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North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
Alan W. Klimek, P.E. Director  
Division of Water Quality

December 2, 2005

MEMO

TO: Interested parties

FROM: John Dorney

RE: Recent updates from the 401 Certification Program

- a. Revision to DWQ Manual for Identification of the Origins of Intermittent and Perennial Streams and Training Opportunities
- b. Working Draft Policy for Stream Restoration in the Outer Coastal Plain

### **I. Revision to DWQ Manual for Identification of the Origins of Intermittent and Perennial Streams**

Please be aware that DWQ has developed, tested and adopted a revised Manual for the identification of the origin of intermittent and perennial streams (Version 3.1, Effective date January 1, 2005). It recently came to my attention that some individuals in the consulting field and among the local, state and federal agencies are not aware of this newly revised Manual. The manual is available on our website at <http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/ncwetlands/regcert.html>. If you need a hard copy, please call Ms. Periann Russell at 919-733-1786 to get a hard copy (black and white only) mailed to you.

As you probably know, DWQ and Dr. James Gregory with the NCSU College of Natural Sciences have been teaching a four-day course on the use of this manual for several years. In general, DWQ takes the lead on instruction for public agencies while NCSU takes the lead on instruction for the private sector. These courses are ongoing and more are being planned for 2006. In addition, DWQ and NCSU have agreed to sponsor one-day, refresher courses in the coastal plain, piedmont and mountains focusing on the use of the new manual. These one-day courses are only open to those private and public individuals who have attended the previous classes and are not a substitute for the complete course. If you would like to attend the classes, please email Periann Russell at [Periann.Russell@ncmail.net](mailto:Periann.Russell@ncmail.net) so we can make sure that there is enough space in the one-day class. This one-day class will be free of charge but we will have to limit enrollment so please contact her as soon as possible to reserve a space. You will have to bring your own copy of the new manual since it will not be provided for students.

#### **Schedule for the One-day refresher course for DWQ Stream Identification Manual**

Coastal Plain	April 4, 2006	Meet at 9 am at Global TransPark Training Center, Kinston, NC
Piedmont	April 18, 2006	Meet at 9 am at Umstead Park Visitor Center, Glenwood (US 70) Entrance, Raleigh, NC.
Mountains	April 25, 2006	Meet at 9:30 am at NC Botanical Gardens, Asheville, NC

## **II. Information Regarding Stream Restoration in the Outer Coastal Plain of North Carolina**

Recently staff of the Division of Water Quality and the US Army Corps of Engineers have been asked by the regulated community and the mitigation community for clarity regarding stream mitigation in the outer coastal plain of North Carolina. In many cases, traditional stream restoration (that is, establishing stable dimension, pattern and profile) may not be appropriate in small watersheds with low relief in the outer coastal plain since in many of these landscapes, a more diffuse flow is characteristic rather than a well-defined stream channel. In response to these questions, the Division and Corps of Engineers have developed a position paper to help the regulated and mitigation communities as well as our staff to address these issues. This paper (dated November 28, 2005) is posted on the Division's website at <http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/ncwetlands> under the Public Notice provision of the website. It will also be posted on the Corps website at [www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands/notices.html](http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands/notices.html). Paper copies of the guidance can be obtained by contacting Ms. Marion Davis at 919-733-1786 or via email at [marion.davis@ncmail.net](mailto:marion.davis@ncmail.net).

This guidance will be used by DWQ staff as a working draft while we formally solicit comments from the public since the regulated and mitigation communities need timely information from our agencies. The Division hereby formally requests that comments on this guidance be sent in writing to John Dorney, Wetlands Program Development Unit, Parkview Building, 2321 Crabtree Blvd, Raleigh, NC 27604 or via email to [john.dorney@ncmail.net](mailto:john.dorney@ncmail.net). Comments must be received by DWQ by 5 pm on Friday January 13, 2006. Division staff will share these comments with staff of the Corps of Engineers in development of a final document.

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