

# Wetland Impacts

## How Temporary is Temporary?

**Irina Lapina, PWS**

October 10, 2024

**Parametrix**



# Overview

**Definitions** (Temporary, Rectification)

**Proposed Conditions**

**Project Example**

**Factors to Consider**

**Proposed vs. Reality**

**Conclusion**



# Definitions

## USACE Portland District (NWP Regional Conditions -10)

- a) Temporary fills or impacts to waters of the U.S. **shall not exceed six months** unless otherwise approved by the District Engineer.
- d) ... shall include returning the area to **pre-project ground surface contours**. ... shall appropriately **revegetate temporarily filled or impacted areas** with native, noninvasive herbs, shrubs, and/or tree species ... to replace affected aquatic functions.

## DSL (OAR 141-085-0510(99))

*Temporary Impacts* are adverse impacts to waters of this state that are **rectified within 24 months** from the date of the **initiation of the impact**.

rectified = returned to pre-construction conditions.

# Rectification Proposed

Timeline	<b>2 years</b>
Material Costs	<b>Planting material</b>
Labor Costs	<b>1 site visit</b>
Fees	<b>No mitigation fee</b>
Total Costs	<b>\$</b>



# Project Example



2019 PRE-CONSTRUCTION

# Project Example



**Year 1**  
2020

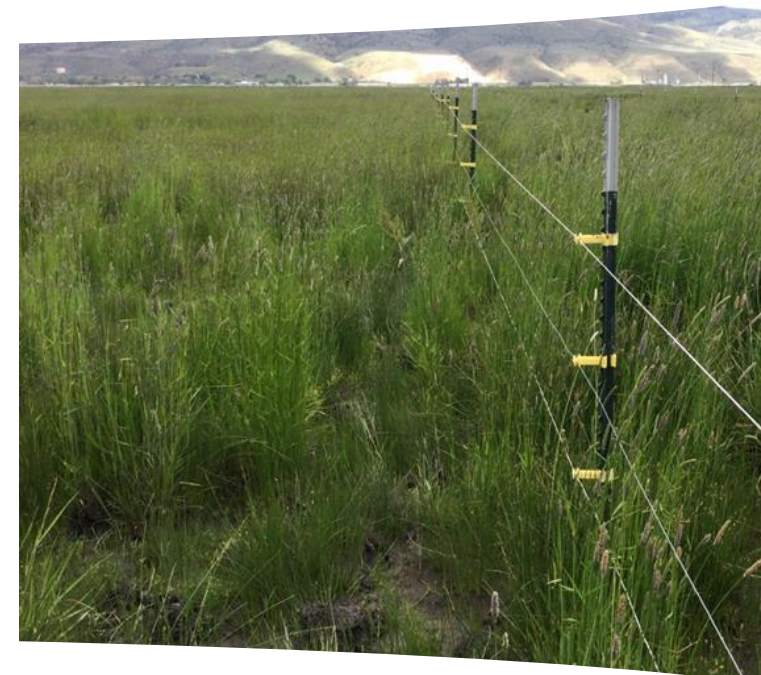
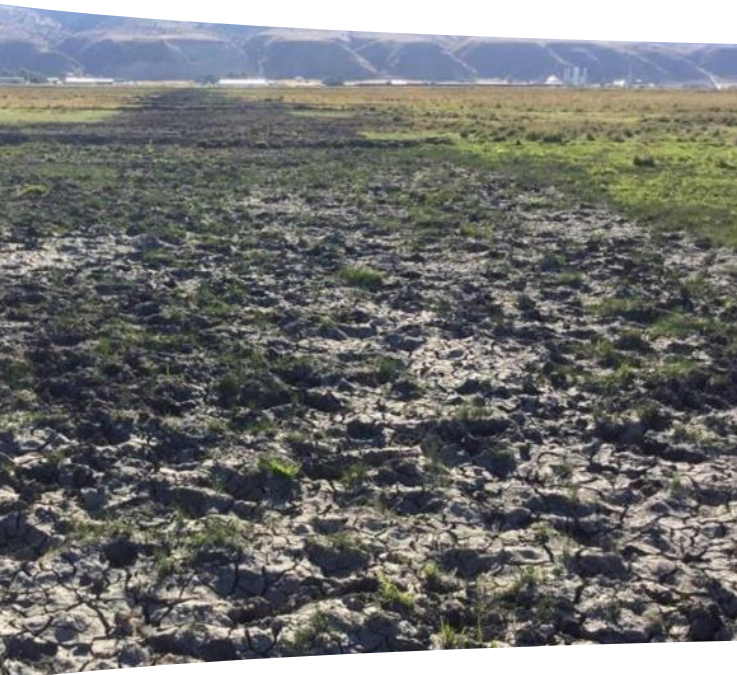
# Project Example



