

 **Joel Wagner**

08/06/02 11:18 AM MDT

To: Jock Whitworth/PAIS/NPS@NPS, Arlene Wimer/PAIS/NPS@NPS, Dan
Kimball/FTCOLLINS/NPS@NPS, Mark Flora/DENVER/NPS@NPS,
Kevin Noon/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Patricia
Hennessy/FTCOLLINS/NPS@NPS, Dave
Shaver/DENVER/NPS@NPS, John Reber/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Linda
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cc:

Subject: Letter to BNP Petroleum re: Wetland Delineation Stds

Attached is your cc of this letter (no hard copy to follow).

Joel



LetterBNPPetroleum-DelinStds.doc

NPS DOCUMENT # 619

August 6, 2002

Mr. H. Scott Taylor
Vice President Land/Regulatory Affairs
BNP Petroleum Corporation
500 N. Water Street, Suite 1000
Corpus Christi, TX 78471

Dear Mr. Taylor:

In response to your letter dated July 29, 2002 regarding verification of National Park Service (NPS) wetland delineation standards, I offer the following explanation:

According to NPS Director's Order #77-1, the NPS uses "Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States" (FWS/OBS-79/31; Cowardin et al. 1979) as the standard for defining, classifying, and inventorying wetlands. For purposes of BNP Petroleum Corporation's compliance with the Director's Order, consultants should use the procedures found in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (as amended) for delineating vegetated wetlands. For the purpose of delineating all other wetland types subject to the Director's Order (e.g., unvegetated wetlands such as mudflats, streambeds, intertidal portions of beaches, etc.), consultants should use the boundaries and limits of wetland systems as described in Cowardin et al. (1979).

Please feel free to contact me at (303) 969-2955 if you have further questions regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

Joel Wagner, M.S., PWS
Wetland Program Leader
National Park Service
Water Resources Division
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

CC (Via E-mail):

PAIS – Superintendent
NPS Water Resources Division – Kimball, Flora, Noon, Hennessy (file)
NPS Geological Resources Division - Shaver
NPS IMR – Reber, Dansby