

January 7, 2003

NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY ACT MANUAL (NFSAM)
Third Edition, Amendment 5
180-V-NFSAM, Amendment WI24

Purpose: To transmit policy changes for the Wetland Conservation provisions of the NFSAM.

Subject: Mitigation Number

Effective Date. Upon receipt.

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 continues the Conservation and Wetland Compliance provisions that were included in the previous Farm Bills. Mitigation is an option that landowners can use to maintain current eligibility for proposed wetland conversions, or to regain eligibility for existing converted wetlands.

Landowners who choose to mitigate wetland conversions will be required to file a conservation easement on the restored site. The Warranty Easement Deed requires a "Wetland Conservation Mitigation No." **The following numbering system will be used: State Code; FIPS Code; Calendar Year; and Number of Mitigated sites for that Year.** For example, the first mitigation site in Kewaunee County for 2003 would be numbered: 55-061-03-1. The second site mitigated in Kewaunee County in 2003 would be numbered: 55-061-03-2. The last number in the sequence would start over with "1" beginning the next calendar year (2004). All mitigation sites will be tracked at the State Office using this system. All mitigation sites are to be monitored annually until each site is determined to be successfully restored as planned.

Filing Instructions

Insert this notice after page 526-64 of Section 526.69, Part 526 of the NFSAM, Third Edition, Amendment 5.

Questions concerning Mitigation Agreements and Mitigation Easements should be directed to Alison Peña, at (608) 276-8732, extension 254, or Robert Weihrouch, at (608) 276-8732, extension 267.


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