



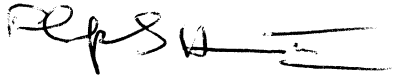
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

September 29, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Jon G. Nance, P.E.
Division 5 Engineer

FROM: Philip S. Harris, III, P.E., Manager
Office of the Natural Environment
Project Development and
Environmental Analysis Branch 

SUBJECT: Wake County; Division 5; US 1/64 from the US 1/64/SR 1009 (Tryon Road) Interchange to South of I-40; Project No. 8.1403101; Federal Aid Project No. STPNHF-1(4); TIP Project U-3101C

Attached are the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit Numbers 14 and 33 and the Division of Water Quality 404 Certification for the above referenced project. All environmental permits have been received for the construction of this project.

PSH/mka

Attachment

cc: Mr. Art McMillan, P.E.
Mr. Omar Sultan
Mr. Jay Bennett, P.E.
Mr. David Chang, P.E.
Mr. Randy Garris, P.E.
Mr. Greg Perfetti, P.E.
Mr. Mark Staley
Mr. John F. Sullivan, III, FHWA
Mr. Chris Murray, Division 5 DEO
Ms. Cathy Houser, PE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS WILMINGTON DISTRICT

Action ID. 200120922 & 200421562

County Wake

GENERAL PERMIT (REGIONAL AND NATIONWIDE) VERIFICATION

Property Owner/Agent: NCDOT/US 1-64/ TIP U-3101C

Address: Attn: Mr. Gregory J. Thorpe, PhD., Planning & Environmental Branch
1584 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1548

Telephone No.: (919) 733-3141

Size and Location of project (waterway, road name/number, town, etc.): US 1/64 widening located south of the I-40 interchange to SR 1009 (Tryon Road) south of Cary, in Wake County, North Carolina. The project is located adjacent to Swift Creek, Long Branch, Lynn Branch.

Description of Activity

The proposed project involves the widening of US 1/64 from a four lane to a six lane facility south of Cary in Wake County. The proposed typical section is a six-lane divided highway with a median concrete barrier. Widening to the inside will eliminate the existing grass median. There will be minor widening to the outside. The US 1/64 interchanges at SR 1313 (Walnut Street) and at Cary Parkway will also be modified (previously know as TIP U-3101D). The D section has been included as part of the C section. The total project length will be 3.56 miles. Traffic will remain onsite during construction. Project construction will require approximately 180 linear feet of temporary stream channel impacts to allow for culvert construction and dewatering. (These temporary construction fill impacts are authorized under NW 33.) This project will impact 9 separate stream channels for a total of 910 linear feet of surface waters of which 874 linear feet are perennial stream channels that require compensatory mitigation and 4 separate wetlands for a total of 0.066 of wetland impacts (no compensatory mitigation required since total is less than 0.10 acre). This project is included in the list of transition period projects that the Natural Resources Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP) will provide compensatory mitigation for unavoidable jurisdictional waters impacts. The EEP will provide compensatory mitigation for 874 linear feet of stream channel impacts at a ratio up to 2:1 in Cataloging Unit 3020201 of the Neuse River Basin (see attached special condition. **) Note: This verification does not include impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, from any spoil disposal or borrow sites. These impacts would have to be permitted separately if they become necessary.

Section 404 (Clean Water Act, 33 USC 1344) only.

Section 10 (River and Harbor Act of 1899) only.

Section 404 and Section 10.

14 & 33 Nationwide General Permits.

The work is authorized by the above referenced permit(s) provided it is accomplished in strict accordance with the attached conditions, special conditions listed at the end of this form, and the submitted plans. Any violation of the attached conditions or special conditions, or deviation from the submitted plans may subject the permittee to a stop work order, a restoration

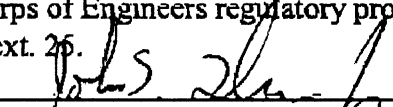
order and/or appropriate legal action.

This verification will remain valid until the expiration date shown below, unless the nationwide authorization is modified, reissued or revoked. If, prior to the expiration date shown below, the nationwide permit authorization is reissued and/or modified, this verification will remain valid until expiration date shown below, provided it complies with all modifications. If the nationwide permit authorization expires or is suspended, revoked, or is modified, such that the activity would no longer comply with the terms and conditions of the nationwide permit, activities which have commenced (i.e. are under construction) or are under contract to commence in reliance upon the nationwide permit, will remain authorized provided the activity is completed within twelve months of the date of the nationwide permit's expiration, modification or revocation, unless discretionary authority has been exercised on a case-by-case basis to modify, suspend or revoke the authorization.

This Department of the Army verification does not relieve the permittee of the responsibility to obtain any other required Federal, State, or local approvals/permits. Activities subject to Section 404 (as indicated above) may also require an individual Section 401 Water Quality Certification. You should contact the NC Division of Water Quality at telephone (919) 733-1786 to determine Section 401 requirements.

For activities occurring within the twenty coastal counties subject to regulation under the Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA), prior to beginning work you must contact the N.C. Division of Coastal Management.

If you have any questions regarding this verification, any of the attached conditions or special conditions of the Permit, or the Corps of Engineers regulatory program, please contact John Thomas at telephone 919 876-8441 ext. 26.

Regulatory Project Manager Signature 
Date September 10, 2004 Expiration Date September 10, 2006

** Compensatory mitigation for the unavoidable impacts to 874 linear feet of stream channels associated with the proposed project shall be provided by the Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP), as outlined in the letter dated August 30, 2004, from William D. Gilmore, EEP Transition Manager. Pursuant to the EEP Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the State of North Carolina and the US Army Corps of Engineers signed on July 22, 2003, the EEP will provide a minimum ratio of 1:1 in-kind restoration of riverine wetlands and water stream channel (e.g. warm) in the Neuse River basin (Hydrologic Cataloging Unit 3020201) by July 22, 2005 and half of the proposed preservation mitigation would be available at that time for mitigation for other project impacts. The NCDOT shall, within 30 days of the issue date of this permit, certify that sufficient funds have been provided to EEP to complete the required mitigation, pursuant to Paragraph V. of the MOA.

Permit Number: 200120922

Name of Permittee: NCDOT/US 1-64/TIP U-3101C, road upgrade widening

Issuance: 09/14/04

Upon completion of the activity authorized by this permit and any mitigation required by the permit, sign this certification and return it to the following address:

**US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
RALEIGH REGULATORY FIELD OFFICE
6508 FALLS OF NEUSE ROAD, SUITE 120
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27615**

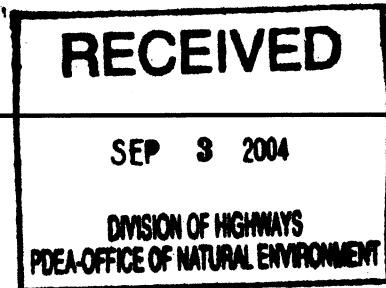
Please note that your permitted activity is subject to a compliance inspection by an U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representative. If you fail to comply with this permit you are subject to permit suspension, modification, or revocation.

I hereby certify that the work authorized by the above referenced permit has been completed in accordance with the terms and condition of the said permit, and required mitigation was completed in accordance with the permit conditions.

Signature of Permittee



Michael F. Easley, Governor
 William G. Ross Jr., Secretary
 North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
 Alan W. Klimek, P.E. Director
 Division of Water Quality



Haney

August 27, 2004
 Wake County
 DWQ Project No. 041055
 TIP No. U-3101C



APPROVAL of 401 Water Quality Certification

Dr. Gregory J. Thorpe, PhD, Manager
 Planning and Environmental Branch
 North Carolina Department of Transportation
 1548 Mail Service Center
 Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-1548

Dear Dr. Thorpe:

You have our approval, in accordance with the conditions listed below, for the following impacts for the purpose of widening US 1/64 from US 64 to south of SR 1313 (Walnut Street) in Cary, Wake County.

Impact Locations	Stream Impacts (Linear Feet)	Wetland Impacts (acres)
STA 16+52 to STA 20+00	213	0.032
STA 27+48	72	0
STA 36+50	16	0
STA 37+80	98	0.005
STA 42+70 to STA 43+20	75	0
STA 52+34	20	0
STA 53+36 to STA 54+82	20	0
STA 11+01 to STA 11+85 RPBWS	256	0
STA 11+60 LPBWS	140	0.006
Total	910	0.043

Impact Locations	Riparian Buffer Impacts (Square Feet)
STA 16+60 to STA 20+60	99,736 (69,156 Zone 1 + 30,580 Zone 2)
STA 27+50	14,036 (8,417 Zone 1 + 5,619 Zone 2)
STA 35+10 to STA 36+80	16,339 (7,793 Zone 1 + 8,546 Zone 2)
STA 37+80	20,225 (11,797 Zone 1 + 8,428 Zone 2)
STA 42+95	17,222 (9,472 Zone 1 + 7,750 Zone 2)
STA 52+30 to STA 58+10 to STA 12+80 LPBWS	96,991 (57,704 Zone 1 + 39,287 Zone 2)
STA 11+50 LPBWS	16,113 (9,483 Zone 1 + 6,630 Zone 2)
Total	280,662 (173,822 Zone 1 + 106,840 Zone 2)

The project shall be constructed in accordance with your revised application dated August 18, 2004. After reviewing your application, we have decided that the stream and wetland impacts described are covered by General Water Quality Certification Numbers 3404. This certification corresponds to the Nationwide Permit 14 issued by the Corps of Engineers. This approval is also valid for the Neuse River Buffer Rules (15A NCAC 2B .0233). In addition, you should acquire any other federal, state or local permits before you proceed with your project including (but not limited to) Sediment and Erosion Control, Non-Discharge and Water Supply Watershed regulations. This approval will expire with the accompanying 404 permit, unless otherwise specified in the Water Quality Certification.

Transportation Permitting Unit
 1650 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1650
 2321 Crabtree Boulevard, Suite 250, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604
 Phone: 919-733-1786 / FAX 919-733-6893 / Internet: <http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/ncwetlands>



This approval is valid solely for the purpose and design described in your application (unless modified below). Should your project change, you must notify the DWQ and submit a new application. If the property is sold, the new owner must be given a copy of this Certification and approval letter, and is thereby responsible for complying with all the conditions. If total wetland fills for this project (now or in the future) exceed one acre, or of total impacts to streams (now or in the future) exceed 150 linear feet, compensatory mitigation may be required as described in 15A NCAC 2H .0506 (h) (6) and (7). For this approval to remain valid, you must adhere to the conditions listed in the attached certification.

- 1.) Upon completion of the project, the NCDOT shall complete and return the enclosed "Certification of Completion Form" to notify DWQ when all work included in the 401 Certification has been completed. The responsible party shall complete the attached form and return it to the 401/Wetlands Unit of the Division of Water Quality upon completion of the project.
- 2.) Mitigation for impacts to 173,822 square feet of protected riparian buffers in Zone 1 and 106,840 square feet of protected riparian buffers in Zone 2 will be mitigated for as described below:

Zone of Impact	Impacts (Square Feet)	Replacement Ratio	Total Mitigation Required (Square Feet)	Onsite Mitigation Provided (Square Feet)	Offsite Mitigation Required (Square Feet)
Zone 1	173,822	3:1	521,466	52,258	469,208
Zone 2	106,840	1.5:1	160,260	3,845	156,415
Total	280,662		681,726	56,103	625,623

We understand that you have chosen to perform compensatory mitigation for impacts to protected buffers through an in lieu payment to the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (NCEEP), and that the EEP has agreed to implement the mitigation for the project. Mitigation for unavoidable impacts to Neuse Riparian Buffers shall be provided through an in-lieu payment to the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (NCEEP) at a rate of \$0.96 per square foot for 625,623 square feet of buffer impact. Therefore, a total payment of \$600,598.08 shall be submitted to the NCEEP to offset the impacts. No construction activities in Neuse River Riparian buffers shall begin until payment for buffer mitigation is made and the Ecosystem Enhancement Program receives and clears your check (made payable to DENR – Ecosystem Enhancement Program).

- 3.) Compensatory mitigation for 469 linear feet of impacts to jurisdictional streams shall be provided by onsite stream relocations of 157 linear feet of a tributary to Swift Creek and 312 linear feet of offsite mitigation. The onsite stream relocation shall be constructed in accordance with the design submitted in your June 28, 2004 application. All stream relocations shall have 50-foot wooded buffers planted on both sides of the stream. As-Builts for the completed streams shall be submitted to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality Transportation Permitting Unit within 30 days of the completion of the construction of the relocations. If the parameters of this condition are not met, then the NCDOT shall supply additional stream mitigation for the 157 linear feet of impacts. In addition to the 157 linear feet of on-site mitigation, compensatory mitigation for an additional 312 linear feet of streams is required. We understand that you have chosen to perform compensatory mitigation for impacts to streams through an in lieu payment to the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (NCEEP), and that the EEP has agreed to implement the mitigation for the project at 1:1. Mitigation for unavoidable impacts to streams shall be provided through an in-lieu payment to the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (NCEEP) at a rate of \$200 per linear foot. Therefore, a total payment of \$62,400.00 shall be submitted to the NCEEP to offset the stream impacts associated with this project. EEP has indicated in a letter dated August 19, 2004 that they will assume responsibility for satisfying the federal Clean Water Act compensatory mitigation requirements for the above-referenced project.

- 4.) All channel relocations will be constructed in a dry work area, and stabilized before stream flows are diverted. Channel relocations will be completed and stabilized prior to diverting water into the new channel. Whenever possible, channel relocations shall be allowed to stabilize for an entire growing season. Vegetation used for bank stabilization shall be limited to native woody species, and should include establishment of a 30 foot wide wooded and an adjacent 20 foot wide vegetated buffer on both sides of the relocated channel to the maximum extent practical. A transitional phase incorporating coir fiber and seedling establishment is allowable. Also, rip-rap may be allowed if it is necessary to maintain the physical integrity of the stream, but the applicant must provide written justification and any calculations used to determine the extent of rip-rap coverage requested.
- 5.) All stormwater runoff shall be directed to sheetflow through stream buffers at nonerosive velocities, unless approved otherwise by this certification.
- 6.) During the construction of the project, no staging of equipment of any kind is permitted in waters of the U.S., or protected riparian buffers.
- 7.) Riparian vegetation must be reestablished within the construction limits of the project by the end of the growing season following completion of construction.
- 8.) The dimension, pattern and profile of the stream above and below the crossing should not be modified by widening the stream channel or reducing the depth of the stream. Disturbed floodplains and streams should be restored to natural geomorphic conditions.
- 9.) Any riprap used must not interfere with thalweg performance and aquatic life passage during low flow conditions.
- 10.) All mechanized equipment operated near surface waters must be regularly inspected and maintained to prevent contamination of stream waters from fuels, lubricants, hydraulic fluids, or other toxic materials.
- 11.) Discharging hydroseed mixtures and washing out hydroseeders and other equipment in or adjacent to surface waters is prohibited.
- 12.) The outside buffer, wetland or water boundary located within the construction corridor approved by this authorization shall be clearly marked by orange fabric fencing prior to any land disturbing activities. Impacts to areas within the fencing are prohibited unless otherwise authorized by this certification.
- 13.) There shall be no excavation from or waste disposal into jurisdictional wetlands or waters associated with this permit without appropriate modification of this permit. Should waste or borrow sites be located in wetlands or stream, compensatory mitigation will be required since it is a direct impact from road construction activities.
- 14.) Pursuant to NCAC15A 2B.0233(6), sediment and erosion control devices shall not be placed in Zone 1 of any Neuse Buffer without prior approval by the NCDWQ. At this time, the NCDWQ has approved no sediment and erosion control devices in Zone 1, outside of the approved project impacts, anywhere on this project. Moreover, sediment and erosion control devices shall be allowed in Zone 2 of the buffers provided that Zone 1 is not compromised and that discharge is released as diffuse flow.
- 15.) Heavy equipment must be operated from the banks rather than in the stream channel in order to minimize sedimentation and reduce the likelihood of introducing other pollutants into the stream.
- 16.) Placement of culverts and other structures in waters, streams, and wetlands must be placed below the elevation of the streambed by one foot for all culverts with a diameter greater than 48 inches, and 20 percent of the culvert diameter for culverts having a diameter less than 48 inches, to allow low flow passage of water and aquatic life. Design and placement of culverts and other structures including temporary erosion control measures shall not be conducted in a manner that may result in dis-equilibrium of wetlands or stream beds or

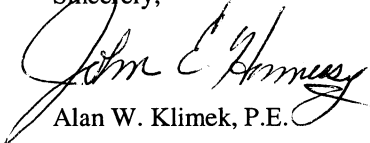
banks, adjacent to or upstream and down stream of the above structures. The applicant is required to provide evidence that the equilibrium shall be maintained if requested in writing by DWQ.

- 17.) No live or fresh concrete shall come into contact with waters of the state until the concrete has hardened
- 18.) The presence of equipment in the channels must be minimized. Under no circumstances must rock, sand or other materials be dredged from the wetted stream channel under authorization of this permit, except in the immediate vicinity of the culverts.
- 19.) All work shall be performed during low or normal flow conditions.
- 20.) All fill slopes located in jurisdictional wetlands shall be placed at slopes no flatter than 3:1.
- 21.) A copy of this Water Quality Certification shall be posted on the construction site at all times. In addition, the Water Quality Certification and all subsequent modifications, if any, shall be maintained with the Division Engineer and the on-site project manager.
- 22.) All protected riparian buffers impacted by the placement of temporary fill or clearing activities shall be restored to the preconstruction contours and revegetated with native woody species upon completion of the project construction. A post-construction as-built with the restoration activities included shall be submitted to the DWQ no later than 60 days after the project is closed out by the Department of Transportation.
- 23.) No changes to the horizontal or vertical placement of the stormwater outfall locations, the horizontal or vertical placement of the culverts, the horizontal or vertical placement of bridges, the horizontal or vertical placement of grassed swales, or the horizontal or vertical placement of open ditches is permitted without written approval from the NC Division of Water Quality 401 Wetlands Unit. In addition, no changes to the flow spreader locations or designs, preformed scour hole locations or designs are permitted without written approval from the NC Division of Water Quality 401 Wetlands Unit. Any request for changes to the referenced items above will require submittal of a modification request, with seven copies, and corresponding fees will need to be submitted to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality.

