

# Guidance Document

To: Regulants & Other Members of the Public  
From: Virginia Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists  
Date: 9/1/16  
Re: Wetland Professionals' Scope of Practice

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## Purpose

It has been brought to the Board's attention that there may be Wetland Professionals performing boundary surveys. The purpose of this document is to clarify the Wetland Professionals' scope of practice. Wetland surveys as described in 18VAC145-30-40 may be performed by a certified Wetland Professional however, a boundary survey must be performed by a licensed Virginia Land Surveyor regulated by the Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers, and Landscape Architects (APELSCIDLA).

Surveys, under 18VAC145-30-40 in the regulations for Wetland Professionals, refers to wetland surveys and not land boundary surveys. Regulations governing boundary surveys can be found in section 18VAC10-20-370 of the APELSCIDLA regulations which addresses minimum requirements and procedures for licensed land surveyors to perform boundary surveys.

§54.1-400. The "practice of land surveying" states in part, "...includes surveying of areas for a determination or correction, a description, the establishment or reestablishment of internal and external "land boundaries..."

§54.1-2200. "Practice of wetland delineation" states in part, "...the delineation of wetlands by accepted principles and methods including, but not limited to, observations, investigation, and consultation on soil, vegetation, and hydrologic parameters, and preparations of wetland delineations, descriptions, reports, and interpretive drawings." It does not give Wetland Professionals the ability to perform boundary surveys.

## Summary

The excerpts from Virginia statutes and Board regulations are provided above for your convenience to help you locate the text that establishes the Board's authority. To conclude the information above, the following summaries of this document are provided:

1. Wetland Professionals do not have the authority to do boundary surveys.
2. Boundary surveys must be performed, signed, and sealed by a licensed Land Surveyors as established in the APELSCIDLA Board's regulations.