USER REPORT: TALLAHASSEE NE, DOTHAN NE & SE, PHENIX CITY SE

NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY MAPS

A. INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory is producing maps showing location and classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats of the United States. The Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States by Cowardin et al. is the classification system used to define and classify wetlands. Photointerpretation conventions, hydric soils lists and wetland plant lists are also available to enhance the use and application of the classification system.

B. PURPOSE

The purpose of the notes to users is threefold: (1) to provide localized information regarding the production of NWI maps, including specific imagery and interpretation discussion; (2) to provide a descriptive crosswalk from wetland codes on the map to common names and representative plant species, and (3) to explain local geography, climate and wetland communities.

C. STUDY AREA

Geography:

The study area covered by Tallahassee NE, Dothan NE and SE, and Phenix City SE is located in southwest Georgia (Appendix A). Bailey classifies the study area primarily into the Outer Coastal Plains Forest Province, with a small portion lying in the Southeastern Mixed Forest Province.

The relief of the Coastal Plain is flat to gently sloping and contains a multitude of swamps, lakes and slow-moving streams and rivers. Major perennial rivers in the study area include the Flint, Chickasawhatchee, Ichawaynochaway and Kinchafoonee.

Climate:

The climate for this region is fairly uniform with hot, humid summers and mild winters (60-70 degrees Farenheit average annual temperature). High rainfall amounts, ranging from 40-60 inches, is evenly distributed over the year

Vegetation:

According to Bailey (1980), the study area is characterized as a Temperate Rainforest. Forests on the Coastal Plains frequently consist of evergreen oaks along with species of the magnolia and laurel families. The Southeastern Mixed Forest, generally found on the gentle slopes of the Gulf Coastal Plains and the Piedmont, supports a variety of broadleaf deciduous and needleleaf evergreen trees. At least half of forest stands consist of pines (shortleaf, loblolly and southern yellow) and are found primarily in upland areas. Common deciduous trees are sweetgum, red maple, oaks and blackgum. Cypress and the gums predominate in swamps. Bogs, found in shallow depressions, support thick stands of evergreen shrubs. Extensive sections of both upland and wetland areas have been planted in pine.

Soils:

Supporting a temperate rainforest, the soils of the coastal plains range from sand, to gravel, to heavy clays. Sandy materials are predominant, with most of the upland soils being well drained. On the level floodplains and low terraces can be found the more poorly drained, loamy soils. Soil groups, representative of wetland habitats may include the Herod-Muckalee, Kinston-Bibb, Osier-Pelham-Ocilla, Alapaha-Mascotte, and Meggett-Grady associations.

D. WETLAND CLASSIFICATION CODES AND WATER REGIME DESCRIPTIONS

TABLE - Cowardin Classification Codes and Descriptions

NWI CODE (Water Regime)	NWI DESCRIPTION	COMMON DESCRIPTION	CHARACTERISTIC VEGETATION
R2UB (H)	Riverine, lower perennial, unconsolidated bottom	River or drainage ditches	Unconsolidated bottoms
L1UB (H)	Lacustrine, limnetic, unconsolidated bottom	Lakes	Unconsolidated bottoms
L2AB3 (G,H)	Lacustrine, littoral, aquatic bed rooted vascular	Lake Marshes	Utricularia purpurea (bladderwort) Nymphaea odorata (white water lily) Nelumbo lutea (American lotus)
L1AB4 (H)	Lacustrine, limnetic, aquatic bed floating vascular	Lakes	Lemna spp. (duckweed)
PUB (F,G,H)	Palustrine, unconsolidated bottom	Ponds	Unconsolidated bottoms
PAB3 (G,H)	Palustrine, aquatic bed rooted vascular	Ponds or deep marshes	Utricularia purpurea (bladderwort) Nymphaea odorata (white water lily) Nelumbo lutea (American lotus)
PAB4 (G,H)	Palustrine, aquatic bed floating vascular	Ponds	Lemna spp. (duckweed)
PEMI (A,C,F,G)	Palustrine, emergent persistent	Ponded prairies, marshes, depressions or drainage areas	Scirpus cyperinus (wool grass) Typha latifolia (common cattail)

