

Missouri Wetland Water Quality Standards: Update

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Steps for Developing Wetlands WQS:

1. Define wetlands as “state waters”
2. Designate uses that protect wetland structure and function
3. Adopt narrative criteria and numeric criteria to protect designated uses
4. Adopt narrative biological criteria
5. Extend antidegradation policy

Core Elements of a Wetlands Program:

1. Monitoring and Assessment
2. Regulatory activities (incl. 401 cert.)
3. Voluntary Restoration and Protection
4. Water Quality Standards for Wetlands

Core Element: Water Quality Standards

1. Ensure that wetlands are treated as waters in state water quality programs
2. Develop wetland-specific WQS
3. Incorporate wetland-specific WQS into agency decision making

Missouri Reference Wetlands

Objectives:

1. Identify candidate reference wetlands
2. Develop quantitative method to determine candidate reference site conditions
3. Validate reference site selection

Missouri Reference Wetlands

Outputs:

1. Set of reference wetlands
2. Water quality and biological dataset
3. Department website for wetland WQS
4. Final report

Missouri Reference Wetlands

Outcomes:

1. Understanding of wetland water quality
2. Understanding of wetland attainable uses
3. Support for development of wetland WQS

Wetlands WQS: Moving Forward

Assigning wetlands to Class W

- Public lands
- Outstanding State Resource Waters
- Water Resources Center study wetlands

