



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

Galveston District

Special Public Notice

5 August 2025

RECORDING AQUATIC RESOURCE DELINEATIONS USING GLOBAL NAVIGATION SATELLITE SYSTEMS

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE: To inform you that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (Corps) has adopted the **July 2025 Recording Aquatic Resource Delineations Using Global Navigation Satellite Systems** recommendations for the use of high-accuracy Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receivers and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in electronically mapping aquatic resource boundaries pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

DISCUSSION: These recommendations support individuals conducting aquatic resource delineations and jurisdictional determinations by promoting consistent, accurate data collection methods. They may also be used when quantifying the extent (e.g., areas and/or lengths) of aquatic resources in a project area or assessing the spatial extent of proposed impact areas in Department of the Army permit applications. In accordance with *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-02*, this document outlines methods for collecting spatial data that facilitate accurate replication of delineation documentation. While these are recommendations rather than mandatory standards, adhering to consistent practices will enhance accuracy and consistency.

These recommendations supersede the *SWG Standard Operating Procedures: Recording and Submitting Jurisdictional Delineations Using Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS Tools and Technologies)* dated April 21, 2016.

ORGANIZATION: The guidance document has two primary sections relevant to methodologies: 1) Data Collection which presents recommendations for collecting spatial data using high accuracy GNSS equipment and; 2) Data Submission which present the recommendation for the submission of collected GNSS data; including outlining expectations for file naming conventions, attribute data requirements, and map standard.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: Notwithstanding the specifications described in these recommendations, the Corps retains the flexibility to adjust spatial accuracy standards based on project needs. The Corps is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State, and local agencies and officials, Indian tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate if additional requirements should be added to further assure spatial accuracy.

Comments should reference this special public notice and should be submitted by electronic mail to swg_public_notice@usace.army.mil or the physical address listed below:

Policy Analysis Branch
Regulatory Division, CESWG-RDP
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Galveston District
2000 Fort Point Road
Galveston, Texas 77550

CONCLUSION: This document outlines recommended practices for the collection and submission of GNSS and GIS data for aquatic resources delineations across all U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Districts. These recommendations are intended to promote consistency, accuracy, and efficiency in the delineation process and to ensure accurate computation of impacts to waters of the United States and compensatory mitigation requirements. This document replaces all previous recommendations and provides each District with the flexibility to adjust spatial accuracy standards based on individual project needs.

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