

Meeting Summary
MetroGIS Lakes and Wetlands Workgroup
September 29, 2004

A pilot project was agreed upon to work through partnerships and organizational roles needed to help facilitate the updating of the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) for the Twin Cities metropolitan area. This pilot is viewed as a component of a anticipated broader Metro Area hydrologic solution that is anticipated, once the statewide strategic planning effort is complete.

The pilot project partners include Metropolitan Council, the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District (MMCD), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Ramsey Co. Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). The proposed pilot study area would be the East St. Paul quad using sample imagery flown in May 2004.

The pilot components agreed upon were as follows:

- The Metropolitan Council will delineate 'Open Water' features.
- MMCD will integrate their wetland features (in classification form Circular-39 - St. of MN statute classification).
 - Ramsey Co. SWCD will use the resulting data and make refinements according to their needs.
 - Fish & Wildlife (currently working to update the National Wetland Inventory (NWI)) will use the resulting data and reclassify the data to Cowardian Classification (NWI standard).
- Upon completion of Cowardian classification, the Council will attempt to scope out procedures for stream realignment so there is complete integration of Open Water, Wetlands, and Streams.

NOTE: The DNR has already determined a methodology to update their PWI data set based on available Open water and wetland features. They have agreed, in theory, that updating the data to coincide with any newly created geographic features from this effort would be desirable and pursued.

New imagery for the entire metropolitan area is anticipated in Spring 2005. It is expected that the pilot study will conclude in 2005 and the necessary tasks and organizational roles for completing the update of the metropolitan lakes, wetlands boundaries and stream alignments will have been defined. Completion of the project is undetermined at this time.