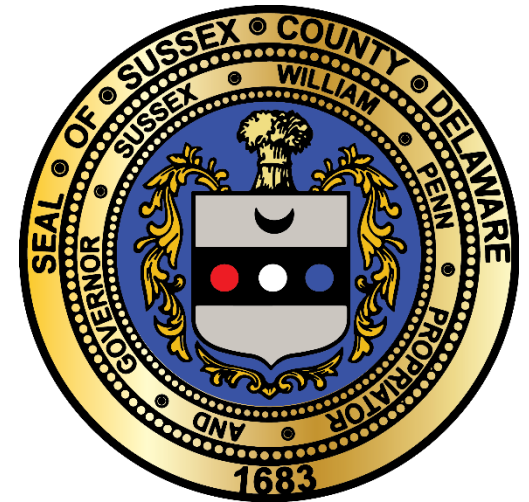


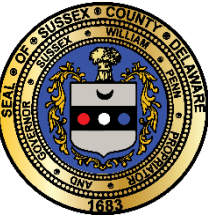


Sussex County

Wetlands & Buffers Working Group

Sussex County West Complex Building
22215 N. DuPont Blvd, Georgetown, DE
Wednesday, March 20
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

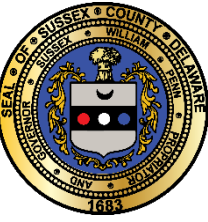




Process Reminders

- Working Group Etiquette
- Role of Audience
- Definitions can be revisited in Phase II





Agenda

1. Review Prior Meeting and Draft Definitions
2. Review Working Group Definition Rankings (Intermittent, Ephemeral)
3. New Definitions (Non-Tidal Wetlands, Buffers)
4. Next Steps
5. Adjourn

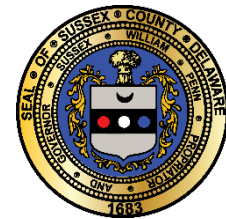




Meeting Outcomes, 3/6

1. Reviewed DNREC maps
2. Definition for Perennial Nontidal Rivers and Streams
3. Assigned homework to rank definitions for Intermittent Streams and Ephemeral Streams

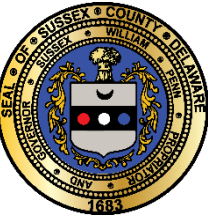




Ranking Outcomes



Intermittent Streams					
Sussex County	DNREC-NC	USACE Proposed	USACE Current	AMS	
5	2	3	4	1	
5	4	3	1	2	
5	1	2	4	3	
5	4	3	1	2	
5	1	3	4	2	
5	1	3	4	2	
5	1	4	2	3	
5	1	3	2	4	
5	2	4	3	1	
5	4	1	2	3	
5	1	3	2	4	
5	1	2	4	3	
TOTAL	60	23	34	33	30
AVERAGE	5.0	1.9	2.8	2.8	2.5
# of Ones	0	7	1	2	2
# of Twos	0	2	2	4	4



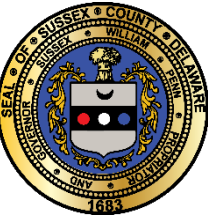
Ranking Outcomes

Intermittent Streams – Edits and Comments Received

- A well-defined channel that carries flowing water for only part of the year, typically during winter and spring, but that ceases to flow occasionally or seasonally because bed seepage from groundwater and evapotranspiration exceed the water supply. An intermittent stream often lacks the biological and hydrological characteristics commonly associated with the conveyance of water.
- A well-defined channel that contains water that flows for only part of the year, typically during winter and spring when the aquatic bed is below the water table. The flow may be heavily supplemented by stormwater runoff. An intermittent stream often lacks the biological and hydrological characteristics commonly associated with the conveyance of water.
- An intermittent stream has a well-defined channel that contains water for only part of the year, typically during winter and spring when the aquatic bed is below the water table. The flow may be heavily supplemented by stormwater runoff. An intermittent stream often lacks the biological and hydrological characteristics commonly associated with the conveyance of water.
- An intermittent stream contains flowing groundwater for only part of the year when the aquatic bed is below the water table. The flow may be heavily supplemented by stormwater runoff. During dry periods, intermittent streams may not have flowing water. An intermittent stream often lacks the biological and hydrological characteristics commonly associated with the conveyance of water.

COMMENT: An intermittent stream may not have a well-defined channel and the flow of water may be very slow.