If you do not accept any of the conditions of this certification, you may ask for an adjudicatory hearing. You must act within 60 days of the date that you receive this letter. To ask for a hearing, send a written petition that conforms to Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statutes to the Office of Administrative Hearings, P.O. Box 27447, Raleigh, N.C. 27611-7447. This certification and its conditions are final and binding unless you ask for a hearing.

This letter completes the review of the Division of Water Quality under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Thomson at 919-715-3415.

Sincerely,



Alan W. Klimek, P.E.

JEH/njt

Attachment

cc: Wilmington District, US Army Corps of Engineers
Mr. Eric Alsmeyer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Raleigh Field Office
Mr. Jon G. Nance, PE, Division 5 Engineer, 2612 N. Duke Street, Durham, NC 27704
Mr. Chris Murray, Division 5 Environmental Officer, 2612 N. Duke Street, Durham, NC 27704
NCDWQ Raleigh Regional Office
Central Files
File Copy

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DWQ Project No.: _____

County: _____

Applicant: _____

Project Name: _____

Date of Issuance of 401 Water Quality Certification: _____

Certificate of Completion

Upon completion of all work approved within the 401 Water Quality Certification or applicable Buffer Rules, and any subsequent modifications, the applicant is required to return this certificate to the 401/Wetlands Unit, North Carolina Division of Water Quality, 1621 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC, 27699-1621. This form may be returned to DWQ by the applicant, the applicant's authorized agent, or the project engineer. It is not necessary to send certificates from all of these.

Applicant's Certification

I, _____, hereby state that, to the best of my abilities, due care and diligence was used in the observation of the construction such that the construction was observed to be built within substantial compliance and intent of the 401 Water Quality Certification and Buffer Rules, the approved plans and specifications, and other supporting materials.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Agent's Certification

I, _____, hereby state that, to the best of my abilities, due care and diligence was used in the observation of the construction such that the construction was observed to be built within substantial compliance and intent of the 401 Water Quality Certification and Buffer Rules, the approved plans and specifications, and other supporting materials.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Engineer's Certification

_____ Partial _____ Final

I, _____, as a duly registered Professional Engineer in the State of North Carolina, having been authorized to observe (periodically, weekly, full time) the construction of the project, for the Permittee hereby state that, to the best of my abilities, due care and diligence was used in the observation of the construction such that the construction was observed to be built within substantial compliance and intent of the 401 Water Quality Certification and Buffer Rules, the approved plans and specifications, and other supporting materials.

Signature _____ Registration No. _____

Date _____

**NORTH CAROLINA – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
SUMMARY OF PERMITTED IMPACTS AND MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS**

In accordance with 15A NCAC 2H.0500, NCDOT, DWQ Project No. 041055 is authorized to impact the surface waters of the State of North Carolina as indicated below for the purpose of widening US 1/64 from US 64 to south of SR 1313 (Walnut Street) in the Town of Cary, Wake County. All activities associated with these authorized impacts must be conducted in accordance with the conditions listed in the attached Certification transmittal letter. **THIS CERTIFICATION IS NOT VALID WITHOUT THE ATTACHMENTS.**

Summary of Impacts

- 0.0.043 acres of riverine wetlands through fill, excavation and mechanized clearing;
- 0.00 acres of surface waters;
- 910 linear feet of jurisdictional stream loss (469 linear feet requiring mitigation)
- 280,662 square feet of riparian buffer

Zone of Impact	Impacts (Square Feet)	Replacement Ratio	Total Mitigation Required (Square Feet)	Onsite Mitigation Provided (Square Feet)	Offsite Mitigation Required (Square Feet)
Zone 1	173,822	3:1	521,466	52,258	469,208
Zone 2	106,840	1.5:1	160,260	3,845	156,415
Total	280,662		681,726	56,103	625,623

On-site mitigation to be performed by NCDOT:

- 157 linear feet of on-site stream relocation using natural channel design.
- 56,103 square feet of on-site buffer replacement (52,258 square feet in Zone 1 + 3,845 square feet in Zone 2)

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS:

LOCATION: US 1/64 Widening, Town of Cary
COUNTY: Wake County
BASIN/SUBBASIN: Neuse River, Hydrologic Unit 03020201

As required by 15A NCAC 2B .0250 and 15A NCAC 2H .0506(h), and the conditions of this Certification, you are required to compensate for the above impacts through the restoration, creation, enhancement or preservation of wetlands, buffers, and surface waters as outlined below *prior* to conducting any activities that impact or degrade waters of the state. Mitigation to be performed by NC Ecological Enhancement Program in Hydrologic Unit 03020201:

- 312 linear feet of stream.
- 0 acres of riverine wetlands.
- 625,623 square feet of Neuse River Riparian Buffer (see table above).

One of the options you have available to satisfy the compensatory mitigation requirements is through payment of a fee to the Ecosystem Enhancement Program per 15A NCAC 2R .0503. If you choose this option, please sign this form and mail it to the address listed below. An invoice for the appropriate amount of payment will be sent to you upon receipt of this form. **PLEASE NOTE, THE ABOVE IMPACTS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED UNTIL YOU RECEIVE NOTIFICATION THAT YOUR PAYMENT HAS BEEN PROCESSED BY THE ECOSYSTEM ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM.**

Signature

Date

ECOSYSTEM ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM
1652 Mail Service Center
RALEIGH, NC, 27699-1652

NATIONWIDE PERMIT 14
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
FINAL NOTICE OF ISSUANCE AND MODIFICATION OF NATIONWIDE PERMITS
FEDERAL REGISTER
AUTHORIZED MARCH 18, 2002

Linear Transportation Projects. Activities required for the construction, expansion, modification, or improvement of linear transportation crossings (e.g., highways, railways, trails, and airport runways and taxiways) in waters of the United States, including wetlands, if the activity meets the following criteria:

1. This nationwide permit is subject to the following acreage and linear limits:
 - a. For linear transportation projects in non-tidal waters, provided the discharge does not cause the loss of greater than $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of waters of the United States; or
 - b. For linear transportation projects in tidal waters, provided the discharge does not cause the loss of greater than $\frac{1}{3}$ acre of waters of the United States.
2. The permittee must notify the District Engineer in accordance with General Condition 13 if any of the following criteria are met:
 - a. The discharge causes the loss of greater than $\frac{1}{10}$ acre of waters of the United States;
or
 - b. There is a discharge in a special aquatic site, including wetlands;
 - c. The notification must include a compensatory mitigation proposal to offset permanent losses of waters of the United States to ensure that those losses result only in minimal adverse effects to the aquatic environment and a statement describing how temporary losses of waters will be minimized to the maximum extent practicable;
 - d. For discharges in special aquatic sites, including wetlands and stream riffle and pool complexes, the notification must include a delineation of the affected special aquatic sites;
 - e. The width of the fill is limited to the minimum necessary for the crossing;
 - f. This permit does not authorize stream channelization, and the authorized activities must not cause more than minimal changes to the hydraulic flow characteristics of the stream, increase flooding, or cause more than minimal degradation of water quality of any stream (see General Conditions 9 and 21);

g. This permit cannot be used to authorize non-linear features commonly associated with transportation projects, such as vehicle maintenance or storage buildings, parking lots, train stations, or aircraft hangars; and

h. The crossing is a single and complete project for crossing a water of the United States. Where a road segment (i.e., the shortest segment of a road with independent utility that is part of a larger project) has multiple crossings of streams (several single and complete projects) the Corps will consider whether it should use its discretionary authority to require an individual permit. (Sections 10 and 404)

Note: Some discharges for the construction of farm roads, forest roads, or temporary roads for moving mining equipment may be eligible for an exemption from the need for a Section 404 permit (see 33 CFR 323.4).

NATIONWIDE PERMIT GENERAL CONDITIONS

The following General Conditions must be followed in order for any authorization by a NWP to be valid:

1. Navigation. No activity may cause more than a minimal adverse effect on navigation.
2. Proper Maintenance. Any structure or fill authorized shall be properly maintained, including maintenance to ensure public safety.
3. Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls. Appropriate soil erosion and sediment controls must be used and maintained in effective operating condition during construction, and all exposed soil and other fills, as well as any work below the ordinary high water mark or high tide line, must be permanently stabilized at the earliest practicable date. Permittees are encouraged to perform work within waters of the United States during periods of low-flow or no-flow.
4. Aquatic Life Movements. No activity may substantially disrupt the necessary life-cycle movements of those species of aquatic life indigenous to the waterbody, including those species that normally migrate through the area, unless the activity's primary purpose is to impound water. Culverts placed in streams must be installed to maintain low flow conditions.
5. Equipment. Heavy equipment working in wetlands must be placed on mats, or other measures must be taken to minimize soil disturbance.
6. Regional and Case-By-Case Conditions. The activity must comply with any regional conditions that may have been added by the Division Engineer (see 33 CFR 330.4(e)) and with any case specific conditions added by the Corps or by the state or tribe in its Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Coastal Zone Management Act consistency determination.
7. Wild and Scenic Rivers. No activity may occur in a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System; or in a river officially designated by Congress as a 'study river' for possible inclusion in the system, while the river is in an official study status; unless the appropriate Federal agency, with direct management responsibility for such river, has determined in writing that the proposed activity will not adversely affect the Wild and Scenic River designation, or study status. Information on Wild and Scenic Rivers may be obtained from the appropriate Federal land management agency in the area (e.g., National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).
8. Tribal Rights. No activity or its operation may impair reserved tribal rights, including, but not limited to, reserved water rights and treaty fishing and hunting rights.
9. Water Quality.
 - a. In certain states and tribal lands an individual 401 Water Quality Certification must be

obtained or waived (See 33 CFR 330.4(c)).

b. For NWPs 12, 14, 17, 18, 32, 39, 40, 42, 43, and 44, where the state or tribal 401 certification (either generically or individually) does not require or approve water quality management measures, the permittee must provide water quality management measures that will ensure that the authorized work does not result in more than minimal degradation of water quality (or the Corps determines that compliance with state or local standards, where applicable, will ensure no more than minimal adverse effect on water quality). An important component of water quality management includes stormwater management that minimizes degradation of the downstream aquatic system, including water quality (refer to General Condition 21 for stormwater management requirements). Another important component of water quality management is the establishment and maintenance of vegetated buffers next to open waters, including streams (refer to General Condition 19 for vegetated buffer requirements for the NWPs).

This condition is only applicable to projects that have the potential to affect water quality. While appropriate measures must be taken, in most cases it is not necessary to conduct detailed studies to identify such measures or to require monitoring.

10. Coastal Zone Management. In certain states, an individual state coastal zone management consistency concurrence must be obtained or waived (see 33 CFR 330.4(d)).

11. Endangered Species.

a. No activity is authorized under any NWP which is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, as identified under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), or which will destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of such species. Non-federal permittees shall notify the District Engineer if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the project, or is located in the designated critical habitat and shall not begin work on the activity until notified by the District Engineer that the requirements of the ESA have been satisfied and that the activity is authorized. For activities that may affect Federally-listed endangered or threatened species or designated critical habitat, the notification must include the name(s) of the endangered or threatened species that may be affected by the proposed work or that utilize the designated critical habitat that may be affected by the proposed work. As a result of formal or informal consultation with the FWS or NMFS the District Engineer may add species-specific regional endangered species conditions to the NWPs.

b. Authorization of an activity by a NWP does not authorize the "take" of a threatened or endangered species as defined under the ESA. In the absence of separate authorization (e.g., an ESA Section 10 Permit, a Biological Opinion with "incidental take" provisions, etc.) from the USFWS or the NMFS, both lethal and non-lethal "takes" of protected species are in violation of the ESA. Information on the location of threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat can be obtained directly from the offices of the USFWS and NMFS or their World Wide

Web pages at <http://www.fws.gov/r9endspp/endspp.html> and <http://www.nfms.noaa.gov/protres/overview/es.html> respectively.

12. Historic Properties. No activity that may affect historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places is authorized, until the District Engineer has complied with the provisions of 33 CFR part 325, Appendix C. The prospective permittee must notify the District Engineer if the authorized activity may affect any historic properties listed, determined to be eligible, or which the prospective permittee has reason to believe may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and shall not begin the activity until notified by the District Engineer that the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act have been satisfied and that the activity is authorized. Information on the location and existence of historic resources can be obtained from the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Register of Historic Places (see 33 CFR 330.4(g)). For activities that may affect historic properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places, the notification must state which historic property may be affected by the proposed work or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property.

13. Notification.

a. Timing; where required by the terms of the NWP, the prospective permittee must notify the District Engineer with a preconstruction notification (PCN) as early as possible. The District Engineer must determine if the notification is complete within 30 days of the date of receipt and can request additional information necessary to make the PCN complete only once. However, if the prospective permittee does not provide all of the requested information, then the District Engineer will notify the prospective permittee that the notification is still incomplete and the PCN review process will not commence until all of the requested information has been received by the District Engineer. The prospective permittee shall not begin the activity:

1. Until notified in writing by the District Engineer that the activity may proceed under the NWP with any special conditions imposed by the District or Division Engineer; or

2. If notified in writing by the District or Division Engineer that an Individual Permit is required; or

3. Unless 45 days have passed from the District Engineer's receipt of the complete notification and the prospective permittee has not received written notice from the District or Division Engineer. Subsequently, the permittee's right to proceed under the NWP may be modified, suspended, or revoked only in accordance with the procedure set forth in 33 CFR 330.5(d)(2).

b. Contents of Notification: The notification must be in writing and include the following information:

1. Name, address and telephone numbers of the prospective permittee;

2. Location of the proposed project;

3. Brief description of the proposed project; the project's purpose; direct and indirect adverse environmental effects the project would cause; any other NWP(s), Regional General Permit(s), or Individual Permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity. Sketches should be provided when necessary to show that the activity complies with the terms of the NWP (Sketches usually clarify the project and when provided result in a quicker decision.);

4. For NWPs 7, 12, 14, 18, 21, 34, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, and 43, the PCN must also include a delineation of affected special aquatic sites, including wetlands, vegetated shallows (e.g., submerged aquatic vegetation, seagrass beds), and riffle and pool complexes (see paragraph 13(f));

5. For NWP 7 (Cutfall Structures and Maintenance), the PCN must include information regarding the original design capacities and configurations of those areas of the facility where maintenance dredging or excavation is proposed;

6. For NWP 14 (Linear Transportation Projects), the PCN must include a compensatory mitigation proposal to offset permanent losses of waters of the US and a statement describing how temporary losses of waters of the US will be minimized to the maximum extent practicable;

7. For NWP 21 (Surface Coal Mining Activities), the PCN must include an Office of Surface Mining (OSM) or state-approved mitigation plan, if applicable. To be authorized by this NWP, the District Engineer must determine that the activity complies with the terms and conditions of the NWP and that the adverse environmental effects are minimal both individually and cumulatively and must notify the project sponsor of this determination in writing;

8. For NWP 27 (Stream and Wetland Restoration Activities), the PCN must include documentation of the prior condition of the site that will be reverted by the permittee;

9. For NWP 29 (Single-Family Housing), the PCN must also include:

i. Any past use of this NWP by the Individual Permittee and/or the permittee's spouse;

ii. A statement that the single-family housing activity is for a personal residence of the permittee;

iii. A description of the entire parcel, including its size, and a delineation of wetlands. For the purpose of this NWP, parcels of land measuring $\frac{1}{4}$ -acre or less will not require a formal on-site delineation. However, the applicant shall provide an indication of where

the wetlands are and the amount of wetlands that exists on the property. For parcels greater than 1/4-acre in size, formal wetland delineation must be prepared in accordance with the current method required by the Corps. (See paragraph 13(f));

iv. A written description of all land (including, if available, legal descriptions) owned by the prospective permittee and/or the prospective permittee's spouse, within a one mile radius of the parcel, in any form of ownership (including any land owned as a partner, corporation, joint tenant, co-tenant, or as a tenant-by-the-entirety) and any land on which a purchase and sale agreement or other contract for sale or purchase has been executed;

10. For NWP 31 (Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities), the prospective permittee must either notify the District Engineer with a PCN prior to each maintenance activity or submit a five-year (or less) maintenance plan. In addition, the PCN must include all of the following:

i. Sufficient baseline information identifying the approved channel depths and configurations and existing facilities. Minor deviations are authorized, provided the approved flood control protection or drainage is not increased;

ii. A delineation of any affected special aquatic sites, including wetlands; and,

iii. Location of the dredged material disposal site;

11. For NWP 33 (Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering), the PCN must also include a restoration plan of reasonable measures to avoid and minimize adverse effects to aquatic resources;

12. For NWPs 39, 43 and 44, the PCN must also include a written statement to the District Engineer explaining how avoidance and minimization for losses of waters of the US were achieved on the project site;

13. For NWP 39 and NWP 42, the PCN must include a compensatory mitigation proposal to offset losses of waters of the US or justification explaining why compensatory mitigation should not be required. For discharges that cause the loss of greater than 300 linear feet of an intermittent stream bed, to be authorized, the District Engineer must determine that the activity complies with the other terms and conditions of the NWP, determine adverse environmental effects are minimal both individually and cumulatively, and waive the limitation on stream impacts in writing before the permittee may proceed;

14. For NWP 40 (Agricultural Activities), the PCN must include a compensatory mitigation proposal to offset losses of waters of the US. This NWP does not authorize the relocation of greater than 300 linear feet of existing serviceable drainage ditches constructed in non-tidal streams unless, for drainage ditches constructed in intermittent nontidal streams, the District Engineer waives this criterion in writing, and the District Engineer has determined that

the project complies with all terms and conditions of this NWP, and that any adverse impacts of the project on the aquatic environment are minimal, both individually and cumulatively;

15. For NWP 43 (Stormwater Management Facilities), the PCN must include, for the construction of new stormwater management facilities, a maintenance plan (in accordance with state and local requirements, if applicable) and a compensatory mitigation proposal to offset losses of waters of the US. For discharges that cause the loss of greater than 300 linear feet of an intermittent stream bed, to be authorized, the District Engineer must determine that the activity complies with the other terms and conditions of the NWP, determine adverse environmental effects are minimal both individually and cumulatively, and waive the limitation on stream impacts in writing before the permittee may proceed;

16. For NWP 44 (Mining Activities), the PCN must include a description of all waters of the US adversely affected by the project, a description of measures taken to minimize adverse effects to waters of the US, a description of measures taken to comply with the criteria of the NWP, and a reclamation plan (for all aggregate mining activities in isolated waters and non-tidal wetlands adjacent to headwaters and any hard rock/mineral mining activities);

17. For activities that may adversely affect Federally-listed endangered or threatened species, the PCN must include the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species that may be affected by the proposed work or utilize the designated critical habitat that may be affected by the proposed work; and

18. For activities that may affect historic properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places, the PCN must state which historic property may be affected by the proposed work or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property.

c. Form of Notification: The standard Individual Permit application form (Form ENG 4345) may be used as the notification but must clearly indicate that it is a PCN and must include all of the information required in (b) (1)-(18) of General Condition 13. A letter containing the requisite information may also be used.

d. District Engineer's Decision: In reviewing the PCN for the proposed activity, the District Engineer will determine whether the activity authorized by the NWP will result in more than minimal individual or cumulative adverse environmental effects or may be contrary to the public interest. The prospective permittee may submit a proposed mitigation plan with the PCN to expedite the process. The District Engineer will consider any proposed compensatory mitigation the applicant has included in the proposal in determining whether the net adverse environmental effects to the aquatic environment of the proposed work are minimal. If the District Engineer determines that the activity complies with the terms and conditions of the NWP and that the adverse effects on the aquatic environment are minimal, after considering mitigation, the District Engineer will notify the permittee and include any conditions the District Engineer deems necessary. The District Engineer must approve any compensatory mitigation proposal

before the permittee commences work. If the prospective permittee is required to submit a compensatory mitigation proposal with the PCN, the proposal may be either conceptual or detailed. If the prospective permittee elects to submit a compensatory mitigation plan with the PCN, the District Engineer will expeditiously review the proposed compensatory mitigation plan. The District Engineer must review the plan within 45 days of receiving a complete PCN and determine whether the conceptual or specific proposed mitigation would ensure no more than minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment. If the net adverse effects of the project on the aquatic environment (after consideration of the compensatory mitigation proposal) are determined by the District Engineer to be minimal, the District Engineer will provide a timely written response to the applicant. The response will state that the project can proceed under the terms and conditions of the NWP.

