

Supplemental Map Information (User Report) Outline

Project ID: RO5Y04P12

Project Title or Area: RAPPAHANOCK RIVER VALLEY UPDATE

Source Imagery (type, scale and date): COLOR INFARED (CIR), 140K SCALE, PHOTO DATE: 04/94 | BLACK & WHITE , 1:40K SCALE, PHOTO DATE: 04/00

Collateral Data (include any digital data used as collateral): Digital Soils, Digital Line Graph hydro and road layers and Digital Raster Graphics.

Inventory Method (original mapping, map update, techniques used): Map update. Digital Transfer Scope method. Used base data as geo-referencing source.

Classification (Cowardin wetlands, riparian, uplands, hydrogeomorphic, etc.): Cowardin Classification System.

Data Limitations: Limitations based on 1:40k photography, and base data layers.

General description of the Project Area:

In the James River area, wetlands were very sparse. Due to the landscape (mountains and steep elevations), there were mainly river beds and streams. The hydric soil that was being used as collateral data was found to be not accurate. According to the data, there were hydric soils along the sides of mountains, and along the edges of large R2UBH's. From performing field checks, the areas along the sides of some R2UBH's were too narrow to pull out any wetlands. In certain areas, R4SBA's were mapped according to the soil data and photo interpretation.

The PEM areas that were mapped in the farm fields were found to be accurate, and some areas needed expansion or addition of a wetland according to the field checks/drive bys.

Description of wetland habitats:

The plant composition needed adjusting if timber harvest was occurring. In certain wetland sites code changes were made from a PFO4 to a PSS4 or PSS1 because of the harvesting. Only in the Rappahannock area did we come across timber harvesting. Also, in the Rappahannock area,

phragmites had begun to grow and spread in the estuary areas, and thus needed code changing from an E2EM1P to an E2EM5P. Due to increasing development along the shore, the phragmites seemed to be growing due to the disturbance.