

Brian Sterner

Principal Consultant, Scientist

Brian has extensive regional and local experience with major capital projects, including functioning as a NPDES compliance specialist and permitting SME for a major petrochemical complex. He has broad experience related to land and water resource impact analysis and permitting, including performing function and value assessments of terrestrial and aquatic habitats. Brian has led agency consultations, provided expert testimony to state and local agencies, sponsored partnering workshops and managed stakeholder coordination for permitting and resource mitigation and compensation projects. He has conducted thousands of wetland and stream delineations, as well as environmental assessments in DE, NJ, OH, PA, and WV. Brian is listed as a Qualified Botanist by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry, and is a trained plant taxonomist.

Experience: 35 years experience in environmental, social, and cultural impact assessments, natural resource impact evaluation and permitting, construction management and compensatory mitigation.

Email: brian.sterner@erm.com

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/brian-sterner-200b7728/>

Education

- B.S. Biology, Grove City College, USA, 1988
- NPDES Permitting – USDA, NRCS
- USACOE Wetland Identification and Delineation
- ESCGP & Pipeline Permitting, PADEP
- Chevron Vetted QEF and HES GO trainer
- Shell Lifesaving Rules Certified
- OSHA 40 hour HAZWOPPER & 9.5 hr. O&G H&S Cert.
- SafeLands/SafeGulf, H&S Training
- ArcGIS - ESRI

Professional Affiliations and Registrations

- Prof. Wetland Scientist (Soc. of Wetland Scientists)
- PA Certified Pesticide/Herbicide Applicator
- Independent Oil and Gas Association
- Marcellus Shale Coalition (MSC)

Languages

- English, native speaker

Fields of Competence

- Project siting, environmental impact assessments & permitting (USACOE, US Coast Guard, Ohio EPA, PA DEP, WV DEP)
- NEPA and natural resource permitting
- Construction management / inspection
- NPDES compliance & permitting
- Environmental impact and cost reduction
- Wetland & stream surveys & mitigation
- Threatened & Endangered species surveys
- Agricultural land impact assessments
- FERC Environmental Review and Compliance
- GIS mapping and analysis
- Reforestation planning & design
- Due Diligence - Phase I & II ESAs
- Invasive species management
- HSE Trainer

Key Industry Sectors

- Oil & Gas – Upstream, Midstream, & Downstream
- Transportation
- Power
- Real Estate & Land Development
- Financial

Publications

1988. First Year Evaluation of Mitigated Wetlands on Two Mine Sites in Western Pennsylvania. US DOI, Bureau of Mines and Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

Key Projects

Shell Polymers, Permitting, Compliance, Construction Management & Emergency Preparedness, 2011 to 2022

Developed and maintain environmental permit compliance register for new 6.1B world-class petrochemical facility which just recently completed construction in Beaver County, PA. Prepared reforestation plans and supervised the implementing contractor. Prepared an invasive species management plan and personally applied targeted herbicide in the reforestation areas. Prepared a bald eagle and osprey management plan, including construction of an osprey nest platform. Also prepared numerous support studies and documentation for NPDES permit applications, USCOE Section 404/PADEP Chapter 105 permit, FCC and FAA clearances, and local permits and approvals. Prepared detailed GIS mapping of complete drainage systems, firefighting system, and evacuation plan for Emergency Response Plan.

Dominion Natural Gas, JB Tonkin Compressor Station, Stormwater Management, 2020-2022

Construction Manager for the installation of a proprietary underground stormwater management collection and storage system. Presence of 100-year floodplain and elevation of surrounding features required installation of underground stormwater management system.

Apex Energy, Air Modeling & Hydrogeologic Assessments for Well Pad Development, 2016-2018

Project Manager for the preparation of air modeling and hydrogeologic studies for the development of eight well pads. Project including providing successful expert testimony at over two dozen Zoning Hearing Board meetings.

Columbia Gas, FERC EIS for Leach XPress Pipeline, 2014-2016

Deputy PM as third-party consultant to FERC to prepare Draft and Final EISs for approximately 160 miles of new 30-36" natural gas pipeline, compressor and regulator stations, and pig launchers in OH, PA, and WV. Responsible for all portions of project,

prepared NOIs, Scoping Meetings and Hearings, Resource Reports, Data Requests, and coordination with FERC, and other federal and state agencies.

