



**US Army Corps
Of Engineers**

Walla Walla District
201 North Third Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876

Public Notice

SUBJECT: Draft Arid West Regional Supplement to the
1987 Wetland Delineation Manual

DATE: September 7, 2005

COMMENTS DUE: November 3, 2005

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, announces the availability of the Draft Arid West Regional Supplement to the 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory 1987). This draft was developed by regional expert delineators with input from state and Federal agencies, academia and other local experts. It is being peer reviewed by a panel of independent scientists, the report from which will be available upon request. This draft is also being field tested by interagency teams of state and Federal agencies to determine the clarity and ease of use of the document and whether its use will result in any spatial changes in wetland jurisdiction for Clean Water Act Section 404 purposes.

We are specifically seeking public input, including scientific information/data, on the proposed hydrology, soils and vegetation indicators and data collection procedures in this draft document. Reviewers may wish to field test this manual as part of the public comment procedure. The protocol for this testing is to perform wetland delineations using both the 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual and this draft regional supplement on the same data points. Reviewers should include data sheets from both the manual and draft supplement, maps indicating data collection points (upland and wetland) and a completed questionnaire for each delineation point. The draft, along with the testing protocol and questionnaire, are located at ftp://ftp.usace.army.mil/pub/erdc/arid_west/

Comments must be submitted by **November 3, 2005**, to Ms. Katherine Trott (CECW-LRD), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 441 G. Street, NW, Washington DC 20314-1000 or by e-mail to 1987Manual@usace.army.mil. We will issue another public notice announcing the publication and implementation date of the final supplement.

/signed/
A. Bradley Daly
Chief, Regulatory Division