

STRATEGIC PLAN

New England Biological Assessment of Wetlands Work Group (NEBAWWG)

OUR MISSION

We increase access to methods, research, and data that inform regulatory and management decisions to ensure effective wetlands protection.

Through an inclusive, iterative process, NEBAWWG developed this strategic plan in 2023 to describe our current work and future initiatives. The five-year plan reflects the combined activities and impact of the workgroup while allowing flexibility for each state and region to accomplish our shared goals in ways best suited to their individual needs and resources.

NEBAWWG comprises wetland managers and scientists from state, federal, tribal, non-profit, and conservation organizations that use and develop monitoring and assessment tools. NEIWPCC has managed NEBAWWG since its beginnings in the 1990s.

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Strategic Objectives and Supporting Activities

CONNECTIONS

Bring together wetlands professionals and land managers, align research initiatives and interstate monitoring activities, and build bridges between wetland science and regulation to foster understanding and increase our combined impact.

Activities

- Host and present at meetings and conferences.
- Provide peer review for key wetlands publications.
- Build and maintain mutually productive partnerships.
- Facilitate Floristic Quality Assessment (FQA).
- Pursue region-wide certification for delineation work.
- Explore ways to build consistency across similar ecoregions for interstate monitoring activities.

COLLABORATION

Develop, share, and foster best practices in biological monitoring and assessment of wetlands.

Activities

- Establish and distribute a set of common metrics.
- Implement a Functional Assessment Method across New England.
- Increase NAWM collaboration and develop factsheets highlighting the partnership in the Delaware Model.
- Inform and strengthen the work of wetlands consultants and other external groups.

COMMUNICATION

Provide timely, accurate, and consistent scientific information to regulatory programs, universities, planning agencies, government agencies, and conservation groups.

Activities

- Ensure that each state's Core Elements Plan is shared with key stakeholders.
- Proactively develop and disseminate white papers, position papers, comment letters and fact sheets.
- Participate in efforts to inform the general public about the significance of wetlands protection.

