

<Review comments by Governments on Overview Chapter of the Second Order Draft of Wetlands Supplement>

ID	Government	Chapter /Section	Start Line	End Line	Sub-section	Comment	supplementary documents	Authors' Action
G_O_0001	Germany	overview	1	248		where does that text goes to? It should be included in the supplement, preferably as part of the introduction.		Reject. Comment is confusing. The overview is part of the supplement
G_O_0002	USA	Overview	5	6		Suggested modification to subtitle: "Methodological Guidance on Lands with Wet, Organic or Drained Soils Across All IPCC Land-Use Categories, and Constructed Wetlands Used for Wastewater Treatment"		Accept with modification. The title was revised to better reflect the content of the chapter and report
G_O_0003	Canada	Overview	19			There is some good, general information in sections 1.3 to 1.5 in Chapter 1 that could be relevant to bring into this section in order to provide context to policymakers.		Reject. Commenter did not identify which information should be brought to the Overview and did not explain how the policy relevance could be improved.
G_O_0004	USA	Overview	21	25		Reference is made to "anthropogenic" emissions and removals in several places. It was not immediately obvious that we were talking about managed wetlands. Thus, this early reference to anthropogenic was confusing.		Reject. Anthropogenic emissions is a fundamental concept for the IPCC Guidelines. The concept of managed land is explained later in the Supplement.
G_O_0005	Canada	Overview	22	22		The definition of wetlands in brackets is different from the one on lines 94-95 (were organic and drained is included) and from the glossary. Suggest standardizing to the extent possible.		Accept with modification. The text was revised to ensure consistency within the Overview chapter
G_O_0006	Canada	Overview	22	23		The Overview introduces what is not covered in line 22-23 before introducing what is covered in lines 30-31. Suggest reorganizing.		Accept. Move text on permanently flooded lands to end of 2nd paragraph of 4.1.

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G_O_0007	Canada	Overview	22	23		If reference to what is not included in the report remains here, then it could be indicated why the supplement does not provide guidance on permanently flooded lands. There is information on line 173 that could be moved up.		Accept with modification. Added reference to Section 6 discussion of permanently flooded lands.
G_O_0008	Germany	overview	22	22		instead of quoting the wetland definition incomplete the text in parenthesis should be deleted and a reference to the glossary should be given or the whole definition of IPCC 2006 GL should be quoted.		Accept with modification. The text was revised to ensure consistency within the Overview chapter
G_O_0009	Germany	overview	22	23		add at the end of the sentence (after reservoirs) "although they are important sources of GHG emissions."		Reject. The state of knowledge (and consideration of issues) is presented in the footnote.
G_O_0010	USA	Overview	22			May be useful to further clarify that this supplement covers more than just the land use category "wetlands", but also lands with soils that are wet or were wet; in addition to constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment.		Accept with modification. The title was revised to better reflect the content of the chapter and report
G_O_0011	Canada	Overview	23	23		Footnote 1: Standing alone, it is not clear that this quote is referring only to permanently flooded lands like reservoirs. Suggest adding some short clarifying text at the beginning of the footnote (e.g., In regards to permanently flooded lands, an IPCC expert meeting concluded...."		Accept.

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G_O_0012	Kenya	overview	25	26		It would be appropriate to list all the greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol that are the subject of this supplement.		Accept with modification. Relevant GHGs listed in a footnote.
G_O_0013	USA	Overview	27			The guidance on drained organic soils in the 2006 GLs is not in the Wetlands Chapter as is implied here, rather it is in generic chapter 2 and related soil C sections of the forestland, cropland, grassland chapters of Volume 4. Please clarify this.		Accept.
G_O_0014	USA	Overview	30			After "inland" insert "organic soils and"		Reject. The 2006GLs does not specify "inland". This is introduced by the Supplement.
G_O_0015	Canada	Overview	32	41		Suggest that this information may be better placed in the section on Land Classification. It is quite detailed information for the general introduction to the report.		Reject. The section on Land Classification fulfills a different purpose (explaining mechanically how countries classify land). Section 4.1 is a note to governments explaining how the IPCC has responded to the request for the Supplement.
G_O_0016	Canada	Overview	36	38		In this introductory part of the chapter, the provision of three examples of land classification may be superfluous. One example seems sufficient to give the reader an idea of how land is categorized in the supplement.		Accept with modification. While the examples are helpful to assist the readers in understanding what is covered in the Supplement, this text was moved to the section on "Coverage of the Wetlands Supplement"
G_O_0017	Canada	Overview	38	39		Suggest reviewing and improving clarity of wording in this sentence.		Accept with modification. Text deleted.