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NWI CODE (Water Regime)	NWI DESCRIPTION	COMMON DESCRIPTION	CHARACTERISTIC VEGETATION
PEM1 (A,C,F,G) (cont'd)			Polygonum spp. (smartweed) Juncus spp. (rushes) Rhexia spp. (meadow beauties) Xyris spp. (grasses) Panicum spp. (maidencane) Pontederia cordata (pickerelweed) Rumex sp. (dock) Sagittaria sp.
PSS1 (A,C,F,G)	Palustrine, scrub shrub, broad-leaved deciduous	Willow thicket	Salix sp. (willow) Cephalanthus occidentalis (buttonbush) Acer rubrum (red maple) Liquidambar styraciflua (sweetgum) Alnus sp. (alder) Nyssa sylvatica (blackgum) Quercus nigra (water oak) Ulmus americana (elm) Baccharis sp.

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NWI CODE (Water Regime)	NWI DESCRIPTION	COMMON DESCRIPTION	CHARACTERISTIC VEGETATION
PSS3 (A,B,C,F)	Palustrine, scrub shrub, broad-leaved evergreen	Thicket	Persea borbonia (red bay) Myrica cerifera (wax myrtle) Magnolia virginiana (sweet bay) Cyrilla racemiflora (titi) Hypericum virginicum (marsh St. johnswort) Lyoni lucida (fetterbush) Ilex glabra (gallberry) Smilax spp. (greenbrier)
PSS7 (A,B,C)	Palustrine, scrub shrub mixed evergreen	Shrub forest	Persea borbonia (Red bay) Myrica cerifera (wax myrtle) Pinus taeda (lobolly pine) Pinus elliottii (slash pine)
PFO1 (A,C,F)	Palustrine, forested, broad-leaved deciduous	Floodplains, swamps or depression	Acer rubrum (red maple) Quercus laurifolia (laurel oak) Liquidambar styraciflua (sweetgum) Nyssa sylvatica (black gum) Nyssa sylvatica var biflora (swamp tupelo)

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PFO1 (A,C,F) (cont'd)			Quercus nigra (water oak) Salix sp. (willow) Fraxinus pennsylvanica (green ash) Betula nigra (river birch) Liriodendron tulipifera (tulip poplar)
PFO2 (C,F,G)	Palustrine, forested, needle-leaved deciduous	Cypress domes, sloughs, swamps	Taxodium distichum (bald cypress)
PFO3 (A,B,C)	Palustrine, forested, broad-leaved evergreen	Bayheads or bay swamps	Magnolia virginiana (sweet bay) Persea borbonia (red bay) Gordonia lasianthus (loblolly bay) Myrica cerifera (wax myrtle)
PFO4 (A,B,C)	Palustrine, forested, needle-leaved evergreen	Pine flatwoods	Pinus elliottii (slash pine) Pinus taeda (lobolly pine)
PFO6 (C,F,G)	Palustrine, forested, mixed deciduous	Sloughs, swamps	Taxodium distichum (bald cypress) Nyssa sylvatica (blackgum) Nyssa sylvatica var biflora (swamp tupelo) Acer rubrum (red maple) Liquidambar styraciflua (sweetgum) Quercus nigra

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PFO6 (C,F,G) (cont'd)			Quercus laurifolia (laurel oak) Salix sp. (willow) Betula nigra (river birch)
PFO7 (A,B,C)	Palustrine, forested, mixed evergreen	Bay swamp/Pine Flatwoods	Magnolia virginiana (sweet bay) Persea borbonia (red bay) Pinus taeda (Loblolly pine) Pinus elliottii (slash pine)