SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE
NATIONWIDE PERMITS FOR ARIZONA

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS **BUILDING STRONG®**
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT
REGULATORY DIVISION/ARIZONA BRANCH

On February 21, 2012, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) published a notice in the *Federal Register* announcing reissuance and modification of the nationwide permits (NWPs), general conditions, and definitions. This notice reissued most NWPs with little or no change, issued two new NWPs, issued three new general conditions, and issued three new definitions. Also, NWP 47 for "Pipeline Safety Program Designated Time Sensitive Inspections and Repairs" was not reissued. The NWPs became effective on March 19, 2012 and will remain in effect through March 18, 2017. While these NWPs are in effect, the Corps retains the authority to modify, suspend, or revoke a NWP or condition after following procedures set forth in 33 C.F.R. § 330.5.

This special public notice (SPL-2012-316-RJD) contains all of the terms and conditions for the Section 404 (Clean Water Act) NWP program in Arizona. The "Table of Contents" section of this public notice lists all of the documents that establish the current nationwide permit program in Arizona. This special public notice does not add, delete, or modify any term or condition of the NWP program. The purpose of this special public notice is to put in one document all of the terms and conditions necessary to comply with the NWP program in Arizona. Any change to the NWP program will be posted at: http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Regulatory.aspx. Questions regarding this public notice may be directed to:

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A. Nationwide Permits

1. Aids to Navigation

The placement of aids to navigation and regulatory markers which are approved by and installed in accordance with the requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard (see 33 CFR, chapter I, subchapter C, part 66). (Section 10)

2. Structures in Artificial Canals

Structures constructed in artificial canals within principally residential developments where the connection of the canal to a navigable water of the United States has been previously authorized (see 33 CFR 322.5(g)). (Section 10)

3. Maintenance

(a) The repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of any previously authorized, currently serviceable structure, or fill, or of any currently serviceable structure or fill authorized by 33 CFR 330.3, provided that the structure or fill is not to be put to uses differing from those uses specified or contemplated for it in the original permit or the most recently authorized modification. Minor deviations in the structure's configuration or filled area, including those due to changes in materials, construction techniques, requirements of other regulatory agencies, or current construction codes or safety standards that are necessary to make the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement are authorized. Any stream channel modification is limited to the minimum necessary for the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of the structure or fill; such modifications, including the removal of material from the stream channel, must be immediately adjacent to the project or within the boundaries of the structure or fill. This NWP also authorizes the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of those structures or fills destroyed or damaged by storms, floods, fire or other discrete events, provided the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement is commenced, or is under contract to commence, within two years of the date of their destruction or damage. In cases of catastrophic events, such as hurricanes or tornadoes, this two-year limit may be waived by the district engineer, provided the permittee can demonstrate funding, contract, or other similar delays.

(b) This NWP also authorizes the removal of accumulated sediments and debris in the vicinity of existing structures (e.g., bridges, culverted road crossings, water intake structures, etc.) and/or the placement of new or additional riprap to protect the structure. The removal of sediment is limited to the minimum necessary to restore the waterway in the vicinity of the structure to the approximate dimensions that existed when the structure was built, but cannot extend farther than 200 feet in any direction from the structure. This 200 foot limit does not apply to maintenance dredging to remove accumulated sediments blocking or restricting outfall and intake structures or to maintenance dredging to remove accumulated sediments from canals associated with outfall and intake structures. All dredged or excavated materials must be deposited and retained in an area that has no waters of the United States unless otherwise specifically approved by the district engineer under separate authorization. The placement of new or additional riprap must be the minimum necessary to protect the structure or to ensure the safety of the structure. Any bank stabilization measures not directly associated with the structure will require a separate authorization from the district engineer.

(c) This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work necessary to conduct the maintenance activity. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain normal downstream flows and minimize flooding to the maximum extent practicable, when temporary structures, work, and discharges, including cofferdams, are necessary for construction activities, access fills, or dewatering of construction sites. Temporary fills must consist of materials, and be placed in a manner, that will not be eroded by expected high flows. Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations. The areas affected by temporary fills must be revegetated, as appropriate.

(d) This NWP does not authorize maintenance dredging for the primary purpose of navigation. This NWP does not authorize beach restoration. This NWP does not authorize new stream channelization or stream relocation projects.

Notification: For activities authorized by paragraph (b) of this NWP, the permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity (see general condition 31). The pre-construction notification must include information regarding the original design capacities and configurations of the outfalls, intakes, small impoundments, and canals. (Sections 10 and 404)

Note: This NWP authorizes the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of any previously authorized structure or fill that does not qualify for the Clean Water Act Section 404(f) exemption for maintenance.

4. Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities

Fish and wildlife harvesting devices and activities such as pound nets, crab traps, crab dredging, eel pots, lobster traps, duck blinds, and clam and oyster digging, fish aggregating devices, and small fish attraction devices such as open water fish concentrators (sea kites, etc.). This NWP does not authorize artificial reefs or impoundments and semi-impoundments of waters of the United States for the culture or holding of motile

species such as lobster, or the use of covered oyster trays or clam racks. (Sections 10 and 404)

5. Scientific Measurement Devices

Devices, whose purpose is to measure and record scientific data, such as staff gages, tide and current gages, meteorological stations, water recording and biological observation devices, water quality testing and improvement devices, and similar structures. Small weirs and flumes constructed primarily to record water quantity and velocity are also authorized provided the discharge is limited to 25 cubic yards. Upon completion of the use of the device to measure and record scientific data, the measuring device and any other structures or fills associated with that device (e.g., foundations, anchors, buoys, lines, etc.) must be removed to the maximum extent practicable and the site restored to pre-construction elevations. (Sections 10 and 404)

6. Survey Activities

Survey activities, such as core sampling, seismic exploratory operations, plugging of seismic shot holes and other exploratory-type bore holes, exploratory trenching, soil surveys, sampling, sample plots or transects for wetland delineations, and historic resources surveys. For the purposes of this NWP, the term “exploratory trenching” means mechanical land clearing of the upper soil profile to expose bedrock or substrate, for the purpose of mapping or sampling the exposed material. The area in which the exploratory trench is dug must be restored to its pre-construction elevation upon completion of the work and must not drain a water of the United States. In wetlands, the top 6 to 12 inches of the trench should normally be backfilled with topsoil from the trench. This NWP authorizes the construction of temporary pads, provided the discharge does not exceed 1/10-acre in waters of the U.S. Discharges and structures associated with the recovery of historic resources are not authorized by this NWP. Drilling and the discharge of excavated material from test wells for oil and gas exploration are not authorized by this NWP; the plugging of such wells is authorized. Fill placed for roads and other similar activities is not authorized by this NWP. The NWP does not authorize any permanent structures. The discharge of drilling mud and cuttings may require a permit under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act. (Sections 10 and 404)

7. Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures

Activities related to the construction or modification of outfall structures and associated intake structures, where the effluent from the outfall is authorized, conditionally authorized, or specifically exempted by, or otherwise in compliance with regulations issued under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program (Section 402 of the Clean Water Act). The construction of intake structures is not authorized by this NWP, unless they are directly associated with an authorized outfall structure.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

8. Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf

Structures for the exploration, production, and transportation of oil, gas, and minerals on the outer continental shelf within areas leased for such purposes by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. Such structures shall not be placed within the limits of any designated shipping safety fairway or traffic separation scheme, except temporary anchors that comply with the fairway regulations in 33 CFR 322.5(l). The district engineer will review such proposals to ensure compliance with the provisions of the fairway regulations in 33 CFR 322.5(l). Any Corps review under this NWP will be limited to the effects on navigation and national security in accordance with 33 CFR 322.5(f), as well as 33 CFR 322.5(l) and 33 CFR part 334. Such structures will not be placed in established danger zones or restricted areas as designated in 33 CFR part 334, nor will such structures be permitted in EPA or Corps designated dredged material disposal areas.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Section 10)

9. Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas

Structures, buoys, floats and other devices placed within anchorage or fleeting areas to facilitate moorage of vessels where the U.S. Coast Guard has established such areas for that purpose. (Section 10)

10. Mooring Buoys

Non-commercial, single-boat, mooring buoys. (Section 10)

11. Temporary Recreational Structures

Temporary buoys, markers, small floating docks, and similar structures placed for recreational use during specific events such as water skiing competitions and boat races or seasonal use, provided that such structures are removed within 30 days after use has been discontinued. At Corps of Engineers reservoirs, the reservoir manager must approve each buoy or marker individually. (Section 10)

12. Utility Line Activities

Activities required for the construction, maintenance, repair, and removal of utility lines and associated facilities in waters of the United States, provided the activity does not result in the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States for each single and complete project.

Utility lines: This NWP authorizes the construction, maintenance, or repair of utility lines, including outfall and intake structures, and the associated excavation, backfill, or bedding for the utility lines, in all waters of the United States, provided there is no change in pre-construction contours. A “utility line” is defined as any pipe or pipeline for the transportation of any gaseous, liquid, liquescent, or slurry substance, for any purpose, and any cable, line, or wire for the transmission for any purpose of electrical energy, telephone, and telegraph messages, and radio and television communication. The term “utility line” does not include activities that drain a water of the United States, such as drainage tile or french drains, but it does apply to pipes conveying drainage from another area.

Material resulting from trench excavation may be temporarily sidecast into waters of the United States for no more than three months, provided the material is not placed in such a manner that it is dispersed by currents or other forces. The district engineer may extend the period of temporary side casting for no more than a total of 180 days, where appropriate. In wetlands, the top 6 to 12 inches of the trench should normally be backfilled with topsoil from the trench. The trench cannot be constructed or backfilled in such a manner as to drain waters of the United States (e.g., backfilling with extensive gravel layers, creating a french drain effect). Any exposed slopes and stream banks must be stabilized immediately upon completion of the utility line crossing of each waterbody.

Utility line substations: This NWP authorizes the construction, maintenance, or expansion of substation facilities associated with a power line or utility line in non-tidal waters of the United States, provided the activity, in combination with all other activities included in one single and complete project, does not result in the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States. This NWP does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters of the United States to construct, maintain, or expand substation facilities.

Foundations for overhead utility line towers, poles, and anchors: This NWP authorizes the construction or maintenance of foundations for overhead utility line towers, poles, and anchors in all waters of the United States, provided the foundations are the minimum size necessary and separate footings for each tower leg (rather than a larger single pad) are used where feasible.

Access roads: This NWP authorizes the construction of access roads for the construction and maintenance of utility lines, including overhead power lines and utility line substations, in non-tidal waters of the United States, provided the activity, in combination with all other activities included in one single and complete project, does not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States. This NWP does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters for access roads. Access roads must be the minimum width necessary (see Note 2, below). Access roads must be constructed so that the length of the road minimizes any adverse effects on waters of the United States and must be as near as possible to pre-construction contours and elevations (e.g., at grade corduroy roads or geotextile/gravel roads). Access roads constructed above pre-construction contours and elevations in waters of the United States must be properly bridged or culverted to maintain surface flows.