Public Land Wetlands Currently in Table G

Big Buffalo CA Lakes

Cooley Lake

Duck Creek

Fountain Grove Lakes

Marais Temps Clair

Monopoly Lake

Willowood Lake

Otter Lake

Pershing St. Park Lakes

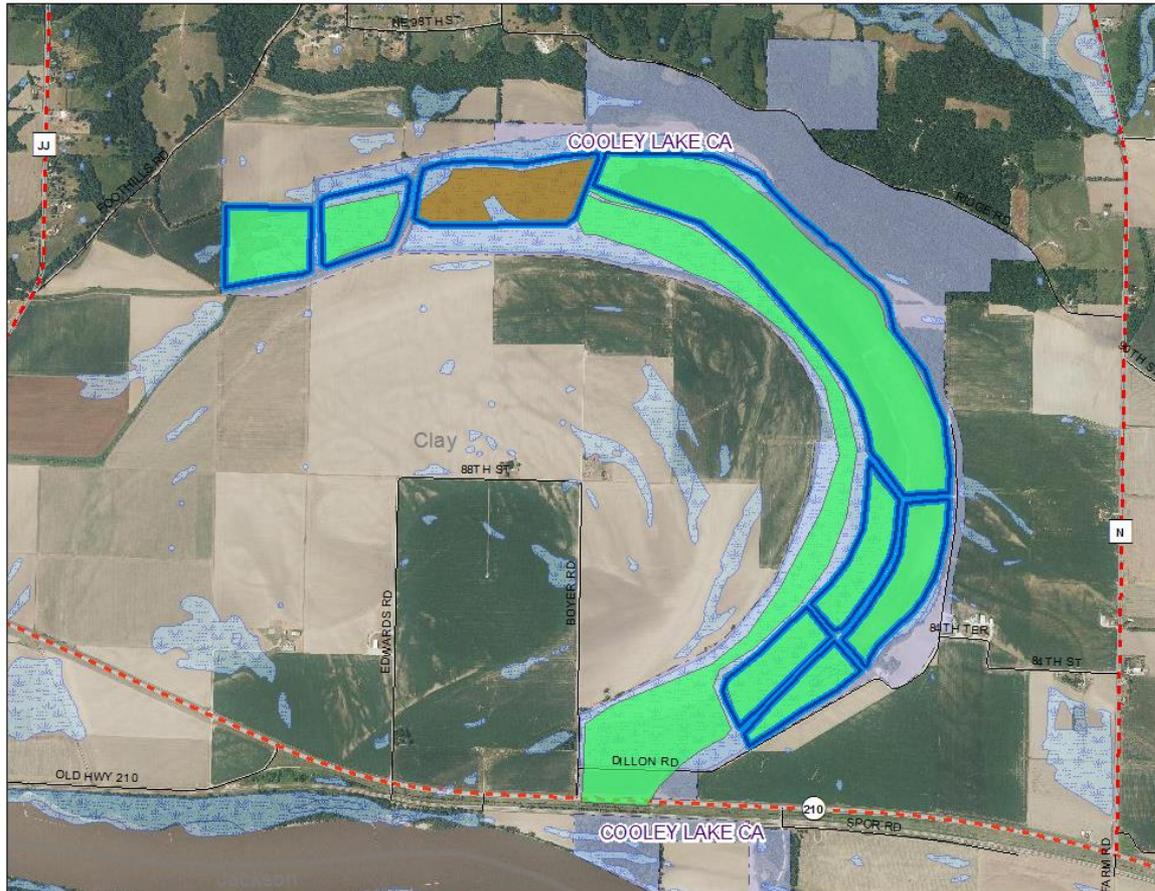
Settle's Ford CA Lakes

Squaw Creek NWR Pools

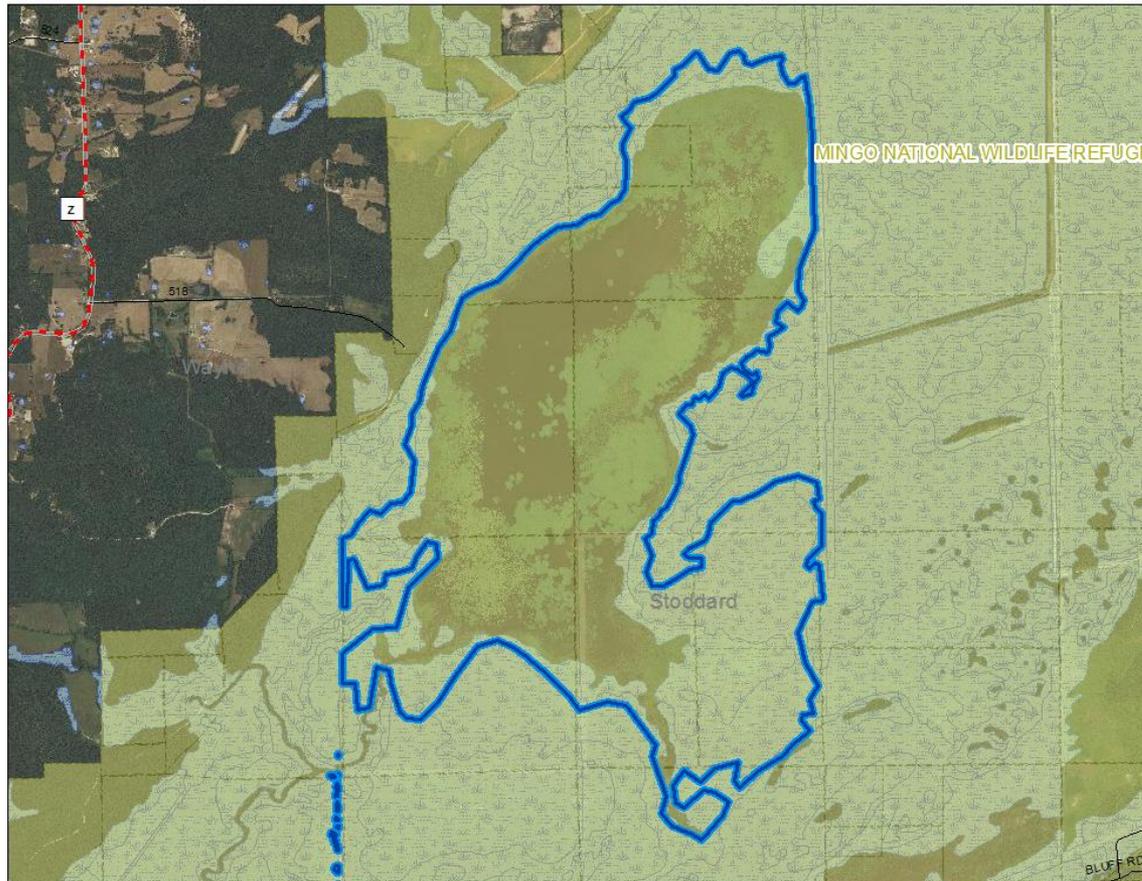
South Pool Levee 3