If the District Engineer determines that the adverse effects of the proposed work are more than minimal, then the District Engineer will notify the applicant either:

1. That the project does not qualify for authorization under the NWP and instruct the applicant on the procedures to seek authorization under an Individual Permit;
2. that the project is authorized under the NWP subject to the applicant's submission of a mitigation proposal that would reduce the adverse effects on the aquatic environment to the minimal level; or
3. that the project is authorized under the NWP with specific modifications or conditions. Where the District Engineer determines that mitigation is required to ensure no more than minimal adverse effects occur to the aquatic environment, the activity will be authorized within the 45-day PCN period. The authorization will include the necessary conceptual or specific mitigation or a requirement that the applicant submit a mitigation proposal that would reduce the adverse effects on the aquatic environment to the minimal level. When conceptual mitigation is included, or a mitigation plan is required under item (2) above, no work in waters of the US will occur until the District Engineer has approved a specific mitigation plan.

e. Agency Coordination: The District Engineer will consider any comments from Federal and state agencies concerning the proposed activity's compliance with the terms and conditions of the NWPs and the need for mitigation to reduce the project's adverse environmental effects to a minimal level.

For activities requiring notification to the District Engineer that result in the loss of greater than $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre of waters of the US, the District Engineer will provide immediately (e.g., via facsimile transmission, overnight mail, or other expeditious manner) a copy to the appropriate Federal or state offices (USFWS, state natural resource or water quality agency, EPA, State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and, if appropriate, the NMFS). With the exception of NWP 37, these agencies will then have 10 calendar days from the date the material is transmitted to telephone or fax the District Engineer notice that they intend to provide substantive, site-specific comments. If so contacted by an agency, the District Engineer will wait an

additional 15 calendar days before making a decision on the notification. The District Engineer will fully consider agency comments received within the specified time frame, but will provide no response to the resource agency, except as provided below. The District Engineer will indicate in the administrative record associated with each notification that the resource agencies' concerns were considered. As required by section 305(b)(4)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the District Engineer will provide a response to NMFS within 30 days of receipt of any Essential Fish Habitat conservation recommendations. Applicants are encouraged to provide the Corps multiple copies of notifications to expedite agency notification.

f. Wetland Delineations: Wetland delineations must be prepared in accordance with the current method required by the Corps (For NWP 29 see paragraph (b)(9)(iii) for parcels less than $\frac{1}{4}$ -acre in size). The permittee may ask the Corps to delineate the special aquatic site. There may be some delay if the Corps does the delineation. Furthermore, the 45-day period will not start until the wetland delineation has been completed and submitted to the Corps, where appropriate.

14. Compliance Certification. Every permittee who has received NWP verification from the Corps will submit a signed certification regarding the completed work and any required mitigation. The certification will be forwarded by the Corps with the authorization letter and will include:

a. A statement that the authorized work was done in accordance with the Corps authorization, including any general or specific conditions;

b. A statement that any required mitigation was completed in accordance with the permit conditions; and

c. The signature of the permittee certifying the completion of the work and mitigation.

15. Use of Multiple Nationwide Permits. The use of more than one NWP for a single and complete project is prohibited, except when the acreage loss of waters of the US authorized by the NWPs does not exceed the acreage limit of the NWP with the highest specified acreage limit (e.g. if a road crossing over tidal waters is constructed under NWP 14, with associated bank stabilization authorized by NWP 13, the maximum acreage loss of waters of the US for the total project cannot exceed $\frac{1}{3}$ -acre).

16. Water Supply Intakes. No activity, including structures and work in navigable waters of the US or discharges of dredged or fill material, may occur in the proximity of a public water supply intake except where the activity is for repair of the public water supply intake structures or adjacent bank stabilization.

17. Shellfish Beds. No activity, including structures and work in navigable waters of the US or discharges of dredged or fill material, may occur in areas of concentrated shellfish

populations, unless the activity is directly related to a shellfish harvesting activity authorized by NWP 4.

18. Suitable Material. No activity, including structures and work in navigable waters of the US or discharges of dredged or fill material, may consist of unsuitable material (e.g., trash, debris, car bodies, asphalt, etc.) and material used for construction or discharged must be free from toxic pollutants in toxic amounts (see section 307 of the CWA).

19. Mitigation. The District Engineer will consider the factors discussed below when determining the acceptability of appropriate and practicable mitigation necessary to offset adverse effects on the aquatic environment that are more than minimal.

a. The project must be designed and constructed to avoid and minimize adverse effects to waters of the US to the maximum extent practicable at the project site (i.e., on site).

b. Mitigation in all its forms (avoiding, minimizing, rectifying, reducing or compensating) will be required to the extent necessary to ensure that the adverse effects to the aquatic environment are minimal.

c. Compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-for-one ratio will be required for all wetland impacts requiring a PCN, unless the District Engineer determines in writing that some other form of mitigation would be more environmentally appropriate and provides a project-specific waiver of this requirement. Consistent with National policy, the District Engineer will establish a preference for restoration of wetlands as compensatory mitigation, with preservation used only in exceptional circumstances.

d. Compensatory mitigation (i.e., replacement or substitution of aquatic resources for those impacted) will not be used to increase the acreage losses allowed by the acreage limits of some of the NWPs. For example, $\frac{1}{4}$ -acre of wetlands cannot be created to change a $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre loss of wetlands to a $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre loss associated with NWP 39 verification. However, $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre of created wetlands can be used to reduce the impacts of a $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre loss of wetlands to the minimum impact level in order to meet the minimal impact requirement associated with NWPs.

e. To be practicable, the mitigation must be available and capable of being done considering costs, existing technology, and logistics in light of the overall project purposes. Examples of mitigation that may be appropriate and practicable include, but are not limited to: reducing the size of the project; establishing and maintaining wetland or upland vegetated buffers to protect open waters such as streams; and replacing losses of aquatic resource functions and values by creating, restoring, enhancing, or preserving similar functions and values, preferably in the same watershed.

f. Compensatory mitigation plans for projects in or near streams or other open waters will normally include a requirement for the establishment, maintenance, and legal protection (e.g., easements, deed restrictions) of vegetated buffers to open waters. In many cases, vegetated

buffers will be the only compensatory mitigation required. Vegetated buffers should consist of native species. The width of the vegetated buffers required will address documented water quality or aquatic habitat loss concerns. Normally, the vegetated buffer will be 25 to 50 feet wide on each side of the stream, but the District Engineers may require slightly wider vegetated buffers to address documented water quality or habitat loss concerns. Where both wetlands and open waters exist on the project site, the Corps will determine the appropriate compensatory mitigation (e.g., stream buffers or wetlands compensation) based on what is best for the aquatic environment or, a watershed basis. In cases where vegetated buffers are determined to be the most appropriate form of compensatory mitigation, the District Engineer may waive or reduce the requirement to provide wetland compensatory mitigation for wetland impacts.

g. Compensatory mitigation proposals submitted with the " notification" may be either conceptual or detailed. If conceptual plans are approved under the verification, then the Corps will condition the verification to require detailed plans be submitted and approved by the Corps prior to construction of the authorized activity in waters of the US.

h. Permittees may propose the use of mitigation banks, in-lieu fee arrangements or separate activity-specific compensatory mitigation. In all cases that require compensatory mitigation, the mitigation provisions will specify the party responsible for accomplishing and/or complying with the mitigation plan.

20. Spawning Areas. Activities, including structures and work in navigable waters of the US or discharges of dredged or fill material, in spawning areas during spawning seasons must be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. Activities that result in the physical destruction (e.g., excavate, fill, or smother downstream by substantial turbidity) of an important spawning area are not authorized.

21. Management of Water Flows. To the maximum extent practicable, the activity must be designed to maintain preconstruction downstream flow conditions (e.g., location, capacity, and flow rates). Furthermore, the activity must not permanently restrict or impede the passage of normal or expected high flows (unless the primary purpose of the fill is to impound waters) and the structure or discharge of dredged or fill material must withstand expected high flows. The activity must, to the maximum extent practicable, provide for retaining excess flows from the site, provide for maintaining surface flow rates from the site similar to preconstruction conditions, and provide for not increasing water flows from the project site, relocating water, or redirecting water flow beyond preconstruction conditions. Stream channelizing will be reduced to the minimal amount necessary, and the activity must, to the maximum extent practicable, reduce adverse effects such as flooding or erosion downstream and upstream of the project site, unless the activity is part of a larger system designed to manage water flows. In most cases, it will not be a requirement to conduct detailed studies and monitoring of water flow.

This condition is only applicable to projects that have the potential to affect waterflows. While appropriate measures must be taken, it is not necessary to conduct detailed studies to identify such measures or require monitoring to ensure their effectiveness. Normally, the Corps

will defer to state and local authorities regarding management of water flow.

22. Adverse Effects From Impoundments. If the activity creates an impoundment of water, adverse effects to the aquatic system due to the acceleration of the passage of water, and/or the restricting its flow shall be minimized to the maximum extent practicable. This includes structures and work in navigable waters of the US, or discharges of dredged or fill material.

23. Waterfowl Breeding Areas. Activities, including structures and work in navigable waters of the US or discharges of dredged or fill material, into breeding areas for migratory waterfowl must be avoided to the maximum extent practicable.

24. Removal of Temporary Fills. Any temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to their preexisting elevation.

25. Designated Critical Resource Waters. Critical resource waters include, NOAA-designated marine sanctuaries, National Estuarine Research Reserves, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, critical habitat for Federally listed threatened and endangered species, coral reefs, state natural heritage sites, and outstanding national resource waters or other waters officially designated by a state as having particular environmental or ecological significance and identified by the District Engineer after notice and opportunity for public comment. The District Engineer may also designate additional critical resource waters after notice and opportunity for comment.

a. Except as noted below, discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the US are not authorized by NWPs 7, 12, 14, 16, 17, 21, 29, 31, 35, 39, 40, 42, 43, and 44 for any activity within, or directly affecting, critical resource waters, including wetlands adjacent to such waters. Discharges of dredged or fill materials into waters of the US may be authorized by the above NWPs in National Wild and Scenic Rivers if the activity complies with General Condition 7. Further, such discharges may be authorized in designated critical habitat for Federally listed threatened or endangered species if the activity complies with General Condition 11 and the USFWS or the NMFS has concurred in a determination of compliance with this condition.

b. For NWPs 3, 8, 10, 13, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 36, 37, and 38, notification is required in accordance with General Condition 13, for any activity proposed in the designated critical resource waters including wetlands adjacent to those waters. The District Engineer may authorize activities under these NWPs only after it is determined that the impacts to the critical resource waters will be no more than minimal.

26. Fills Within 100-Year Floodplains. For purposes of this General Condition, 100-year floodplains will be identified through the existing Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps or FEMA-approved local floodplain maps.

a. Discharges in Floodplain; Below Headwaters. Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the US within the mapped 100-year floodplain, below headwaters (i.e. five cfs), resulting in permanent above-grade fills, are not authorized by NWPs 39, 40, 42, 43, and 44.

b. Discharges in Floodway; Above Headwaters. Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the US within the FEMA or locally mapped floodway, resulting in permanent above-grade fills, are not authorized by NWPs 39, 40, 42, and 44.

c. The permittee must comply with any applicable FEMA-approved state or local floodplain management requirements.

27. Construction Period. For activities that have not been verified by the Corps and the project was commenced or under contract to commence by the expiration date of the NWP (or modification or revocation date), the work must be completed within 12-months after such date (including any modification that affects the project).

For activities that have been verified and the project was commenced or under contract to commence within the verification period, the work must be completed by the date determined by the Corps.

For projects that have been verified by the Corps, an extension of a Corps approved completion date maybe requested. This request must be submitted at least one month before the previously approved completion date.

FURTHER INFORMATION

1. District Engineers have authority to determine if an activity complies with the terms and conditions of a NWP.
2. NWPs do not obviate the need to obtain other Federal, State, or local permits, approvals, or authorizations required by law.
3. NWPs do not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges.
4. NWPs do not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.
5. NWPs do not authorize interference with any existing or proposed Federal project.

DEFINITIONS

Best Management Practices (BMPs): BMPs are policies, practices, procedures, or structures implemented to mitigate the adverse environmental effects on surface water quality resulting from development. BMPs are categorized as structural or nonstructural. A BMP policy may affect the limits on a development.

Compensatory Mitigation: For purposes of Section 10/404, compensatory mitigation is the restoration, creation, enhancement, or in exceptional circumstances, preservation of wetlands

and/or other aquatic resources for the purpose of compensating for unavoidable adverse impacts, which remain, after all appropriate and practicable avoidance and minimization has been achieved.

Creation: The establishment of a wetland or other aquatic resource where one did not formerly exist.

Enhancement: Activities conducted in existing wetlands or other aquatic resources that increase one or more aquatic functions.

Ephemeral Stream: An ephemeral stream has *flowing* water only during and for a short duration after, precipitation events in a typical year. Ephemeral stream beds are located above the water table year-round. Groundwater is not a source of water for the stream. Runoff from rainfall is the primary source of water for stream flow.

Farm Tract: A unit of contiguous land under one ownership that is operated as a farm or part of a farm.

Flood Fringe: That portion of the 100-year floodplain outside of the floodway (often referred to as “floodway fringe”).

Floodway: The area regulated by Federal, state, or local requirements to provide for the discharge of the base flood so the cumulative increase in water surface elevation is no more than a designated amount (not to exceed one foot as set by the National Flood Insurance Program) within the 100-year floodplain.

Independent Utility: A test to determine what constitutes a single and complete project in the Corps regulatory program. A project is considered to have independent utility if it would be constructed absent the construction of other projects in the project area. Portions of a multi-phase project that depend upon other phases of the project do not have independent utility. Phases of a project that would be constructed even if the other phases were not built can be considered as separate single and complete projects with independent utility.

Intermittent Stream: An intermittent stream has flowing water during certain times of the year, when groundwater provides water for stream flow. During dry periods, intermittent streams may not have flowing water. Runoff from rainfall is a supplemental source of water for stream flow.

Loss of waters of the US: Waters of the US that include the filled area and other waters that are permanently adversely affected by flooding, excavation, or drainage because of the regulated activity. Permanent adverse effects include permanent above-grade, at-grade, or below-grade fills that change an aquatic area to dry land, increase the bottom elevation of a waterbody, or change the use of a waterbody. The acreage of loss of waters of the US is the threshold measurement of the impact to existing waters for determining whether a project may qualify for a NWP; it is not a net threshold that is calculated after considering compensatory mitigation that

may be used to offset losses of aquatic functions and values. The loss of stream bed includes the linear feet of stream bed that is filled or excavated. Waters of the US temporarily filled, flooded, excavated, or drained, but restored to preconstruction contours and elevations after construction, are not included in the measurement of loss of waters of the US. Impacts to ephemeral waters are only not included in the acreage or linear foot measurements of loss of waters of the US or loss of stream bed, for the purpose of determining compliance with the threshold limits of the NWP's.

Non-tidal Wetland: An area that, during a year with normal patterns of precipitation has standing or flowing water for sufficient duration to establish an ordinary high water mark. Aquatic vegetation within the area of standing or flowing water is either non-emergent, sparse, or absent. Vegetated shallows are considered to be open waters. The term "open water" includes rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds. For the purposes of the NWP's, this term does not include ephemeral waters.

Perennial Stream: A perennial stream has flowing water year-round during a typical year. The water table is located above the stream bed for the most of the year. Groundwater is the primary source of water for stream flow. Runoff from rainfall is a supplemental source of water for stream flow.

Permanent Above-grade Fill: A discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the US, including wetlands, that results in a substantial increase in ground elevation and permanently converts part or all of the waterbody to dry land. Structural fills authorized by NWP's 3, 25, 36, etc. are not included.

Preservation: The protection of ecologically important wetlands or other aquatic resources in perpetuity through the implementation of appropriate legal and physical mechanisms. Preservation may include protection of upland areas adjacent to wetlands as necessary to ensure protection and/or enhancement of the overall aquatic ecosystem.

Restoration: Re-establishment of wetland and/or other aquatic resource characteristics and function(s) at a site where they have ceased to exist, or exist in a substantially degraded state.

Riffle and Pool Complex: Riffle and pool complexes are special aquatic sites under the 404(b)(1) Guidelines. Riffle and pool complexes sometimes characterize steep gradient sections of streams. Such stream sections are recognizable by their hydraulic characteristics. The rapid movement of water over a coarse substrate in riffles results in a rough flow, a turbulent surface and high dissolved oxygen levels in the water. Pools are deeper areas associated with riffles. A slower stream velocity, a streaming flow, a smooth surface, and a finer substrate characterize pools.

