

Wetland Definition

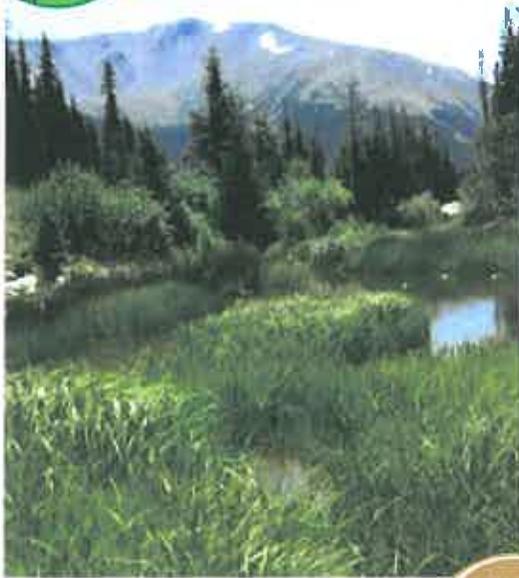


Photo Source: Rebecca Pierce, CDOT



01-0003-11



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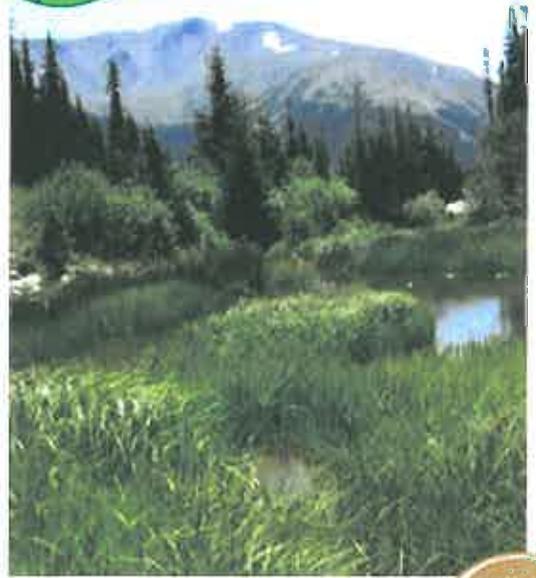


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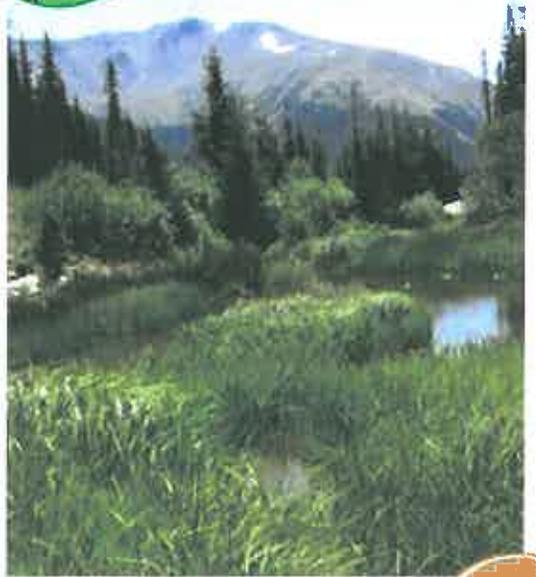


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Wetland Definition

Federal regulations that implement section 404 of the Clean Water Act define wetlands as:

“...those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water [hydrology] at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation [hydrophytes] typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions [hydric soils].”

“Jurisdictional” wetlands -- those that are regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers -- must exhibit three characteristics (hydrology, hydrophytes, and hydric soils) and must be associated with the “waters of the United States.” Areas that meet some but not all of these criteria, may be considered wetlands by other agencies but are not regulated under the Clean Water Act.

Regulations: 40 CFR 232.2(r)



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