

# Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP)



TEPs provide forums to discuss site-specific interpretations of laws, rules, and technical data. They also provide an opportunity for gaining consensus on a number of primarily technical issues in order to make a recommendation to the Crow Wing County Board of Adjustment. The Crow Wing County Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) consists of representatives from:

- Crow Wing County Land Services: **Jake Frie**
- Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD): **Clayton Lenk**
- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR): **Cade Steffenson**
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR is Shoreland only): **Owen Baird**
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (non-voting member): **Rob Maroney**

## Roles of the TEP

- Makes a recommendation on applications for non-exempt impacts to wetlands (should have a complete application, accurate delineation, and supporting information)
- Provides pre-application guidance for complex projects where further explanation is necessary
- Interprets the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA), Clean Water Act, and other regulatory guidance material as it pertains to a specific project
- Conducts onsite reviews of difficult delineations in altered settings or problem areas and handles projects where contradicting delineations exist
- Provides/reviews wetland type determinations
- Looks at impacts or replacement in uncommon settings such as fens, bogs, rare species, etc.
- Works with local road authorities on wetland mitigation requirements for road projects
- Provides input on projects involving onsite mitigation and actions eligible for credit
- Makes exemption decisions that have a high chance of appeal or are controversial in nature
- Makes a ruling on whether “sequencing” has been met
- Handles large, complex violations, or situations where legal action is likely
- Provides a pre-planning session prior to beginning development of a Comprehensive Wetland Management Plan
- Reviews wetland banking applications
- Processes requests for early withdrawal of mitigation sites from monitoring requirements

## TEP Scheduling

Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month in the Land Services Conference Room in the Land Services Building (322 Laurel Street). Meetings start at 9:00 AM.



Questions???

Contact Land Services (218) 824-1010, [landservices@crowwing.us](mailto:landservices@crowwing.us)