This NWP may authorize utility lines in or affecting navigable waters of the United States even if there is no

associated discharge of dredged or fill material (See 33 CFR Part 322). Overhead utility lines constructed over section 10 waters and utility lines that are routed in or under section 10 waters without a discharge of dredged or fill material require a section 10 permit.

This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work necessary to conduct the utility line activity. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain normal downstream flows and minimize flooding to the maximum extent practicable, when temporary structures, work, and discharges, including cofferdams, are necessary for construction activities, access fills, or dewatering of construction sites. Temporary fills must consist of materials, and be placed in a manner, that will not be eroded by expected high flows. Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations. The areas affected by temporary fills must be revegetated, as appropriate.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if any of the following criteria are met: (1) the activity involves mechanized land clearing in a forested wetland for the utility line right-of-way; (2) a section 10 permit is required; (3) the utility line in waters of the United States, excluding overhead lines, exceeds 500 feet; (4) the utility line is placed within a jurisdictional area (i.e., water of the United States), and it runs parallel to or along a stream bed that is within that jurisdictional area; (5) discharges that result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of waters of the United States; (6) permanent access roads are constructed above grade in waters of the United States for a distance of more than 500 feet; or (7) permanent access roads are constructed in waters of the United States with impervious materials. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

Note 1: Where the proposed utility line is constructed or installed in navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters) within the coastal United States, the Great Lakes, and United States territories, copies of the pre-construction notification and NWP verification will be sent by the Corps to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), for charting the utility line to protect navigation.

Note 2: Access roads used for both construction and maintenance may be authorized, provided they meet the terms and conditions of this NWP. Access roads used solely for construction of the utility line must be removed upon completion of the work, in accordance with the requirements for temporary fills.

Note 3: Pipes or pipelines used to transport gaseous, liquid, liquescent, or slurry substances over navigable waters of the United States are considered to be bridges, not utility lines, and may require a permit from the U.S. Coast Guard pursuant to Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. However, any discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States associated with such pipelines will require a section 404 permit (see NWP 15).

Note 4: For overhead utility lines authorized by this NWP, a copy of the PCN and NWP verification will be provided to the Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse, which will evaluate potential effects on military activities.

13. Bank Stabilization

Bank stabilization activities necessary for erosion prevention, provided the activity meets all of the following criteria:

(a) No material is placed in excess of the minimum needed for erosion protection;

(b) The activity is no more than 500 feet in length along the bank, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects;

(c) The activity will not exceed an average of one cubic yard per running foot placed along the bank below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the high tide line, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects;

(d) The activity does not involve discharges of dredged or fill material into special aquatic sites, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects;

(e) No material is of a type, or is placed in any location, or in any manner, that will impair surface water flow into or out of any waters of the United States;

(f) No material is placed in a manner that will be eroded by normal or expected high flows (properly anchored trees and treetops may be used in low energy areas); and,

(g) The activity is not a stream channelization activity.

This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work necessary to construct the bank stabilization activity. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain normal downstream flows and minimize flooding to the maximum extent practicable, when temporary structures, work, and discharges, including cofferdams, are necessary for construction activities, access fills, or dewatering of construction sites. Temporary fills must

consist of materials, and be placed in a manner, that will not be eroded by expected high flows. Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations. The areas affected by temporary fills must be revegetated, as appropriate.

Invasive plant species shall not be used for bioengineering or vegetative bank stabilization.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if the bank stabilization activity: (1) involves discharges into special aquatic sites; or (2) is in excess of 500 feet in length; or (3) will involve the discharge of greater than an average of one cubic yard per running foot along the bank below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the high tide line. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

14. Linear Transportation Projects

Activities required for the construction, expansion, modification, or improvement of linear transportation projects (e.g., roads, highways, railways, trails, airport runways, and taxiways) in waters of the United States. For linear transportation projects in non-tidal waters, the discharge cannot cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States. For linear transportation projects in tidal waters, the discharge cannot cause the loss of greater than 1/3-acre of waters of the United States. Any stream channel modification, including bank stabilization, is limited to the minimum necessary to construct or protect the linear transportation project; such modifications must be in the immediate vicinity of the project.

This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work necessary to construct the linear transportation project. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain normal downstream flows and minimize flooding to the maximum extent practicable, when temporary structures, work, and discharges, including cofferdams, are necessary for construction activities, access fills, or dewatering of construction sites. Temporary fills must consist of materials, and be placed in a manner, that will not be eroded by expected high flows. Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations. The areas affected by temporary fills must be revegetated, as appropriate.

This NWP 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.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if: (1) the loss of waters of the United States exceeds 1/10-acre; or (2) there is a discharge in a special aquatic site, including wetlands. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

Note: Some discharges for the construction of farm roads or forest roads, or temporary roads for moving mining equipment, may qualify for an exemption under Section 404(f) of the Clean Water Act (see 33 CFR 323.4).

15. U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges

Discharges of dredged or fill material incidental to the construction of a bridge across navigable waters of the United States, including cofferdams, abutments, foundation seals, piers, and temporary construction and access fills, provided the construction of the bridge structure has been authorized by the U.S. Coast Guard under Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and other applicable laws. Causeways and approach fills are not included in this NWP and will require a separate section 404 permit. (Section 404)

16. Return Water from Upland Contained Disposal Areas

Return water from an upland contained dredged material disposal area. The return water from a contained disposal area is administratively defined as a discharge of dredged material by 33 CFR 323.2(d), even though the disposal itself occurs in an area that has no waters of the United States and does not require a section 404 permit. This NWP satisfies the technical requirement for a section 404 permit for the return water where the quality of the return water is controlled by the state through the section 401 certification procedures. The dredging activity may require a section 404 permit (33 CFR 323.2(d)), and will require a section 10 permit if located in navigable waters of the United States. (Section 404)

17. Hydropower Projects

Discharges of dredged or fill material associated with hydropower projects having: (a) Less than 5000 kW of total generating capacity at existing reservoirs, where the project, including the fill, is licensed by the Federal

Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) under the Federal Power Act of 1920, as amended; or (b) a licensing exemption granted by the FERC pursuant to Section 408 of the Energy Security Act of 1980 (16 U.S.C. 2705 and 2708) and Section 30 of the Federal Power Act, as amended.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Section 404)

18. Minor Discharges

Minor discharges of dredged or fill material into all waters of the United States, provided the activity meets all of the following criteria:

(a) The quantity of discharged material and the volume of area excavated do not exceed 25 cubic yards below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the high tide line;

(b) The discharge will not cause the loss of more than 1/10-acre of waters of the United States; and

(c) The discharge is not placed for the purpose of a stream diversion.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if: (1) The discharge or the volume of area excavated exceeds 10 cubic yards below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the high tide line, or (2) the discharge is in a special aquatic site, including wetlands. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

19. Minor Dredging

Dredging of no more than 25 cubic yards below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the mean high water mark from navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters). This NWP does not authorize the dredging or degradation through siltation of coral reefs, sites that support submerged aquatic vegetation (including sites where submerged aquatic vegetation is documented to exist but may not be present in a given year), anadromous fish spawning areas, or wetlands, or the connection of canals or other artificial waterways to navigable waters of the United States (see 33 CFR 322.5(g)). (Sections 10 and 404)

20. Response Operations for Oil and Hazardous Substances

Activities conducted in response to a discharge or release of oil and hazardous substances that are subject to the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (40 CFR part 300) including containment, cleanup, and mitigation efforts, provided that the activities are done under either: (1) the Spill Control and Countermeasure Plan required by 40 CFR 112.3; (2) the direction or oversight of the federal on-scene coordinator designated by 40 CFR part 300; or (3) any approved existing state, regional or local contingency plan provided that the Regional Response Team (if one exists in the area) concurs with the proposed response efforts. This NWP also authorizes activities required for the cleanup of oil releases in waters of the United States from electrical equipment that are governed by EPA's polychlorinated biphenyl spill response regulations at 40 CFR part 761. This NWP also authorizes the use of temporary structures and fills in waters of the U.S. for spill response training exercises. (Sections 10 and 404)

21. Surface Coal Mining Operations

Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States associated with surface coal mining and reclamation operations.

(a) Previously Authorized Surface Coal Mining Activities. Surface coal mining activities that were previously authorized by the NWP 21 issued on March 12, 2007 (see 72 FR 11092), are authorized by this NWP, provided the following criteria are met:

(1) The activities are already authorized, or are currently being processed by states with approved programs under Title V of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 or as part of an integrated permit processing procedure by the Department of Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement;

(2) The permittee must submit a letter to the district engineer requesting re-verification of the NWP 21 authorization. The letter must describe any changes from the previous NWP 21 verification. The letter must be submitted to the district engineer by February 1, 2013;

(3) The loss of waters of the United States is not greater than the loss of waters of the United States previously verified by the district engineer under the NWP 21 issued on March 12, 2007 (i.e., there are no

proposed expansions of surface coal mining activities in waters of the United States);

(4) The district engineer provides written verification that those activities will result in minimal individual and cumulative adverse effects and are authorized by NWP 21, including currently applicable regional conditions and any activity-specific conditions added to the NWP authorization by the district engineer, such as compensatory mitigation requirements; and

(5) If the permittee does not receive a written verification from the district engineer prior to March 18, 2013, the permittee must cease all activities until such verification is received. The district engineer may extend the February 1, 2013, deadline by so notifying the permittee in writing, but the permittee must still cease all activities if he or she has not received written verification from the Corps by March 18, 2013, until such verification is received.

(b) Other Surface Coal Mining Activities. Surface coal mining activities that were not previously authorized by the NWP 21 issued on March 12, 2007, are authorized by this NWP, provided the following criteria are met:

(1) The activities are already authorized, or are currently being processed by states with approved programs under Title V of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 or as part of an integrated permit processing procedure by the Department of Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement;

(2) The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal individual and cumulative adverse effects. This NWP does not authorize discharges into tidal waters or non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters; and

(3) The discharge is not associated with the construction of valley fills. A “valley fill” is a fill structure that is typically constructed within valleys associated with steep, mountainous terrain, associated with surface coal mining activities.

Notification: For activities under paragraph (b) of this NWP, the permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer and receive written authorization prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

22. Removal of Vessels

Temporary structures or minor discharges of dredged or fill material required for the removal of wrecked, abandoned, or disabled vessels, or the removal of man-made obstructions to navigation. This NWP does not authorize maintenance dredging, shoal removal, or riverbank snagging.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if: (1) The vessel is listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; or (2) the activity is conducted in a special aquatic site, including coral reefs and wetlands. (See general condition 31.) If condition 1 above is triggered, the permittee cannot commence the activity until informed by the district engineer that compliance with the “Historic Properties” general condition is completed. (Sections 10 and 404)

Note 1: If a removed vessel is disposed of in waters of the United States, a permit from the U.S. EPA may be required (see 40 CFR 229.3). If a Department of the Army permit is required for vessel disposal in waters of the United States, separate authorization will be required.

