

Water Resources



WETLANDS

With a combined 20 years of experience working with wetland projects in Montana and throughout the Pacific Northwest, Watershed Consulting is able to offer a complete package of wetland services for regulatory compliance from delineation through permitting, mitigation and restoration. We offer wetland delineation and mapping services using current GPS and GIS technology to improve cost-effectiveness. Our wetland delineators have been trained under the latest Army Corps of Engineers guidance for the regional supplements and 1987 manual.

Our regulatory compliance services cover the range of permitting scenarios under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, including Nationwide Permits for small impacts from projects such as road crossings, General and Individual Permits applications for extensive highway and road construction projects and permits for stream and wetland restoration.

Our wetland scientists are backed by expertise with mitigation and restoration design. Mitigation projects depend on rigorous functional assessments. With our understanding of wetland ecology, we can confidently forecast the potential gain in functions and values for a project. Our wetland staff work closely with heavy equipment operators completing project oversight for wetland contouring, grading and water control features. Our wetland scientists are also backed by in-house ecological restoration services and a revegetation crew allowing us to offer clients a comprehensive approach to mitigation and restoration from initial design through construction oversight and implementation.

Watershed Consulting offers full wetland services and an inclusive approach to guide clients through the difficult aspects of wetland regulatory and mitigation process.

Services:

- Delineation and mapping ● Permitting: clean water act section 404
- Conceptual plans and feasibility studies ● Mitigation and restoration design ● Construction and revegetation services
- Plant propagation, collection and procurement ● Monitoring and functional assessments



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Featured Projects

Wetland Restoration and Regulatory Compliance (2008 - Present)

Private Landowners

Implemented a wetland restoration project in the Bitterroot Valley to remove a non-permitted road. As project managers and client liaisons to the Army Corps of Engineers, we managed project logistics, compliance issues and prepared all documentaion, including wetland delineation, impact assessment, functional assessment, 401B Alternative Analysis for road access, and restoration and monitoring reports. Our wetland restoration plan and road deconstruction was approved

by the Army Corps of Engineers and implemented with oversight from our wetland staff. Deconstruction included recontouring and grading of the site, woody and herbaceous plant salvage, streambank restoration, and culvert removal. The wetland was seeded with custom seed mix and planted with woody vegetation. The site was monitored following construction with the establishment of transects, wetland data form plots, belt transects for woody species density, and photo documentation.

Viking Creek Mitigation (2009- Present)



Whitefish Lake Institute

Prepared a mitigation design plan for wetland impacts from a proposed natural areas development. Project tasks included wetland delineation of the property, installation of groundwater monitoring wells, wetland permitting for Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, mitigation design utilizing existing degraded

wetlands, functional assessments, and future wetland creation and enhancement efforts. This project's permitting included federal, state and local agencies review. Watershed Consulting is the client liaison for the Institute and is working with the City of Whitefish to complete the critical area ordinance for all wetlands and riparian areas.

Norm Close Wetland Mitigation (Present)

Watershed Consulting's wetland scientists have conducted a wetland delineation and are designing a conceptual wetland mitigation plan in cooperation with a local engineer for this project near the Bitterroot River in Missoula, Montana. The conceptual mitigation plan utilizes a crediting scheme that includes wetland restoration, creation, and enhancement of existing

degraded wetland areas. A pre- and post-construction functional assessment was completed to quantitatively rate the functions and values of the wetlands. Mitigation goals included offsetting wetland impacts onsite and increasing the functional rating of the site with improvements to wildlife habitat.

