

E12 - Issue Action Group

Wetlands

Warrior and Coosa Projects Combined

EcoRAT & WCRT September 2001 - Update

E12 IAG Work items available on the APC Hydro Relicensing Website:

<http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro/>

-E12 IAG Work Plan

-E12 IAG Meeting Notes 08-16-01

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Issue Statement

WE12 & CE12 Wetlands – Have the wetlands within the project study area been identified and how can those areas be protected or enhanced?

IAG Tasks and Responsibilities

The immediate task and responsibility of the E12 - IAG is to characterize the existing wetlands environment in the Warrior and Coosa Basins. This characterization will be used in subsequent relicensing studies for the Coosa-Warrior Cooperative Relicensing Process.

Work Scope & Product

- **Task 1** Identify major sources of available wetland information.
- **Task 2** Consolidate existing wetland information and identify data gaps.
- **Task 3** Characterize the existing basin-wide wetland environment.
- **Task 4** Characterize the existing wetland environment at the projects.
- **Task 5** Identify wetlands areas that may be impacted by project operations.
- **Task 6** Identify PM&E measures

Schedule

The E12 – IAG began work with a Kick-off meeting on August 16, 2001 by conference call. The group will meet periodically between August and October 2001 (5 meetings anticipated). The following is a “projected” schedule of work that may change with the Group’s approval.

Meeting 1	Kick-off meeting – August 16, 2001
Meeting 2	Give progress report at September 11 & 12, 2001 EcoRAT & WCRT meetings
Meeting 3	Discuss results of Task 3 & 4 – beginning of October 2001
Meeting 4	Discuss Task 5 & identify data needs – mid October 2001
Meeting 5	Report to EcoRAT and WCRT – end of October 2001
Meeting 6	Complete tasks and coordinate with other issues

Acronyms & Definitions

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

NWI: National Wetlands Inventory

Lacustrine: Situated in a topographic depression or a dammed river channel. Lacking trees, shrubs, persistent emergents, emergent mosses or lichens, with greater than 30% areal coverage. Total area exceeds 20 acres.

Limnetic: Wetland habitats extending outward from Littoral boundary and including all deep-water habitats within the Lacustrine System.

Littoral: All wetland habitats in the Lacustrine System extending from shoreward boundary to 2 meters (6.6 feet) below annual low water or to the maximum extent of nonpersistent emergents.

Palustrine: All nontidal wetlands dominated by trees, shrubs, emergents, mosses and lichens. Vegetated wetlands traditionally referred to as marshes, swamps, bogs and fens. Situated in the shoreward of lakes, river channels, or estuaries; on river flood plains; in isolated catchments; or on slopes.

Wetlands: Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support and that under normal circumstances do support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.

Common Wetlands Types

Palustrine Emergent

Palustrine Forested

Palustrine Scrub-Shrub

Palustrine Unconsolidated Bottom

Palustrine Unconsolidated

Lacustrine Limnetic Open Water / Unknown Bottom

Lacustrine Limnetic Unconsolidated Bottom

Lacustrine Littoral Unconsolidated Shore

Lacustrine Littoral Unconsolidated Bottom