Note 2: Compliance with general condition 18, Endangered Species, and general condition 20, Historic Properties, is required for all NWPs. The concern with historic properties is emphasized in the notification requirements for this NWP because of the likelihood that submerged vessels may be historic properties.

23. Approved Categorical Exclusions

Activities undertaken, assisted, authorized, regulated, funded, or financed, in whole or in part, by another Federal agency or department where:

(a) That agency or department has determined, pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality's implementing regulations for the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR part 1500 et seq.), that the activity is categorically excluded from environmental documentation, because it is included within a category of actions which neither individually nor cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment; and

(b) The Office of the Chief of Engineers (Attn: CECW-CO) has concurred with that agency’s or department’s determination that the activity is categorically excluded and approved the activity for authorization under NWP 23.

The Office of the Chief of Engineers may require additional conditions, including pre-construction

notification, for authorization of an agency's categorical exclusions under this NWP.

Notification: Certain categorical exclusions approved for authorization under this NWP require the permittee to submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity (see general condition 31). The activities that require pre-construction notification are listed in the appropriate Regulatory Guidance Letters. (Sections 10 and 404)

Note: The agency or department may submit an application for an activity believed to be categorically excluded to the Office of the Chief of Engineers (Attn: CECW-CO). Prior to approval for authorization under this NWP of any agency's activity, the Office of the Chief of Engineers will solicit public comment. As of the date of issuance of this NWP, agencies with approved categorical exclusions are the: Bureau of Reclamation, Federal Highway Administration, and U.S. Coast Guard. Activities approved for authorization under this NWP as of the date of this notice are found in Corps Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-07, which is available at: *http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/RegulatoryProgramandPermits/GuidanceLetters.aspx* . Any future approved categorical exclusions will be announced in Regulatory Guidance Letters and posted on this same web site.

24. Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs

Any activity permitted by a state or Indian Tribe administering its own section 404 permit program pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1344(g)-(l) is permitted pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. (Section 10)

Note 1: As of the date of the promulgation of this NWP, only New Jersey and Michigan administer their own section 404 permit programs.

Note 2: Those activities that do not involve an Indian Tribe or State section 404 permit are not included in this NWP, but certain structures will be exempted by Section 154 of Pub. L. 94-587, 90 Stat. 2917 (33 U.S.C. 591) (see 33 CFR 322.4(b)).

25. Structural Discharges

Discharges of material such as concrete, sand, rock, etc., into tightly sealed forms or cells where the material will be used as a structural member for standard pile supported structures, such as bridges, transmission line footings, and walkways, or for general navigation, such as mooring cells, including the excavation of bottom material from within the form prior to the discharge of concrete, sand, rock, etc. This NWP does not authorize filled structural members that would support buildings, building pads, homes, house pads, parking areas, storage areas and other such structures. The structure itself may require a separate section 10 permit if located in navigable waters of the United States. (Section 404)

26. [Reserved]

27. Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities

Activities in waters of the United States associated with the restoration, enhancement, and establishment of tidal and non-tidal wetlands and riparian areas, the restoration and enhancement of non-tidal streams and other non-tidal open waters, and the rehabilitation or enhancement of tidal streams, tidal wetlands, and tidal open waters, provided those activities result in net increases in aquatic resource functions and services.

To the extent that a Corps permit is required, activities authorized by this NWP include, but are not limited to: the removal of accumulated sediments; the installation, removal, and maintenance of small water control structures, dikes, and berms, as well as discharges of dredged or fill material to restore appropriate stream channel configurations after small water control structures, dikes, and berms, are removed; the installation of current deflectors; the enhancement, restoration, or establishment of riffle and pool stream structure; the placement of in-stream habitat structures; modifications of the stream bed and/or banks to restore or establish stream meanders; the backfilling of artificial channels; the removal of existing drainage structures, such as drain tiles, and the filling, blocking, or reshaping of drainage ditches to restore wetland hydrology; the installation of structures or fills necessary to establish or re-establish wetland or stream hydrology; the construction of small nesting islands; the construction of open water areas; the construction of oyster habitat over unvegetated bottom in tidal waters; shellfish seeding; activities needed to reestablish vegetation, including plowing or discing for seed bed preparation and the planting of appropriate wetland species; re-establishment of submerged

aquatic vegetation in areas where those plant communities previously existed; re-establishment of tidal wetlands in tidal waters where those wetlands previously existed; mechanized land clearing to remove non-native invasive, exotic, or nuisance vegetation; and other related activities. Only native plant species should be planted at the site.

This NWP authorizes the relocation of non-tidal waters, including non-tidal wetlands and streams, on the project site provided there are net increases in aquatic resource functions and services.

Except for the relocation of non-tidal waters on the project site, this NWP does not authorize the conversion of a stream or natural wetlands to another aquatic habitat type (e.g., stream to wetland or vice versa) or uplands. Changes in wetland plant communities that occur when wetland hydrology is more fully restored during wetland rehabilitation activities are not considered a conversion to another aquatic habitat type. This NWP does not authorize stream channelization. This NWP does not authorize the relocation of tidal waters or the conversion of tidal waters, including tidal wetlands, to other aquatic uses, such as the conversion of tidal wetlands into open water impoundments.

Compensatory mitigation is not required for activities authorized by this NWP since these activities must result in net increases in aquatic resource functions and services.

Reversion. For enhancement, restoration, and establishment activities conducted: (1) In accordance with the terms and conditions of a binding stream or wetland enhancement or restoration agreement, or a wetland establishment agreement, between the landowner and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the National Ocean Service (NOS), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), or their designated state cooperating agencies; (2) as voluntary wetland restoration, enhancement, and establishment actions documented by the NRCS or USDA Technical Service Provider pursuant to NRCS Field Office Technical Guide standards; or (3) on reclaimed surface coal mine lands, in accordance with a Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act permit issued by the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) or the applicable state agency, this NWP also authorizes any future discharge of dredged or fill material associated with the reversion of the area to its documented prior condition and use (i.e., prior to the restoration, enhancement, or establishment activities). The reversion must occur within five years after expiration of a limited term wetland restoration or establishment agreement or permit, and is authorized in these circumstances even if the discharge occurs after this NWP expires. The five-year reversion limit does not apply to agreements without time limits reached between the landowner and the FWS, NRCS, FSA, NMFS, NOS, USFS, or an appropriate state cooperating agency. This NWP also authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material in waters of the United States for the reversion of wetlands that were restored, enhanced, or established on prior-converted cropland or on uplands, in accordance with a binding agreement between the landowner and NRCS, FSA, FWS, or their designated state cooperating agencies (even though the restoration, enhancement, or establishment activity did not require a section 404 permit). The prior condition will be documented in the original agreement or permit, and the determination of return to prior conditions will be made by the Federal agency or appropriate state agency executing the agreement or permit. Before conducting any reversion activity the permittee or the appropriate Federal or state agency must notify the district engineer and include the documentation of the prior condition. Once an area has reverted to its prior physical condition, it will be subject to whatever the Corps Regulatory requirements are applicable to that type of land at the time. The requirement that the activity results in a net increase in aquatic resource functions and services does not apply to reversion activities meeting the above conditions. Except for the activities described above, this NWP does not authorize any future discharge of dredged or fill material associated with the reversion of the area to its prior condition. In such cases a separate permit would be required for any reversion.

Reporting. For those activities that do not require pre-construction notification, the permittee must submit to the district engineer a copy of: (1) The binding stream enhancement or restoration agreement or wetland enhancement, restoration, or establishment agreement, or a project description, including project plans and location map; (2) the NRCS or USDA Technical Service Provider documentation for the voluntary stream enhancement or restoration action or wetland restoration, enhancement, or establishment action; or (3) the SMCRA permit issued by OSMRE or the applicable state agency. The report must also include information on baseline ecological conditions on the project site, such as a delineation of wetlands, streams, and/or other aquatic habitats. These documents must be submitted to the district engineer at least 30 days prior to commencing activities in waters of the United States authorized by this NWP.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing any activity (see general condition 31), except for the following activities:

(1) Activities conducted on non-Federal public lands and private lands, in accordance with the terms and conditions of a binding stream enhancement or restoration agreement or wetland enhancement, restoration, or establishment agreement between the landowner and the U.S. FWS, NRCS, FSA, NMFS, NOS, USFS or their

designated state cooperating agencies;

(2) Voluntary stream or wetland restoration or enhancement action, or wetland establishment action, documented by the NRCS or USDA Technical Service Provider pursuant to NRCS Field Office Technical Guide standards; or

(3) The reclamation of surface coal mine lands, in accordance with an SMCRA permit issued by the OSMRE or the applicable state agency.

However, the permittee must submit a copy of the appropriate documentation to the district engineer to fulfill the reporting requirement. (Sections 10 and 404)

Note: This NWP can be used to authorize compensatory mitigation projects, including mitigation banks and in-lieu fee projects. However, this NWP does not authorize the reversion of an area used for a compensatory mitigation project to its prior condition, since compensatory mitigation is generally intended to be permanent.

28. Modifications of Existing Marinas

Reconfiguration of existing docking facilities within an authorized marina area. No dredging, additional slips, dock spaces, or expansion of any kind within waters of the United States is authorized by this NWP. (Section 10)

29. Residential Developments

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction or expansion of a single residence, a multiple unit residential development, or a residential subdivision. This NWP authorizes the construction of building foundations and building pads and attendant features that are necessary for the use of the residence or residential development. Attendant features may include but are not limited to roads, parking lots, garages, yards, utility lines, storm water management facilities, septic fields, and recreation facilities such as playgrounds, playing fields, and golf courses (provided the golf course is an integral part of the residential development).

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects. This NWP does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters.

Subdivisions: For residential subdivisions, the aggregate total loss of waters of United States authorized by this NWP cannot exceed 1/2-acre. This includes any loss of waters of the United States associated with development of individual subdivision lots.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

30. Moist Soil Management for Wildlife

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States and maintenance activities that are associated with moist soil management for wildlife for the purpose of continuing ongoing, site-specific, wildlife management activities where soil manipulation is used to manage habitat and feeding areas for wildlife. Such activities include, but are not limited to, plowing or discing to impede succession, preparing seed beds, or establishing fire breaks. Sufficient riparian areas must be maintained adjacent to all open water bodies, including streams, to preclude water quality degradation due to erosion and sedimentation. This NWP does not authorize the construction of new dikes, roads, water control structures, or similar features associated with the management areas. The activity must not result in a net loss of aquatic resource functions and services. This NWP does not authorize the conversion of wetlands to uplands, impoundments, or other open water bodies. (Section 404)

Note: The repair, maintenance, or replacement of existing water control structures or the repair or maintenance of dikes may be authorized by NWP 3. Some such activities may qualify for an exemption under Section 404(f) of the Clean Water Act (see 33 CFR 323.4).

31. Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities

Discharges of dredged or fill material resulting from activities associated with the maintenance of existing flood control facilities, including debris basins, retention/detention basins, levees, and channels that: (i) were previously authorized by the Corps by individual permit, general permit, or 33 CFR 330.3, or did not require a permit at the time they were constructed, or (ii) were constructed by the Corps and transferred to a non-Federal sponsor for operation and maintenance. Activities authorized by this NWP are limited to those resulting from maintenance activities that are conducted within the "maintenance baseline," as described in the definition below. Discharges of dredged or fill materials associated with maintenance activities in flood control facilities in any watercourse that have previously been determined to be within the maintenance baseline are authorized under this NWP. To the extent that a Corps permit is required, this NWP authorizes the removal of vegetation from levees associated with the flood control project. This NWP does not authorize the removal of sediment and associated vegetation from natural water courses except when these activities have been included in the maintenance baseline. All dredged material must be placed in an area that has no waters of the United States or a separately authorized disposal site in waters of the United States, and proper siltation controls must be used.

Maintenance Baseline: The maintenance baseline is a description of the physical characteristics (e.g., depth, width, length, location, configuration, or design flood capacity, etc.) of a flood control project within which maintenance activities are normally authorized by NWP 31, subject to any case-specific conditions required by the district engineer. The district engineer will approve the maintenance baseline based on the approved or constructed capacity of the flood control facility, whichever is smaller, including any areas where there are no constructed channels but which are part of the facility. The prospective permittee will provide documentation of the physical characteristics of the flood control facility (which will normally consist of as-built or approved drawings) and documentation of the approved and constructed design capacities of the flood control facility. If no evidence of the constructed capacity exists, the approved capacity will be used. The documentation will also include best management practices to ensure that the impacts to the aquatic environment are minimal, especially in maintenance areas where there are no constructed channels. (The Corps may request maintenance records in areas where there has not been recent maintenance.) Revocation or modification of the final determination of the maintenance baseline can only be done in accordance with 33 CFR 330.5. Except in emergencies as described below, this NWP cannot be used until the district engineer approves the maintenance baseline and determines the need for mitigation and any regional or activity-specific conditions. Once determined, the maintenance baseline will remain valid for any subsequent reissuance of this NWP. This NWP does not authorize maintenance of a flood control facility that has been abandoned. A flood control facility will be considered abandoned if it has operated at a significantly reduced capacity without needed maintenance being accomplished in a timely manner.

Mitigation: The district engineer will determine any required mitigation one-time only for impacts associated with maintenance work at the same time that the maintenance baseline is approved. Such one-time mitigation will be required when necessary to ensure that adverse environmental impacts are no more than minimal, both individually and cumulatively. Such mitigation will only be required once for any specific reach of a flood control project. However, if one-time mitigation is required for impacts associated with maintenance activities, the district engineer will not delay needed maintenance, provided the district engineer and the permittee establish a schedule for identification, approval, development, construction and completion of any such required mitigation. Once the one-time mitigation described above has been completed, or a determination made that mitigation is not required, no further mitigation will be required for maintenance activities within the maintenance baseline. In determining appropriate mitigation, the district engineer will give special consideration to natural water courses that have been included in the maintenance baseline and require compensatory mitigation and/or best management practices as appropriate.

Emergency Situations: In emergency situations, this NWP may be used to authorize maintenance activities in flood control facilities for which no maintenance baseline has been approved. Emergency situations are those which would result in an unacceptable hazard to life, a significant loss of property, or an immediate, unforeseen, and significant economic hardship if action is not taken before a maintenance baseline can be approved. In such situations, the determination of mitigation requirements, if any, may be deferred until the emergency has been resolved. Once the emergency has ended, a maintenance baseline must be established expeditiously, and mitigation, including mitigation for maintenance conducted during the emergency, must be required as appropriate.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer before any maintenance work is conducted (see general condition 31). The pre-construction notification may be for activity-specific maintenance or for maintenance of the entire flood control facility by submitting a five-year (or less) maintenance plan. The pre-construction notification must include a description of the maintenance baseline and

the dredged material disposal site. (Sections 10 and 404)

32. Completed Enforcement Actions

Any structure, work, or discharge of dredged or fill material remaining in place or undertaken for mitigation, restoration, or environmental benefit in compliance with either:

(i) The terms of a final written Corps non-judicial settlement agreement resolving a violation of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; or the terms of an EPA 309(a) order on consent resolving a violation of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, provided that:

(a) The unauthorized activity affected no more than 5 acres of non-tidal waters or 1 acre of tidal waters;

(b) The settlement agreement provides for environmental benefits, to an equal or greater degree, than the environmental detriments caused by the unauthorized activity that is authorized by this NWP; and

(c) The district engineer issues a verification letter authorizing the activity subject to the terms and conditions of this NWP and the settlement agreement, including a specified completion date; or

(ii) The terms of a final Federal court decision, consent decree, or settlement agreement resulting from an enforcement action brought by the United States under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; or

(iii) The terms of a final court decision, consent decree, settlement agreement, or non-judicial settlement agreement resulting from a natural resource damage claim brought by a trustee or trustees for natural resources (as defined by the National Contingency Plan at 40 CFR subpart G) under Section 311 of the Clean Water Act, Section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, Section 312 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, Section 1002 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, or the Park System Resource Protection Act at 16 U.S.C. 19jj, to the extent that a Corps permit is required.

Compliance is a condition of the NWP itself. Any authorization under this NWP is automatically revoked if the permittee does not comply with the terms of this NWP or the terms of the court decision, consent decree, or judicial/non-judicial settlement agreement. This NWP does not apply to any activities occurring after the date of the decision, decree, or agreement that are not for the purpose of mitigation, restoration, or environmental benefit. Before reaching any settlement agreement, the Corps will ensure compliance with the provisions of 33 CFR part 326 and 33 CFR 330.6(d)(2) and (e). (Sections 10 and 404)

33. 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. This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, work, and discharges, including cofferdams, necessary for construction activities not otherwise subject to the Corps or U.S. Coast Guard permit requirements. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain near normal downstream flows and to minimize flooding. Fill must consist of materials, and be placed in a manner, that will not be eroded by expected high flows. The use of dredged material may be allowed if the district engineer determines that it will not cause more than minimal adverse effects on aquatic resources. Following completion of construction, temporary fill must be entirely removed to an area that has no waters of the United States, dredged material must be returned to its original location, and the affected areas must be restored to pre-construction elevations. The affected areas must also be revegetated, as appropriate. This permit does not authorize the use of cofferdams to dewater wetlands or other aquatic areas to change their use. Structures left in place after construction is completed require a separate section 10 permit if located in navigable waters of the United States. (See 33 CFR part 322.)

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity (see general condition 31). The pre-construction notification must include a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre-project conditions. (Sections 10 and 404)

34. Cranberry Production Activities

Discharges of dredged or fill material for dikes, berms, pumps, water control structures or leveling of cranberry beds associated with expansion, enhancement, or modification activities at existing cranberry production operations. The cumulative total acreage of disturbance per cranberry production operation, including but not limited to, filling, flooding, ditching, or clearing, must not exceed 10 acres of waters of the

United States, including wetlands. The activity must not result in a net loss of wetland acreage. This NWP does not authorize any discharge of dredged or fill material related to other cranberry production activities such as warehouses, processing facilities, or parking areas. For the purposes of this NWP, the cumulative total of 10 acres will be measured over the period that this NWP is valid.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer once during the period that this NWP is valid, and the NWP will then authorize discharges of dredge or fill material at an existing operation for the permit term, provided the 10-acre limit is not exceeded. (See general condition 31.) (Section 404)

35. Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins

Excavation and removal of accumulated sediment for maintenance of existing marina basins, access channels to marinas or boat slips, and boat slips to previously authorized depths or controlling depths for ingress/egress, whichever is less, provided the dredged material is deposited at an area that has no waters of the United States site and proper siltation controls are used. (Section 10)

36. Boat Ramps

Activities required for the construction of boat ramps, provided the activity meets all of the following criteria:

(a) The discharge into waters of the United States does not exceed 50 cubic yards of concrete, rock, crushed stone or gravel into forms, or in the form of pre-cast concrete planks or slabs, unless the district engineer waives the 50 cubic yard limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects;

(b) The boat ramp does not exceed 20 feet in width, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects;

(c) The base material is crushed stone, gravel or other suitable material;

(d) The excavation is limited to the area necessary for site preparation and all excavated material is removed to an area that has no waters of the United States; and,

(e) No material is placed in special aquatic sites, including wetlands.

The use of unsuitable material that is structurally unstable is not authorized. If dredging in navigable waters of the United States is necessary to provide access to the boat ramp, the dredging must be authorized by another NWP, a regional general permit, or an individual permit.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if: (1) The discharge into waters of the United States exceeds 50 cubic yards, or (2) the boat ramp exceeds 20 feet in width. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

37. Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation

Work done by or funded by:

(a) The Natural Resources Conservation Service for a situation requiring immediate action under its emergency Watershed Protection Program (7 CFR part 624);

(b) The U.S. Forest Service under its Burned-Area Emergency Rehabilitation Handbook (FSH 2509.13);

(c) The Department of the Interior for wildland fire management burned area emergency stabilization and rehabilitation (DOI Manual part 620, Ch. 3);

(d) The Office of Surface Mining, or states with approved programs, for abandoned mine land reclamation activities under Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (30 CFR Subchapter R), where the activity does not involve coal extraction; or

(e) The Farm Service Agency under its Emergency Conservation Program (7 CFR part 701).

In general, the prospective permittee should wait until the district engineer issues an NWP verification or 45 calendar days have passed before proceeding with the watershed protection and rehabilitation activity. However, in cases where there is an unacceptable hazard to life or a significant loss of property or economic hardship will occur, the emergency watershed protection and rehabilitation activity may proceed immediately and the district engineer will consider the information in the pre-construction notification and any comments received as a result of agency coordination to decide whether the NWP 37 authorization should be modified, suspended, or revoked in accordance with the procedures at 33 CFR 330.5.

Notification: Except in cases where there is an unacceptable hazard to life or a significant loss of property or

economic hardship will occur, the permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity (see general condition 31). (Sections 10 and 404)

38. Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste

Specific activities required to effect the containment, stabilization, or removal of hazardous or toxic waste materials that are performed, ordered, or sponsored by a government agency with established legal or regulatory authority. Court ordered remedial action plans or related settlements are also authorized by this NWP. This NWP does not authorize the establishment of new disposal sites or the expansion of existing sites used for the disposal of hazardous or toxic waste.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

Note: Activities undertaken entirely on a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) site by authority of CERCLA as approved or required by EPA, are not required to obtain permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act.

39. Commercial and Institutional Developments

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction or expansion of commercial and institutional building foundations and building pads and attendant features that are necessary for the use and maintenance of the structures. Attendant features may include, but are not limited to, roads, parking lots, garages, yards, utility lines, storm water management facilities, and recreation facilities such as playgrounds and playing fields. Examples of commercial developments include retail stores, industrial facilities, restaurants, business parks, and shopping centers. Examples of institutional developments include schools, fire stations, government office buildings, judicial buildings, public works buildings, libraries, hospitals, and places of worship. The construction of new golf courses and new ski areas is not authorized by this NWP.