Single and Complete Project: The term "single and complete project" is defined at 33 CFR 330.2(i) as the total project proposed or accomplished by one owner/developer or partnership or other association of owners/developers (see definition of independent utility). For linear

projects, the “single and complete project” (i.e., a single and complete crossing) will apply to each crossing of a separate water of the US (i.e., a single waterbody) at that location. An exception is for linear projects crossing a single waterbody several times at separate and distant locations; each crossing is considered a single and complete project. However, individual channels in a braided stream or river, or individual arms of a large, irregularly shaped wetland or lake, etc., are not separate waterbodies.

Stormwater Management: Stormwater management is the mechanism for controlling stormwater runoff for the purposes of reducing downstream erosion, water quality degradation, and flooding and mitigating the adverse effects of changes in land use on the aquatic environment.

Stormwater Management Facilities: Stormwater management facilities are those facilities, including but not limited to, stormwater retention and detention ponds and BMPs, which retain water for a period of time to control runoff and/or improve the quality (i.e., by reducing the concentration of nutrients, sediments, hazardous substances and other pollutants) of stormwater runoff.

Stream Channelization: The manipulation of a stream channel to increase the rate of water flow through the stream channel. Manipulation may include deepening, widening, straightening, armoring, or other activities that change the stream cross-section or other aspects of stream channel geometry to increase the rate of water flow through the stream channel. A channelized stream remains a water of the US, despite the modifications to increase the rate of water flow.

Tidal Wetland: A tidal wetland is a wetland (i.e., water of the US) that is inundated by tidal waters. The definitions of a wetland and tidal waters can be found at 33 CFR 328.3(b) and 33 CFR 328.3(f), respectively. Tidal waters rise and fall in a predictable and measurable rhythm or cycle due to the gravitational pulls of the moon and sun. Tidal waters end where the rise and fall of the water surface can no longer be practically measured in a predictable rhythm due to masking by other waters, wind, or other effects. Tidal wetlands are located channelward of the high tide line (i.e., spring high tide line) and are inundated by tidal waters two times per lunar month, during spring high tides.

Vegetated Buffer: A vegetated upland or wetland area next to rivers, streams, lakes, or other open waters, which separates the open water from developed areas, including agricultural land. Vegetated buffers provide a variety of aquatic habitat functions and values (e.g., aquatic habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms, moderation of water temperature changes, and detritus for aquatic food webs) and help improve or maintain local water quality. A vegetated buffer can be established by maintaining an existing vegetated area or planting native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants on land next to openwaters. Mowed lawns are not considered vegetated buffers because they provide little or no aquatic habitat functions and values. The establishment and maintenance of vegetated buffers is a method of compensatory mitigation that can be used in conjunction with the restoration, creation, enhancement or preservation of aquatic habitats to ensure that activities authorized by NWP result in minimal adverse effects to the aquatic environment. (See General Condition 19.)

Vegetated Shallows: Vegetated shallows are special aquatic sites under the 404(b)(1) Guidelines. They are areas that are permanently inundated and under normal circumstances have rooted aquatic vegetation, such as seagrasses in marine and estuarine systems and a variety of vascular rooted plants in freshwater systems.

Waterbody: A waterbody is any area that in a normal year has water flowing or standing above ground to the extent that evidence of an ordinary high water mark is established. Wetlands contiguous to the waterbody are considered part of the waterbody.

FINAL REGIONAL CONDITIONS FOR NATIONWIDE PERMITS IN THE WILMINGTON DISTRICT

1. Waters Excluded from NWP or Subject to Additional Notification Requirements:
 - a. The Corps identified waters that will be excluded from use of this NWP. These waters are:
 1. Discharges into Waters of the United States designated by either the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (NCDMF) or the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) as anadromous fish spawning area are prohibited during the period between February 15 and June 30, without prior written approval from NCDMF or NCWRC and the Corps.
 2. Discharges into Waters of the United States designated as sturgeon spawning areas are prohibited during the period between February 1 and June 30, without prior written approval from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).
 - b. The Corps identified waters that will be subject to additional notification requirements for activities authorized by this NWP. These waters are:
 1. Prior to the use of any NWP in any of the following North Carolina *designated waters*, applicants must comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 13. In addition, the applicant must furnish a written statement of compliance with all of the conditions of the applicable Nationwide Permit. The North Carolina *designated waters* that require additional notification requirements are “Outstanding Resource Waters” (ORW) and “High Quality Waters” (HQW) (as defined by the North Carolina Division of Water Quality), or “Inland Primary Nursery Areas” (IPNA) (as defined by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission), or contiguous wetlands (as defined by the North Carolina Division of Water Quality), or “Primary Nursery Areas” (PNA) (as defined by the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries).
 2. Applicants for any NWP in a designated “Area of Environmental Concern” (AEC) in the twenty (20) coastal counties of Eastern North Carolina covered by the North Carolina Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA), must also obtain the required CAMA permit. Construction

activities may not commence until a copy of the approved CAMA permit is furnished to the appropriate Wilmington District Regulatory Field Office (Wilmington Field Office – P.O. Box 1890, Wilmington, NC 28402 or Washington Field Office – P.O. Box 1000, Washington, NC 27889) for authorization to begin work.

3. Prior to the use of any NWP on a Barrier Island of North Carolina, applicants must comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 13. In addition, the applicant shall furnish a written statement of compliance with all of the conditions listed of the applicable Nationwide Permit.

4. Prior to the use of any NWP in a “Mountain or Piedmont Bog” of North Carolina, applicants shall comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 13. In addition, the applicant shall furnish a written statement of compliance with all of the conditions listed of the applicable NWP.

Note: The following wetland community types identified in the N.C. Natural Heritage Program document, “Classification of Natural communities of North Carolina (Michael P. Schafale and Alan S. Weakley, 1990), are subject to this regional condition.

Mountain Bogs

Swamp Forest-Bog Complex
Swamp Forest-Bog Complex (Spruce Subtype)
Southern Appalachian Bog (Northern Subtype)
Southern Appalachian Bog (Southern Subtype)
Southern Appalachian Fen

Piedmont Bogs

Upland Depression Swamp Forest

5. Prior to the use of any NWP in Mountain Trout Waters within twenty-five (25) designated counties of North Carolina, applicants shall comply with Nationwide General Condition 13. In addition, the applicant shall furnish a written statement of compliance with all of the conditions listed of the applicable NWP. Notification will include a letter of comments and recommendations from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC), the location of work, a delineation of wetlands, a discussion of alternatives to working in the Mountain Trout Waters, why other alternatives were not selected, and a plan to provide compensatory mitigation for all unavoidable adverse impacts to the Mountain Trout Waters. To facilitate coordination with the NCWRC, the proponent may provide a copy of the notification to the NCWRC concurrent with the notification to the District Engineer. The NCWRC will respond both to the proponent and directly to the Corps of Engineers.

The twenty-five (25) designated counties are:

Alleghany	Ashe	Avery	Yancey
Buncombe	Burke	Caldwell	Wilkes
Cherokee	Clay	Graham	Swain
Haywood	Henderson	Jackson	Surry
Macon	Madison	McDowell	Stokes

Mitchell Polk Rutherford
Transylvania Watauga

6. Applicants shall notify the NCDENR Shellfish Sanitation Section prior to dredging in or removing sediment from an area closed to shell fishing where the effluent may be released to an area open for shell fishing or swimming in order to avoid contamination of the disposal area and allow a temporary shellfish closure to be made. Any disposal of sand to the beach should occur between November 1 and April 30 when recreational usage is low. Only clean sand should be used and no dredged sand from closed shell fishing areas. If beach disposal was to occur at times other than stated above or if sand from a closed shell fishing area is to be used, a swim advisory shall be posted and a press release shall be made. NCDENR Shellfish Sanitation Section must be notified before commencing this activity.

2. List of Final Corps Regional Modifications and Conditions for All Nationwide Permits

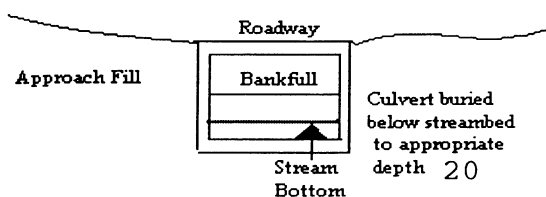
a. Individual or multiple NWP's may not be used for activities that result in the cumulative loss or degradation of greater than 300 total linear feet of perennial streambed or intermittent streambed that exhibits important aquatic function(s).

b. Prior to the use of any NWP (except 13, 27, and 39) for any activity that has more than a total of 150 total linear feet of perennial streambed impacts or intermittent streambed impacts (if the intermittent stream has important aquatic function), the applicant must comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 13. In addition, the applicant shall furnish a written statement of compliance with all of the conditions listed of the applicable NWP. Compensatory mitigation is typically required for any impact that requires such notification. [Note: The Corps uses the Intermittent Channel Evaluation Form, located with Permit Information on the Regulatory Program Web Site, to aid in the determination of the intermittent channel stream status. Also, NWP's 13, 27 and 39 have specific reporting requirements.]

c. For all Nationwide Permits which allow the use of concrete as a building material, measures will be taken to prevent live or fresh concrete, including bags of uncured concrete, from coming into contact with waters of the state until the concrete has hardened.

d. For all Nationwide Permits that allow for the use of riprap material for bank stabilization, filter cloth must be placed underneath the riprap as an additional requirement of its use in North Carolina waters.

e. For all NWP's that involve the construction of culverts, measures will be included in the construction that will promote the safe passage of fish and other aquatic organisms. All culverts in the 20 CAMA coastal counties must be buried to a depth of one foot below the

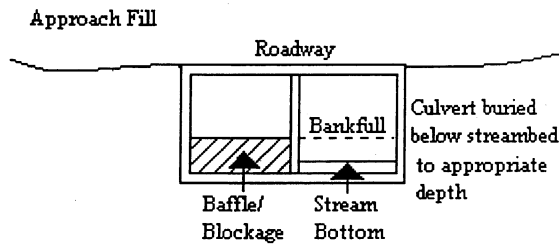


bed of the stream or wetland. For all culvert construction activities, the dimension, pattern, and profile of the stream, (above and below a pipe or culvert), should not be modified by widening the stream channel or by reducing the depth of the stream. Culvert inverts will be buried at least one foot below the bed of the stream for culverts greater than 48 inches in diameter. For culverts 48 inches in diameter or smaller, culverts must be buried below the bed of the stream to a depth equal to or greater than 20 percent of the diameter of the culvert. Bottomless arch culverts will satisfy this condition. A waiver from the depth specifications in this Regional Condition may be requested in writing. The waiver will only be issued if it can be demonstrated that the impacts of complying with this Regional Condition would result in more adverse impacts to the aquatic environment.

3. Additional Regional Conditions Applicable to this Specific Nationwide Permit.

a. Natural channel design must be applied to the maximum extent practicable for stream relocations. The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission and the N.C. Division of Water Quality provides Guidelines that are available to assist in the planning and design.

b. Bank-full flows (or less) shall be accommodated through maintenance of the

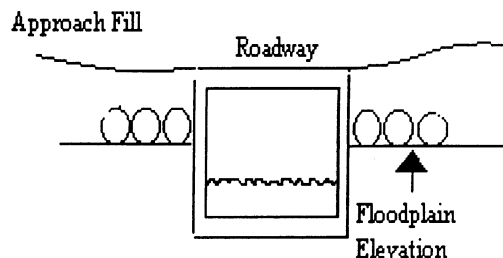


existing bank-full channel cross sectional area. Additional culverts at such crossings shall be allowed **only** to receive flows exceeding bank-full.

c. Flows exceeding bank-full shall be accommodated by installing culverts at the floodplain elevation where adjacent floodplain is available.

d. NWP 14 cannot be used for private projects located in tidal waters or tidal wetlands.

e. The activities associated with NWP 14 require a pre-construction notification if they will result in the loss of greater than 150 total linear feet of perennial streambed or intermittent stream that exhibits important aquatic function(s).



NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
GENERAL CERTIFICATION CONDITIONS

GC3375

1. Enumerating and Reporting of Impacts:

a. Streams - Impacts to streams as determined by the Division of Water Quality shall be measured as length of the centerline of the normal flow channel. Permanent and/or temporary stream impacts shall be enumerated on the entire project for all impacts regardless of which 404 Nationwide Permits are used. Stream relocations and streambed and/or bank hardening are considered to be permanent stream impacts. Any activity that results in a loss of use of stream functions including but not limited to filling, relocating, flooding, dredging and complete shading shall be considered stream impacts. Enumeration of impacts to streams shall include streams enclosed by bottomless culverts, bottomless arches or other spanning structures when a 404 Permit is used anywhere in a project unless the entire structure (including construction impacts) spans the entire bed and both banks of the stream, is only used for a road, driveway or path crossing, and is not mitered to follow the stream pattern. Impacts for dam footprints and flooding will count toward the threshold for stream impacts, but flooding upstream of the dam will not (as long as no filling, excavation, relocation or other modification of the existing stream dimension, pattern or profile occurs) count towards mitigation.

b. Wetlands - Impacts to wetlands as determined by the Division of Water Quality shall be measured as area. Permanent and/or temporary wetland impacts shall be enumerated on the entire project for all impacts regardless of which 404 Nationwide Permits are used. Any activity that results in a loss of use of wetland functions including but not limited to filling, draining, and flooding shall be considered wetland impacts. Enumeration of impacts to wetlands shall include activities that change the hydrology of a wetland when a 404 Permit is used anywhere in a project.

c. Lakes and Ponds – Lake and Pond Impacts Enumeration- Impacts to waters other than streams and wetlands as determined by the Division of Water Quality shall be measured as area. Permanent and/or temporary water impacts shall be enumerated on the entire project for all impacts proposed regardless of which 404 Nationwide Permits are used. Any activity that results in a loss of use of aquatic functions including but not limited to filling and dredging shall be considered waters impacts;

2. Proposed fill or substantial modification of wetlands or waters (including streams) under this General Certification requires application to and prior written concurrence from the Division of Water Quality;

3. Impacts to any stream length in the Neuse, Tar-Pamlico or Randleman River Basins (or any other major river basins with Riparian Area Protection Rules [Buffer Rules] in effect at the time

of application) requires written concurrence for this Certification from DWQ in accordance with 15A NCAC 2B.0200. Activities listed as “exempt” from these rules do not need to apply for written concurrence under this Certification. New development activities located in the protected 50-foot wide riparian areas (whether jurisdictional wetlands or not) within the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River Basins shall be limited to “uses” identified within and constructed in accordance with 15A NCAC 2B .0200. All new development shall be located, designed, constructed, and maintained to have minimal disturbance to protect water quality to the maximum extent practicable through the use of best management practices;

4. Additional site-specific stormwater management requirements may be added to this Certification at DWQ's discretion on a case-by-case basis for projects that have or are anticipated to have impervious cover of greater than 30 percent. Site-specific stormwater management shall be designed to remove 85% TSS according to the latest version of DWQ's Stormwater Best Management Practices manual at a minimum. Additionally, in watersheds within one mile and draining to 303(d) listed waters, as well as watersheds that are classified as nutrient sensitive waters (NSW), water supply waters (WS), trout waters (Tr), high quality waters (HQW), and outstanding resource waters (ORW), the Division shall require that extended detention wetlands, bio-retention areas, and ponds followed by forested filter strips (designed according to latest version of the NC DENR Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual) be constructed as part of the stormwater management plan when a site-specific stormwater management plan is required. Alternative designs may be requested by the applicant and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Division of Water Quality. Approval of stormwater management plans by the Division of Water Quality's other existing state stormwater programs including appropriate local programs are sufficient to satisfy this Condition as long as the stormwater management plans meet or exceed the design requirements specified in this condition. This condition applies unless more stringent requirements are in effect from other state water quality programs.

a. Unless specified otherwise in the approval letter, the final, written stormwater management plan shall be approved in writing by the Division of Water Quality's Wetlands Unit before the impacts specified in this Certification occur.

b. The facilities must be designed to treat the runoff from the entire project, unless otherwise explicitly approved by the Division of Water Quality.

c. Also, before any permanent building or other structure is occupied at the subject site, the facilities (as approved by the Wetlands Unit) shall be constructed and operational, and the stormwater management plan (as approved by the Wetlands Unit) shall be implemented.

d. The structural stormwater practices as approved by the Wetlands Unit as well as drainage patterns must be maintained in perpetuity.

e. No changes to the structural stormwater practices shall be made without written authorization from the Division of Water Quality.

