

Jodie Murray Burns, PWS, MEd, MS

Wetland Scientist & Stream Ecologist



SERVICE AREAS

Wetland Delineations and Determinations
CWA Sec 401/404 Permit Coordination
Wetland & Stream Mitigation
Stream Bioassessments & Monitoring
Natural Resource Inventories
Habitat Assessments
Watershed Inventories
NEPA Report Writing
Environmental Regulations Seminars

EDUCATION

M.S. Biological Sciences, 2001, University of Arkansas (Stream Ecology emphasis)
M.Ed., School Supervision, 1993, Abilene Christian University
B.S., Biology, 1988, Harding University (Chemistry minor)

PERMITS / CERTIFICATIONS

Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS), SWS Certified, Exp. 2/1/26
USFWS Federal Permit #ES76960D, Exp. 3/12/26, American burying beetle
State of OK Scientific Collector's Permit, ID 5237055, Exp. 12/31/21
State of AR Scientific Collector's Permit, #081320201, Exp. 8/17/21
State of KS Scientific Wildlife Permit, #SC-072-2021, Exp. 12/31/21
Rosgen's Applied Fluvial Geomorphology Level 1 Certified, Nov. 2018
Wilderness First Aid Certified, Exp. Mar. 2023

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS): South Central Chapter President (2021-2023) & Arkansas Education and Outreach Coordinator (2017-present); Central Chapter Member; SWS Webinar Series Committee, co-chair (2021-present)
Society of Freshwater Science, South-Central Chapter Member
Association of State Wetland Managers, Member

QUALIFICATIONS

Jodie Murray Burns has over 12 years of experience working nationwide with environmental regulations associated with the Clean Water Act (Section 401/404 permits), Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act for commercial and residential developments, transportation projects, oil & gas projects, conservation/restoration projects, and renewable energy projects. Ms. Burns works with the implementation of federal and state environmental regulations within the states of AR, OK, MO, KS, TX, KY, LA, TN, IN, and UT and the respective (project specific) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACOE) districts.

Ms. Burns regularly presents seminars covering regulation changes, judicial decisions, and legislative actions regarding the Clean Water Act (i.e. Waters of the U.S. or WOTUS) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Timber Ridge Subdivision, Centerton, AR. Feb/Mar 2021. The proposed 23-acre development site was assessed for WOTUS. No WOTUS (as currently defined) were found, but the ephemeral features were well documented in a report to support the findings that the site features were outside the Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction.

Spring Meadow Residential Development, Prairie Grove, AR. Dec 2020/Jan 2021. Evaluated a 43-acre proposed development site for WOTUS and advised client on likely required USACE regulatory permits and expected permitting schedule.

Grain Belt Express Transmission Line, KS & MO. Sept/Oct 2020. Lead wetland scientist for a 2-person field team that evaluated 40 miles of a proposed 800+ mile, multi-state overhead renewable energy electric transmission line for WOTUS. Sixty-one features (49 streams and 12 wetlands) mapped to submeter accuracy using ESRI Collector app and submeter GNSS receiver.

Stoneleigh Townhouses Residential Development, Centerton, AR. Sept 2020. A site evaluation to field flag WOTUS areas on the proposed 8.3-acre project site to avoid WOTUS impacts and to finalize development plans. Project ongoing.

Valley Oaks Residential Development, Centerton, AR. July 2020. A delineation of WOTUS using the Navigable Waters Protection Rule was performed on a proposed 7-acre residential development. Field data passed onto client.

Diamond Spring Wind Farm, Johnston County, OK. March 2020. Monitored construction of the 112-wind turbine farm as per the USFWS permit requirements for the federally-listed endangered American burying beetle.

U.S. Economic Development Administration Grant, City of Fayetteville, AR. February 2020. Assisted in team-writing an environmental narrative for the city's grant application for a proposed 60-acre project site. Desktop analysis were performed for wetlands and the USFWS IPac process.

FHWA, Mark Twain National Forest, Audubon Trail Relocation, Ste. Genevieve County, MO, & Low Water Crossing, Ripley County, MO. July 2019. WOTUS delineations were performed on and reports written about both project sites. Eleven WOTUS features (two wetlands and nine streams) were found within the 13 acres evaluated.

Multiple Wind Farm Developments, Oklahoma, American Burying Beetle Surveys, 2014-2019. Presence/Absence surveys were performed per the USFWS guidelines to assist clients in meeting ESA regulations and permitting requirements. A total of 122 assigned trap locations were surveyed.

