NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY

PHOTOINTERPRETATION CONVENTIONS

For

Northern Idaho - (Idaho EPA I)

Columbia Forest Province

Field Work Conducted Week of July 21, 1997

The 1:100,000 Map Units of:

Pullman NE, Pullman SE

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services
Portland, Oregon

May, 1998

Photographic Interpretation Conventions

1) Emergents within the work area were predominately seasonally flooded (PEMC). This classification will constitute most of the emergent delineations. Many emergents occur as linears within agricultural fields throughout the work area. These have different photo signatures from the adjacent uplands and generally follow drainage patterns. Grassy waterways (non-wetlands) generally do not have different signatures from the uplands.

2) Visible water and/or other collateral data will be required for delineation of semi-permanently flooded emergents (PEMF). This was an uncommon classification during ground truthing.

3) Wet meadows (large and small) in higher elevations will be classified as saturated emergent (PEMB). Photosignature, slope, and treeline will dictate the saturated/upland boundary in these areas. Seasonal drainages may be found and delineated if visible within these meadows.

4) Emergents within agricultural areas may have a mowed signature, which follows the wetland boundary.

5) Scrub-shrub and forested wetlands found along streams were predominantly temporarily flooded (PSSA or PFOA). These signatures will usually cover the stream and be delineated as a linear of the appropriate cover type.

6) Scrub-shrub wetlands along the Clearwater River and on islands within the river will generally be classified as seasonal (PSSC).

7) Unconsolidated shores associated with rivers will usually have a seasonal water regime (R3USC) and will emit whitish photosignatures. Grayish tones along the rivers were generally upland, although grayish-temporarily flooded areas can be delineated (R3USA).

8) All perennial streams will be classified as upper perennial (R3) with unconsolidated bottoms (UB) if vegetation is not present. Rivers indicated as permanent on the USGS topo maps, and obscured by trees on the aerial photos, will be classified as R3UBH, unless field verified as intermittent. If field verified as such, these rivers will be classified as R3UBF.

9) Intermittent streams (R4), with a strong photosignature will be pulled as seasonally flooded (C) or temporarily flooded (A) streambeds (SB) when lacking cover types or when associated with conifers. These delineations will be driven by photosignature and length. They generally must be at least one mile long.

10) If 30% of aquatic bed (AB) is seen in any body of water in the project area, the entire body of water will be delineated as an aquatic bed wetland.

11) Ditches will be labeled R3UBHx or R4SBCx if they do not have a water photosignature.

12) Sewage treatment ponds and fish hatcheries will carry the artificially flooded (K) water regime and the excavated (x) modifier.

13) Springs and seeps present on the USGS quads within the work area will be delineated as PEMB, unless no photosignature can be found. Dot polygons may be used.