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G_O_0018	USA	Overview	39			After "chapters" insert "in the 2006 Guidelines or this Wetlands Supplement"		Accept with modification. Text deleted.
G_O_0019	Germany	Overview	41	41		explanation why constructed wasteland is not a land-use category is missing		Accept with modification. The text was modified to clarify that constructed wetlands relate to an activity and not a land-use change
G_O_0020	Canada	Overview	42			Overall, this Background section in the overview is quite long with several detailed quotes. The information is not particularly policy relevant and much of it could be shortened or deleted.		Accept with modification. Section was modified to shorten this section by deleting some text.
G_O_0021	Canada	Overview	62	64		This information about the scoping meeting and approval of the ToR is not policy-relevant nor useful to understanding the report, and could be deleted.		Accept with modification. Text was modified to shorten this section by deleting some text.
G_O_0022	Germany	overview	65	66		please be consistent with terminology when describing the outline of this supplement. in line 30 a list of lands are given, e.g. inland mineral peatlands, coastal wetlands and so on, in line 58 the request of SBSTA is given (rewetting and restoration of peatlands) and now in line 66 first time organic soils are mentioned. what is the relation between peatlands and organic soils? are organic soils something outside peatlands? there is a definition on organic soils but a peatland definition is not given. please add one. Isn't the soil of peatlands organic?		Accept with modification. The structure was reorganized to better reflect the content of the chapter and report to focus on the types of lands covered and to clarify what is meant by these terms when used.

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ID	Government	Chapter /Section	Start Line	End Line	Sub-section	Comment	supplementary documents	Authors' Action
G_O_0023	India	overview	65	66		It is suggested to list the gaps in IPCC 2006 guideline chapter on wetlands		Accept with modification. Section 2 "Coverage of the wetlands supplement" was revised to provide some more detail about what's covered and what gaps are filled.
G_O_0024	USA	Overview	66			after "soils" insert "and constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment"		Accept
G_O_0025	Canada	Overview	67	67		Suggest deleting "themselves"		Accept with modification. Text deleted.
G_O_0026	Germany	overview	68	68		Please clarify if the reference to "fulfill UNFCCC reporting commitments" also includes KP reporting commitments. If so, this should be added, especially as there is a new management activity ("wetland drainage and rewetting") eligible for the 2.commitment period. If, however the supplement doesn't serve the purpose of reporting the new KP activity "wetland drainage and rewetting", this should also explicitly be stated.		Reject. The reference to UNFCCC reporting obligations is general, referring to Art 4.1 and common methodologies. There is no need to get into specifics in this section, which was intended to give generic background on the evolution of the IPCC Guidelines.
G_O_0027	Germany	overview	72	73		GHG inventories under the UNFCCC started in 1990, or does this refer to unilateral initiatives, or some other multilateral agreements? Could you please specify?		Accept with modification. Text was deleted.

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ID	Government	Chapter /Section	Start Line	End Line	Sub-section	Comment	supplementary documents	Authors' Action
G_O_0028	Canada	Overview	75	87		Why is this information about the historical IPCC methodology reports necessary? As written, this is a long paragraph about former products and at the end of the paragraph, the message conveyed is that they are no longer used since the 2006 Guidelines were produced.		Accept with modification. Section was modified to shorten this section by deleting some text.
G_O_0029	Finland	Overview	84	87		The overview refers to the decision taken at COP 17 on the use of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines from the 2015 submission onwards. We believe an additional sentence should be added that the UNFCCC will consider at its 19th session whether this decision will be changed to encompass also the Wetlands Supplement. Now the text gives the impression that this is already decided, which is not the case.		Accept with modification. The commenter is correct regarding the consideration of the wetlands guidance once it is completed. But in response to comment G_O-0020 the broader text has been deleted. Also, the IPCC does not need to describe detailed procedural implications for the UNFCCC. The IPCC's task is to get the Supplement done.
G_O_0030	Canada	Overview	88			The purpose of this section is not clear. Is its aim to provide scope and definitions? The Box starting on line 100 is not referred to in the preamble this section, so it is not clear to the reader how to use it.		Accept with modification. Table with land use definitions was deleted.
G_O_0031	Germany	overview	89	89		after "guidance", please insert "for estimation of emission and removals of" and delete "for"		Accept with modification. Text deleted.
G_O_0032	USA	Overview	92	93		We feel the authors need to mention constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment.		Accept. See text.