**Year 2**

End of Rectification Period  
2021

# Project Example

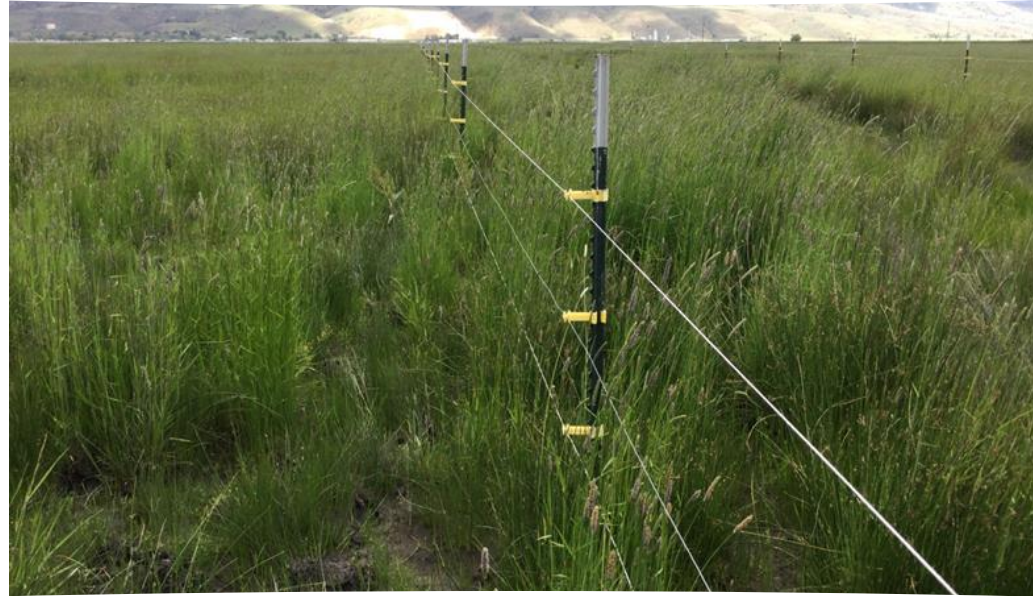


**Year 3**

2022



# Project Example



**Year 4**

2023

# Factors to Consider

## Climate Change

- Drier than normal summers
- Wetter than normal winters



# Factors to Consider

## Maintenance

- Frequent site visits
- Sufficient irrigation
- Proper weed control



# Factors to Consider

## Site Access

- Temporary Construction Easement
- Landowner permission
- Forest fires, road closures
- Air quality issues
- Physical site access/safety



# Factors to Consider

## Invasive Species

- “The relative cover of invasive species is equal to or less than the invasive species cover in the pre-construction” (permit condition)



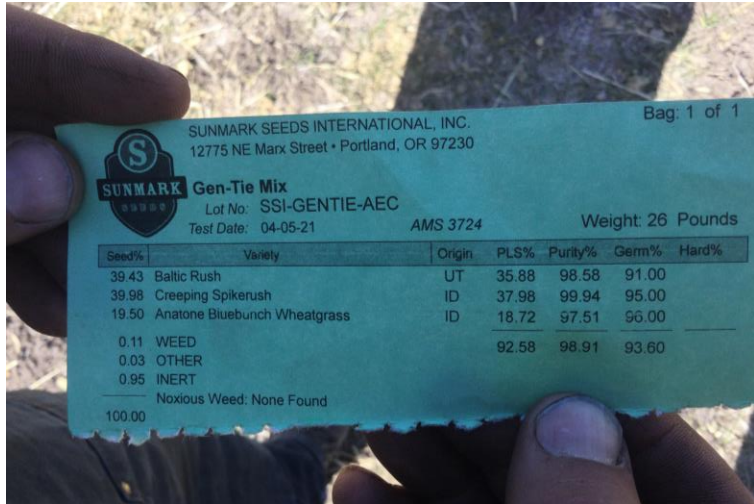
# Factors to Consider

## Herbivores

- Cost of fence material, installation, maintenance, and removal
- Effectiveness
- Landowner approval



# Factors to Consider



**Plant Material Availability**



**Plant Material Quality**



**Hydrology Modifications**



**Soil Properties**

## Plus others:

- Planting window
- Floods
- Construction Delay, Schedule Change,

...and more

*“forgot to seed the area”*

# Rectification Proposed vs. Reality

	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Reality</b>
Timeline	<b>2 years</b>	<b>3-4 years</b>
Material Costs	<b>Planting material</b>	<b>Supplemental planting, substitutes, irrigation, weed control, fencing</b>
Labor Costs	<b>1 site visit</b>	<b>2 site visits per year, coordination</b>
Fees	<b>No mitigation fee</b>	<b>Mitigation fee*</b>
Total Costs	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$\$\$</b>



# Conclusion

## How Temporary is Temporary?

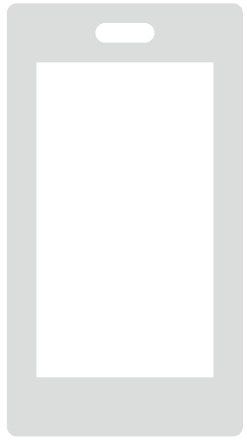
- Assess permanent vs. temporary
- Consider compensatory mitigation
- Plan for expected
- Prepare for unexpected
- Estimate rectification efforts/cost
- Obtain the applicant's commitment



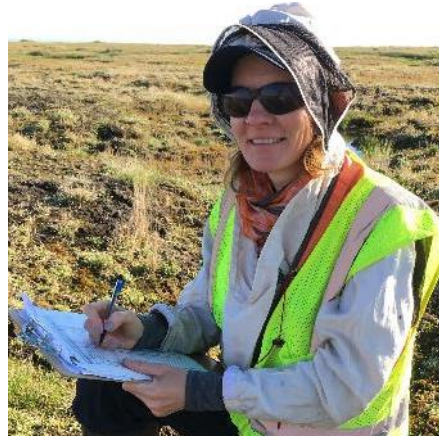
# Real Conclusion

**Avoid and minimize  
impacts to wetlands  
(even temporary ones)**





# Thank you!



**Irina Lapina, PWS**

**Wetland Scientist**

[ilapina@parametrix.com](mailto:ilapina@parametrix.com)

503.416.6166