

Wetland Mitigation Banking in the United States

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This thesis investigates the economic and environmental performance of market-based environmental offsetting in the context of the wetland compensatory mitigation program under the US Clean Water Act. The first chapter evaluates environmental outcomes within the program using imagery-based measurements of changes in wetland area at dedicated conservation sites. The second chapter provides a theoretical framework for comparing market-based and developer-led compensation for impacts on wetlands. The third chapter examines how a jurisdictional expansion of the Clean Water Act affected labor market outcomes and how the compensatory mitigation program mediated those effects.



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