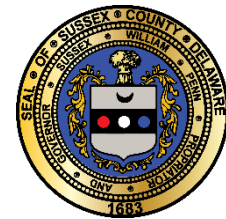
Ranking Outcomes

Intermittent Streams – Edits and Comments Received

A well-defined channel that contains water that flows for only part of the year, typically during winter and spring when the aquatic bed is below the water table. The flow may be heavily supplemented by stormwater runoff. During dry periods, intermittent streams may not have flowing water. An intermittent stream often lacks the biological and hydrological characteristics commonly associated with the conveyance of water.

COMMENT: An intermittent stream may not have a well-defined channel and the flow of water may be very slow.

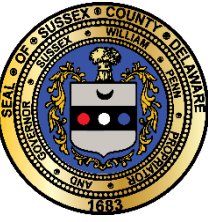




Ranking Outcomes



Ephemeral Streams					
Sussex County	DNREC-NC	USACE Proposed	USACE Current	AMS	
5	2	4	1	3	
5	1	3	4	2	
5	1	3	4	2	
5	1	3	4	2	
5	1	4	2	3	
5	1	3	2	4	
5	1	4	2	3	
5	1	3	4	2	
1	4	5	3	2	
5	4	1	2	3	
5	4	1	3	2	
5	2	4	3	1	
TOTAL	56	23	38	34	29
AVERAGE	4.7	1.9	3.2	2.8	2.4
# of Ones	1	7	2	1	1
# of Twos	0	2	0	4	6

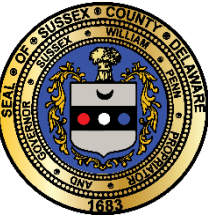


Ranking Outcomes

Ephemeral Streams – Edits and Comments Received

- A feature that may or may not have a well-defined channel, which has flowing water only during and for a short duration after precipitation events. In a typical year ephemeral stream beds are located above the water table year-round. Runoff from rainfall is the primary source of water for stream flow.
- An ephemeral stream is a feature that carries only stormwater in direct response to precipitation with water flowing only during and shortly after large precipitation events. An ephemeral stream may or may not have a well-defined channel, the aquatic bed is always above the water table, and stormwater runoff is the primary source of water. An ephemeral stream typically lacks the biological, hydrological, and physical characteristics commonly associated with the continuous or intermittent conveyance of water.
- An ephemeral stream has flowing water in direct response to precipitation only during and shortly after large precipitation events. An ephemeral stream may or may not have a well-defined channel, the aquatic bed is always above the water table, and stormwater runoff is the primary source of water. An ephemeral stream typically lacks the biological, hydrological, and physical characteristics commonly associated with the continuous or intermittent conveyance of water.

COMMENT: Ephemeral streams should not be defined or buffered.



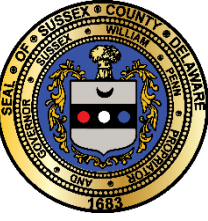
Ranking Outcomes

Ephemeral Streams – Edits and Comments Received

A feature that carries only stormwater in direct response to precipitation with water flowing only during and shortly after large precipitation events. An ephemeral stream may or may not have a well-defined channel, the aquatic bed is always above the water table, and stormwater runoff is the primary source of water. An ephemeral stream typically lacks the biological, hydrological, and physical characteristics commonly associated with the continuous or intermittent conveyance of water.

COMMENT: Ephemeral streams should not be defined or buffered.





Nontidal Wetland Definitions

USACE Definition: Those areas inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

New Castle County Definition: Those areas inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions; or areas that are defined and delineated in accordance with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers guidelines as may be amended from time to time, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or DNREC.

New Jersey, Edited Definition: An area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, commonly known as hydrophytic vegetation; in designating a wetland, applicant shall use the three-parameter approach (that is, hydrology, soils and vegetation) enumerated in the 1989 Federal Manual as defined in this section. These include nontidal and tidally-influenced wetlands which have not been included on a promulgated map pursuant to Title 7 Chapter 66 of the Delaware Code.

New Simplified Definition: Those wetlands meeting the definition established by the USACE that are not Sussex County-defined tidal wetlands.





Draft Buffer Zone Definition

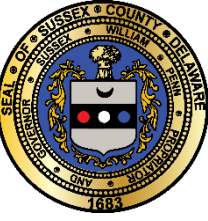
CURRENT DEFINITION:

An existing naturally vegetated area or an area purposely established in vegetation which shall not be cultivated in order to protect aquatic, wetlands, shoreline and upland environments from man-made encroachment and disturbances. The "buffer zone" shall be maintained in natural vegetation, but may include planted vegetation where necessary to protect, stabilize or enhance the area.

DEFINITION FOR DISCUSSION:

A protected area between designated resources of Sussex County and other land uses.





Next Steps

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, April 3
- Anticipated Goals
- Homework?