Swan Lake Levee 5

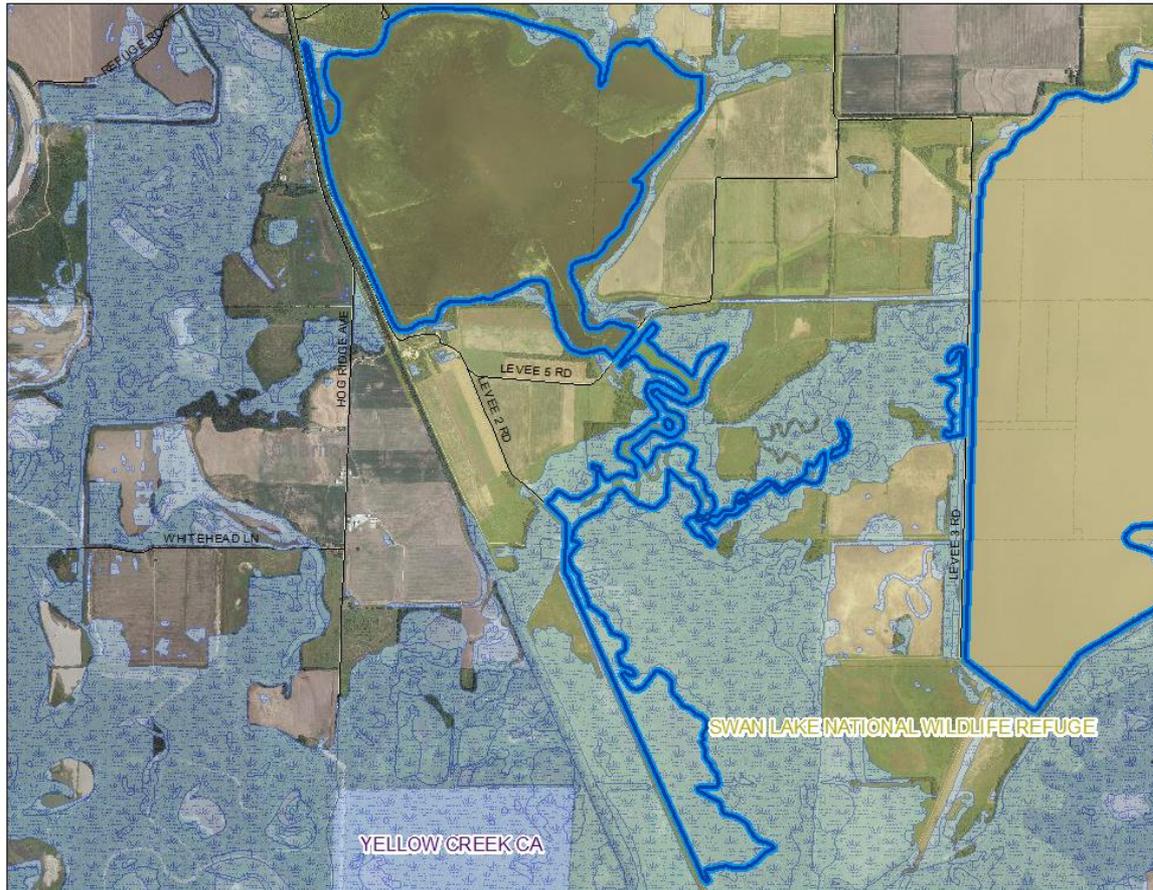
Cooley Lake (Conservation Area)



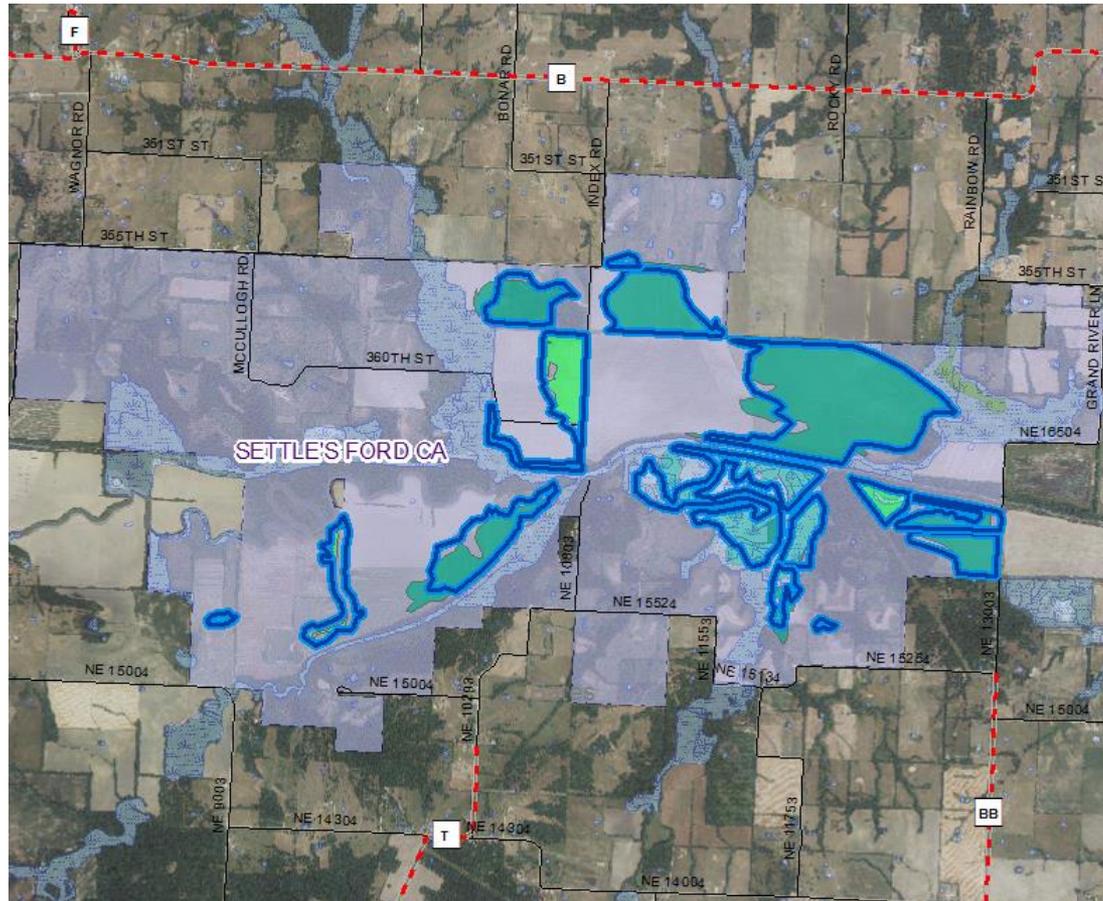
Monopoly Lake (Mingo NWR)