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G_O_0033	Kenya	overview	94	95		The explanation of the term "wetland" as provided here is not clear since it make reference to organic soil only yet there are some inorganic soils which get saturated too.		Accept: See text.
G_O_0034	Finland	Overview	95	95		Wetlands Supplement uses the term "organic soils" and "drained organic soils" in an inconsistent way. Clear guidance would be needed on what the specific guidance encompasses, e.g. are the default emission factors in chapter 2 for croplands applicable for all organic soils, or only those that are/have been drained.		Accept with modification. The Overview was revised to articulate the contents of the chapters. Text was deleted.
G_O_0035	Germany	overview	95	95		taking the wetland definition of the 2006 GL into account which does include "drained", it is not necessary to specifically mention "drained" as something included under wetlands. That might lead to confusion that the previous definition did not include "drained" soils. Only the term organic soils is not visible in the 2006 definition. However there is a problem that in this supplement the definition of wetland is changed. the supplement could give advice how to estimate emissions and removals from lands outside the wetland definition, but it should not change the definition itself. This will create inconsistencies within reporting for UNFCCC reporting where one has to follow the definition of 2006 GL. This supplement should stick to the same definition. This para from line 94 to 98 should be reformulated along these lines or deleted completely.		Accept with modification. I think we have the mandate to change the definition if it improves the guidance, but the text was revised to describe how the coverage has been expanded to fill gaps in the guidance.

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G_O_0036	USA	Overview	96			Although earlier pages elude to the fact that this section addresses "restored" or "rewetted" wetlands, the reference here to "managed" is this first time that this overview chapter is put into its proper perspective.		Accept with modification. Managed wetlands is presented in the first paragraph of the Introduction section.
G_O_0037	USA	Overview	100	132		Box 1 is not referenced in the text and we don't think it really adds any additional clarity to the text. We don't think inventory compilers will be helped by having a repeat of the IPCC land use category definitions provided in this overview chapter, this is very basic information compared to the much more detailed understanding of the AFOLU chapter that will be required in order for an inventory to make sense of how to use this supplement in combination with the 2006 Guidelines. We think this box should be removed and instead include in this Overview Chapter more explanation of how this supplement is supposed to be used in combination with the existing 2006 GLs--from my perspective that is what inventory compilers need, not a repeat of the IPCC land use categories definitions.		Accept with modification. Table with land use definitions was deleted and Section 2 "Coverage of the wetlands supplement" was revised to provide some more detail about what's covered and what gaps are filled. Also, Table 1 was revised to summarize what guidance can be found in Chapter 1, including report usage.
G_O_0038	Chile	Overview	106			in situ should be italicized		Accept with modification. Text deleted.
G_O_0039	Canada	Overview	118	121		Suggest explaining more clearly what managed and un-managed sub-divisions mean.		Accept with modification. Text deleted.

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G_O_0040	Germany	overview	118	121		To avoid inconsistency and confusion, please use the exact IPCC definition (Chapter 7 page 59): "Wetlands include any land that is covered or saturated by water for all or part of the year, and that does not fall into the Forest Land, Cropland, or Grassland categories. Managed wetlands will be restricted to wetlands where the water table is artificially changed (e.g., drained or raised) or those created through human activity (e.g., damming a river). Emissions from unmanaged wetlands are not estimated."		Accept with modification. We should use consistent definitions. But box has been deleted.
G_O_0041	Germany	Overview	118	121		what is the difference between "permanently flooded" and "covered by water"?		Accept with modification. The lines to which this comment is referring were deleted and there is not mention of this anywhere.
G_O_0042	Canada	Overview	137	139		Suggest that information from the Summary section on the approaches in good practice guidance (e.g., tiered approaches, QA/QC, etc) could be included here since it is stated that it is common across all chapters.		Reject. This information is provided in Chapter 7.
G_O_0043	Canada	Overview	139	140		Suggest ensuring a common format across the contents column of this table. Most chapters indicate that "guidance" is provided except for the Coastal Wetlands chapter, where only coverage is described.		Accept.