5. Compensatory stream mitigation shall be required at a 1:1 ratio for all perennial and intermittent stream impacts equal to or exceeding 150 feet and that require application to DWQ in watersheds classified as ORW, HQW, Tr, WS-I and WS-II;
6. In accordance with North Carolina General Statute Section 143-215.3D(e), any application for a 401 Water Quality Certification must include the appropriate fee. If a project also requires a CAMA Permit, one payment to both agencies shall be submitted and will be the higher of the two fees;
7. In accordance with 15A NCAC 2H .0506 (h) compensatory mitigation may be required for impacts to 150 linear feet or more of streams and/or one acre or more of wetlands. For linear public transportation projects, impacts equal to or exceeding 150 feet per stream may require mitigation. In addition, buffer mitigation may be required for any project with Buffer Rules in effect at the time of application for buffer impacts resulting from activities classified as "allowable with mitigation" within the "Table of Uses" section of the Buffer Rules or require a variance under the Buffer Rules. A determination of buffer, wetland and stream mitigation requirements shall be made for any Certification for this Nationwide Permit. The most current design and monitoring protocols from DWQ shall be followed and written plans submitted for DWQ approval as required in those protocols. When compensatory mitigation is required for a project, the mitigation plans must be approved by DWQ in writing before the impacts approved by the Certification occur, unless otherwise specified in the approval letter. The mitigation plan must be implemented and/or constructed before any permanent building or structure on site is occupied. In the case of public road projects, the mitigation plan must be implemented before the road is opened to the traveling public. Projects may also be implemented once payment is made to a private mitigation bank or other in-lieu fee program, as specified in the written concurrence of 401 Certification for a project. Please note that if a stream relocation is conducted as a stream restoration as defined in *The Internal Technical Guide for Stream Work in North Carolina*, April 2001, the restored length can be used as compensatory mitigation for the impacts resulting from the relocation;
8. For any project involving re-alignment of streams, a stream relocation plan must be included with the 401 application for written DWQ approval. Relocated stream designs should include the same dimensions, patterns and profiles as the existing channel, to the maximum extent practical. The new channel should be constructed in the dry and water shall not be turned into the new channel until the banks are stabilized. Vegetation used for bank stabilization shall be limited to native woody species, and should include establishment of a 30 foot wide wooded and an adjacent 20 foot wide vegetated buffer on both sides of the relocated channel to the maximum extent practical. A transitional phase incorporating coir fiber and seedling establishment is allowable. Also, riprap may be allowed if it is necessary to maintain the physical integrity of the stream, but the applicant must provide written justification and any calculations used to determine the extent of riprap coverage requested. If suitable stream mitigation is not practical on-site, then stream impact will need to be mitigated elsewhere;
9. Placement of culverts and other structures in waters, streams, and wetlands must be placed

below the elevation of the streambed to allow low flow passage of water and aquatic life unless it can be shown to DWQ that providing passage would be impractical. Design and placement of culverts including open bottom or bottomless arch culverts and other structures including temporary erosion control measures shall not be conducted in a manner that may result in aggradation, degradation or significant changes in hydrology of wetlands or stream beds or banks, adjacent to or upstream and down stream of the above structures. The applicant is required to provide evidence that the equilibrium shall be maintained if requested to do so in writing by DWQ. Additionally, when roadways, causeways or other fill projects are constructed across FEMA-designated floodways or wetlands, openings such as culverts or bridges must be provided to maintain the natural hydrology of the system as well as prevent constriction of the floodway that may result in aggradation, degradation or significant changes in hydrology of streams or wetlands;

10. That appropriate sediment and erosion control practices which equal or exceed those outlined in the most recent version of the "North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Planning and Design Manual" or the "North Carolina Surface Mining Manual" whichever is more appropriate (available from the Division of Land Resources (DLR) in the DENR Regional or Central Offices) shall be in full compliance with all specifications governing the proper design, installation and operation and maintenance of such Best Management Practices in order to assure compliance with the appropriate turbidity water quality standard;

11. All sediment and erosion control measures placed in wetlands and waters shall be removed and the original grade restored within two months after the Division of Land Resources has released the project;

12. That additional site-specific conditions may be added to projects proposed under this Certification in order to ensure compliance with all applicable water quality and effluent standards;

13. Measures shall be taken to prevent live or fresh concrete from coming into contact with waters of the state until the concrete has hardened;

14. If an environmental document is required, this Certification is not valid until a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or Record of Decision (ROD) is issued by the State Clearinghouse;

15. If this Certification is used to access building sites, all lots owned by the applicant must be buildable without additional fill beyond that explicitly allowed under other General Certifications. For road construction purposes, this Certification shall only be utilized from natural high ground to natural high ground;

16. When written concurrence is required, the applicant is required to use the most recent version of the Certification of Completion form to notify DWQ when all work included in the 401 Certification has been completed;

17. Concurrence from DWQ that this Certification applies to an individual project shall expire three years from the date of the cover letter from DWQ or on the same day as the expiration date of the corresponding Nationwide Permit 14, whichever is sooner.

NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT
STATE CONSISTENCY

Consistent.

Citations:

2002 Nationwide Permits - Federal Register Notice 15 Jan 2002

2002 Nationwide Permits Corrections - Federal Register Notice 13 Feb 2002

2002 Regional Conditions – Authorized 17 May 2002

NATIONWIDE PERMIT 33
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
FINAL NOTICE OF ISSUANCE AND MODIFICATION OF NATIONWIDE PERMITS
FEDERAL REGISTER
AUTHORIZED MARCH 18, 2002

Temporary Construction, Access and Dewatering: Temporary structures, work and discharges, including cofferdams, necessary for construction activities or access fills or dewatering of construction sites; provided that the associated primary activity is authorized by the Corps of Engineers or the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), or for other construction activities not subject to the Corps or USCG regulations. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain near normal downstream flows and to minimize flooding. Fill must be of materials, and placed in a manner, that will not be eroded by expected high flows. The use of dredged material may be allowed if it is determined by the District Engineer that it will not cause more than minimal adverse effects on aquatic resources. Temporary fill must be entirely removed to upland areas, or dredged material returned to its original location, following completion of the construction activity, and the affected areas must be restored to the pre-project conditions. Cofferdams cannot be used to dewater wetlands or other aquatic areas so as to change their use. Structures left in place after cofferdams are removed require a section 10 permit if located in navigable waters of the United States. (See 33 CFR part 322). The permittee must notify the District Engineer in accordance with the "Notification" general condition. The notification must also include a restoration plan of reasonable measures to avoid and minimize adverse effects to aquatic resources. The District Engineer will add special conditions, where necessary, to ensure environmental adverse effects is minimal. Such conditions may include: Limiting the temporary work to the minimum necessary; requiring seasonal restrictions; modifying the restoration plan; and requiring alternative construction methods (e.g., construction mats in wetlands where practicable.). (Sections 10 and 404)

NATIONWIDE PERMIT GENERAL CONDITIONS

The following General Conditions must be followed in order for any authorization by a NWP to be valid:

1. Navigation. No activity may cause more than a minimal adverse effect on navigation.
2. Proper Maintenance. Any structure or fill authorized shall be properly maintained, including maintenance to ensure public safety.
3. Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls. Appropriate soil erosion and sediment controls must be used and maintained in effective operating condition during construction, and all exposed soil and other fills, as well as any work below the ordinary high water mark or high tide line, must be permanently stabilized at the earliest practicable date. Permittees are encouraged to perform work within waters of the United States during periods of low-flow or no-flow.
4. Aquatic Life Movements. No activity may substantially disrupt the necessary life-cycle movements of those species of aquatic life indigenous to the waterbody, including those species that normally migrate through the area, unless the activity's primary purpose is to impound water. Culverts placed in streams must be installed to maintain low flow conditions.
5. Equipment. Heavy equipment working in wetlands must be placed on mats, or other measures must be taken to minimize soil disturbance.
6. Regional and Case-By-Case Conditions. The activity must comply with any regional conditions that may have been added by the Division Engineer (see 33 CFR 330.4(e)) and with any case specific conditions added by the Corps or by the state or tribe in its Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Coastal Zone Management Act consistency determination.
7. Wild and Scenic Rivers. No activity may occur in a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System; or in a river officially designated by Congress as a 'study river' for possible inclusion in the system, while the river is in an official study status; unless the appropriate Federal agency, with direct management responsibility for such river, has determined in writing that the proposed activity will not adversely affect the Wild and Scenic River designation, or study status. Information on Wild and Scenic Rivers may be obtained from the appropriate Federal land management agency in the area (e.g., National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).
8. Tribal Rights. No activity or its operation may impair reserved tribal rights, including, but not limited to, reserved water rights and treaty fishing and hunting rights.
9. Water Quality.

a. In certain states and tribal lands an individual 401 Water Quality Certification must be obtained or waived (See 33 CFR 330.4(c)).

b. For NWPs 12, 14, 17, 18, 32, 39, 40, 42, 43, and 44, where the state or tribal 401 certification (either generically or individually) does not require or approve water quality management measures, the permittee must provide water quality management measures that will ensure that the authorized work does not result in more than minimal degradation of water quality (or the Corps determines that compliance with state or local standards, where applicable, will ensure no more than minimal adverse effect on water quality). An important component of water quality management includes stormwater management that minimizes degradation of the downstream aquatic system, including water quality (refer to General Condition 21 for stormwater management requirements). Another important component of water quality management is the establishment and maintenance of vegetated buffers next to open waters, including streams (refer to General Condition 19 for vegetated buffer requirements for the NWPs).

This condition is only applicable to projects that have the potential to affect water quality. While appropriate measures must be taken, in most cases it is not necessary to conduct detailed studies to identify such measures or to require monitoring.

10. Coastal Zone Management. In certain states, an individual state coastal zone management consistency concurrence must be obtained or waived (see 33 CFR 330.4(d)).

11. Endangered Species.

a. No activity is authorized under any NWP which is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, as identified under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), or which will destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of such species. Non-federal permittees shall notify the District Engineer if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the project, or is located in the designated critical habitat and shall not begin work on the activity until notified by the District Engineer that the requirements of the ESA have been satisfied and that the activity is authorized. For activities that may affect Federally-listed endangered or threatened species or designated critical habitat, the notification must include the name(s) of the endangered or threatened species that may be affected by the proposed work or that utilize the designated critical habitat that may be affected by the proposed work. As a result of formal or informal consultation with the FWS or NMFS the District Engineer may add species-specific regional endangered species conditions to the NWPs.

b. Authorization of an activity by a NWP does not authorize the "take" of a threatened or endangered species as defined under the ESA. In the absence of separate authorization (e.g., an ESA Section 10 Permit, a Biological Opinion with "incidental take" provisions, etc.) from the USFWS or the NMFS, both lethal and non-lethal "takes" of protected species are in violation of the ESA. Information on the location of threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat can be obtained directly from the offices of the USFWS and NMFS or their World Wide

Web pages at <http://www.fws.gov/r9endspp/endspp.html> and <http://www.nfms.noaa.gov/protres/overview/es.html> respectively.

12. Historic Properties. No activity that may affect historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places is authorized, until the District Engineer has complied with the provisions of 33 CFR part 325, Appendix C. The prospective permittee must notify the District Engineer if the authorized activity may affect any historic properties listed, determined to be eligible, or which the prospective permittee has reason to believe may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and shall not begin the activity until notified by the District Engineer that the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act have been satisfied and that the activity is authorized. Information on the location and existence of historic resources can be obtained from the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Register of Historic Places (see 33 CFR 330.4(g)). For activities that may affect historic properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places, the notification must state which historic property may be affected by the proposed work or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property.

13. Notification.

a. Timing; where required by the terms of the NWP, the prospective permittee must notify the District Engineer with a preconstruction notification (PCN) as early as possible. The District Engineer must determine if the notification is complete within 30 days of the date of receipt and can request additional information necessary to make the PCN complete only once. However, if the prospective permittee does not provide all of the requested information, then the District Engineer will notify the prospective permittee that the notification is still incomplete and the PCN review process will not commence until all of the requested information has been received by the District Engineer. The prospective permittee shall not begin the activity:

1. Until notified in writing by the District Engineer that the activity may proceed under the NWP with any special conditions imposed by the District or Division Engineer; or

2. If notified in writing by the District or Division Engineer that an Individual Permit is required; or

3. Unless 45 days have passed from the District Engineer's receipt of the complete notification and the prospective permittee has not received written notice from the District or Division Engineer. Subsequently, the permittee's right to proceed under the NWP may be modified, suspended, or revoked only in accordance with the procedure set forth in 33 CFR 330.5(d)(2).

b. Contents of Notification: The notification must be in writing and include the following information:

1. Name, address and telephone numbers of the prospective permittee;

2. Location of the proposed project;

3. Brief description of the proposed project; the project's purpose; direct and indirect adverse environmental effects the project would cause; any other NWP(s), Regional General Permit(s), or Individual Permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity. Sketches should be provided when necessary to show that the activity complies with the terms of the NWP (Sketches usually clarify the project and when provided result in a quicker decision.);

4. For NWPs 7, 12, 14, 18, 21, 34, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, and 43, the PCN must also include a delineation of affected special aquatic sites, including wetlands, vegetated shallows (e.g., submerged aquatic vegetation, seagrass beds), and riffle and pool complexes (see paragraph 13(f));

5. For NWP 7 (Cutfall Structures and Maintenance), the PCN must include information regarding the original design capacities and configurations of those areas of the facility where maintenance dredging or excavation is proposed;

6. For NWP 14 (Linear Transportation Projects), the PCN must include a compensatory mitigation proposal to offset permanent losses of waters of the US and a statement describing how temporary losses of waters of the US will be minimized to the maximum extent practicable;

7. For NWP 21 (Surface Coal Mining Activities), the PCN must include an Office of Surface Mining (OSM) or state-approved mitigation plan, if applicable. To be authorized by this NWP, the District Engineer must determine that the activity complies with the terms and conditions of the NWP and that the adverse environmental effects are minimal both individually and cumulatively and must notify the project sponsor of this determination in writing;

8. For NWP 27 (Stream and Wetland Restoration Activities), the PCN must include documentation of the prior condition of the site that will be reverted by the permittee;

9. For NWP 29 (Single-Family Housing), the PCN must also include:

i. Any past use of this NWP by the Individual Permittee and/or the permittee's spouse;

ii. A statement that the single-family housing activity is for a personal residence of the permittee;

iii. A description of the entire parcel, including its size, and a delineation of wetlands. For the purpose of this NWP, parcels of land measuring $\frac{1}{4}$ -acre or less will not require a formal on-site delineation. However, the applicant shall provide an indication of where the wetlands are and the amount of wetlands that exists on the property. For parcels greater than $\frac{1}{4}$ -acre in size, formal wetland delineation must be prepared in accordance with the current

method required by the Corps. (See paragraph 13(f));

iv. A written description of all land (including, if available, legal descriptions) owned by the prospective permittee and/or the prospective permittee's spouse, within a one mile radius of the parcel, in any form of ownership (including any land owned as a partner, corporation, joint tenant, co-tenant, or as a tenant-by-the-entirety) and any land on which a purchase and sale agreement or other contract for sale or purchase has been executed;

10. For NWP 31 (Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities), the prospective permittee must either notify the District Engineer with a PCN prior to each maintenance activity or submit a five-year (or less) maintenance plan. In addition, the PCN must include all of the following:

i. Sufficient baseline information identifying the approved channel depths and configurations and existing facilities. Minor deviations are authorized, provided the approved flood control protection or drainage is not increased;

ii. A delineation of any affected special aquatic sites, including wetlands; and,

iii. Location of the dredged material disposal site;

11. For NWP 33 (Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering), the PCN must also include a restoration plan of reasonable measures to avoid and minimize adverse effects to aquatic resources;

12. For NWPs 39, 43 and 44, the PCN must also include a written statement to the District Engineer explaining how avoidance and minimization for losses of waters of the US were achieved on the project site;

13. For NWP 39 and NWP 42, the PCN must include a compensatory mitigation proposal to offset losses of waters of the US or justification explaining why compensatory mitigation should not be required. For discharges that cause the loss of greater than 300 linear feet of an intermittent stream bed, to be authorized, the District Engineer must determine that the activity complies with the other terms and conditions of the NWP, determine adverse environmental effects are minimal both individually and cumulatively, and waive the limitation on stream impacts in writing before the permittee may proceed;

14. For NWP 40 (Agricultural Activities), the PCN must include a compensatory mitigation proposal to offset losses of waters of the US. This NWP does not authorize the relocation of greater than 300 linear feet of existing serviceable drainage ditches constructed in non-tidal streams unless, for drainage ditches constructed in intermittent nontidal streams, the District Engineer waives this criterion in writing, and the District Engineer has determined that the project complies with all terms and conditions of this NWP, and that any adverse impacts of the project on the aquatic environment are minimal, both individually and cumulatively;

15. For NWP 43 (Stormwater Management Facilities), the PCN must include, for the construction of new stormwater management facilities, a maintenance plan (in accordance with state and local requirements, if applicable) and a compensatory mitigation proposal to offset losses of waters of the US. For discharges that cause the loss of greater than 300 linear feet of an intermittent stream bed, to be authorized, the District Engineer must determine that the activity complies with the other terms and conditions of the NWP, determine adverse environmental effects are minimal both individually and cumulatively, and waive the limitation on stream impacts in writing before the permittee may proceed;

16. For NWP 44 (Mining Activities), the PCN must include a description of all waters of the US adversely affected by the project, a description of measures taken to minimize adverse effects to waters of the US, a description of measures taken to comply with the criteria of the NWP, and a reclamation plan (for all aggregate mining activities in isolated waters and non-tidal wetlands adjacent to headwaters and any hard rock/mineral mining activities);

17. For activities that may adversely affect Federally-listed endangered or threatened species, the PCN must include the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species that may be affected by the proposed work or utilize the designated critical habitat that may be affected by the proposed work; and

18. For activities that may affect historic properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places, the PCN must state which historic property may be affected by the proposed work or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property.

c. Form of Notification: The standard Individual Permit application form (Form ENG 4345) may be used as the notification but must clearly indicate that it is a PCN and must include all of the information required in (b) (1)-(18) of General Condition 13. A letter containing the requisite information may also be used.

d. District Engineer's Decision: In reviewing the PCN for the proposed activity, the District Engineer will determine whether the activity authorized by the NWP will result in more than minimal individual or cumulative adverse environmental effects or may be contrary to the public interest. The prospective permittee may submit a proposed mitigation plan with the PCN to expedite the process. The District Engineer will consider any proposed compensatory mitigation the applicant has included in the proposal in determining whether the net adverse environmental effects to the aquatic environment of the proposed work are minimal. If the District Engineer determines that the activity complies with the terms and conditions of the NWP and that the adverse effects on the aquatic environment are minimal, after considering mitigation, the District Engineer will notify the permittee and include any conditions the District Engineer deems necessary. The District Engineer must approve any compensatory mitigation proposal before the permittee commences work. If the prospective permittee is required to submit a compensatory mitigation proposal with the PCN, the proposal may be either conceptual or detailed. If the prospective permittee elects to submit a compensatory mitigation plan with the PCN, the District Engineer will expeditiously review the proposed compensatory mitigation

plan. The District Engineer must review the plan within 45 days of receiving a complete PCN and determine whether the conceptual or specific proposed mitigation would ensure no more than minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment. If the net adverse effects of the project on the aquatic environment (after consideration of the compensatory mitigation proposal) are determined by the District Engineer to be minimal, the District Engineer will provide a timely written response to the applicant. The response will state that the project can proceed under the terms and conditions of the NWP.

