



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

S: 1 August 2007
2 July 2007

CECI-A (25-1)

MEMORANDUM FOR Major General Don T. Riley, Director of Civil Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Headquarters, 441 G Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

SUBJECT: Data Quality Act Request for Correction from Home Builders Association of Northern California and the Bay Planning Coalition Concerning the National List of Plant Species that Occur in Wetlands

1. Enclosed please find a Request for Correction (RFC) under the Data Quality Act, from the Home Builders Association of Northern California (HBANC) and the Bay Planning Coalition (BPC) concerning certain information in the publication entitled National List of Plant Species that Occur in Wetlands: National Summary, Porter B. Reed, Jr.; for National Wetlands Inventory and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Soil Conservation Service, 1988 and the National List of Plant Species that Occur in Wetlands: 1996 National Summary.
2. HBANC and BPC request that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), together with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), make corrections to certain species currently listed on the subject National Plant Lists. HBANC and BPC further request that USACE and FWS perform a large-scale, full review of each species on the National Plant Lists and take steps to ensure that all present and future designations are based on supporting scientific data. Additionally, should similarly questionable information be discovered, HBANC and BPC request that USACE and FWS remove or revise such information accordingly and issue an acknowledgment and public correction of such change(s).
3. The Data/Information Quality Act (the Act) requires agencies to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information they disseminate to the public, and allows the public to question the information. Under the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Department of Defense (DoD) regulations, affected persons can seek and obtain correction of information that does not comply with OMB and DoD information quality guidelines, 67 Fed. Reg. 8452 (2002).
4. The Study proponent should review the information being challenged to determine whether the study meets the information quality guideline (IQG) requirements of quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity as defined by OMB and DoD. Specifically, the information must be accurate, clear, complete, reliable and unbiased. In reviewing the challenged information, you will need to identify the source of the information, any supporting data and models used, whether there is existing literature or other documentation supporting the data, whether the data was generated and the analytic results developed using sound engineering, statistical and research

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methods, how the quality of the information was assured (whether it was peer reviewed), etc. You should also determine whether the quality is appropriate to the nature, use, type, importance and timeliness of the information.

5. Please provide us with a draft response indicating whether you agree or disagree with the RFC and whether the requester has adequately supported his claim. If you agree with the RFC please provide a summary of your analysis and the steps to be taken to correct the information. If you disagree with the RFC, please explain how the information challenged meets the guidelines, based on your substantive review of the information quality (as discussed in paragraph 4) or procedural arguments. The draft response should be coordinated with your Counsel Offices.

6. Please forward your draft response to CECC-G (Attn: Richard Frank). We will review the draft response, add a paragraph describing the appellate procedures and coordinate the draft response with the Headquarters Office responsible for the program and OMB. The Director or Deputy Director of the responsible Headquarters Office will sign the response. The RFC and response will be posted to the public USACE Information Quality Act webpage at <http://www.hq.usace.army.mil/ceci/informationqualityact>.

7. If you have any questions concerning this process or anticipate that you will not meet the suspense date, please contact Mr. Richard Frank at 202-761-8557.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



WILBERT BERRIOS
Director of Corporate Information

Encl.

CF:
CECC