

## Procedures for Evaluating Wetlands with Historic Harm Question

1. Use the aerial map provided by SFWMD Staff which shows the wetland(s) to be evaluated. If you do not have a map, please contact Mike Elion, (561) 682-6118.
2. Proceed inside the identified wetland approximately 100 feet to an area that is close to the center of the wetland. This is best accomplished during the dry season because evidence of surface water inundation is usually present.
3. Look around for distinct hydrologic indicators on fence post or wetland vegetation. Hydrologic indicators include elevated lichen lines, water marks/stain lines, buttressed bases or vegetated hummocks on trees **OR** algal mats, rafted debris or adventitious roots in freshwater marshes.
4. Use a large measuring tape, portable staff gauge or measuring rod with 0.1 foot intervals to measure the distance from the ground elevation of the wetland to the top of the hydric indicator.
5. Take 2-3 pictures using a digital camera to show the hydrologic indicators (described in #3 above) that appear on hydric wetland vegetation with the measuring device. Using a digital camera, take 2-3 pictures for each wetland exhibiting the observable hydrologic indicators as described in #3 above. Utilize the measuring device in each photo to adequately document the hydrologic indicator elevation.
6. Take 1-2 panoramic pictures of the wetland being evaluated in a fairly open area to get an idea what the dominant ground cover vegetation is within the wetland.
7. Take notes of each wetland site to remember the number of pictures taken and print out color pictures individually on a full sheet of paper.
8. Label each picture with the following information:
  - a) Project name and application number
  - b) Date; and
  - c) Wetland Number (correlated to the provided map)
9. Submit all pictures from the analysis with the required information needed to complete the application using the appropriate transmittal form (# 0970)

### Notes:

*\*If the wetland system does not exhibit signs of adequate hydrology for the type of wetland being evaluated then an environmental consultant must be obtained to perform a more detailed evaluation of the wetland system(s) to ensure that the historic use has not caused harm to the wetland.*

*\*At no times does this recommended procedure grant access to private property. All accommodations for access onto private lands will be handled by the applicant and respective landowner.*