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects. This NWP does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

Note: For any activity that involves the construction of a wind energy generating structure, solar tower, or overhead transmission line, a copy of the PCN and NWP verification will be provided to the Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse, which will evaluate potential effects on military activities.

40. Agricultural Activities

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for agricultural activities, including the construction of building pads for farm buildings. Authorized activities include the installation, placement, or construction of drainage tiles, ditches, or levees; mechanized land clearing; land leveling; the relocation of existing serviceable drainage ditches constructed in waters of the United States; and similar activities.

This NWP also authorizes the construction of farm ponds in non-tidal waters of the United States, excluding perennial streams, provided the farm pond is used solely for agricultural purposes. This NWP does not authorize the construction of aquaculture ponds.

This NWP also authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States to relocate existing serviceable drainage ditches constructed in non-tidal streams.

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects. This NWP does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Section 404)

Note: Some discharges for agricultural activities may qualify for an exemption under Section 404(f) of the

Clean Water Act (see 33 CFR 323.4). This NWP authorizes the construction of farm ponds that do not qualify for the Clean Water Act Section 404(f)(1)(C) exemption because of the recapture provision at Section 404(f)(2).

41. Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States, excluding non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters, to modify the cross-sectional configuration of currently serviceable drainage ditches constructed in waters of the United States, for the purpose of improving water quality by regrading the drainage ditch with gentler slopes, which can reduce erosion, increase growth of vegetation, and increase uptake of nutrients and other substances by vegetation. The reshaping of the ditch cannot increase drainage capacity beyond the original as-built capacity nor can it expand the area drained by the ditch as originally constructed (i.e., the capacity of the ditch must be the same as originally constructed and it cannot drain additional wetlands or other waters of the United States). Compensatory mitigation is not required because the work is designed to improve water quality.

This NWP does not authorize the relocation of drainage ditches constructed in waters of the United States; the location of the centerline of the reshaped drainage ditch must be approximately the same as the location of the centerline of the original drainage ditch. This NWP does not authorize stream channelization or stream relocation projects.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity, if more than 500 linear feet of drainage ditch will be reshaped. (See general condition 31.) (Section 404)

42. Recreational Facilities

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Examples of recreational facilities that may be authorized by this NWP include playing fields (e.g., football fields, baseball fields), basketball courts, tennis courts, hiking trails, bike paths, golf courses, ski areas, horse paths, nature centers, and campgrounds (excluding recreational vehicle parks). This NWP also authorizes the construction or expansion of small support facilities, such as maintenance and storage buildings and stables that are directly related to the recreational activity, but it does not authorize the construction of hotels, restaurants, racetracks, stadiums, arenas, or similar facilities.

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects. This NWP does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Section 404)

43. Stormwater Management Facilities

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction of stormwater management facilities, including stormwater detention basins and retention basins and other stormwater management facilities; the construction of water control structures, outfall structures and emergency spillways; and the construction of low impact development integrated management features such as bioretention facilities (e.g., rain gardens), vegetated filter strips, grassed swales, and infiltration trenches. This NWP also authorizes, to the extent that a section 404 permit is required, discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the maintenance of stormwater management facilities. Note that stormwater management facilities that are determined to be waste treatment systems under 33 CFR 328.3(a)(8) are not waters of the United States, and maintenance of these waste treatment systems generally does not require a section 404 permit.

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects. This NWP does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material for the construction of new stormwater management facilities in perennial streams.

Notification: For the construction of new stormwater management facilities, or the expansion of existing stormwater management facilities, the permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) Maintenance activities do not require pre-construction notification if they are limited to restoring the original design capacities of the stormwater management facility. (Section 404)

44. Mining Activities

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for mining activities, except for coal mining activities. The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects. This NWP does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) If reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre-construction notification. (Sections 10 and 404)

45. Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events

This NWP authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material, including dredging or excavation, into all waters of the United States for activities associated with the restoration of upland areas damaged by storms, floods, or other discrete events. This NWP authorizes bank stabilization to protect the restored uplands. The restoration of the damaged areas, including any bank stabilization, must not exceed the contours, or ordinary high water mark, that existed before the damage occurred. The district engineer retains the right to determine the extent of the pre-existing conditions and the extent of any restoration work authorized by this NWP. The work must commence, or be under contract to commence, within two years of the date of damage, unless this condition is waived in writing by the district engineer. This NWP cannot be used to reclaim lands lost to normal erosion processes over an extended period.

This NWP does not authorize beach restoration or nourishment.

Minor dredging is limited to the amount necessary to restore the damaged upland area and should not significantly alter the pre-existing bottom contours of the waterbody.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer (see general condition 31) within 12-months of the date of the damage. The pre-construction notification should include documentation, such as a recent topographic survey or photographs, to justify the extent of the proposed restoration. (Sections 10 and 404)

Note: The uplands themselves that are lost as a result of a storm, flood, or other discrete event can be replaced without a section 404 permit, if the uplands are restored to the ordinary high water mark (in non-tidal waters) or high tide line (in tidal waters). (See also 33 CFR 328.5.) This NWP authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States associated with the restoration of uplands.

46. Discharges in Ditches

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal ditches that are: (1) constructed in uplands, (2) receive water from an area determined to be a water of the United States prior to the construction of the ditch, (3) divert water to an area determined to be a water of the United States prior to the construction of the ditch, and (4) are determined to be waters of the United States. The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than one acre of waters of the United States. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material into ditches constructed in streams or other waters of the United States, or in streams that have been relocated in uplands. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material that increase the capacity of the ditch and drain those areas determined to be waters of the United States prior to construction of the ditch.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Section 404)

47. [Reserved]

48. Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities

Discharges of dredged or fill material in waters of the United States or structures or work in navigable waters of the United States necessary for commercial shellfish aquaculture operations in authorized project areas. For the purposes of this NWP, the project area is the area in which the operator is currently authorized to conduct commercial shellfish aquaculture activities, as identified through a lease or permit issued by an appropriate state or local government agency, a treaty, or any other easement, lease, deed, or contract which establishes an enforceable property interest for the operator. This NWP authorizes the installation of buoys, floats, racks, trays, nets, lines, tubes, containers, and other structures into navigable waters of the United States. This NWP also authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States necessary for shellfish seeding, rearing, cultivating, transplanting, and harvesting activities. Rafts and other floating structures must be securely anchored and clearly marked. This NWP does not authorize:

(a) The cultivation of a nonindigenous species unless that species has been previously cultivated in the waterbody;

(b) The cultivation of an aquatic nuisance species as defined in the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990; or,

(c) Attendant features such as docks, piers, boat ramps, stockpiles, or staging areas, or the deposition of shell material back into waters of the United States as waste.

This NWP also authorizes commercial shellfish aquaculture activities in new project areas, provided the project proponent has obtained a valid authorization, such as a lease or permit issued by an appropriate state or local government agency, and those activities do not directly affect more than 1/2-acre of submerged aquatic vegetation beds.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer if: (1) dredge harvesting, tilling, or harrowing is conducted in areas inhabited by submerged aquatic vegetation; (2) the activity will include a species not previously cultivated in the waterbody; (3) the activity involves a change from bottom culture to floating or suspended culture; or (4) the activity occurs in a new project area. (See general condition 31.)

In addition to the information required by paragraph (b) of general condition 31, the pre-construction notification must also include the following information: (1) a map showing the boundaries of the project area, with latitude and longitude coordinates for each corner of the project area; (2) the name(s) of the cultivated species; and (3) whether canopy predator nets are being used. (Sections 10 and 404)

Note 1: The permittee should notify the applicable U.S. Coast Guard office regarding the project.

Note 2: To prevent introduction of aquatic nuisance species, no material that has been taken from a different waterbody may be reused in the current project area, unless it has been treated in accordance with the applicable regional aquatic nuisance species management plan.

Note 3: The Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 defines “aquatic nuisance species” as “a nonindigenous species that threatens the diversity or abundance of native species or the ecological stability of infested waters, or commercial, agricultural, aquacultural, or recreational activities dependent on such waters.”

49. Coal Remining Activities

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States associated with the remining and reclamation of lands that were previously mined for coal. The activities must already be authorized, or they must currently be in process as part of an integrated permit processing procedure, by the Department of Interior Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, or by states with approved programs under Title IV or Title V of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) of 1977. Areas previously mined include reclaimed mine sites, abandoned mine land areas, or lands under bond forfeiture contracts.

As part of the project, the permittee may conduct new coal mining activities in conjunction with the remining activities when he or she clearly demonstrates to the district engineer that the overall mining plan will result in a net increase in aquatic resource functions. The Corps will consider the SMCRA agency’s decision regarding the amount of currently undisturbed adjacent lands needed to facilitate the remining and reclamation of the previously mined area. The total area disturbed by new mining must not exceed 40 percent of the total acreage covered by both the remined area and the additional area necessary to carry out the reclamation of the previously mined area.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification and a document describing how the

overall mining plan will result in a net increase in aquatic resource functions to the district engineer and receive written authorization prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

50. Underground Coal Mining Activities

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States associated with underground coal mining and reclamation operations provided the activities are authorized, or are currently being processed as part of an integrated permit processing procedure, by the Department of Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, or by states with approved programs under Title V of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects. This NWP does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters. This NWP does not authorize coal preparation and processing activities outside of the mine site.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer and receive written authorization prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) If reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre-construction notification. (Sections 10 and 404)

Note: Coal preparation and processing activities outside of the mine site may be authorized by NWP 21.

51. Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction, expansion, or modification of land-based renewable energy production facilities, including attendant features. Such facilities include infrastructure to collect solar (concentrating solar power and photovoltaic), wind, biomass, or geothermal energy. Attendant features may include, but are not limited to roads, parking lots, and stormwater management facilities within the land-based renewable energy generation facility.

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects. This permit does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

Note 1: Utility lines constructed to transfer the energy from the land-based renewable generation facility to a distribution system, regional grid, or other facility are generally considered to be linear projects and each separate and distant crossing of a waterbody is eligible for treatment as a separate single and complete linear project. Those utility lines may be authorized by NWP 12 or another Department of the Army authorization. If the only activities associated with the construction, expansion, or modification of a land-based renewable energy generation facility that require Department of the Army authorization are discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States to construct, maintain, repair, and/or remove utility lines, then NWP 12 shall be used if those activities meet the terms and conditions of NWP 12, including any applicable regional conditions and any case-specific conditions imposed by the district engineer.

Note 2: For any activity that involves the construction of a wind energy generating structure, solar tower, or overhead transmission line, a copy of the PCN and NWP verification will be provided to the Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse, which will evaluate potential effects on military activities.

52. Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects

Structures and work in navigable waters of the United States and discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States for the construction, expansion, modification, or removal of water-based wind or hydrokinetic renewable energy generation pilot projects and their attendant features. Attendant features may include, but are not limited to, land-based collection and distribution facilities, control facilities, roads, parking lots, and stormwater management facilities.

