

FORMAL CONSULTATION CHECKLIST FOR VERNAL POOL SPECIES

Any U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) applicant needs to provide the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service the following items before the Corps initiates formal consultations for listed vernal pool crustaceans.

- 1) Precise location of the project site clearly delineated on either an original or high quality copy of a U.S. Geological Survey topographic map (exact scale, 7.5 minute, 1 in. = 24,000 in.). The map should include: quad name(s); county name(s); project name; type of project by category (development, mitigation banking, or other [specify]); and townships(s), ranges(s), section(s) in which the project is located.
- 2) Detailed exact map(s) of proposed development site. This map should include : potential habitat of listed vernal pool plants and invertebrates (i.e. vernal pools, swales, and other areas that pond water in winter-spring) on-site and on adjacent property where vernal pool complexes cross property boundary; other special status species locations/habitats; location(s) of any proposed on-site reserve; location(s) of all proposed project features (buildings, roads, parking lots, bike trails, hiking paths, fences, irrigated and non-native landscaped areas, detention basins, recreation fields, parks, and any other open spaces, etc.; location(s) of existing infrastructure within proposed reserves such as power lines, easements, for pipelines or any other underground structures which access and maintenance privileges exist; spatial buffers between the project features and avoided vernal pool resources; and watershed boundaries of wetlands, both avoided and impacted to assist in evaluation of indirect effects.
- 3) Area (in acres) directly and indirectly affected by the proposed project, including: total area of the project; estimated area of listed vernal pool species habitat filled/destroyed, including effects of interrelated and interdependent actions; estimated area of habitat of listed vernal pool crustaceans indirectly affected, estimated size of buffer between the project features and adjacent avoided or preserved area(s); land use of properties adjacent to both impacted area(s) and avoided or preserved area(s); and map or discussion describing hydrological relationships of both impacted and avoided wetlands with adjacent properties.
- 4) Any conservation plan and/or conservation measures that the applicant proposes. To expedite consultation, such plans and measures should be developed during the informal consultation process with the Service, prior to initiation of formal consultation and should include the following: specific provisions for endowments for future management, maintenance, and ownership of any vernal pool reserves included in the conservation proposal; specific locations and construction methods for any compensatory wetlands, and monitoring protocols, success criteria, and remediation protocols for any compensatory wetlands.
- 5) Biological survey are required for any listed vernal pool plants if the proposed project is

within the range of those species. If presence of listed invertebrates is not assumed and the proposed project occurs in an area where the Service does not assume presence of listed invertebrates in the watershed, biological surveys are necessary. Other wetland listed species or their habitats might occur in the proposed project area and need to be recorded and reported to the Service (e.g. giant garter snake).

- 6) The applicant needs to provide the Service any other information that would assist the Service in evaluating the direct (including interrelated and interdependent), indirect, and cumulative other pertinent information on the proposed site provided by the applicant that will facilitate formal consultation process.
- 7) Optionally, if the applicant wants to submit GIS data, we request shapefiles or coverages of project footprints and whatever associated metadata be in UTM Zone 10 NAD 83 and sent as electronic mail attachments.