

# SCORP Wetland Component Requirements

Completion of this checklist will ensure that all required contents and criteria from the LWCF Manual are present and that the wetland component meets the criteria required in the National Wetland Priority Conservation Plan (NWPCP).

1. Review the SCORP and identify whether a wetland component is present. Ideally, this will be a single section specifically dedicated to wetlands. Some states may spread out the contents of the wetland component over multiple sections, so it may require more reading than expected.
  - a. Is the wetland component present?
    - i. Yes- Move on to item 2 of the checklist.
    - ii. No- Contact the State to inquire about the wetland component and provide guidance if necessary.
2. Review the SCORP wetlands component to ensure that the State Fish and Wildlife Agency or Department was consulted.
  - a. Is there evidence of consultation with the State Fish and Wildlife Agency?
    - i. Yes- Move on to item 3 of the checklist.
    - ii. No- Contact the State. Confirm that the Fish and Wildlife Agency was consulted with and ask the State to provide evidence in the SCORP.
3. Review the SCORP wetlands component to ensure that it outlines goals, objectives, and/or strategies for wetland protection, which must include mention of acquisition as a strategy.
  - a. Does the wetland component include goals, objectives, and/or strategies, including but not limited to acquisition?
    - i. Yes- Proceed to item 4 of the checklist.
    - ii. No- Contact the State and ask them to incorporate these into the wetland component.

4. In the SCORP wetland component, identify a priority list of wetland sites warranting priority for acquisition. This list must meet many conditions according to the NWPCP. *Additional information is provided on the following page of this document.*
  - a. Is the list present, and does it meet the NWPCP criteria?
    - i. Yes- Continue to item 5 of the checklist.
    - ii. Is present but does not meet criteria - Contact the State with guidance for how to meet criteria.
    - iii. Not present- Contact the State and provide guidance for how to create the list and what criteria are needed.
  
5. Consideration of recreation opportunities associated with its wetland resources for meeting the State's public outdoor recreation needs.
  - a. Does the State list and describe recreation opportunities associated with wetlands?
    - i. Yes- All contents of the wetland component are present.
    - ii. No- Contact the State to inquire about the missing information and provide guidance if necessary.

If the wetland component is consistent with NWPCP, it will contain the following elements and should be returned to the state if they are not present or do not meet the requirements:

- A. Goals, objectives, and/or strategies for wetland protection.
  - This must include mention of acquisition as a priority, though it does not need to be a top priority and can focus primarily on other goals/objectives/or strategies.
  
- B. Prioritization of wetland SITES warranting priority for acquisition. This prioritization list must meet the following criteria:
  - The wetland component must mention that this list was developed in conjunction with the state agency responsible for fish and wildlife. If not, return to the state.
  
  - The list must be specific down to the level of specific parcels or tracts. If this information is not available, then specify to at least the level of specific declining wetland types within a narrow geographic region, i.e., ecoregion, river basin, etc. This does not need to be an exhaustive list, but should include a handful of sites or regions the state has identified that warrant consideration for action. Contact the state if it does not meet required geographic specificity with guidance for correction.
  
  - The list of priority sites must be developed according to the following three criteria as laid out by the NWPCP (The state can develop their own criteria but the criteria must be explained):
    1. Wetland Losses
    2. Threat of Future Wetland Loss
    3. Wetland Functions and Values

NWPCP states that the reviewer should be able to clearly tell that the three criteria were used to create this list. This will require some level of explanation for each item on the list. Something such as

“X wetland type in the X River Valley in the SW corner of the state has experienced 90% decline since 1950. Rapid urbanization in the region is expected to cause further decline. X Wetland type can provide valuable flood risk mitigation services to the rapidly urbanizing region, as well as habitat for xxx species.” If the explanation does not make it clear that the three criteria were used, return the document to the state with guidance for correction.

- C. Consideration of recreation opportunities associated with its wetland resources for meeting the State’s public outdoor recreation needs.
  - This can be as simple as a list of outdoor recreation needs and an explanation of how different wetland-associated recreation activities can fulfill the needs.