Lone Star Express & West Texas II Transmission Line, West Texas, April-May 2019. Delineation of WOTUS on a proposed linear project (60+ miles of the team's 180-mile assignment) in West Texas - Rio Grande & Colorado River watersheds. Approximately 30+ features were documented and mapped to sub-meter accuracy using a Trimble Geo 7X.

Glen Road Townhomes Residential Development, Bentonville, Arkansas, July 2018-Oct 2019. Full suite of environmental services was provided on a proposed 2-acre project to obtain a CWA Sec. 404 permit – preliminary WOTUS determination & report, permit coordination, and meeting mitigation requirements.

Shoal Creek Stream Inventory, southwest Missouri, Fall 2017- Winter 2018. Project Manager: Coordination of a 55+ mile stream survey of bank stability areas and environmental features of interest to document current conditions. GIS database developed to assist in conservation and watershed-scale restoration planning efforts on the stream, a state COA.

Plains & Eastern Clean Line Transmission Line, Oklahoma & Arkansas, American Burying Beetle Surveys, Summer 2016. Presence/Absence surveys were performed per the USFWS guidelines on approximately 80 miles of the total 250 miles evaluated for ABB presence/absence of the proposed 720-mile transmission line.

City of Hulbert, Oklahoma, Environmental Assessment, Nov 2014-Feb 2015. NEPA report writer as a wetland scientist and assisted client in obtaining required USACE Nationwide Permit for project.

Northwest Arkansas Water Transmission Line (Two Ton Loop), 1995. Benton and Washington Counties, AR. Co-Project Manager: Responsible for coordinating endangered species surveys and documenting pre-impact stream habitat and wetlands impacts for the rural 70+ mile-long, two county water transmission line.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Publications / Presentations

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR. Agricultural Economics Class. April 6, 2020. Presentation Title: Keeping Up with the Current WOTUS Definition and Its Impacts on Agricultural Interests.

Society of Wetland Scientists - South Central Chapter Meeting, Galveston, TX. October 25, 2019. Presentation title: CWA Federal Policy Update – Recent Proposed Rule Changes by EPA & US Corps Of Engineers (COE).

Arkansas Water Resources Center's Annual Water Conference, Fayetteville, AR. July 31, 2019. Presentation Title: Status of WOTUS in Arkansas & A Case Study of Jurisdictional Issues Regarding Groundwater Protection.

Public Comments to the U.S. EPA and US COE for the Society of Wetland Scientists' Policy & Regulation Section at the only Public Hearing for the 2019 Proposed Water of the U.S. Re-Definition, Kansas City, KS, Feb 28, 2019.

Society of Wetland Scientists South Central Chapter Meeting. North Little Rock, AR. Oct. 12, 2018. Presentation Title: The Clean Water Rule: A Review & Current Status, Keeping Up With Current Federal Policy.

Presented preliminary findings of a 55+ mile survey of Shoal Creek, Newton County, MO, at The Nature Conservancy's Western Ozark Waters Initiative forum. Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center, Joplin, MO, March 15, 2017.

Smith A., **Burns J.M.**, and Burba E. (coauthors). January 27, 2015. Draft Environmental Assessment of the Proposed Hulbert, OK, Water Treatment Plant Improvements. Prepared by SEARCH LLC, Siloam Springs, AR. 228 pages. (Technical Report)

Burns, Jodie Janeen Murray. December 2001. Thesis: Changes in Watershed Land Use, Geomorphology, and Macroinvertebrate Assemblages in Clear Creek, NW Arkansas, From 1948-1999. University of Arkansas. 97 pages.

Burns J.M., and Barnes J.M. 1995. Environmental Assessment. Proposed Retail Development, West Lafayette, Indiana. Details mammal survey, bird sightings, plant inventory, wetlands, and cultural resources. 26+ pages. (Technical Report)

Burns, J.M., Barnes J.M., and Mastrostefano D. 1994 Stream Enhancement/Mitigation Project for Kentucky Water Quality Certification, Middlesboro, KY. 19+ pages. (Technical Report)

Burns, J.M. 1994. Mitigation Plan for A.B. Shopping Center Properties, Inc., Lebanon, TN. Sheets 1-3. (Technical Report)

Burns, J.M. 1994. Preliminary Wetland Assessment and Needs/Alternative Analysis, Proposed Retail Development, Galliano, LA. 26+ pages. (Technical Report)

Awards - Society of Wetland Scientists President's Service Award, 2019 Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, May 2019.