Swan Lake/South Pool (NWR)



Settle's Ford Lakes (Conservation Area)



Public Land Wetlands *Not* in Table G

Bee Hollow CA

Big Lake Marsh (OSRW)

Chloe Lowry Marsh (OSRW)

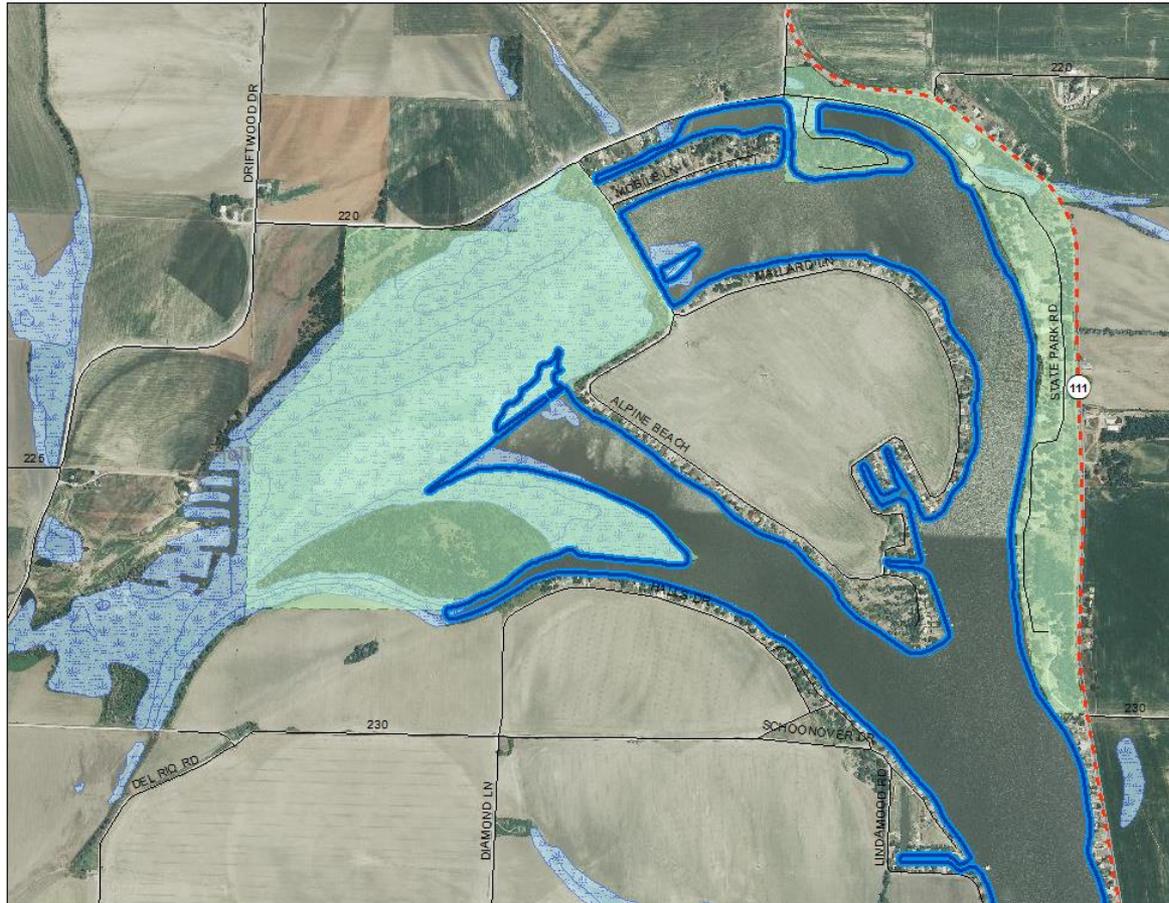
Busch Memorial Wetlands

Little Bean Marsh

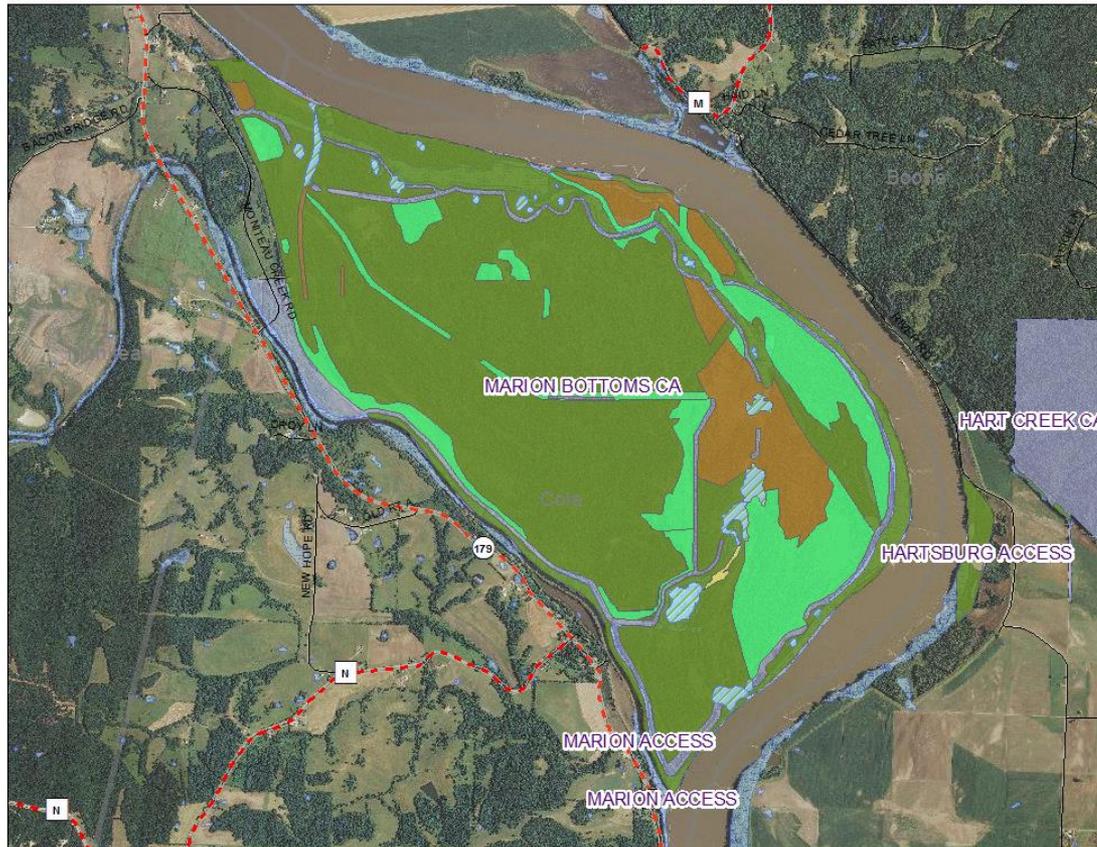
Marion Bottoms

Van Meter Marsh (OSRW)

Big Lake Marsh (State Park)



Marion Bottom (Conservation Area)



Wetlands WQS: Moving Forward

Assign designated uses and criteria

- Apply select uses to all wetlands
- Apply select criteria to all wetlands

Wetlands WQS: Potential Challenges

1. Assigning designated uses

- Some uses not appropriate for wetlands
- Lack of data to set appropriate criteria

2. Stakeholder concerns

- Including wetlands used or designed for wastewater treatment/stormwater control
- Not going far enough/moving too slowly
- Need for better inventory of state wetlands

Next steps

- Implement Missouri Reference Wetlands
- Draft initial set of wetlands for Class W
- Assign appropriate designated uses
- Assign appropriate WQ criteria
- Continue dialogue



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Questions?