For the purposes of this NWP, the term “pilot project” means an experimental project where the renewable energy generation units will be monitored to collect information on their performance and environmental effects at the project site.

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects. The placement of a transmission line on the bed of a navigable water of the United States from the renewable energy generation unit(s) to a land-based collection and distribution facility is considered a structure under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (see 33 CFR 322.2(b)), and the placement of the transmission line on the bed of a navigable water of the United States is not a loss of waters of the United States for the purposes of applying the 1/2-acre or 300 linear foot limits.

For each single and complete project, no more than 10 generation units (e.g., wind turbines or hydrokinetic devices) are authorized.

This NWP does not authorize activities in coral reefs. Structures in an anchorage area established by the U.S. Coast Guard must comply with the requirements in 33 CFR part 322.5(l)(2). Structures may not be placed in established danger zones or restricted areas as designated in 33 CFR part 334, Federal navigation channels, shipping safety fairways or traffic separation schemes established by the U.S. Coast Guard (see 33 CFR part 322.5(l)(1)), or EPA or Corps designated open water dredged material disposal areas.

Upon completion of the pilot project, the generation units, transmission lines, and other structures or fills associated with the pilot project must be removed to the maximum extent practicable unless they are authorized by a separate Department of the Army authorization, such as another NWP, an individual permit, or a regional general permit. Completion of the pilot project will be identified as the date of expiration of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license, or the expiration date of the NWP authorization if no FERC license is issued.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) (Sections 10 and 404)

Note 1: Utility lines constructed to transfer the energy from the land-based collection facility to a distribution system, regional grid, or other facility are generally considered to be linear projects and each separate and distant crossing of a waterbody is eligible for treatment as a separate single and complete linear project. Those utility lines may be authorized by NWP 12 or another Department of the Army authorization.

Note 2: An activity that is located on an existing locally or federally maintained U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project requires separate approval from the Chief of Engineers under 33 U.S.C. 408.

Note 3: If the pilot project, including any transmission lines, is placed in navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters) within the coastal United States, the Great Lakes, and United States territories, copies of the pre-construction notification and NWP verification will be sent by the Corps to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service, for charting the generation units and associated transmission line(s) to protect navigation.

Note 4: For any activity that involves the construction of a wind energy generating structure, solar tower, or overhead transmission line, a copy of the PCN and NWP verification will be provided to the Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse, which will evaluate potential effects on military activities

B. Nationwide Permit General Conditions

Note: To qualify for NWP authorization, the prospective permittee must comply with the following general conditions, as applicable, in addition to any regional or case-specific conditions imposed by the division engineer or district engineer. Prospective permittees should contact the appropriate Corps district office to determine if regional conditions have been imposed on an NWP. Prospective permittees should also contact the appropriate Corps district office to determine the status of Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification and/or Coastal Zone Management Act consistency for an NWP. Every person who may wish to obtain permit authorization under one or more NWPs, or who is currently relying on an existing or prior permit authorization under one or more NWPs, has been and is on notice that all of the provisions of 33 CFR §§ 330.1 through 330.6 apply to every NWP authorization. Note especially 33 CFR § 330.5 relating to the modification, suspension, or revocation of any NWP authorization.

1. Navigation. (a) No activity may cause more than a minimal adverse effect on navigation.

(b) Any safety lights and signals prescribed by the U.S. Coast Guard, through regulations or otherwise, must

be installed and maintained at the permittee's expense on authorized facilities in navigable waters of the United States.

(c) The permittee understands and agrees that, if future operations by the United States require the removal, relocation, or other alteration, of the structure or work herein authorized, or if, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Army or his authorized representative, said structure or work shall cause unreasonable obstruction to the free navigation of the navigable waters, the permittee will be required, upon due notice from the Corps of Engineers, to remove, relocate, or alter the structural work or obstructions caused thereby, without expense to the United States. No claim shall be made against the United States on account of any such removal or alteration.

2. 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. All permanent and temporary crossings of waterbodies shall be suitably culverted, bridged, or otherwise designed and constructed to maintain low flows to sustain the movement of those aquatic species.

3. Spawning Areas. Activities in spawning areas during spawning seasons must be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. Activities that result in the physical destruction (e.g., through excavation, fill, or downstream smothering by substantial turbidity) of an important spawning area are not authorized.

4. Migratory Bird Breeding Areas. Activities in waters of the United States that serve as breeding areas for migratory birds must be avoided to the maximum extent practicable.

5. Shellfish Beds. No activity may occur in areas of concentrated shellfish populations, unless the activity is directly related to a shellfish harvesting activity authorized by NWPs 4 and 48, or is a shellfish seeding or habitat restoration activity authorized by NWP 27.

6. Suitable Material. No activity may use unsuitable material (e.g., trash, debris, car bodies, asphalt, etc.). Material used for construction or discharged must be free from toxic pollutants in toxic amounts (see Section 307 of the Clean Water Act).

7. Water Supply Intakes. No activity may occur in the proximity of a public water supply intake, except where the activity is for the repair or improvement of public water supply intake structures or adjacent bank stabilization.

8. Adverse Effects from Impoundments. If the activity creates an impoundment of water, adverse effects to the aquatic system due to accelerating the passage of water, and/or restricting its flow must be minimized to the maximum extent practicable.

9. Management of Water Flows. To the maximum extent practicable, the pre-construction course, condition, capacity, and location of open waters must be maintained for each activity, including stream channelization and storm water management activities, except as provided below. The activity must be constructed to withstand expected high flows. The activity must not restrict or impede the passage of normal or high flows, unless the primary purpose of the activity is to impound water or manage high flows. The activity may alter the pre-construction course, condition, capacity, and location of open waters if it benefits the aquatic environment (e.g., stream restoration or relocation activities).

10. Fills Within 100-Year Floodplains. The activity must comply with applicable FEMA-approved state or local floodplain management requirements.

11. Equipment. Heavy equipment working in wetlands or mudflats must be placed on mats, or other measures must be taken to minimize soil disturbance.

12. 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.

13. Removal of Temporary Fills. Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations. The affected areas must be revegetated, as appropriate.

14. Proper Maintenance. Any authorized structure or fill shall be properly maintained, including maintenance to ensure public safety and compliance with applicable NWP general conditions, as well as any activity-specific conditions added by the district engineer to an NWP authorization.

15. Single and Complete Project. The activity must be a single and complete project. The same NWP cannot be used more than once for the same single and complete project.

16. 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 responsible for the designated Wild and Scenic River or study river (e.g., National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).

17. 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.

18. Endangered Species. (a) No activity is authorized under any NWP which is likely to directly or indirectly 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 directly or indirectly destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of such species. No activity is authorized under any NWP which “may affect” a listed species or critical habitat, unless Section 7 consultation addressing the effects of the proposed activity has been completed.

(b) Federal agencies should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of the ESA. Federal permittees must provide the district engineer with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements. The district engineer will review the documentation and determine whether it is sufficient to address ESA compliance for the NWP activity, or whether additional ESA consultation is necessary.

(c) Non-federal permittees must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the project, or if the project is located in 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 might affect Federally-listed endangered or threatened species or designated critical habitat, the pre-construction notification must include the name(s) of the endangered or threatened species that might be affected by the proposed work or that utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed work. The district engineer will determine whether the proposed activity “may affect” or will have “no effect” to listed species and designated critical habitat and will notify the non-Federal applicant of the Corps’ determination within 45 days of receipt of a complete pre-construction notification. In cases where the non-Federal applicant has identified listed species or critical habitat that might be affected or is in the vicinity of the project, and has so notified the Corps, the applicant shall not begin work until the Corps has provided notification the proposed activities will have “no effect” on listed species or critical habitat, or until Section 7 consultation has been completed. If the non-Federal applicant has not heard back from the Corps within 45 days, the applicant must still wait for notification from the Corps.

(d) 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.

(e) 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 U.S. FWS or the NMFS, The Endangered Species Act prohibits any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to take a listed species, where "take" means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. The word “harm” in the definition of “take" means an act which actually kills or injures wildlife. Such an act may include significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures

wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding or sheltering.

(f) Information on the location of threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat can be obtained directly from the offices of the U.S. FWS and NMFS or their world wide web pages at http://www.fws.gov/ or http://www.fws.gov/ipac and http://www.noaa.gov/fisheries.html respectively.

19. Migratory Birds and Bald and Golden Eagles. The permittee is responsible for obtaining any "take" permits required under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's regulations governing compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. The permittee should contact the appropriate local office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine if such "take" permits are required for a particular activity.

20. Historic Properties. (a) In cases where the district engineer determines that the activity may affect properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places, the activity is not authorized, until the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) have been satisfied.

(b) Federal permittees should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Federal permittees must provide the district engineer with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements. The district engineer will review the documentation and determine whether it is sufficient to address section 106 compliance for the NWP activity, or whether additional section 106 consultation is necessary.

(c) Non-federal permittees must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer if the authorized activity may have the potential to cause effects to any historic properties listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, including previously unidentified properties. For such activities, the pre-construction notification must state which historic properties may be affected by the proposed work or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic properties or the potential for the presence of historic properties. Assistance regarding information on the location of or potential for the presence of historic resources can be sought from the State Historic Preservation Officer or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, as appropriate, and the National Register of Historic Places (see 33 CFR 330.4(g)). When reviewing pre-construction notifications, district engineers will comply with the current procedures for addressing the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The district engineer shall make a reasonable and good faith effort to carry out appropriate identification efforts, which may include background research, consultation, oral history interviews, sample field investigation, and field survey. Based on the information submitted and these efforts, the district engineer shall determine whether the proposed activity has the potential to cause an effect on the historic properties. Where the non-Federal applicant has identified historic properties on which the activity may have the potential to cause effects and so notified the Corps, the non-Federal applicant shall not begin the activity until notified by the district engineer either that the activity has no potential to cause effects or that consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA has been completed.

(d) The district engineer will notify the prospective permittee within 45 days of receipt of a complete pre-construction notification whether NHPA Section 106 consultation is required. Section 106 consultation is not required when the Corps determines that the activity does not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties (see 36 CFR §800.3(a)). If NHPA section 106 consultation is required and will occur, the district engineer will notify the non-Federal applicant that he or she cannot begin work until Section 106 consultation is completed. If the non-Federal applicant has not heard back from the Corps within 45 days, the applicant must still wait for notification from the Corps.

(e) Prospective permittees should be aware that section 110k of the NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470h-2(k)) prevents the Corps from granting a permit or other assistance to an applicant who, with intent to avoid the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA, has intentionally significantly adversely affected a historic property to which the permit would relate, or having legal power to prevent it, allowed such significant adverse effect to occur, unless the Corps, after consultation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), determines that circumstances justify granting such assistance despite the adverse effect created or permitted by the applicant. If circumstances justify granting the assistance, the Corps is required to notify the ACHP and provide documentation specifying the circumstances, the degree of damage to the integrity of any historic properties affected, and proposed mitigation. This documentation must include any views obtained from the applicant, SHPO/THPO, appropriate Indian tribes if the undertaking occurs on or affects historic properties on tribal lands or affects properties of interest to those tribes, and other parties known to have a legitimate interest in the impacts to the permitted activity on historic properties.

