

Summary of Revisions to Wetland Mapping Standard as a result of Public Review Comments

Clarifications to Objectives and Scope, including:

- Reference to OMB Circular A-16 (revised)
- Use of ancillary data is supported, just not a requirement
- Clearer language and organization for Exemptions section
- Addition of Exemption for Marine and Estuarine benthic habitat mapping - currently necessitated by the use of different definitions & classifications
- Addition of Exemption by Waiver: *In order to ensure the best available data can always be included...*

Waiver Process

- A waiver is an authorized exemption from a specific minimum requirement in the standard
- An exemption may be granted based on data quality, but not on cost
- The waiver allows for comprehensive coverage of “best available” data more quickly, meeting the needs of many end users
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service data steward for water resources and wetlands is the final authority for the waiver process

Revisions to Technical Requirements:

- “*In-shore Deepwater*” language was changed throughout the document to specify “*Estuarine and Lacustrine Deepwater*”
- Clarified what is meant by Source versus Base Imagery, and their respective requirements, added glossary definition for imagery
- Clarified Classification Level requirements - Special Modifiers only required “where applicable”, other details in footnotes updated
- Clarified that the Target Mapping Unit measure *allows for mapping below a specified threshold, but does not subject that finer detailed mapping to the accuracy requirements of the standard*
- Clarified that Producer's Accuracy *is measured by both Feature and Attribute accuracy*
 - ◇ Feature accuracy is the correctness of the identification of wetland vs. non-wetland
 - ◇ Attribute accuracy is the correctness of the classification of the wetlands using the FGDC Wetlands Classification Standard
- Additional requirement added for Attribute accuracy: *must be at least 85%*
- Datum and Projection clarified
 - ◇ Wetlands data may be created or used in any standard datum and projection

- ◇ However, data must be re-projected to Albers Equal-Area projection and NAD83 (or higher) prior to NSDI submission
- *FWS Coordination and Quality Control:*
 - ◇ Mapping entities are advised to consult with FWS to coordinate (to assure a logical, technically sound, and comprehensive approach)
 - ◇ FWS will be responsible for final quality control of all products

Revisions to Appendices:

- Appendices were classified as Normative or Informative
- Most Informative appendices have been removed from the final standard since they were included to inform public comment
- The removed Informative appendices will be used to shape the Implementation guidelines (under development)
- The final version contains 3 appendices:
 - ◇ A: Attributes for Wetland Classification (Normative)
 - ◇ B: Attributes for LLWW (for Landscape, Landform, Water Flow path, and Waterbody Type (Informative)
 - ◇ C: Definitions (Informative)
- Better quality graphics are provided for Attributes for Wetland Classification (Normative)
- Definition section has been updated to reflect the other revisions to the standard