, MPhil HE. Four states currently have active programs that recognize wetland delineators. Of these four states, three certify wetland delineators and a fourth state has begun a pilot program to assure delineators' work. Several other states are in the early stages of developing a certification program for wetland delineators. Learn more about these programs at: <http://www.aswm.org/swp/certification/certification0607.pdf>



**How to Hire the Right Wetlands Consultant.** Leah Stetson, MPhil HE. Although there are many types of wetlands consultants, and several of those are multi-talented, this report focuses on those traits that are highly valued in consultants who assist with the permitting process. Find out which questions are important to ask before hiring a consultant in this report, which is available at: <http://www.aswm.org/fwp/consultant/consultant0607.pdf>

**Common Questions About Wetlands.** ASWM has completed a project to provide answers to common questions about wetlands. The following "Common Questions" brochures are available on the web: A Guide for Legislators: Wetland Protection and Restoration; Constructing Wetland Boardwalks and Trails; Establishing Local Government Wetlands and Watershed Management Programs; Landowner Liability for Draining or Filling Wetlands; Land Trusts and the Protection/Restoration of Wetlands; Local Government Wetland Protection Programs; State Wetland Regulatory Programs; The SWANCC Decision; Role of the States in Filling the Gap; Wetland Assessment; Wetland Assessment Methods and the Courts; Wetlands, Climate Change, and Carbon Sequestering; Wetland Classification; Wetland Conservation and the Protection of Migratory Birds; Wetland Definitions, Delineation, and Mapping; Wetland Festivals; Wetland "Functions", "Goods and Services", and "Values"; Wetland Guidance for Engineers; Wetland Regulations; Wetland Regulations: Avoiding Legal Problems; Winning Legal Challenges; Wetland Restoration, Creation, and Enhancement; Wetlands and Ecotourism. They are available at: <http://www.aswm.org/propub/brochures2006.htm>



**Wetlands and Global Climate Change.** Leah Stetson, MPhil HE. This overview of climate change-related impacts to wetlands focuses on sea level rise and carbon sequestration. Several recent studies and research projects are highlighted. A few states have begun to make changes to wetlands and coastal management practices and policies in response to recently released reports on climate change and its effect on wetlands and coastal areas. Available at: [http://www.aswm.org/science/climate\\_change/wetlands\\_climate\\_change\\_0207.pdf](http://www.aswm.org/science/climate_change/wetlands_climate_change_0207.pdf) For more information on wetlands and climate change, visit: [http://www.aswm.org/science/climate\\_change/climate\\_change.htm](http://www.aswm.org/science/climate_change/climate_change.htm)

**"Waters of the U.S." After Rapanos/Carabell.** ASWM is developing an issue paper and analysis in response to the Supreme Court decision in the combined Rapanos/Carabell case. The decision included five opinions the Justices who could not reach a majority opinion beyond the decision to remand the cases back to the lower courts. The paper will summarize the Justices' arguments with special attention to Justice Kennedy's opinion. ASWM will work with the states to provide recommendations for steps to undertake to address the significant nexus test described in Justice Kennedy's opinion. For more information on this important Supreme Court case as well as relevant cases and actions that preceded it please visit: [http://www.aswm.org/fwp/rapanos\\_state2006.htm](http://www.aswm.org/fwp/rapanos_state2006.htm).

**Developing Performance Standards for the Mitigation and Restoration of Northern Forested Wetland.** The science of restoring forested wetlands in the north has lagged behind bottomland hardwoods and other forested wetland types. ASWM is developing a white paper to summarize existing information on restoration of these wetlands, identify specific gaps in knowledge and make recommendations to improve our understanding of how to restore northern forested wetlands. [http://www.aswm.org/propub/jon\\_kusler/forested\\_wetlands\\_080106.pdf](http://www.aswm.org/propub/jon_kusler/forested_wetlands_080106.pdf)

**Strengthening the Role of Local Government, Watershed Councils and Land Trusts in Wetlands Management.** Local governments, land trusts and watershed councils have the opportunity to play increasingly important roles in protecting, managing, and conserving wetlands in the context of comprehensive land use plans, watershed management, flood loss reduction and other programs. These local government and non-government organizations each have unique and important roles. Two papers describe the opportunities and provide recommendations for specific actions that can be undertaken at the local level by these groups. They are currently available in draft form at: [http://www.aswm.org/propub/jon\\_kusler/land\\_trust\\_051507.pdf](http://www.aswm.org/propub/jon_kusler/land_trust_051507.pdf) and [http://www.aswm.org/propub/jon\\_kusler/local\\_government\\_051507.pdf](http://www.aswm.org/propub/jon_kusler/local_government_051507.pdf).

**Understanding Federal, State and Local Dredge & Fill Permitting Programs.** Leah Stetson, MPhil HE. In response to receiving numerous requests for information about dredge and fill permits, ASWM investigated several ways that federal, state and local permitting programs have used to deal with violators, as well as to educate the public. These included wetland education and regulatory workshops, technology and GIS mapping. Available at: [http://www.aswm.org/swp/design\\_wetlands/dredge\\_&\\_fill\\_0407.pdf](http://www.aswm.org/swp/design_wetlands/dredge_&_fill_0407.pdf)

**Federal, State, Tribal and Local Partnerships for Wetland Regulation.** Jon Kusler, Ph.D. This updated report identifies and discusses the roles played by various levels of government in wetland regulation. Available at: <http://www.aswm.org/propub/statepartnership.pdf>

**Status and Trends: Avoiding Legal Problems: State and Local Wetland Regulations in the Courts.** Jon Kusler, Esq. This report was developed to assist planners, regulators, attorneys, and others implementing state and local wetland regulations. Available at: <http://www.aswm.org/propub/stateandlocal.pdf>

**Multi-objective Wetland Restoration in Watershed Contexts.** Jon Kusler, Ph.D. This report focuses on multi-objective wetland restoration projects. Fifteen case study profiles are included. Available at: <http://www.aswm.org/propub/restoration.pdf>