



Documentation Standard for Interim Hydrogeomorphic Functional Assessment

This documentation standard (DS) is used by project sponsors preparing an Interim Hydrogeomorphic (HGMi) Functional Assessment in accordance with guidance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The HGMi may be used to calculate current wetland functions and predict potential changes to a wetland's functions that may result from proposed activities. The HGMi Functional Assessment is only utilized within the USACE Galveston District Office (SWG).

This DS lists and describes information that must be included within a HGMi Functional Assessment report. Additional information may be necessary. HGMi assessments must be presented in report format and include more information than a standalone table. The HGMi report may be combined with a Stream Assessment report, if applicable. The format below must be followed, and the information listed included within the report. All SWG guidance on wetland functional assessments must also be followed, including clear descriptions of how and why the site was scored and how the theoretical score was determined. All information used to make the determinations and specific discussion on how scores were derived (pre- and post- project) must be included within the report, along with the amount of mitigation that would be required.

Cover

If the report is in draft form, add the word "Draft" at the end of the report title. If the report is in final form, delete the word "Draft."

Enter the road name and limits, project CSJ, TxDOT district, and month and year of the report.

Table of Contents

Once the report is complete, make sure to update the Table of Contents and List of Tables.

Add the project CSJ to the footer.

I. Introduction

Introduce the proposed transportation project and state when the functional assessment field work was completed. If the functional assessment was completed across several days, include the range(s) of days the site was accessed for the assessment. If there were portions of the project area that could not be accessed due to right-of-entry (ROE) limitations, describe in the introduction. Similarly, if a desktop analysis was made on all, or a portion of the project, discuss that in the introduction.

Include a general description of the project area and a project description.

II. Existing Conditions

Provide a general description of the project area, including the following components, as applicable and appropriate: physiography, geology, soils, climate, watershed characteristics, fluvial geomorphology, vegetation, and hydrologic regimes.



III. Methods

Describe the desktop analysis to substantiate the numbers on the HGMi worksheets. Also, discuss materials used to make desktop assessment and identify any assumptions.

IV. Results

Include discussion on how each index value was assigned (Woody Vegetation (Vwood), Duration of Flooding (Vdur), etc.) and pre- and post-impact scores.

The Results section should also two tables, one for pre-impact scores, and one for post-impact scores. Each table should summarize the Wetland Assessment Area (WAA) wetland acreage, Functional Capacity Index (FCI), and Functional Capacity Unit (FCU). Calculations must be shown, including the formula(s) used.

V. Conclusion

Summarize the results and state the types and amounts of wetland mitigation that is needed for the project.

VI. References

Include all sources utilized to prepare the report. Use American Psychological Association (APA) citation format.

VII. Attachments

List all attachments referenced throughout the report. The following exhibits must be included within the Attachments, listed, numbered, and labeled in order of appearance. Additional exhibits must be included, if applicable. All exhibits must have source data noted in the legend (e.g., aerial date, quadrangle name, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) year, etc.

Attachment I - Exhibits

- Exhibit 1 - Vicinity Map
- Exhibit 2 - Site location map
- Exhibit 3 - Flood map
- Exhibit 4 - Topo map
- Exhibit 5 - Soils map
- Exhibit 6 - Wetland location map (typically from delineation report) showing areas of impacts and areas that will not be impacted
- Exhibit 7 - Project drawings depicting wetland impacts



- Exhibit 8 - Map showing location of WAAs and sampling locations within the WAA
- Exhibit 9 - Wetland delineation map and WAA representative wetland points (1 datasheet per WAA, datasheets of transects not required)

Attachment 2 – USACE HGMi Worksheets

USACE HGMi worksheets with comments for pre and post impact scores (as appropriate). The following worksheets should be included within the report as appropriate:

- Lacustrine Fringe (Interim) HGM Worksheet Functional Capacity Index (FCI) and Lacustrine Fringe (Interim) HGM Worksheet Functional Capacity Unit (FCU) Impact(s) sheet and Lacustrine Fringe HGM (Interim) Worksheet
- Forested Riverine (Interim) HGM Worksheet Functional Capacity Index (FCI) and Forested Riverine (Interim) HGM Worksheet Functional Capacity Unit (FCU) Impact(s) sheet
- Riverine Herb/Shrub HGM (Interim) Worksheet and Riverine Herb/Shrub (Interim HGM) Worksheet Functional Capacity Index (FCI)
- Tidal Fringe (Interim HGM) Worksheet Functional Capacity Index (FCI) and Tidal Fringe (Interim HGM) Worksheet Functional Capacity Index (FCI)

Attachment 3 – Site Photographs

- Site photos – see example below



Photo 3: Typical view of HGM Plot 1, Herbaceous Wetland (WAA 2)



Attachment 1

Exhibits



Attachment 2

USACE HGMi Worksheets



Attachment 3

Site Photographs



Appendix A

The following table shows the revision history for this document.

Revision History	
Effective Date Month, Year	Reason for and Description of Change
July 2022	Version 1 was released.