Huntsman Advanced Materials, Environmental Audit Corrective Actions, 2020 to 2022

Project Manager for completing corrective actions following an internal self-audit of environmental conditions of the chemical manufacturing plant. Prepared monthly progress reports to the USEPA and PADEP, Preparedness, Prevention, and Contingency Plan, comprehensive site safety documents and procedures, including onboarding and refresher trainings, hazardous material labeling and handling, and detailed safety station GIS mapping.

Huntsman Advanced Materials, Streambank and Soil Management and Remediation, 2020 to Current

Project Manager for the remediation and restoration of a streambank adjacent to a chemical manufacturing facility. Site also has soil contamination under the concrete slabs that requires delineation of the contamination and monitoring for vapor intrusion. Prepared stream encroachment permit application, Opinion of Probable Cost remediation estimates, and teaming with state and local permitting agencies.

First Energy, Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Stream Relocation and Wetland Monitoring, 2016-2022

Served as an SME regarding wetlands and streams for the relocation of a stream with an extensive system of adjacent forested and emergent wetlands. Provided oversight of groundwater monitoring, wetland vegetation monitoring, and invasive species management.

Shell Appalachia, Integrated Vegetation Management for Natural Gas Exploration Sites, 2013-2016

Project Manager for the development of an integrated approach to implement restoration measures on oil and gas development & construction sites. Developed methodologies and specifications for post operation reconstruction, restoration, re-

vegetation with targeted species, management of invasive species, and a GIS-based impact and restoration tracking tool for sites and corridors.

Shell Appalachia, Impact Assessment & Cost Reduction Evaluation, 2013

Assessed and identified opportunities to reduce environmental and social impacts and implement cost-saving measures. Initiated focused alternatives and developed white paper on improving engineering design and material use to reduce costs by \$8 to \$14 million.

Nalco Water, HSE Practical Trainer, 2013-2021

Lead trainer for onboarding and legacy HSE practical safety training classes, including hands-on training for horizontal and vertical confined space entry, lock out/tag out, working at heights, ladder safety, chemical transfer/handling, risk assessments, permit to work, and ergonomics.

Shell Appalachia, EIS for Natural Gas Exploration & Production in NY, PA &, OH, 2012-2014

Project Manager to complete the Impact Assessment (IA) for a major exploration and production company's Appalachian unconventional shale gas asset. The IA was designed to be a flexible and evergreen tool, to adjust specifically to the company's evolving business and functional needs. The IA included the assessment of over 8 million acres, including 14 counties in PA, three counties in OH, and four counties in NY.

Apex Energy, Donegal South Pipeline, Westmoreland County

Project Manager and field inspection and documentation of erosion and sedimentation pollution control BMPs along 15 miles of pipeline corridor. The additional need for BMPs were identified, logged and tracked to ensure implementation and compliance with permits.

PA Turnpike Commission, Amos K. Hutchinson Bypass, Westmoreland County

Construction management and inspection of the construction of over 13 miles of new toll highway. Supervised the construction of numerous culverts, bridges, excavations and installation and

maintenance of erosion and sedimentation controls and BMPs.

Apex Energy, Ninevah-15-17 E&S Plan for Gathering Line, Greene County, PA

Project Manager for the preparation of an Erosion and Sedimentation Pollution Control Plan (E&S) for the construction of a natural gas gathering line.

PA Turnpike Commission, I-76 North Park Wetland and Stream Mitigation Plan, Allegheny County, PA, 2011

Project Manager for design and restoration of over 2,450 lf of degraded streams and creation of over 2 acres of wetlands within Allegheny County's North Park. The project included wetland delineation, baseline aquatic resources survey, utility coordination, and coordination with Pine Township Watershed Association. The site planting plan included over 4,000 trees, shrubs, and willow cuttings, installation of bat houses, numerous stream stabilization features, and the installation of an elevated walkway for educational purposes. The site received public recognition and named, "Wahdo:Gwas" by the Seneca Nation. The PADEP allowed the required 5-year site monitoring to be concluded early due to the extensive diversity and overall site success.

PennDOT District 12-0, State Game Lands #297 Wetland Mitigation Bank, Washington County, PA, 2011

Project Manager for the preliminary design of the 8.5 acre wetland mitigation bank project in Washington County, PA. Project included delineation of existing wetlands and baseline aquatic resources survey, development of water budget, E&S Plan, Phase I Archaeology study, planting plan, threatened and endangered species clearances, coordination with lease farmer, site surveys, and implementation of safety measures for field work during hunting season to manage and avoid stakeholder conflicts.