21. Discovery of Previously Unknown Remains and Artifacts. If you discover any previously unknown

historic, cultural or archeological remains and artifacts while accomplishing the activity authorized by this permit, you must immediately notify the district engineer of what you have found, and to the maximum extent practicable, avoid construction activities that may affect the remains and artifacts until the required coordination has been completed. The district engineer will initiate the Federal, Tribal and state coordination required to determine if the items or remains warrant a recovery effort or if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

22. Designated Critical Resource Waters. Critical resource waters include, NOAA-managed marine sanctuaries and marine monuments, and National Estuarine Research Reserves. The district engineer may designate, after notice and opportunity for public comment, additional waters officially designated by a state as having particular environmental or ecological significance, such as outstanding national resource waters or state natural heritage sites. The district engineer may also designate additional critical resource waters after notice and opportunity for public comment.

(a) Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States are not authorized by NWPs 7, 12, 14, 16, 17, 21, 29, 31, 35, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 49, 50, 51, and 52 for any activity within, or directly affecting, critical resource waters, including wetlands adjacent to such waters.

(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 31, 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.

23. Mitigation. The district engineer will consider the following factors when determining appropriate and practicable mitigation necessary to ensure that adverse effects on the aquatic environment are minimal:

(a) The activity must be designed and constructed to avoid and minimize adverse effects, both temporary and permanent, to waters of the United States 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 for resource losses) 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 losses that exceed 1/10-acre and require pre-construction notification, unless the district engineer determines in writing that either some other form of mitigation would be more environmentally appropriate or the adverse effects of the proposed activity are minimal, and provides a project-specific waiver of this requirement. For wetland losses of 1/10-acre or less that require pre-construction notification, the district engineer may determine on a case-by-case basis that compensatory mitigation is required to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment. Compensatory mitigation projects provided to offset losses of aquatic resources must comply with the applicable provisions of 33 CFR part 332.

(1) The prospective permittee is responsible for proposing an appropriate compensatory mitigation option if compensatory mitigation is necessary to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment.

(2) Since the likelihood of success is greater and the impacts to potentially valuable uplands are reduced, wetland restoration should be the first compensatory mitigation option considered.

(3) If permittee-responsible mitigation is the proposed option, the prospective permittee is responsible for submitting a mitigation plan. A conceptual or detailed mitigation plan may be used by the district engineer to make the decision on the NWP verification request, but a final mitigation plan that addresses the applicable requirements of 33 CFR 332.4(c)(2) – (14) must be approved by the district engineer before the permittee begins work in waters of the United States, unless the district engineer determines that prior approval of the final mitigation plan is not practicable or not necessary to ensure timely completion of the required compensatory mitigation (see 33 CFR 332.3(k)(3)).

(4) If mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program credits are the proposed option, the mitigation plan only needs to address the baseline conditions at the impact site and the number of credits to be provided.

(5) Compensatory mitigation requirements (e.g., resource type and amount to be provided as compensatory mitigation, site protection, ecological performance standards, monitoring requirements) may be addressed through conditions added to the NWP authorization, instead of components of a compensatory mitigation plan.

(d) For losses of streams or other open waters that require pre-construction notification, the district engineer may require compensatory mitigation, such as stream rehabilitation, enhancement, or preservation, to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment.

(e) Compensatory mitigation will not be used to increase the acreage losses allowed by the acreage limits of

the NWPs. For example, if an NWP has an acreage limit of 1/2-acre, it cannot be used to authorize any project resulting in the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States, even if compensatory mitigation is provided that replaces or restores some of the lost waters. However, compensatory mitigation can and should be used, as necessary, to ensure that a project already meeting the established acreage limits also satisfies the minimal impact requirement associated with the NWPs.

(f) Compensatory mitigation plans for projects in or near streams or other open waters will normally include a requirement for the restoration or establishment, maintenance, and legal protection (e.g., conservation easements) of riparian areas next to open waters. In some cases, riparian areas may be the only compensatory mitigation required. Riparian areas should consist of native species. The width of the required riparian area will address documented water quality or aquatic habitat loss concerns. Normally, the riparian area will be 25 to 50 feet wide on each side of the stream, but the district engineer may require slightly wider riparian areas to address documented water quality or habitat loss concerns. If it is not possible to establish a riparian area on both sides of a stream, or if the waterbody is a lake or coastal waters, then restoring or establishing a riparian area along a single bank or shoreline may be sufficient. Where both wetlands and open waters exist on the project site, the district engineer will determine the appropriate compensatory mitigation (e.g., riparian areas and/or wetlands compensation) based on what is best for the aquatic environment on a watershed basis. In cases where riparian areas 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 losses.

(g) Permittees may propose the use of mitigation banks, in-lieu fee programs, or separate permittee-responsible mitigation. For activities resulting in the loss of marine or estuarine resources, permittee-responsible compensatory mitigation may be environmentally preferable if there are no mitigation banks or in-lieu fee programs in the area that have marine or estuarine credits available for sale or transfer to the permittee. For permittee-responsible mitigation, the special conditions of the NWP verification must clearly indicate the party or parties responsible for the implementation and performance of the compensatory mitigation project, and, if required, its long-term management.

(h) Where certain functions and services of waters of the United States are permanently adversely affected, such as the conversion of a forested or scrub-shrub wetland to a herbaceous wetland in a permanently maintained utility line right-of-way, mitigation may be required to reduce the adverse effects of the project to the minimal level.

24. Safety of Impoundment Structures. To ensure that all impoundment structures are safely designed, the district engineer may require non-Federal applicants to demonstrate that the structures comply with established state dam safety criteria or have been designed by qualified persons. The district engineer may also require documentation that the design has been independently reviewed by similarly qualified persons, and appropriate modifications made to ensure safety.

25. Water Quality. Where States and authorized Tribes, or EPA where applicable, have not previously certified compliance of an NWP with CWA Section 401, individual 401 Water Quality Certification must be obtained or waived (see 33 CFR 330.4(c)). The district engineer or State or Tribe may require additional water quality management measures to ensure that the authorized activity does not result in more than minimal degradation of water quality.

26. Coastal Zone Management. In coastal states where an NWP has not previously received a state coastal zone management consistency concurrence, an individual state coastal zone management consistency concurrence must be obtained, or a presumption of concurrence must occur (see 33 CFR 330.4(d)). The district engineer or a State may require additional measures to ensure that the authorized activity is consistent with state coastal zone management requirements.

27. 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, Indian Tribe, or U.S. EPA in its section 401 Water Quality Certification, or by the state in its Coastal Zone Management Act consistency determination.

28. 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 United States authorized by the NWPs does not exceed the acreage limit of the NWP with the highest specified acreage limit. For example, 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 United States for the total project cannot exceed 1/3-acre.

29. Transfer of Nationwide Permit Verifications. If the permittee sells the property associated with a nationwide permit verification, the permittee may transfer the nationwide permit verification to the new owner by submitting a letter to the appropriate Corps district office to validate the transfer. A copy of the nationwide permit verification must be attached to the letter, and the letter must contain the following statement and signature:

"When the structures or work authorized by this nationwide permit are still in existence at the time the property is transferred, the terms and conditions of this nationwide permit, including any special conditions, will continue to be binding on the new owner(s) of the property. To validate the transfer of this nationwide permit and the associated liabilities associated with compliance with its terms and conditions, have the transferee sign and date below."

_____

(Transferee)

_____

(Date)

30. Compliance Certification. Each permittee who receives an NWP verification letter from the Corps must provide a signed certification documenting completion of the authorized activity and any required compensatory mitigation. The success of any required permittee-responsible mitigation, including the achievement of ecological performance standards, will be addressed separately by the district engineer. The Corps will provide the permittee the certification document with the NWP verification letter. The certification document will include:

(a) A statement that the authorized work was done in accordance with the NWP authorization, including any general, regional, or activity-specific conditions;

(b) A statement that the implementation of any required compensatory mitigation was completed in accordance with the permit conditions. If credits from a mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program are used to satisfy the compensatory mitigation requirements, the certification must include the documentation required by 33 CFR 332.3(l)(3) to confirm that the permittee secured the appropriate number and resource type of credits; and

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

31. Pre-Construction Notification. (a) Timing. Where required by the terms of the NWP, the prospective permittee must notify the district engineer by submitting a pre-construction notification (PCN) as early as possible. The district engineer must determine if the PCN is complete within 30 calendar days of the date of receipt and, if the PCN is determined to be incomplete, notify the prospective permittee within that 30 day period to request the additional information necessary to make the PCN complete. The request must specify the information needed to make the PCN complete. As a general rule, district engineers will 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 PCN 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 until either:

(1) He or she is 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) 45 calendar days have passed from the district engineer's receipt of the complete PCN and the prospective permittee has not received written notice from the district or division engineer. However, if the permittee was required to notify the Corps pursuant to general condition 18 that listed species or critical habitat might be affected or in the vicinity of the project, or to notify the Corps pursuant to general condition 20 that the activity may have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, the permittee cannot begin the activity until receiving written notification from the Corps that there is "no effect" on listed species or "no potential to cause effects" on historic properties, or that any consultation required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (see 33 CFR 330.4(f)) and/or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation (see 33 CFR 330.4(g)) has been completed. Also, work cannot begin under NWPs 21, 49, or 50 until the permittee has received written approval from the Corps. If the proposed activity requires a written waiver to exceed specified limits of an NWP, the permittee may not begin the activity until the district engineer issues the waiver. If the district or division engineer notifies the permittee in writing that an individual permit is required within 45 calendar days of receipt of a complete PCN, the permittee cannot begin the activity until an individual permit has been obtained. 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 Pre-Construction Notification: The PCN 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) A description of the proposed project; the project's purpose; direct and indirect adverse environmental effects the project would cause, including the anticipated amount of loss of water of the United States expected to result from the NWP activity, in acres, linear feet, or other appropriate unit of measure; 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. The description should be sufficiently detailed to allow the district engineer to determine that the adverse effects of the project will be minimal and to determine the need for compensatory mitigation. 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 results in a quicker decision. Sketches should contain sufficient detail to provide an illustrative description of the proposed activity (e.g., a conceptual plan), but do not need to be detailed engineering plans);

(4) The PCN must include a delineation of wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, on the project site. Wetland delineations must be prepared in accordance with the current method required by the Corps. The permittee may ask the Corps to delineate the special aquatic sites and other waters on the project site, but there may be a delay if the Corps does the delineation, especially if the project site is large or contains many waters of the United States. Furthermore, the 45 day period will not start until the delineation has been submitted to or completed by the Corps, as appropriate;

(5) If the proposed activity will result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of wetlands and a PCN is required, the prospective permittee must submit a statement describing how the mitigation requirement will be satisfied, or explaining why the adverse effects are minimal and why compensatory mitigation should not be required. As an alternative, the prospective permittee may submit a conceptual or detailed mitigation plan.

