



## Natural Resources Research and Development

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**Background** The Natural Resources Research and Development Center (NRRDC) promotes a holistic approach to natural and cultural resources research and development (R&D), technical assistance, and stewardship within the Department of Defense. Housed at the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC), Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi, the NRRDC focuses its activities on

- Providing a point of contact for natural and cultural resources R&D and technical assistance.
- Improving information exchange and coordination on natural and cultural resource issues, programs, and research.
- Promoting a landscape based (watershed-level) approach to resource characterization, analysis, and management.

**Description of Technology** The Center supports the principle that resource stewardship and compliance with environmental directives require a holistic and interdisciplinary approach. Toward this end, the Center provides access to an array of technical specialists, multidisciplinary teams, as well as integrated tools and techniques. Results of military conservation research are available, as well as products from civil research programs in ecosystem management, geospatial issues, wetlands, water quality, recreation, zebra mussels, aquatic plant control, and dredging.

**Benefits** Through the Center, users can obtain the expertise available at all the ERDC laboratories, Corps Districts, and other elements. Information from scientists and engineers can be obtained in three ways. Results and products from previous research are available by phone calls, library loans, and information transfer mechanisms such as Web sites, research program newsletters, technical notes, and reports. In addition, several technical assistance programs exist that provide free consultation (for example, a site visit and letter report) on a problem the user faces. Finally, an office or installation can arrange a reimbursable project or possibly participate as a test site in military or civil direct-allotted research. Laboratory tests, models, automated mapping, and visualization are among the tools that are available or can be developed.

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