



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands

Chapter 105

Technical Guidance Update:

Function Based Compensation Protocol

Water Resources Advisory
Committee

November 29, 2018

Tom Wolf, Governor

Patrick McDonnell, Secretary

Background

- * Programmatic Enhancement
- * Background on Function Based Compensation Protocol
- * Key and Minor Revisions
- * Next Steps

Programmatic Enhancements

- * Level 2 Rapid Condition Assessments Previously Finalized and Implemented
 - * Palustrine (Doc # 310-2137-002)
 - * Riverine (Doc # 310-2137-003)
 - * Lacustrine (Doc # 310-2137-004)
- * Finalization of Fourth Technical Guidance
 - * Function Based Compensation Protocol (Doc # 310-2137-001)

Function Based Compensation

- * Pennsylvania Function Based Compensation Protocol (Doc # 310-2137-001)
 - * Standardized Mitigation Process
 - * Provides Predictive Expectations
 - * Provides Statewide and Cross Program Consistency
 - * Reduction of Application Review Times
 - * Reduction of Applicant/DEP Conflicts
 - * Maximizes Use of Application Information

Function Based Compensation

- * Common Resource Language
- * Utilized Across Mitigation Sectors: ILF, Banking and Permittee Responsible Mitigation
- * Provides a Transparent Compensation Process
- * Treats Applicants Equitably

Key Revisions

- * Removed the Recreation Function Groups (REC1-streams and REC2-reservoirs)
- * Moved the Resource Support (RS) to the Riverine Hydrologic (HYD) Function Group
- * Revised Applicable Sections to address Function Group changes.
- * Added an Additional Adjustment Factor to Section 7.0 Compensation Value Adjustment - *Watershed Scale Projects*

Key Revisions

- * Final Revised Function Groups - same framework for all resource types
- * More representative of headwater systems

Function Group	Riverine	Wetland	Lacustrine	Description
Resource Support (RS)	√			Role in maintaining watershed quality
Hydrologic (HYD)		√		Hydrodynamics, baseflow, flood storage
Biogeochemical (BGC)	√	√		Vegetation, soils and hydrology
Habitat (HAB)	√	√	√	Community and species level

Minor Revisions

- * Reordered Sections to flow better
- * Provided additional clarifying language throughout to address public comment
- * Replaced use of the Wetland Level 2 Condition Index in the Resource Value Criteria with the Rapid Floristic Quality Index (RFQI)
 - * RFQI Utilizes data from the wetland delineation

Next Steps

- * Final Publication (Anticipate in December)
 - * Technical Guidance – establish effective date based on anticipated time lines for Environmental Assessment revisions and In Lieu Fee (ILF) program
 - * Comment Response Document
- * Revise Environmental Assessment
- * Comprehensive Compensation Policy
- * ILF Program Approval
- * Training and Outreach

Questions?

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