

Appendix B. **Applied Study Phase**

Summary of Proposed Activities (Program Development, Coordination, Applied Studies, Outreach, Training and Technical Support)

1. **Program Development:** Enhance Wetland Mapping Consortium (WMC) and Wetland Names Working Group (WNWG) capabilities to allow for applied study coordination, training and outreach, and technical support, as well as to facilitate the design and review of studies (applied and programmatic) on the application of Stable Unique Identifier Codes for wetlands mapping, monitoring, and assessment.
2. **Coordination:** Coordinate the design of Applied Studies and associated database structure and analysis. Solicit and integrate comments from the affected wetland data user community on the applied studies. Provide outreach (such as Wetland Names Working Group Meetings, webinars, surveys, web pages, and crowd-sourcing) to provide opportunities for the affected data user community to further test, review, and provide comments and information on the selected methods for applying Stable Unique Identifier Codes. Provide a Technical Report on the study with Guidance and Recommendations for implementing Stable Unique Identifier Codes and names in wetlands data, consistent with EPA's Three-Tiered Assessment Methods, and the FGDC National Wetlands Mapping Standard, as well as enhancing National Wetlands Inventory Data. Produce a technical report comparing the methods for enhancing wetlands data with Stable Unique Identifier Codes and names, and making recommendations on the development and implementation of a new FGDC national standard for wetland Stable Unique Identifier Codes and names, consistent with EPA's Three-Tiered Assessment Methods, and the FGDC National Wetlands Mapping Standard, as well as enhancing National Wetlands Inventory Data. The technical report would be provided to the EPA, the FGDC, and the Wetland Mapping Consortium (WMC), and disseminated to the affected wetland science community through a public website such as the WMC and/or Association of State Wetland Managers (ASWM).
3. **Applied Studies:** Initiate and conduct applied studies on the enhancement of wetlands data to improve the wetlands assessment and monitoring capabilities of state/tribal/local government organizations through the application of Stable Unique Identifier Codes and site names for wetlands and associated map features (such as historic wetlands, hydric soils, and riparian areas) in maps and databases, utilizing methods that would produce regional and national-scale seamless coverage, and are consistent with EPA's Three-Tiered Assessment Methods and the FGDC National Wetlands Mapping Standard, as well as enhancing National Wetlands Inventory Data. In the study areas in three or more EPA regions, attempt to apply stable unique identifier codes to enhance wetland mapping data, comparing multiple methods as recommended by the NSDI CAP 2011 study and the Wetland Names Working Group (WNWG) of the Wetland Mapping Consortium (WMC). For each selected method, report on and compare factors such as the utility of the resulting product, ease of use, level of training and resources required, precision and accuracy of resulting product, estimated time and costs for data enhancement, and any

recommended regional adjustments. Additionally, for study areas in three or more EPA regions, test and report on the applicability of the enhanced wetland data resulting from the applied study for state programmatic and/or regulatory needs in wetland mapping, assessment, and monitoring.

4. **Training, Outreach and Technical Support:** Provide training and outreach on the development of enhancements for wetlands data to improve the wetlands mapping, assessment, and monitoring capabilities of state/tribal/local government organizations through the application of stable unique identifier codes and site names for wetlands and associated map features (such as historic wetlands, hydric soils, and riparian areas) in maps and databases, utilizing methods that would produce seamless coverage at the national-scale. Organize and provide on-going technical support for the implementation of wetland site names, and coding methods and standards, by additional wetland mapping and monitoring entities.