

## **WETLANDS**

Wetlands, floodplains, and the coastal zone are critical in the protection and maintenance of living resources. Wetlands are also important in the protection of surface waters in accordance with the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, Executive Order (EO) 11990, Protection of Wetlands, Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act, and presidential policy mandating “no net loss” of wetlands. National Policy Issuance #91.01; Wetlands: Meeting the Presidents Challenge, the Army has a mandate to protect wetlands, to the maximum extent practicable.

Army policy is to avoid adverse impacts to existing aquatic resources and offset those that are unavoidable. The Army’s goal is no net loss of values and functions to existing wetlands and no overall net loss of wetlands on Army controlled lands. Furthermore, the Army takes a progressive approach to protecting existing wetlands, rehabilitating degraded wetlands, restoring former wetlands, and creating wetlands to increase the quality and quantity of the nation’s wetlands resource base.

Similarly, EO11988–Floodplain Management addresses floodplains impacts, and the Coastal Zone Management Act mandates consistency with state coastal zone regulations. All potential impacts to wetlands, floodplains, and coastal resources are evaluated in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

# Wetland Indicator Species



# Wetlands: Army Policy and Restrictions

- No adverse impacts to wetlands on the installation
- Off limits to training that causes placement of fill material (soil, gravel, etc) in the wetland
- Digging is prohibited unless approved by Environmental Division (submit REC)
- Digging permit will also be required (DPW O&M)



Vegetation can be cut during  
dry times to avoid rutting



Place fill material only on footprint of existing berm or road, no wider



Submit a REC, get a permit