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G_O_0044	Germany	overview	139	140		it is not clear why the categories between mineral soils and organic soils differ. Why are there to chapters on organic soils: drained (sould be in any case be Inland) Inland and rewetted soils, where all cross-cutting issues for both types are dealt with in the chapter of rewetted soils. suggestion have a chapter 2 for organic soils drained and rewetted plus shortly about specific cross-cutting issues(main issues should be dealt with in chapetr 7) and have a chapter 3 on inland mineral soils followed by coastal wetlands and so on.		Accept with modification. The revised section 2 on Coverage of the Wetlands Supplement attempts to clarify how and why the chapters are structured.
G_O_0045	Germany	overview	139	140		Table 1: Chapter 2, "Guidance for managed organis soils including PEAT EXTRACTION SIDES AND land drained for ..."		Accept with modification. Text modified.
G_O_0046	Canada	Overview	141	142		This sentence seems to be "floating" or out of place. Suggest reviewing/revising to make clear what the purpose of this information is.		Accept. Delete sentence.
G_O_0047	Canada	Overview	145	171		The terms in bold italics have not been introduced or explained. Why are these particular terms being defined here? The compiled information does not seem to share a common format or purpose (e.g., some seem to be definitions, where as others only deal with scope).		Accept with modification. The revised section 2 on Coverage of the Wetlands Supplement attempts to clarify how and why the chapters are structured and provide more explanation to provide more of a logical presentation.

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G_O_0048	Germany	overview	145	149		Here the references to "peatlands and organic soils", "peatlands are included along with organic soils" as well as "peatlands or organic soils" in conjunction with rewetting and restoring hint at various relationships between peatlands and organic soils. Perhaps it is not appropriate here, but somewhere it would be useful to give more clarity as to the relationship between peatlands and organic soils. Reading this paragraph gives the impression that peatlands are a vegetation type that (always?) are found on organic soils, but there are other vegetation types that can be restored. A few more sentences to explain the relationship of these two terms, somewhere in the overview or introduction would help. Also a definition for peatlands really should be provided - at least in the glossary.		Accept with modification. The structure was reorganized to better reflect the content of the chapter and report to focus on the types of lands covered and to clarify what is meant by these terms when used.
G_O_0049	USA	Overview w	147			after "vegetation" insert "hydrology"		Accept with modification. Text modified.
G_O_0050	India	overview	150	155		Please explain implications if a country classifies coastal mangroves as forest lands (as given in Box1)		Accept modification: This point is covered in chapters 4 and 7, but is considered too specific for the Overview.
G_O_0051	USA	Overview w	158			after "as" insert "cropland" and after "agriculture," insert "livestock"		Accept with modification. Text modified.
G_O_0052	Germany	overview	161	165		please add reference where advice for those wetlands is given in the supplement.		Accept. This is covered in Chapter 1. The text has been revised to more clearly present that this kind of guidance can be found in Chapter 1.