If the District Engineer determines that the adverse effects of the proposed work are more than minimal, then the District Engineer will notify the applicant either:

1. That the project does not qualify for authorization under the NWP and instruct the applicant on the procedures to seek authorization under an Individual Permit;
2. that the project is authorized under the NWP subject to the applicant's submission of a mitigation proposal that would reduce the adverse effects on the aquatic environment to the minimal level; or
3. that the project is authorized under the NWP with specific modifications or conditions. Where the District Engineer determines that mitigation is required to ensure no more than minimal adverse effects occur to the aquatic environment, the activity will be authorized within the 45-day PCN period. The authorization will include the necessary conceptual or specific mitigation or a requirement that the applicant submit a mitigation proposal that would reduce the adverse effects on the aquatic environment to the minimal level. When conceptual mitigation is included, or a mitigation plan is required under item (2) above, no work in waters of the US will occur until the District Engineer has approved a specific mitigation plan.

e. Agency Coordination: The District Engineer will consider any comments from Federal and state agencies concerning the proposed activity's compliance with the terms and conditions of the NWPs and the need for mitigation to reduce the project's adverse environmental effects to a minimal level.

For activities requiring notification to the District Engineer that result in the loss of greater than $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre of waters of the US, the District Engineer will provide immediately (e.g., via facsimile transmission, overnight mail, or other expeditious manner) a copy to the appropriate Federal or state offices (USFWS, state natural resource or water quality agency, EPA, State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and, if appropriate, the NMFS). With the exception of NWP 37, these agencies will then have 10 calendar days from the date the material is transmitted to telephone or fax the District Engineer notice that they intend to provide substantive, site-specific comments. If so contacted by an agency, the District Engineer will wait an additional 15 calendar days before making a decision on the notification. The District Engineer will fully consider agency comments received within the specified time frame, but will provide no response to the resource agency, except as provided below. The District Engineer will indicate in the administrative record associated with each notification that the resource agencies' concerns were considered. As required by section 305(b)(4)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens

Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the District Engineer will provide a response to NMFS within 30 days of receipt of any Essential Fish Habitat conservation recommendations. Applicants are encouraged to provide the Corps multiple copies of notifications to expedite agency notification.

f. Wetland Delineations: Wetland delineations must be prepared in accordance with the current method required by the Corps (For NWP 29 see paragraph (b)(9)(iii) for parcels less than $\frac{1}{4}$ -acre in size). The permittee may ask the Corps to delineate the special aquatic site. There may be some delay if the Corps does the delineation. Furthermore, the 45-day period will not start until the wetland delineation has been completed and submitted to the Corps, where appropriate.

14. Compliance Certification. Every permittee who has received NWP verification from the Corps will submit a signed certification regarding the completed work and any required mitigation. The certification will be forwarded by the Corps with the authorization letter and will include:

a. A statement that the authorized work was done in accordance with the Corps authorization, including any general or specific conditions;

b. A statement that any required mitigation was completed in accordance with the permit conditions; and

c. The signature of the permittee certifying the completion of the work and mitigation.

15. Use of Multiple Nationwide Permits. The use of more than one NWP for a single and complete project is prohibited, except when the acreage loss of waters of the US authorized by the NWPs does not exceed the acreage limit of the NWP with the highest specified acreage limit (e.g. if a road crossing over tidal waters is constructed under NWP 14, with associated bank stabilization authorized by NWP 13, the maximum acreage loss of waters of the US for the total project cannot exceed $\frac{1}{3}$ -acre) .

16. Water Supply Intakes. No activity, including structures and work in navigable waters of the US or discharges of dredged or fill material, may occur in the proximity of a public water supply intake except where the activity is for repair of the public water supply intake structures or adjacent bank stabilization.

17. Shellfish Beds. No activity, including structures and work in navigable waters of the US or discharges of dredged or fill material, may occur in areas of concentrated shellfish populations, unless the activity is directly related to a shellfish harvesting activity authorized by NWP 4.

18. Suitable Material. No activity, including structures and work in navigable waters of the US or discharges of dredged or fill material, may consist of unsuitable material (e.g., trash, debris, car bodies, asphalt, etc.) and material used for construction or discharged must be free

from toxic pollutants in toxic amounts (see section 307 of the CWA).

19. Mitigation. The District Engineer will consider the factors discussed below when determining the acceptability of appropriate and practicable mitigation necessary to offset adverse effects on the aquatic environment that are more than minimal.

a. The project must be designed and constructed to avoid and minimize adverse effects to waters of the US to the maximum extent practicable at the project site (i.e., on site).

b. Mitigation in all its forms (avoiding, minimizing, rectifying, reducing or compensating) will be required to the extent necessary to ensure that the adverse effects to the aquatic environment are minimal.

c. Compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-for-one ratio will be required for all wetland impacts requiring a PCN, unless the District Engineer determines in writing that some other form of mitigation would be more environmentally appropriate and provides a project-specific waiver of this requirement. Consistent with National policy, the District Engineer will establish a preference for restoration of wetlands as compensatory mitigation, with preservation used only in exceptional circumstances.

d. Compensatory mitigation (i.e., replacement or substitution of aquatic resources for those impacted) will not be used to increase the acreage losses allowed by the acreage limits of some of the NWPs. For example, $\frac{1}{4}$ -acre of wetlands cannot be created to change a $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre loss of wetlands to a $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre loss associated with NWP 39 verification. However, $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre of created wetlands can be used to reduce the impacts of a $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre loss of wetlands to the minimum impact level in order to meet the minimal impact requirement associated with NWPs.

e. To be practicable, the mitigation must be available and capable of being done considering costs, existing technology, and logistics in light of the overall project purposes. Examples of mitigation that may be appropriate and practicable include, but are not limited to: reducing the size of the project; establishing and maintaining wetland or upland vegetated buffers to protect open waters such as streams; and replacing losses of aquatic resource functions and values by creating, restoring, enhancing, or preserving similar functions and values, preferably in the same watershed.

f. Compensatory mitigation plans for projects in or near streams or other open waters will normally include a requirement for the establishment, maintenance, and legal protection (e.g., easements, deed restrictions) of vegetated buffers to open waters. In many cases, vegetated buffers will be the only compensatory mitigation required. Vegetated buffers should consist of native species. The width of the vegetated buffers required will address documented water quality or aquatic habitat loss concerns. Normally, the vegetated buffer will be 25 to 50 feet wide on each side of the stream, but the District Engineers may require slightly wider vegetated buffers to address documented water quality or habitat loss concerns. Where both wetlands and open waters exist on the project site, the Corps will determine the appropriate compensatory mitigation (e.g., stream buffers or wetlands compensation) based on what is best for the aquatic

environment or, a watershed basis. In cases where vegetated buffers are determined to be the most appropriate form of compensatory mitigation, the District Engineer may waive or reduce the requirement to provide wetland compensatory mitigation for wetland impacts.

g. Compensatory mitigation proposals submitted with the " notification" may be either conceptual or detailed. If conceptual plans are approved under the verification, then the Corps will condition the verification to require detailed plans be submitted and approved by the Corps prior to construction of the authorized activity in waters of the US.

h. Permittees may propose the use of mitigation banks, in-lieu fee arrangements or separate activity-specific compensatory mitigation. In all cases that require compensatory mitigation, the mitigation provisions will specify the party responsible for accomplishing and/or complying with the mitigation plan.

20. Spawning Areas. Activities, including structures and work in navigable waters of the US or discharges of dredged or fill material, in spawning areas during spawning seasons must be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. Activities that result in the physical destruction (e.g., excavate, fill, or smother downstream by substantial turbidity) of an important spawning area are not authorized.

21. Management of Water Flows. To the maximum extent practicable, the activity must be designed to maintain preconstruction downstream flow conditions (e.g., location, capacity, and flow rates). Furthermore, the activity must not permanently restrict or impede the passage of normal or expected high flows (unless the primary purpose of the fill is to impound waters) and the structure or discharge of dredged or fill material must withstand expected high flows. The activity must, to the maximum extent practicable, provide for retaining excess flows from the site, provide for maintaining surface flow rates from the site similar to preconstruction conditions, and provide for not increasing water flows from the project site, relocating water, or redirecting water flow beyond preconstruction conditions. Stream channelizing will be reduced to the minimal amount necessary, and the activity must, to the maximum extent practicable, reduce adverse effects such as flooding or erosion downstream and upstream of the project site, unless the activity is part of a larger system designed to manage water flows. In most cases, it will not be a requirement to conduct detailed studies and monitoring of water flow.

This condition is only applicable to projects that have the potential to affect waterflows. While appropriate measures must be taken, it is not necessary to conduct detailed studies to identify such measures or require monitoring to ensure their effectiveness. Normally, the Corps will defer to state and local authorities regarding management of water flow.

22. Adverse Effects From Impoundments. If the activity creates an impoundment of water, adverse effects to the aquatic system due to the acceleration of the passage of water, and/or the restricting its flow shall be minimized to the maximum extent practicable. This includes structures and work in navigable waters of the US, or discharges of dredged or fill material.

23. Waterfowl Breeding Areas. Activities, including structures and work in navigable

waters of the US or discharges of dredged or fill material, into breeding areas for migratory waterfowl must be avoided to the maximum extent practicable.

24. Removal of Temporary Fills. Any temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to their preexisting elevation.

25. Designated Critical Resource Waters. Critical resource waters include, NOAA-designated marine sanctuaries, National Estuarine Research Reserves, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, critical habitat for Federally listed threatened and endangered species, coral reefs, state natural heritage sites, and outstanding national resource waters or other waters officially designated by a state as having particular environmental or ecological significance and identified by the District Engineer after notice and opportunity for public comment. The District Engineer may also designate additional critical resource waters after notice and opportunity for comment.

a. Except as noted below, discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the US are not authorized by NWPs 7, 12, 14, 16, 17, 21, 29, 31, 35, 39, 40, 42, 43, and 44 for any activity within, or directly affecting, critical resource waters, including wetlands adjacent to such waters. Discharges of dredged or fill materials into waters of the US may be authorized by the above NWPs in National Wild and Scenic Rivers if the activity complies with General Condition 7. Further, such discharges may be authorized in designated critical habitat for Federally listed threatened or endangered species if the activity complies with General Condition 11 and the USFWS or the NMFS has concurred in a determination of compliance with this condition.

b. For NWPs 3, 8, 10, 13, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 36, 37, and 38, notification is required in accordance with General Condition 13, for any activity proposed in the designated critical resource waters including wetlands adjacent to those waters. The District Engineer may authorize activities under these NWPs only after it is determined that the impacts to the critical resource waters will be no more than minimal.

26. Fills Within 100-Year Floodplains. For purposes of this General Condition, 100-year floodplains will be identified through the existing Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps or FEMA-approved local floodplain maps.

a. Discharges in Floodplain; Below Headwaters. Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the US within the mapped 100-year floodplain, below headwaters (i.e. five cfs), resulting in permanent above-grade fills, are not authorized by NWPs 39, 40, 42, 43, and 44.

b. Discharges in Floodway; Above Headwaters. Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the US within the FEMA or locally mapped floodway, resulting in permanent above-grade fills, are not authorized by NWPs 39, 40, 42, and 44.

c. The permittee must comply with any applicable FEMA-approved state or local floodplain management requirements.

27. Construction Period. For activities that have not been verified by the Corps and the

project was commenced or under contract to commence by the expiration date of the NWP (or modification or revocation date), the work must be completed within 12-months after such date (including any modification that affects the project).

For activities that have been verified and the project was commenced or under contract to commence within the verification period, the work must be completed by the date determined by the Corps.

For projects that have been verified by the Corps, an extension of a Corps approved completion date may be requested. This request must be submitted at least one month before the previously approved completion date.

FURTHER INFORMATION

1. District Engineers have authority to determine if an activity complies with the terms and conditions of a NWP.
2. NWPs do not obviate the need to obtain other Federal, State, or local permits, approvals, or authorizations required by law.
3. NWPs do not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges.
4. NWPs do not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.
5. NWPs do not authorize interference with any existing or proposed Federal project.

DEFINITIONS

Best Management Practices (BMPs): BMPs are policies, practices, procedures, or structures implemented to mitigate the adverse environmental effects on surface water quality resulting from development. BMPs are categorized as structural or nonstructural. A BMP policy may affect the limits on a development.

Compensatory Mitigation: For purposes of Section 10/404, compensatory mitigation is the restoration, creation, enhancement, or in exceptional circumstances, preservation of wetlands and/or other aquatic resources for the purpose of compensating for unavoidable adverse impacts, which remain, after all appropriate and practicable avoidance and minimization has been achieved.

Creation: The establishment of a wetland or other aquatic resource where one did not formerly exist.

Enhancement: Activities conducted in existing wetlands or other aquatic resources that increase

one or more aquatic functions.

Ephemeral Stream: An ephemeral stream has *flowing* water only during and for a short duration after, precipitation events in a typical year. Ephemeral stream beds are located above the water table year-round. Groundwater is not a source of water for the stream. Runoff from rainfall is the primary source of water for stream flow.

Farm Tract: A unit of contiguous land under one ownership that is operated as a farm or part of a farm.

Flood Fringe: That portion of the 100-year floodplain outside of the floodway (often referred to as “floodway fringe”).

Floodway: The area regulated by Federal, state, or local requirements to provide for the discharge of the base flood so the cumulative increase in water surface elevation is no more than a designated amount (not to exceed one foot as set by the National Flood Insurance Program) within the 100-year floodplain.

Independent Utility: A test to determine what constitutes a single and complete project in the Corps regulatory program. A project is considered to have independent utility if it would be constructed absent the construction of other projects in the project area. Portions of a multi-phase project that depend upon other phases of the project do not have independent utility. Phases of a project that would be constructed even if the other phases were not built can be considered as separate single and complete projects with independent utility.

Intermittent Stream: An intermittent stream has flowing water during certain times of the year, when groundwater provides water for stream flow. During dry periods, intermittent streams may not have flowing water. Runoff from rainfall is a supplemental source of water for stream flow.

Loss of waters of the US: Waters of the US that include the filled area and other waters that are permanently adversely affected by flooding, excavation, or drainage because of the regulated activity. Permanent adverse effects include permanent above-grade, at-grade, or below-grade fills that change an aquatic area to dry land, increase the bottom elevation of a waterbody, or change the use of a waterbody. The acreage of loss of waters of the US is the threshold measurement of the impact to existing waters for determining whether a project may qualify for a NWP; it is not a net threshold that is calculated after considering compensatory mitigation that may be used to offset losses of aquatic functions and values. The loss of stream bed includes the linear feet of stream bed that is filled or excavated. Waters of the US temporarily filled, flooded, excavated, or drained, but restored to preconstruction contours and elevations after construction, are not included in the measurement of loss of waters of the US. Impacts to ephemeral waters are only not included in the acreage or linear foot measurements of loss of waters of the US or loss of stream bed, for the purpose of determining compliance with the threshold limits of the NWPs.

Non-tidal Wetland: An area that, during a year with normal patterns of precipitation has

standing or flowing water for sufficient duration to establish an ordinary high water mark. Aquatic vegetation within the area of standing or flowing water is either non-emergent, sparse, or absent. Vegetated shallows are considered to be open waters. The term “open water” includes rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds. For the purposes of the NWPs, this term does not include ephemeral waters.

Perennial Stream: A perennial stream has flowing water year-round during a typical year. The water table is located above the stream bed for the most of the year. Groundwater is the primary source of water for stream flow. Runoff from rainfall is a supplemental source of water for stream flow.

Permanent Above-grade Fill: A discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the US, including wetlands, that results in a substantial increase in ground elevation and permanently converts part or all of the waterbody to dry land. Structural fills authorized by NWPs 3, 25, 36, etc. are not included.

Preservation: The protection of ecologically important wetlands or other aquatic resources in perpetuity through the implementation of appropriate legal and physical mechanisms. Preservation may include protection of upland areas adjacent to wetlands as necessary to ensure protection and/or enhancement of the overall aquatic ecosystem.

Restoration: Re-establishment of wetland and/or other aquatic resource characteristics and function(s) at a site where they have ceased to exist, or exist in a substantially degraded state.

Riffle and Pool Complex: Riffle and pool complexes are special aquatic sites under the 404(b)(1) Guidelines. Riffle and pool complexes sometimes characterize steep gradient sections of streams. Such stream sections are recognizable by their hydraulic characteristics. The rapid movement of water over a coarse substrate in riffles results in a rough flow, a turbulent surface and high dissolved oxygen levels in the water. Pools are deeper areas associated with riffles. A slower stream velocity, a streaming flow, a smooth surface, and a finer substrate characterize pools.

Single and Complete Project: The term “single and complete project” is defined at 33 CFR 330.2(i) as the total project proposed or accomplished by one owner/developer or partnership or other association of owners/developers (see definition of independent utility). For linear projects, the “single and complete project” (i.e., a single and complete crossing) will apply to each crossing of a separate water of the US (i.e., a single waterbody) at that location. An exception is for linear projects crossing a single waterbody several times at separate and distant locations; each crossing is considered a single and complete project. However, individual channels in a braided stream or river, or individual arms of a large, irregularly shaped wetland or lake, etc., are not separate waterbodies.

Stormwater Management: Stormwater management is the mechanism for controlling stormwater runoff for the purposes of reducing downstream erosion, water quality degradation, and flooding and mitigating the adverse effects of changes in land use on the aquatic environment.

Stormwater Management Facilities: Stormwater management facilities are those facilities, including but not limited to, stormwater retention and detention ponds and BMPs, which retain water for a period of time to control runoff and/or improve the quality (i.e., by reducing the concentration of nutrients, sediments, hazardous substances and other pollutants) of stormwater runoff.

Stream Channelization: The manipulation of a stream channel to increase the rate of water flow through the stream channel. Manipulation may include deepening, widening, straightening, armoring, or other activities that change the stream cross-section or other aspects of stream channel geometry to increase the rate of water flow through the stream channel. A channelized stream remains a water of the US, despite the modifications to increase the rate of water flow.

Tidal Wetland: A tidal wetland is a wetland (i.e., water of the US) that is inundated by tidal waters. The definitions of a wetland and tidal waters can be found at 33 CFR 328.3(b) and 33 CFR 328.3(f), respectively. Tidal waters rise and fall in a predictable and measurable rhythm or cycle due to the gravitational pulls of the moon and sun. Tidal waters end where the rise and fall of the water surface can no longer be practically measured in a predictable rhythm due to masking by other waters, wind, or other effects. Tidal wetlands are located channelward of the high tide line (i.e., spring high tide line) and are inundated by tidal waters two times per lunar month, during spring high tides.

