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Wetlands inventory coordinator receives Office of Water award



The region's National Wetlands Inventory Coordinator Ralph Tiner has received an award for his work in the creation of the Federal Wetland Mapping Standard for Federal Geographic Data certification.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Water presented the award on Sept. 30 in Washington, D.C.

Credit: USFWS/Rosie Walunas

The mapping standard provides the federal government with a consistent procedure for mapping wetlands across the country and helps ensure that wetlands mapping performed or funded by federal agencies can be added to the national wetland geospatial database, Tiner said.

“This database provides information on the location, type and general shape of wetlands mapped by the Service's NWI Program and to compatible data collected by state and other federal agencies,” he said.

The Service's online [Wetlands Mapper](#) allows users to locate information on wetlands and create a custom map of wetlands and deepwater habitats.

A nationally recognized wetlands expert, Tiner has more than 40 years of experience in wetland mapping and delineation. He has written more than 200 publications, including two textbooks and five field guides to wetland identification, and was the principal author of the 1989 federal wetland delineation manual.

Tiner has worked for the Service since 1977. He is also an adjunct professor in the Department of Plant, Soil, and Insect Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.