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G_O_0053	USA	Overview	166			after "Additional" insert "CH4 and N2O"; delete "peatlands"; and after "tropical" insert "and subtropical organic soils"		Accept with modification. Text modified.
G_O_0054	Germany	overview	168	170		add reference to chapter 4.		Reject. Constructed wetlands do not address coastal wetlands any differently than freshwater wetlands.
G_O_0055	Germany	overview	170	172		add reference to the respective chapter of the supplement		Accept.
G_O_0056	Canada	Overview	182			The purpose of this section is difficult for a non-specialist to understand. Suggest better explaining so that policymakers can understand why and how methods for estimating anthropogenic emissions and removals are developed.		Accept. See text.
G_O_0057	Canada	Overview	184	185		The 2006 Guidelines have already been introduced, so their purpose should not need to be re-explained here.		Accept. Delete.
G_O_0058	Kenya	overview	184	185		There is need for clarity on how the baseline natural emissions are separated from anthropogenic emissions for all the wetlands considered. This is the case for the entire supplement. Otherwise we may be talking of anthropogenic emission when indeed it may be consisting of some natural emission component.		Accept with modification. The commenter is correct, but that is the trade-off with the managed land proxy. It saves countries from the near impossible task of establishing a baseline of natural emissions for all lands, at the expense of including some natural emissions and removals in national GHG inventories.
G_O_0059	Canada	Overview	189			Suggest adding "IPCC" before "expert meeting"		Accept. This will be implemented in the revised Final Draft.

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G_O_0060	Finland	Overview	193	196		The managed land proxy is a practical solution for estimating emissions/removals from the land-use and land use-change. However, the Wetlands Supplement extends the use of the proxy to areas, where the human-induced impact on the emissions is, in some cases small compared to the natural emissions/removals, and where the impact is unclear (e.g. sea grasses). Therefore the use of the proxy may not in all cases be justified. This should be highlighted in more detail to provide the political process a good basis for its decision making. Also this issue is addressed in more detail in the chapter-specific comments.		Accept with modification. Text describing this is now provided in the Section 3 on Managed Land and Anthropogenic Emissions. With respect to seagrasses, "the guidance estimates emissions and removals associated with changes linked to a specific human activity rather than estimating emissions and removal for that coastal wetland type as a whole".
G_O_0061	Canada	Overview	193			The wording "the authors considered" is quite vague. Suggest something more definitive (e.g., "agreed" or "concluded")		Accept.
G_O_0062	Germany	overview	195	196		It is not clear in how the supplement broadens the 2006 GPG coverage. Please explain. If a wetland is created, from whatever landuse, it falls automatically under the 2006 GPG wetland definition. However it is unclear how the second part of the sentence "or where emissions and removals are directly influenced, by human activity" is a broadening of the coverage. Following the wetland definition of 2006 GPG, any human emissions from wetlands have to be reported.		Accept with modification. These lines have been deleted and text modified/clarified to explain how the supplement augments 2006GLs.

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G_O_0063	USA	Overview	195	196		This says that the Wetlands Supplement covers emissions and removals directly influenced by human activity. Does this mean that only the emissions and removals influenced by human activity are estimated, or is the MLP still the same as in the 2006 GLs where "all" emissions/removals are reported if lands is considered managed--not just those directly influenced by human activity. In other words if a land is considered managed you must estimate all emissions coming from that land, no just the additional emissions/removals as a result of the human influence. This point must be made very clearly in this section so inventory compilers know how to apply the managed land concept.		Accept with modification. These lines have been deleted and text modified/clarified to explain how the supplement augments 2006GLs.
G_O_0064	Germany	Overview	196	196		what is the difference between "constructed" and "created" wetland?		Accept. "Constructed" is a subset of "created". Text was deleted.
G_O_0065	Germany	overview	197	238		Guidance should also be given on how to avoid inconsistencies with previous reporting under the 2006 guidelines up to now, due to the broadening of the wetland definition in this supplement.		Accept with modification. In Chapter 7, there is coverage of "impacts on key categories" and "time series consistency"
G_O_0066	Canada	Overview	199			Suggest deleting "themselves"		Accept. This will be implemented in the revised Final Draft.
G_O_0067	Finland	Overview	204	205		We would suggest deleting the last part of the sentence "but does not replace it" as the new guidance clearly replaces and enhances methodologies and default factors given in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.		Accept with modification. Text was added to clarify what is meant by "replace".

