



SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

NATIONAL WETLAND PLANT LIST ANNOUNCEMENT

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT**

BUILDING STRONG®

Project: National Wetland Plant List Announcement
Comment Period: December 19, 2014 to January 31, 2015

Location

Throughout the United States

Activity

In 2012, an extensive update of the National Wetland Plant List (NWPL) was finalized. In an effort to continue improving the quality of the wetland ratings on the NWPL, the NWPL national panel is releasing an online questionnaire designed to identify those plant species for which wetland ratings may need revisions, as well as species that should be considered for addition and/or deletion from the list (see enclosed announcement).

A link to the questionnaire and an example of a completed questionnaire for an individual plant species can be found on the NWPL website at: http://wetland_plants.usace.army.mil/.

For additional information please call Therese O. Bradford at 760-602-4850 or via e-mail at Therese.O.Bradford@usace.army.mil. This public notice is issued by the Chief, Regulatory Division.



Regulatory Program Goals:

- To provide strong protection of the nation's aquatic environment, including wetlands.
- To ensure the Corps provides the regulated public with fair and reasonable decisions.
- To enhance the efficiency of the Corps' administration of its regulatory program.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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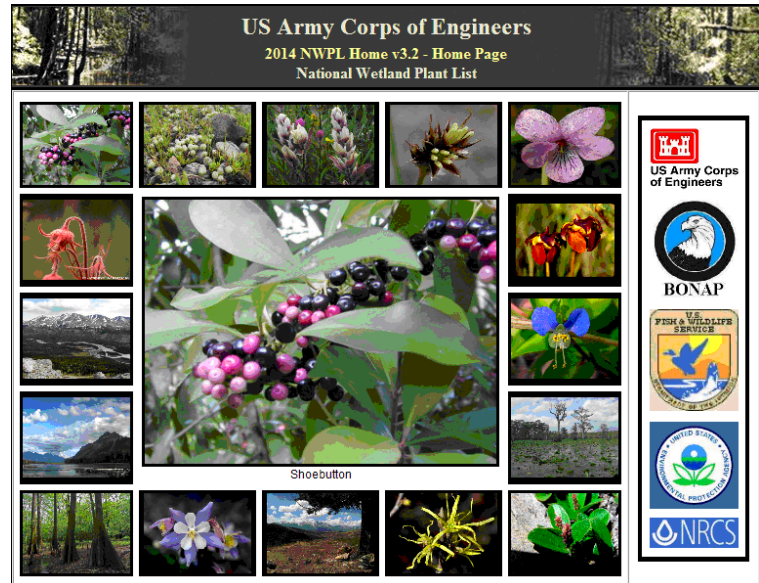
National Wetland Plant List Announcement

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announces the process to request evaluation of specific wetland plant ratings on the National Wetland Plant List.

In 2012, an extensive update of the National Wetland Plant List (NWPL) was finalized. In an effort to continue improving the quality of wetland ratings on the NWPL, the NWPL's national panel is releasing an online questionnaire designed to identify those plant species for which wetland ratings may need revision, as well as species that should be considered for addition and/or deletion from the list. The questionnaire is being distributed to all four NWPL collaborating federal agencies—the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service—and is being announced by the Society of Wetland Scientists, the Association of State Wetland Managers, and others. The questionnaire is open to any agency, institution, or individual who cares to submit information on one or more plant species with wetland ratings that may need further review. Questionnaires will be accepted November 10, 2014 through January 31, 2015.



The questionnaire requires the respondent to identify the species in question, the wetland region(s) and/or sub-region(s) in which its wetland rating needs to be reviewed, the current wetland rating, and the proposed wetland rating change. Additionally, the respondent will be asked to provide some supporting documentation (literature citations, regional floras, herbaria records, and personal observations) and to summarize the rationale for the requested wetland rating change based on the supporting information provided. Once the questionnaires have been received, a list of all wetland ratings that need to be reviewed and all suggested additions and deletions will be compiled and evaluated by the NWPL panel members. Based on submitted documentation, available literature, and the panel members' experience, the panel will make decisions on proposed changes to the NWPL. The results will be posted on the NWPL web site and any changes to wetland ratings will be included in the 2015 NWPL update. A link to the questionnaire and an example of a completed questionnaire for an individual plant species can be found on the NWPL website at: http://wetland_plants.usace.army.mil/.

If you have any questions or concerns related to the questionnaire or the process for plant ratings, please contact Robert Lichvar 603-646-4657 or email NWPL@usace.army.mil.