

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY + WATER RESOURCES DIVISION

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The administrative rules for Part 303, Wetlands Protection, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, require that a mitigation plan be submitted by the permit applicant when wetland mitigation is required by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). An applicant must submit a conceptual wetland mitigation plan with their application if wetland impacts of 1/3 of an acre or greater are proposed. This conceptual plan must include the following:

- A Wetland Data Form in accordance with the US Army Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (and appropriate regional supplement) that summarizes information regarding the wetland that is proposed to be impacted and how the mitigation proposed will compensate for the wetland benefits provided.
- 2. The location of the proposed wetland mitigation site in relation to the site proposed for wetland impacts and a location map for the mitigation site showing surrounding roads and other landmarks.
- 3. The acreage and ecological type of the wetland that will be created or restored.
- 4. A description of the baseline conditions at the proposed wetland mitigation site (e.g., existing topography, hydrology, soils, and vegetation).
- 5. A description, and plan view as appropriate, of the method that will be used to create or restore wetland. An engineered design is not required when the application is submitted, but the water supply should be identified (e.g., will the project involve excavation, impoundment, or breaking drain tiles?). If wetland preservation is proposed, a description of the proposed preservation site and justification for preservation credit in accordance with Rule 5 of the Administrative Rules for Part 303.

If approved credits from a wetland mitigation bank are proposed as the wetland mitigation, then Items 4 and 5 above do not need to be submitted by the applicant.

Submittal of this information with the permit application helps minimize delays in review and provides better coordination with federal agencies, more accurate and complete information to the public and other stakeholders, and a more predictable mitigation review process for the applicant. Furthermore, information provided on the Wetland Data Form regarding the wetland proposed to be impacted should also result in delineations consistent with the <u>US Army Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (and appropriate regional supplement)</u>.

An application that does not include these materials will be considered incomplete. Authority for these requirements is found in Rule 5 of the Administrative Rules for Part 303 and in Section 30306(1)f of Part 303.

For information or assistance on this publication, please contact the Wetlands Program through EGLE Environmental Assistance Center at 800-662-9278. This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.

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