Vegetated Buffer: A vegetated upland or wetland area next to rivers, streams, lakes, or other open waters, which separates the open water from developed areas, including agricultural land. Vegetated buffers provide a variety of aquatic habitat functions and values (e.g., aquatic habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms, moderation of water temperature changes, and detritus for aquatic food webs) and help improve or maintain local water quality. A vegetated buffer can be established by maintaining an existing vegetated area or planting native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants on land next to openwaters. Mowed lawns are not considered vegetated buffers because they provide little or no aquatic habitat functions and values. The establishment and maintenance of vegetated buffers is a method of compensatory mitigation that can be used in conjunction with the restoration, creation, enhancement or preservation of aquatic habitats to ensure that activities authorized by NWP's result in minimal adverse effects to the aquatic environment. (See General Condition 19.)

Vegetated Shallows: Vegetated shallows are special aquatic sites under the 404(b)(1) Guidelines. They are areas that are permanently inundated and under normal circumstances have rooted aquatic vegetation, such as seagrasses in marine and estuarine systems and a variety of vascular rooted plants in freshwater systems.

Waterbody: A waterbody is any area that in a normal year has water flowing or standing above ground to the extent that evidence of an ordinary high water mark is established. Wetlands contiguous to the waterbody are considered part of the waterbody.

**FINAL REGIONAL CONDITIONS FOR NATIONWIDE PERMITS IN THE
WILMINGTON DISTRICT**

1. Waters Excluded from NWP or Subject to Additional Notification Requirements:

a. The Corps identified waters that will be excluded from use of this NWP. These waters are:

1. Discharges into Waters of the United States designated by either the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (NCDMF) or the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) as anadromous fish spawning area are prohibited during the period between February 15 and June 30, without prior written approval from NCDMF or NCWRC and the Corps.

2. Discharges into Waters of the United States designated as sturgeon spawning areas are prohibited during the period between February 1 and June 30, without prior written approval from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

b. The Corps identified waters that will be subject to additional notification requirements for activities authorized by this NWP. These waters are:

1. Prior to the use of any NWP in any of the following North Carolina *designated waters*, applicants must comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 13. In addition, the applicant must furnish a written statement of compliance with all of the conditions of the applicable Nationwide Permit. The North Carolina *designated waters* that require additional notification requirements are “Outstanding Resource Waters” (ORW) and “High Quality Waters” (HQW) (as defined by the North Carolina Division of Water Quality), or “Inland Primary Nursery Areas” (IPNA) (as defined by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission), or contiguous wetlands (as defined by the North Carolina Division of Water Quality), or “Primary Nursery Areas” (PNA) (as defined by the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries).

2. Applicants for any NWP in a designated “Area of Environmental Concern” (AEC) in the twenty (20) coastal counties of Eastern North Carolina covered by the North Carolina Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA), must also obtain the required CAMA permit. Construction activities may not commence until a copy of the approved CAMA permit is furnished to the appropriate Wilmington District Regulatory Field Office (Wilmington Field Office – P.O. Box 1890, Wilmington, NC 28402 or Washington Field Office – P.O. Box 1000, Washington, NC 27889) for authorization to begin work.

3. Prior to the use of any NWP on a Barrier Island of North Carolina, applicants must comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 13. In addition, the applicant shall furnish a written statement of compliance with all of the conditions listed of the applicable Nationwide Permit.

4. Prior to the use of any NWP in a “Mountain or Piedmont Bog” of North Carolina, applicants shall comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 13. In addition, the applicant shall furnish a written statement of compliance with all of the conditions listed of the applicable NWP.

Note: The following wetland community types identified in the N.C. Natural Heritage Program document, “Classification of Natural communities of North Carolina (Michael P. Schafale and Alan S. Weakley, 1990), are subject to this regional condition.

Mountain Bogs

Swamp Forest-Bog Complex
Swamp Forest-Bog Complex (Spruce Subtype)
Southern Appalachian Bog (Northern Subtype)
Southern Appalachian Bog (Southern Subtype)
Southern Appalachian Fen

Piedmont Bogs

Upland Depression Swamp Forest

5. Prior to the use of any NWP in Mountain Trout Waters within twenty-five (25) designated counties of North Carolina, applicants shall comply with Nationwide General Condition 13. In addition, the applicant shall furnish a written statement of compliance with all of the conditions listed of the applicable NWP. Notification will include a letter of comments and recommendations from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC), the location of work, a delineation of wetlands, a discussion of alternatives to working in the Mountain Trout Waters, why other alternatives were not selected, and a plan to provide compensatory mitigation for all unavoidable adverse impacts to the Mountain Trout Waters. To facilitate coordination with the NCWRC, the proponent may provide a copy of the notification to the NCWRC concurrent with the notification to the District Engineer. The NCWRC will respond both to the proponent and directly to the Corps of Engineers.

The twenty-five (25) designated counties are:

Alleghany	Ashe	Avery	Yancey
Buncombe	Burke	Caldwell	Wilkes
Cherokee	Clay	Graham	Swain
Haywood	Henderson	Jackson	Surry
Macon	Madison	McDowell	Stokes
Mitchell	Polk	Rutherford	
Transylvania	Watauga		

6. Applicants shall notify the NCDENR Shellfish Sanitation Section prior to dredging in or removing sediment from an area closed to shell fishing where the effluent may be released to an area open for shell fishing or swimming in order to avoid contamination of the disposal area and allow a temporary shellfish closure to be made. Any disposal of sand to the beach should occur between November 1 and April 30 when recreational usage is low. Only clean sand should be used and no dredged sand from closed shell fishing areas. If beach disposal was to occur at times other than stated above or if sand from a closed shell fishing area is to be used, a

swim advisory shall be posted and a press release shall be made. NCDENR Shellfish Sanitation Section must be notified before commencing this activity.

2. List of Final Corps Regional Modifications and Conditions for All Nationwide Permits

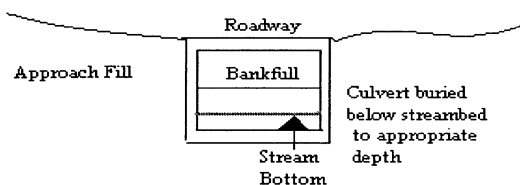
a. Individual or multiple NWP may not be used for activities that result in the cumulative loss or degradation of greater than 300 total linear feet of perennial streambed or intermittent streambed that exhibits important aquatic function(s).

b. Prior to the use of any NWP (except 13, 27, and 39) for any activity that has more than a total of 150 total linear feet of perennial streambed impacts or intermittent streambed impacts (if the intermittent stream has important aquatic function), the applicant must comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 13. In addition, the applicant shall furnish a written statement of compliance with all of the conditions listed of the applicable NWP. Compensatory mitigation is typically required for any impact that requires such notification. [Note: The Corps uses the Intermittent Channel Evaluation Form, located with Permit Information on the Regulatory Program Web Site, to aid in the determination of the intermittent channel stream status. Also, NWPs 13, 27 and 39 have specific reporting requirements.]

c. For all Nationwide Permits which allow the use of concrete as a building material, measures will be taken to prevent live or fresh concrete, including bags of uncured concrete, from coming into contact with waters of the state until the concrete has hardened.

d. For all Nationwide Permits that allow for the use of riprap material for bank stabilization, filter cloth must be placed underneath the riprap as an additional requirement of its use in North Carolina waters.

e. For all NWPs that involve the construction of culverts, measures will be included in the construction that will promote the safe passage of fish and other aquatic organisms. All culverts in the 20 CAMA coastal counties must be buried to a depth of one foot below the



bed of the stream or wetland. For all culvert construction activities, the dimension, pattern, and profile of the stream, (above and below a pipe or culvert), should not be modified by widening the stream channel or by reducing the depth of the stream. Culvert inverts will be buried at least one foot below the bed of the stream for culverts greater than 48 inches in diameter. For culverts 48 inches in diameter or smaller, culverts must be buried below the bed of the stream to a depth equal to or greater than 20 percent of the diameter of the culvert. Bottomless arch culverts will satisfy this condition. A waiver from the depth specifications in this Regional Condition may be requested in writing. The waiver will only be issued if it can be demonstrated that the impacts of complying with this Regional Condition would result in more adverse impacts to the aquatic

environment.

3. Additional Regional Conditions Applicable to this Specific Nationwide Permit.

The required restoration plan must include a timetable for restoration activities.

NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
GENERAL CERTIFICATION CONDITIONS
GC3366

1. These activities do not require written concurrence from the Division of Water Quality as long as they comply with all conditions of this General Certification. If any condition in this Certification cannot be met, application to and written concurrence from DWQ are required. Also, Condition No. 2 is applicable to all streams in basins with riparian area protection rules;
2. Impacts to any stream length in the Neuse, Tar-Pamlico and Randleman River Basins (or any other major river basins with Riparian Area Protection Rules [Buffer Rules] in effect at the time of application) requires written concurrence from DWQ in accordance with 15A NCAC 2B.0200. Activities listed as “exempt” from these rules do not need to apply for written concurrence under this Certification. New development activities located in the protected 50-foot wide riparian areas (whether jurisdictional wetlands or not) within the Neuse, Tar-Pamlico, Randleman and Catawba River Basins shall be limited to “uses” identified within and constructed in accordance with 15A NCAC 2B .0200. All new development shall be located, designed, constructed, and maintained to have minimal disturbance to protect water quality to the maximum extent practicable through the use of best management practices;
3. Appropriate sediment and erosion control practices which equal or exceed those outlined in the most recent version of the "North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Planning and Design Manual" or the "North Carolina Surface Mining Manual" whichever is more appropriate (available from the Division of Land Resources (DLR) in the DENR Regional or Central Offices) shall be in full compliance with all specifications governing the proper design, installation and operation and maintenance of such Best Management Practices in order to assure compliance with the appropriate turbidity water quality standard;
4. All sediment and erosion control measures placed in wetlands or waters shall be removed and the original grade restored within two months after the Division of Land Resources has released the project;
5. If an environmental document is required, this Certification is not valid until a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or Record of Decision (ROD) is issued by the State Clearinghouse;
6. Placement of culverts and other structures in waters, streams, and wetlands must be placed below the elevation of the streambed to allow low flow passage of water and aquatic life unless it can be shown to DWQ that providing passage would be impractical. Design and placement of

culverts including open bottom or bottomless arch culverts and other structures including temporary erosion control measures shall not be conducted in a manner that may result in aggradation, degradation or significant changes in hydrology of wetlands or stream beds or banks, adjacent to or upstream and down stream of the above structures. The applicant is required to provide evidence that the equilibrium shall be maintained if requested in writing by DWQ. Additionally, when roadways, causeways or other fill projects are constructed across FEMA-designated floodways or wetlands, openings such as culverts or bridges must be provided to maintain the natural hydrology of the system as well as prevent constriction of the floodway that may result in aggradation, degradation or significant changes in hydrology of streams or wetlands;

7. Measures shall be taken to prevent live or fresh concrete from coming into contact with waters of the state until the concrete has hardened;

8. All temporary fill shall be removed to the original grade after construction is complete and the site shall be stabilized to prevent erosion;

9. Pipes shall be installed under the road or causeway in all streams to carry at least the 25 year storm event as outlined in the most recent edition of the "North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Planning and Design Manual" or the "North Carolina Surface Mining Manual" so as not to restrict stream flow during use of this Certification;

10. In accordance with North Carolina General Statute Section 143-215.3D(e), any request for written concurrence for a 401 Water Quality Certification must include the appropriate fee. If a project also requires a CAMA Permit, one payment to both agencies shall be submitted and will be the higher of the two fees;

11. Additional site-specific conditions may be added to projects for which written concurrence is required or requested under this Certification in order to ensure compliance with all applicable water quality and effluent standards;

12. Concurrence from DWQ that this Certification applies to an individual project shall expire three years from the date of the cover letter from DWQ or on the same day as the expiration date of these corresponding Nationwide and Regional General Permits, whichever is sooner;

13. When written concurrence is required, the applicant is required to use the most recent version of the Certification of Completion form to notify DWQ when all work included in the 401 Certification has been completed.

NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT
STATE CONSISTENCY

Consistent.

Citations:

2002 Nationwide Permits - Federal Register Notice 15 Jan 2002

2002 Nationwide Permits Corrections - Federal Register Notice 13 Feb 2002

2002 Regional Conditions – Authorized 17 May 2002

WQC #3404

**GENERAL CERTIFICATION FOR PROJECTS ELIGIBLE FOR CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NATIONWIDE PERMIT NUMBER 14 (ROAD CROSSINGS) AND REGIONAL GENERAL
PERMIT 198200031 (WORK ASSOCIATED WITH BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE
OR REPAIR CONDUCTED BY NCDOT OR OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES)
AND RIPARIAN AREA PROTECTION RULES (BUFFER RULES)**

This General Certification is issued in conformity with the requirements of Section 401, Public Laws 92-500 and 95-217 of the United States and subject to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (DWQ) Regulations in 15A NCAC 2H, Section .0500 and 15A NCAC 2B .0200 for the discharge of fill material to waters and adjacent wetland areas or to wetland areas that are not a part of the surface tributary system to interstate waters or navigable waters of the United States (i.e., isolated wetlands) as described in 33 CFR 330 Appendix A (B) (14) of the Corps of Engineers regulations (Nationwide Permit No. 14 and Regional General Permit 198200031) and for the Riparian Area Protection Rules (Buffer Rules) in 15A NCAC 2B .0200. The category of activities shall include any fill activity for road crossings and is limited to fill less than one-third acre in tidal waters and less than one-half acre in non-tidal waters. This Certification replaces Water Quality Certification Number 2177 issued on November 5, 1987, Water Quality Certification Number 2666 issued on January 21, 1992, Water Quality Certification Number 2732 issued on May 1, 1992, Water Quality Certification Number 3103 issued on February 11, 1997, Water Quality Certification Number 3289 issued on June 1, 2000 and Water Quality Certification Number 3375 issued March 18, 2002. This WQC is rescinded when the Corps of Engineers re-authorizes Nationwide Permit 14 or Regional General Permit 198200031 or when deemed appropriate by the Director of DWQ.

The State of North Carolina certifies that the specified category of activity will not violate applicable portions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306 and 307 of the Public Laws 92-500 and 95-217 if conducted in accordance with the conditions hereinafter set forth.

Conditions of Certification:

1. Enumerating and Reporting of Impacts:

- Streams - Impacts to streams as determined by the Division of Water Quality shall be measured as length of the centerline of the normal flow channel. Permanent and/or temporary stream impacts shall be enumerated on the entire project for all impacts regardless of which 404 Nationwide Permits are used. Stream relocations and stream bed and/or bank hardening are considered to be permanent stream impacts. Any activity that results in a loss of use of stream functions including but not limited to filling, relocating, flooding, dredging and complete shading shall be considered stream impacts. Enumeration of impacts to streams shall include streams enclosed by bottomless culverts, bottomless arches or other spanning structures when a 404 Permit is used anywhere in a project unless the entire structure (including construction impacts) spans the entire bed and both banks of the stream, is only used for a road, driveway or path crossing, and is not mitered to follow the stream pattern. Impacts for dam footprints and flooding will count toward the threshold for stream impacts, but flooding upstream of the dam will not (as long as no filling, excavation, relocation or other modification of the existing stream dimension, pattern or profile occurs) count towards mitigation requirements.
- Wetlands - Impacts to wetlands as determined by the Division of Water Quality shall be measured as area. Permanent and/or temporary wetland impacts shall be enumerated on the entire project for all impacts regardless of which 404 Nationwide Permits are used. Any activity that results in a loss of use of wetland functions including but not limited to filling, draining, and flooding shall be considered wetland impacts. Enumeration of impacts to wetlands shall include activities that change the hydrology of a wetland when a 404 Permit is used anywhere in a project.

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- Lakes and Ponds – Lake and Pond Impacts Enumeration- Impacts to waters other than streams and wetlands as determined by the Division of Water Quality shall be measured as area. Permanent and/or temporary water impacts shall be enumerated on the entire project for all impacts proposed regardless of which 404 Nationwide Permits are used. Any activity that results in a loss of use of aquatic functions including but not limited to filling and dredging shall be considered waters impacts;
2. Proposed fill or substantial modification of wetlands or waters (including streams) under this General Certification requires application to and prior written concurrence from the Division of Water Quality;
 3. Application to and payment of a fee to DWQ is not required for construction of a driveway to a single family lot as long as the driveway impacts less than 25 feet of stream channel including any in-stream stabilization needed for the crossing;
 4. Impacts to any stream length in the Neuse, Tar-Pamlico or Randleman River Basins (or any other major river basins with Riparian Area Protection Rules [Buffer Rules] in effect at the time of application) requires written concurrence for this Certification from DWQ in accordance with 15A NCAC 2B.0200. Activities listed as “exempt” from these rules do not need to apply for written concurrence under this Certification. New development activities located in the protected 50-foot wide riparian areas (whether jurisdictional wetlands or not) within the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River Basins shall be limited to “uses” identified within and constructed in accordance with 15A NCAC 2B .0200. All new development shall be located, designed, constructed, and maintained to have minimal disturbance to protect water quality to the maximum extent practicable through the use of best management practices;
 5. Irrespective of other application thresholds in this General Certification, all impacts to perennial waters and their associated buffers require written approval from DWQ since such impacts are allowable as provided in 15A NCAC 2B. 0212 (WS-I), 2B .0213 (WS-II), 2B .0214 (WS-III) and 2B .0215 (WS-IV). Only water dependent activities, public projects and structures with diminimus increases in impervious surfaces will be allowed as outlined in those rules. All other activities require a variance from the delegated local government and/or the NC Environmental Management Commission before the 401 Water Quality Certification can be processed. In addition, a 30 foot wide vegetative buffer for low density development or a 100 foot wide vegetative buffer for high density development must be maintained adjacent to all perennial waters except for allowances as provided under the Water Supply Watershed Protection Rules. For the purposes of this condition, perennial waters are defined as those shown as perennial waters on the most recent USGS 1:24,000 topographic map or as otherwise determined by local government studies;
 6. Additional site-specific stormwater management requirements may be added to this Certification at DWQ's discretion on a case by case basis for projects that have or are anticipated to have impervious cover of greater than 30 percent. Site-specific stormwater management shall be designed to remove 85% TSS according to the latest version of DWQ's Stormwater Best Management Practices manual at a minimum.