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G_O_0068	USA	Overview	210			Great explanation for why authors are defining "good practices"; very solid concept.		
G_O_0069	India	overview	214	215		GHG inventory for wetlands is complex. Wetlands may not be a significant source of GHG for many countries. Thus it ,may be a good idea to add a decision tree in the overview chapter to assist inventory experts to identify if wetland or sub categories or key sources are worth investing huge resources required for inventory of wetlands		Accept with modification. Decision trees should not be in the overview. How inventory experts identify key sources is covered in the main Chapters of the Supplement, and given special consideration in Chapter 7.
G_O_0070	Canada	Overview	215			Suggest considering whether the tiered methods can/should be explained a little further in the overview. They will not be well known to non-specialist readers,		Accept with modification: The Wetlands Overview is not the place to repeat extensive text already covered in Volume 1 of the 2006 GL, However, a reference to the relevant Volume/Chapter of 2006GLs was added.
G_O_0071	Finland	Overview	233	233		The sentence "ensuring data collection is representative and times series are consistent" goes beyond guidance given in Chapter 7. More detailed guidance should be given on how to collect data "since 1990" when existing data collection procedures do not cover the data need for the methodologies given. This general comment applies also to chapters 2 to 6, which are very general in their description on how to obtain the activity data for the whole times series, e.g. the referenced international data sources often contain data for one or some recent years, and do not cover all countries.		Accept with modification. The revised section 2 on Coverage of the Wetlands Supplement attempts to clarify how and why the chapters are structured and provides specific cross-references where appropriate.

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G_O_0072	Canada	Overview	239	248		Suggest that this summary section could be deleted. This overview is already quite short and a summary is unnecessary. Some of the information contained in this section would be better placed near the beginning of the Overview, as it explains more clearly what this report will do (e.g., explains its relevance in a general, policy-oriented way).		Accept. I'm not sure what this section adds that hasn't already been stated.
G_O_0073	USA	Overview	240	241		This sentence seems unclear as noted in previous comments. It doesn't make clear that the land use category could be something else than "Wetland" and it doesn't cover the constructed wetlands component.		Accept with modification: Point acknowledged, but text deleted.
G_O_0074	Germany	overview	241	241		Afer "Guidelines" please replace the period with a comma and insert "whereas the gap for emissions and removals of permanently flooded lands is still not closed". Then delete "Permanently flooded lands are not addressed".		Accept with modification. Text deleted.
G_O_0075	India	overview	242	244		What is the meaning of "potentially significant emission sources, removals and mitigation strategies"? You can say "facilitates GHG inventory for any mitigation programme or projects".		Accept with modification: Point acknowledged, but text deleted.

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G_O_0076	Canada	Overview	general			Overall, the Overview Chapter is difficult to read and follow for a non-specialist. The main section headings do not flow logically from one another (e.g., some like "Background" and "Coverage" seem to be about explaining the development and structure of the report, while others (e.g., "Land Classification" and "Managed Land and Anthropogenic Emissions" seem to indicate that they are describing/summarizing the content of the report. A coherent structure to the Overview will help readers to better understand. There also seems to be significant repetition within the sections of the Overview (e.g., the purpose/contribution of the 2006 Guidelines and the scope coverage of Wetlands Supplement are described multiple times).		Accept with modification. The revised section 2 on Coverage of the Wetlands Supplement clarifies how and why the chapters are structured and provide more explanation to provide more of a logical presentation. On the whole, the chapter was reorganized for clarity.
G_O_0077	Canada	Overview	general			The way in which the Wetlands Supplement updates and adds to the 2006 Guidelines and how the documents complement each other and are to be used together is not clearly explained in the Overview. Suggest reviewing and revising to bring these messages out more clearly. Moving section 5 to earlier in the overview may help, but further attention is needed to explain more clearly.		Accept with modification. The revised section 2 on Coverage of the Wetlands Supplement clarifies how and why the chapters are structured and provide more explanation to provide more of a logical presentation. On the whole, the chapter was reorganized for clarity.
G_O_0078	USA	Overview	general			In the contents for Introduction change the text to the following: Introduction and Scope of this document. A brief discussion on how to locate the appropriate guidance within this supplement and a brief discussion on the types of lands and emission fluxes covered.		Accept with modification. The revised section 2 on Coverage of the Wetlands Supplement clarifies how and why the chapters are structured and provide more explanation to provide more of a logical presentation. On the whole, the chapter was reorganized for clarity.

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G_O_0079	USA	Overview	general			This section is concise and addresses the key points covering in subsequent chapters. We did not identify any suggested changes.		