

12 Components of Mitigation

OBJECTIVE: Briefly explain the kind of wetland/stream mitigation proposed. Is it restoration (reestablishment or rehabilitation), establishment (creation), enhancement and/or preservation (protection)? Describe the area in which the mitigation is proposed to be constructed; how is it similar or different than the impacted wetland/stream area?

SITE SELECTION: How was this site selected? Is it on the same site as the impacted wetland/stream or within the same watershed? If not, how did you select this site?

SITE PROTECTION: Describe any legal arrangements made to protect the mitigation site (deed restriction, conservation easement, etc).

BASELINE INFORMATION: Describe the site as it is before the proposed mitigation work is conducted. Verify the existence and boundaries of any existing wetlands or other waters on the site. Identify plants growing on the site, note whether there is water ponding at the surface, note whether the soil wet or moist a lot, etc. How does water get to the site, or why doesn't it get to the site? Provide the legal description of the location (latitude/longitude and section, township, range) and a map.

DETERMINATION OF CREDITS: Describe how the proposed mitigation offsets the impacts proposed in the application.

MITIGATION WORK PLAN: Describe the proposed mitigation work. Include the following: construction methods; elevations and side slopes (if applicable); dates the work will start/be completed; water sources; site boundaries; buffers around the wetland/stream; method for establishing desired plant communities; etc. For streams also include channel planform, riparian area plantings, etc.

MAINTENANCE PLAN: Describe how the site will be maintained to ensure proper functioning over time.

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS: List and describe measurable criteria used to determine that the mitigation project offsets the requested impacts (based on environmental conditions). For example, ensure more than 80% cover of native plant species typically found in similar areas, and ensure that appropriate amounts of water are present during the growing season.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS: Describe how and when the Performance Standards will be measured and completed (checklist is acceptable). Include specific deadlines for submitting monitoring results, and identify a monitoring period. For example, monitor sites for 5 years after completion and submit annual reports no later than October 31 each year.

LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN: Describe how the mitigation site will be managed after the monitoring period is completed.

ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN: Briefly describe a management strategy to ensure adequate mitigation is provided in the event the site does not perform as expected.

FINANCIAL ASSURANCES: Describe any financial assurances that will be provided to ensure the project is successfully completed.

OTHER INFORMATION: Any other information that you believe to be helpful in the process or that is later necessary to complete the determination.