Additionally, in watersheds within one mile and draining to 303(d) listed waters, as well as watersheds that are classified as nutrient sensitive waters (NSW), water supply waters (WS), trout waters (Tr), high quality waters (HQW), and outstanding resource waters (ORW), the Division shall require that extended detention wetlands, bio-retention areas, and ponds followed by forested filter strips (designed according to latest version of the NC DENR Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual) be constructed as part of the stormwater management plan when a site-specific stormwater management plan is required.

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Alternative designs may be requested by the applicant and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Division of Water Quality.

Approval of stormwater management plans by the Division of Water Quality's other existing state stormwater programs including appropriate local programs are sufficient to satisfy this Condition as long as the stormwater management plans meet or exceed the design requirements specified in this condition. This condition applies unless more stringent requirements are in effect from other state water quality programs.

- Unless specified otherwise in the approval letter, the final, written stormwater management plan shall be approved in writing by the Division of Water Quality's Wetlands Unit before the impacts specified in this Certification occur.
 - The facilities must be designed to treat the runoff from the entire project, unless otherwise explicitly approved by the Division of Water Quality.
 - Also, before any permanent building or other structure is occupied at the subject site, the facilities (as approved by the Wetlands Unit) shall be constructed and operational, and the stormwater management plan (as approved by the Wetlands Unit) shall be implemented.
 - The structural stormwater practices as approved by the Wetlands Unit as well as drainage patterns must be maintained in perpetuity.
 - No changes to the structural stormwater practices shall be made without written authorization from the Division of Water Quality.
7. Compensatory stream mitigation shall be required at a 1:1 ratio for not only perennial but also intermittent stream impacts that require application to DWQ in watersheds classified as ORW, HQW, Tr, WS-I and WS-II unless the project is a linear, publicly-funded transportation project, which has a 150-foot per-stream impact allowance;
8. In accordance with North Carolina General Statute Section 143-215.3D(e), any application for a 401 Water Quality Certification must include the appropriate fee. If a project also requires a CAMA Permit, one payment to both agencies shall be submitted through the Division of Coastal Management and will be the higher of the two fees;
9. In accordance with 15A NCAC 2H .0506 (h) compensatory mitigation may be required for impacts to 150 linear feet or more of streams and/or one acre or more of wetlands. For linear public transportation projects, impacts equal to or exceeding 150 feet per stream may require mitigation. In addition, buffer mitigation may be required for any project with Buffer Rules in effect at the time of application for buffer impacts resulting from activities classified as "allowable with mitigation" within the "Table of Uses" section of the Buffer Rules or require a variance under the Buffer Rules. A determination of buffer, wetland and stream mitigation requirements shall be made for any Certification for this Nationwide Permit. The most current design and monitoring protocols from DWQ shall be followed and written plans submitted for DWQ approval as required in those protocols. When compensatory mitigation is required for a project, the mitigation plans must be approved by DWQ in writing before the impacts approved by the Certification occur, unless otherwise specified in the approval letter. The mitigation plan must be implemented and/or constructed before any permanent building or structure on site is occupied. In the case of public road projects, the mitigation plan must be implemented before the road is opened to the travelling public. Projects may also be implemented once payment is made to a private mitigation bank or other in-lieu fee program, as specified in the written concurrence of 401 Certification for a project. Please note that if a stream relocation is conducted as a stream restoration as defined in *The Internal Technical Guide for Stream Work in North Carolina*, April 2001, the restored length can be used as compensatory mitigation for the impacts resulting from the relocation;

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10. For any project involving re-alignment of streams, a stream relocation plan must be included with the 401 application for written DWQ approval. Relocated stream designs should include the same dimensions, patterns and profiles as the existing channel, to the maximum extent practical. The new channel should be constructed in the dry and water shall not be turned into the new channel until the banks are stabilized. Vegetation used for bank stabilization shall be limited to native woody species, and should include establishment of a 30 foot wide wooded and an adjacent 20 foot wide vegetated buffer on both sides of the relocated channel to the maximum extent practical. A transitional phase incorporating coir fiber and seedling establishment is allowable. Also, rip-rap may be allowed if it is necessary to maintain the physical integrity of the stream, but the applicant must provide written justification and any calculations used to determine the extent of rip-rap coverage requested. If suitable stream mitigation is not practical on-site, then stream impact will need to be mitigated elsewhere;
11. Placement of culverts and other structures in waters, streams, and wetlands must be placed below the elevation of the streambed to allow low flow passage of water and aquatic life unless it can be shown to DWQ that providing passage would be impractical. Design and placement of culverts including open bottom or bottomless arch culverts and other structures including temporary erosion control measures shall not be conducted in a manner that may result in aggradation, degradation or significant changes in hydrology of wetlands or stream beds or banks, adjacent to or upstream and down stream of the above structures. The applicant is required to provide evidence that the equilibrium shall be maintained if requested to do so in writing by DWQ. Additionally, when roadways, causeways or other fill projects are constructed across FEMA-designated floodways or wetlands, openings such as culverts or bridges must be provided to maintain the natural hydrology of the system as well as prevent constriction of the floodway that may result in aggradation, degradation or significant changes in hydrology of streams or wetlands;
12. That appropriate sediment and erosion control practices which equal or exceed those outlined in the most recent version of the "North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Planning and Design Manual" or the "North Carolina Surface Mining Manual" whichever is more appropriate (available from the Division of Land Resources (DLR) in the DENR Regional or Central Offices) shall be in full compliance with all specifications governing the proper design, installation and operation and maintenance of such Best Management Practices in order to assure compliance with the appropriate turbidity water quality standard;
13. All sediment and erosion control measures placed in wetlands and waters shall be removed and the original grade restored within two months after the Division of Land Resources has released the project;
14. That additional site-specific conditions may be added to projects proposed under this Certification in order to ensure compliance with all applicable water quality and effluent standards;
15. Measures shall be taken to prevent live or fresh concrete from coming into contact with freshwaters of the state until the concrete has hardened;
16. If an environmental document is required, this Certification is not valid until a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or Record of Decision (ROD) is issued by the State Clearinghouse;
17. If this Certification is used to access building sites, all lots owned by the applicant must be buildable without additional fill beyond that explicitly allowed under other General

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Certifications. For road construction purposes, this Certification shall only be utilized from natural high ground to natural high ground;

18. When written concurrence is required, the applicant is required to use the most recent version of the Certification of Completion form to notify DWQ when all work included in the 401 Certification has been completed;
19. Concurrence from DWQ that this Certification applies to an individual project shall expire three years from the date of the cover letter from DWQ or on the same day as the expiration date of the corresponding Nationwide Permit 14 or Regional General Permit 198200031, whichever is sooner.

Non-compliance with or violation of the conditions herein set forth by a specific fill project may result in revocation of this Certification for the project and may also result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

The Director of the North Carolina Division of Water Quality may require submission of a formal application for Individual Certification for any project in this category of activity that requires written concurrence under this certification, if it is determined that the project is likely to have a significant adverse effect upon water quality or degrade the waters so that existing uses of the wetland or downstream waters are precluded.

Public hearings may be held for specific applications or group of applications prior to a Certification decision if deemed in the public's best interest by the Director of the North Carolina Division of Water Quality.

Effective date: March 2003

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

By

Alan W. Klimek, P.E.

Director

WQC #3366

GENERAL CERTIFICATION FOR PROJECTS ELIGIBLE FOR CORPS OF ENGINEERS NATIONWIDE PERMIT NUMBER 33 (TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION, ACCESS AND DEWATERING) AND RIPARIAN AREA PROTECTION RULES (BUFFER RULES)

This General Certification is issued in conformity with the requirements of Section 401, Public Laws 92-500 and 95-217 of the United States and subject to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality Regulations in 15A NCAC 2H, Section .0500 and 15A NCAC 2B .0200 for the discharge of fill material to waters and wetland areas as described in 33 CFR 330 Appendix A (B) (33) of the Corps of Engineers regulations (i.e., Nationwide Permit No. 33) and for the Riparian Area Protection Rules (Buffer Rules) in 15A NCAC 2B .0200. The category of activities shall include any fill activity for temporary construction, access and de-watering. This Certification replaces Water Quality Certification Number 2727 issued on May 1, 1992 and Certification Number 3114 issued on February 11, 1997. This WQC is rescinded when the Corps of Engineers reauthorize Nationwide Permit 33 or when deemed appropriate by the Director of the DWQ.

The State of North Carolina certifies that the specified category of activity will not violate appropriate portions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306 and 307 of the Public Laws 92-500 and 95-217 if conducted in accordance with the conditions hereinafter set forth.

Conditions of Certification:

1. These activities do not require written concurrence from the Division of Water Quality as long as they comply with all conditions of this General Certification. If any condition in this Certification cannot be met, application to and written concurrence from DWQ are required. Also, Condition No. 2 is applicable to all streams in basins with riparian area protection rules;
2. Impacts to any stream length in the Neuse, Tar-Pamlico and Randleman River Basins (or any other major river basins with Riparian Area Protection Rules [Buffer Rules] in effect at the time of application) requires written concurrence from DWQ in accordance with 15A NCAC 2B.0200. Activities listed as "exempt" from these rules do not need to apply for written concurrence under this Certification. New development activities located in the protected 50-foot wide riparian areas (whether jurisdictional wetlands or not) within the Neuse, Tar-Pamlico, Randleman and Catawba River Basins shall be limited to "uses" identified within and constructed in accordance with 15A NCAC 2B .0200. All new development shall be located, designed, constructed, and maintained to have minimal disturbance to protect water quality to the maximum extent practicable through the use of best management practices;
3. Appropriate sediment and erosion control practices which equal or exceed those outlined in the most recent version of the "North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Planning and Design Manual" or the "North Carolina Surface Mining Manual" whichever is more appropriate (available from the Division of Land Resources (DLR) in the DENR Regional or Central Offices) shall be in full compliance with all specifications governing the proper design, installation and operation and maintenance of such Best Management Practices in order to assure compliance with the appropriate turbidity water quality standard;

WQC #3366

4. All sediment and erosion control measures placed in wetlands or waters shall be removed and the original grade restored within two months after the Division of Land Resources has released the project;
5. If an environmental document is required, this Certification is not valid until a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or Record of Decision (ROD) is issued by the State Clearinghouse;
6. Placement of culverts and other structures in waters, streams, and wetlands must be placed below the elevation of the streambed to allow low flow passage of water and aquatic life unless it can be shown to DWQ that providing passage would be impractical. Design and placement of culverts including open bottom or bottomless arch culverts and other structures including temporary erosion control measures shall not be conducted in a manner that may result in aggradation, degradation or significant changes in hydrology of wetlands or stream beds or banks, adjacent to or upstream and down stream of the above structures. The applicant is required to provide evidence that the equilibrium shall be maintained if requested in writing by DWQ. Additionally, when roadways, causeways or other fill projects are constructed across FEMA-designated floodways or wetlands, openings such as culverts or bridges must be provided to maintain the natural hydrology of the system as well as prevent constriction of the floodway that may result in aggradation, degradation or significant changes in hydrology of streams or wetlands;
7. Measures shall be taken to prevent live or fresh concrete from coming into contact with waters of the state until the concrete has hardened;
8. All temporary fill shall be removed to the original grade after construction is complete and the site shall be stabilized to prevent erosion;
9. Pipes shall be installed under the road or causeway in all streams to carry at least the 25 year storm event as outlined in the most recent edition of the "North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Planning and Design Manual" or the "North Carolina Surface Mining Manual" so as not to restrict stream flow during use of this Certification;
10. In accordance with North Carolina General Statute Section 143-215.3D(e), any request for written concurrence for a 401 Water Quality Certification must include the appropriate fee. If a project also requires a CAMA Permit, one payment to both agencies shall be submitted and will be the higher of the two fees;
11. Additional site-specific conditions may be added to projects for which written concurrence is required or requested under this Certification in order to ensure compliance with all applicable water quality and effluent standards;
12. Concurrence from DWQ that this Certification applies to an individual project shall expire three years from the date of the cover letter from DWQ or on the same day as the expiration date of these corresponding Nationwide and Regional General Permits, whichever is sooner;

WQC #3366

13. When written concurrence is required, the applicant is required to use the most recent version of the Certification of Completion form to notify DWQ when all work included in the 401 Certification has been completed.

Non-compliance with or violation of the conditions herein set forth by a specific fill project shall result in revocation of this Certification for the project and may result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

The Director of the North Carolina Division of Water Quality may require submission of a formal application for individual certification for any project in this category of activity that requires written concurrence under this certification, if it is determined that the project is likely to have a significant adverse effect upon water quality or degrade the waters so that existing uses of the wetland, stream or downstream waters are precluded.

Public hearings may be held for specific applications or group of applications prior to a Certification decision if deemed in the public's best interest by the Director of the North Carolina Division of Water Quality.

Effective date: 18 March 2002

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

By

Gregory J. Thorpe, Ph.D.

Acting Director

WQC # 3366

PROJECT COMMITMENTS

US 1/64 from the US 1/64/SR 1009 (Tryon Road) Interchange to south of I-40
Cary

Wake County, State Project # 8.1403101,

F.A. Project # STPNHF-1(4)

TIP No. U-3101C

COMMITMENTS DEVELOPED THROUGH PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN

Hydraulics Unit

NCDOT will investigate runoff problems at a residential property near Walnut Street to determine if and how stormwater enhancements can be made.

PDEA Branch, Roadside Environmental Unit (REU)

NCDOT will consider providing a visual barrier or screening, funded by or with assistance from the Town of Cary, for the Kingston Ridge neighborhood near the future intersection of Walnut Street and the proposed US 1/64 on- and off-ramps.

PDEA and Right of Way Branches

At the time of right of way acquisition, NCDOT will investigate the possibility of relocating four (4) residential properties located off Kingston Ridge Road near Walnut Street. The properties are on a septic sewer system and the reduced land area after acquisition may require NCDOT to purchase the entire property and relocate the owners.

COMMITMENTS DEVELOPED THROUGH PERMITTING

The standard Nationwide Permit No. 14 Conditions, Nationwide Permit No. 33 Conditions, Regional Conditions, General Certification Conditions, State Consistency Conditions, Water Quality Certification No. 3404 Conditions, Water Quality Certification No. 3366, Neuse River Buffer Rules Conditions, and Section 401 only Conditions have been agreed to by NCDOT.

Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, Division 5, REU

Compensatory mitigation for the unavoidable impacts to 874 linear feet of stream channels associated with the proposed project shall be provided by the Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP), as outlined in the letter dated August 30, 2004, from William D. Gilmore, EEP Transition Manager. Pursuant to the EEP Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the State of North Carolina and the US Army Corps of Engineers signed on July 22, 2003, the EEP will provide a minimum ratio of 1:1 in-kind restoration of water stream channel (e.g. warm) in the Neuse River basin (Hydrologic Cataloging Unit 3020201) by July 22, 2005 and half of the proposed preservation mitigation would be available at that time for mitigation for other project impacts. The NCDOT shall, within 30 days of the issue date of the Nationwide 12, 14, and 33 Permits, certify that sufficient funds have been provided to EEP to complete the required mitigation, pursuant to Paragraph V. of the MOA.

Mitigation for impacts to 173,822 square feet of protected riparian buffers in Zone 1 and 106,840 square feet of protected riparian buffers in Zone 2 will be mitigated for as described below:

Zone of Impact	Impacts (Square Feet)	Replacement Ratio	Total Mitigation Required (Square Feet)	Onsite Mitigation Provided (Square Feet)	Offsite Mitigation Required (Square Feet)
Zone 1	173,822	3:1	521,466	52,258	469,208
Zone 2	106,840	1.5:1	160,260	3,845	156,415
Total	280,662		681,726	56,103	625,623

NCDOT has chosen to perform compensatory mitigation for impacts to protected buffers through an in lieu payment to the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (NCEEP), and the EEP has agreed to implement the mitigation for the project. Mitigation for unavoidable impacts to Neuse Riparian Buffers shall be provided through an in-lieu payment to the NCEEP at a rate of \$0.96 per square foot for 625,623 square feet of buffer impact. Therefore, a total payment of \$600,598.08 shall be submitted to the NCEEP to offset the impacts. No construction activities in Neuse River Riparian buffers shall begin until payment for buffer mitigation is made and the Ecosystem Enhancement Program receives and clears NCDOT's check (made payable to DENR-Ecosystem Enhancement Program).

Compensatory mitigation for 469 linear feet of impacts to jurisdictional streams shall be provided by onsite stream relocations of 157 linear feet of a tributary to Swift Creek and 312 linear feet of offsite mitigation. The onsite stream relocation shall be constructed in accordance with the design submitted in the June 28, 2004 application. All stream relocations shall have 50-foot wooded buffers planted on both sides of the stream. As-BUILTS for the completed streams shall be submitted to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality Transportation Permitting Unit within 30 days of the completion of the construction of the relocations. If the parameters of this condition are not met, then the NCDOT shall supply additional stream mitigation for the 157 linear feet of impacts. In addition to the 157 linear feet of on-site mitigation, compensatory mitigation for an additional 312 linear feet of streams is required.

All channel relocations will be constructed in a dry work area, and stabilized before stream flows are diverted. Channel relocations will be completed and stabilized prior to diverting water into the new channel. Whenever possible, channel relocations shall be allowed to stabilize for an entire growing season. Vegetation used for bank stabilization shall be limited to native woody species, and should include establishment of a 30 foot wide wooded and an adjacent 20 foot wide vegetated buffer on both sides of the relocated channel to the maximum extent practical. A transitional phase incorporating coir fiber and seedling establishment is allowable. Also, rip-rap may be allowed if it is necessary to maintain the physical integrity of the stream, but NCDOT must provide written

justification and any calculations used to determine the extent of rip-rap coverage requested.

Pursuant to NCAC15A 2B.0233(6), sediment and erosion control devices shall not be placed in Zone 1 of any Neuse Buffer without prior approval by the NCDWQ. At this time, the NCDWQ has approved no sediment and erosion control devices in Zone 1, outside of the approved project impacts, anywhere on this project. Moreover, sediment and erosion control devices shall be allowed in Zone 2 of the buffers provided that Zone 1 is not compromised and that discharge is released as diffuse flow.

All protected riparian buffers impacted by the placement of temporary fill or clearing activities shall be restored to the preconstruction contours and revegetated with native woody species upon completion of the project construction. A post-construction as-built with the restoration activities included shall be submitted to the DWQ no later than 60 days after the project is closed out by the NCDOT.