(6) If any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the project, or if the project is located in designated critical habitat, for non-Federal applicants the PCN must include the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species that might be affected by the proposed work or utilize the designated critical habitat that may be affected by the proposed work. Federal applicants must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with the Endangered Species Act; and

(7) For an activity that may affect a historic property listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places, for non-Federal applicants 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. Federal applicants must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

(c) Form of Pre-Construction Notification: The standard individual permit application form (Form ENG 4345) may be used, but the completed application form must clearly indicate that it is a PCN and must include all of the information required in paragraphs (b)(1) through (7) of this general condition. A letter containing the required information may also be used.

(d) Agency Coordination: (1) 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.

(2) For all NWP activities that require pre-construction notification and result in the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States, for NWP 21, 29, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 50, 51, and 52 activities that require pre-construction notification and will result in the loss of greater than 300 linear feet of intermittent and ephemeral stream bed, and for all NWP 48 activities that require pre-construction notification, the district engineer will immediately provide (e.g., via e-mail, facsimile transmission, overnight mail, or other expeditious manner) a copy of the complete PCN to the appropriate Federal or state offices (U.S. FWS, state natural resource or water quality agency, EPA, State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) or Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO), and, if appropriate, the NMFS). With the exception of NWP 37, these agencies will 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. The comments must explain why the agency believes the adverse effects will be more than minimal. If so contacted by an agency, the district engineer will wait an additional 15 calendar days before making a decision on the pre-construction notification. The district engineer will fully consider agency comments received within the specified time frame concerning the proposed activity's compliance with the terms and conditions of the NWPs, including the need for mitigation to ensure the net adverse environmental effects to the aquatic environment of the proposed activity are minimal. The district engineer will provide no

response to the resource agency, except as provided below. The district engineer will indicate in the administrative record associated with each pre-construction notification that the resource agencies' concerns were considered. For NWP 37, the emergency watershed protection and rehabilitation activity may proceed immediately in cases where there is an unacceptable hazard to life or a significant loss of property or economic hardship will occur. The district engineer will consider any comments received to decide whether the NWP 37 authorization should be modified, suspended, or revoked in accordance with the procedures at 33 CFR 330.5.

(3) In cases of where the prospective permittee is not a Federal agency, the district engineer will provide a response to NMFS within 30 calendar days of receipt of any Essential Fish Habitat conservation recommendations, as required by Section 305(b)(4)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

(4) Applicants are encouraged to provide the Corps with either electronic files or multiple copies of pre-construction notifications to expedite agency coordination.

C. Nationwide Permit Regional Conditions

The Los Angeles District of the Corps issued a Special Public Notice (March 15, 2012) announcing final regional conditions for NWPs to ensure protection of high value waters within the Los Angeles District. Of the ten regional conditions effective within the Los Angeles District, six apply to projects within the State of Arizona (1-4, 9 and 10). The remaining four regional conditions apply to specific geographic areas, resources or species not located in Arizona.

The following regional conditions must be followed in order for any authorization by a NWP to be valid in the State of Arizona:

Regional Condition 1. For all activities in waters of the U.S. that are suitable habitat for federally listed fish species, the permittee shall design all road crossings to ensure that the passage and/or spawning of fish is not hindered. In these areas, the permittee shall employ bridge designs that span the stream or river, including pier- or pile-supported spans, or designs that use a bottomless arch culvert with a natural stream bed, unless determined to be impracticable by the Corps.

Regional Condition 2. Nationwide Permits (NWP) 3, 7, 12-15, 17-19, 21, 23, 25, 29, 35, 36, or 39-46, 48-52 cannot be used to authorize structures, work, and/or the discharge of dredged or fill material that would result in the "loss" of wetlands, mudflats, vegetated shallows or riffle and pool complexes as defined at 40 CFR Part 230.40-45. The definition of "loss" for this regional condition is the same as the definition of "loss of waters of the United States" used for the Nationwide Permit Program. Furthermore, this regional condition applies only within the State of Arizona and within the Mojave and Sonoran (Colorado) desert regions of California. The desert regions in California are limited to four USGS Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) accounting units (Lower Colorado -150301, Northern Mojave-180902, Southern Mojave-181001, and Salton Sea-181002).

Regional Condition 3. When a pre-construction notification (PCN) is required, the appropriate U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) District shall be notified in accordance with General Condition 31 using either the South Pacific Division PCN Checklist or a signed application form (ENG Form 4345) with an attachment providing information on compliance with all of the General and Regional Conditions. The PCN Checklist and application form are available at: http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Regulatory.aspx. In addition, the PCN shall include: A written statement describing how the activity has been designed to avoid and minimize adverse effects, both temporary and permanent, to waters of the United States; drawings, including plan and cross-section views, clearly depicting the location, size and dimensions of the proposed activity as well as the location of delineated waters of the U.S. on the site. The drawings shall contain a title block, legend and scale, amount (in cubic yards) and area (in acres) of fill in Corps jurisdiction, including both permanent and temporary fills/structures. The ordinary high water mark or, if tidal waters, the mean high water mark and high tide line, should be shown (in feet), based on National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) or other appropriate referenced elevation. All drawings for projects located within the boundaries of the Los Angeles District shall comply with the most current version of the Map and Drawing Standards for the Los Angeles District Regulatory Division (available on the Los Angeles District Regulatory Division website at: http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Regulatory.aspx; and Numbered and dated pre-project color photographs showing a representative sample of waters proposed to be impacted on the project site, and all

waters proposed to be avoided on and immediately adjacent to the project site. The compass angle and position of each photograph shall be documented on the plan-view drawing required in subpart b of this regional condition.

Regional Condition 4. Submission of a PCN pursuant to General Condition 31 and Regional Condition 3 shall be required for all regulated activities in the following locations: a) All perennial waterbodies and special aquatic sites within the State of Arizona and within the Mojave and Sonoran (Colorado) desert regions of California, excluding the Colorado River in Arizona from Davis Dam to River Mile 261 (northern boundary of the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Reservation). The desert region in California is limited to four USGS HUC accounting units (Lower Colorado -150301, Northern Mojave-180902, Southern Mojave-181001, and Salton Sea-181002). b) All areas designated as Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (i.e., all tidally influenced areas - Federal Register dated March 12, 2007 (72 FR 11092)), in which case the PCN shall include an EFH assessment and extent of proposed impacts to EFH. Examples of EFH habitat assessments can be found at: http://www.swr.noaa.gov/efh.htm. c) All watersheds in the Santa Monica Mountains in Los Angeles and Ventura counties bounded by Calleguas Creek on the west, by Highway 101 on the north and east, and by Sunset Boulevard and Pacific Ocean on the south. d) The Santa Clara River watershed in Los Angeles and Ventura counties, including but not limited to Aliso Canyon, Agua Dulce Canyon, Sand Canyon, Bouquet Canyon, Mint Canyon, South Fork of the Santa Clara River, San Francisquito Canyon, Castaic Creek, Piru Creek, Sespe Creek and the main-stem of the Santa Clara River.

Regional Condition 9. Any requests to waive the 300 linear foot limitation for intermittent and ephemeral streams for NWPs 29, 39, 40 and 42, 43, 44, 51 and 52 or to waive the 500 linear foot limitation along the bank for NWP 13, must include the following: a) A narrative description of the stream. This should include known information on: volume and duration of flow; the approximate length, width, and depth of the waterbody and characters observed associated with an Ordinary High Water Mark (e.g. bed and bank, wrack line, or scour marks); a description of the adjacent vegetation community and a statement regarding the wetland status of the associated vegetation community (i.e. wetland, non-wetland); surrounding land use; water quality; issues related to cumulative impacts in the watershed, and; any other relevant information. b) An analysis of the proposed impacts to the waterbody in accordance with General Condition 31 and Regional Condition 3; c) Measures taken to avoid and minimize losses, including other methods of constructing the proposed project; and d) A compensatory mitigation plan describing how the unavoidable losses are proposed to be compensated, in accordance with 33 CFR Part 332.

Regional Condition 10. The permittee shall complete the construction of any compensatory mitigation required by special condition(s) of the NWP verification before or concurrent with commencement of construction of the authorized activity, except when specifically determined to be impracticable by the Corps. When mitigation involves use of a mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program, the permittee shall submit proof of payment to the Corps prior to commencement of construction of the authorized activity.

D. Nationwide Permit 401 Water Quality Certifications (401 WQCs)

A 401 WQC is mandatory for any activity that requires a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit. A 401 WQC is required prior to discharging any dredged or fill material into a water of the United States. Only one of the following 401 WQCs listed below will apply to your project. The geographical location of your project will determine which 401 WQC is applicable. The 401 WQCs issued for this NWP and will remain in effect through March 18, 2017.

On all "Non-Tribal Lands", lands that are not part of federally recognized Indian Reservation, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is the agency responsible for issuing the 401 WQC.

On all "Tribal Lands", lands that are part a federally recognized Indian Reservation, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for issuing the 401 WQC except where EPA has delegated the 401 WQC authority to the White Mountain Apache Tribe (Fort Apache Indian Reservation), Hopi Tribe (Hopi Indian Reservation), Hualapai Tribe (Hualapai Indian Reservation), or Navajo Nation (Navajo Indian Reservation).

If "Individual Certification" is required you must apply for, receive, and comply with the 401 WQC issued by ADEQ, EPA, or the appropriate Tribe.

Non-tribal Lands - 401 WQCs*

The conditional 401 WQCs issued by ADEQ are summarized in Table 1. For projects that can be conditionally certified the project must comply with all applicable ADEQ 401 General Conditions. See 401 WQC letter in Appendix for full description of conditional 401 WQCs issued by ADEQ.

Tribal Lands - 401 WQCs*

Fort Apache Indian Reservation (White Mountain Apache Tribe):	Individual Certification required for all projects.
Hopi Indian Reservation (Hopi Tribe):	Individual Certification required for all projects.
Hualapai Indian Reservation (Hualapai Tribe):	Individual Certification required for all projects.
Navajo Indian Reservation (Navajo Nation):	Individual Certification required for all projects.
All other Indian Reservations (EPA):	401 WQCs issued by EPA are summarized in Table 2.

* All 401 WQC letters are located in the Appendix.

401 WQC Contact Information

Robert Scalamera
Surface Water Section, 401 Certifications
Arizona Department of EnvironmentalQuality
1110 West Washington Street (Mailstop 5415A-1)
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Telephone: 602-771-4502
Fax: Not available
E-mail: rs3@azdeq.gov

Elizabeth Goldmann
Region IX
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street (WTR-8)
San Francisco, California 94105
Telephone: 415- 972-3398
Fax: 415-747-3537
E-mail: Goldmann.Elizabeth@epa.gov

Tara Chief
Water Quality Officer
White Mountain Apache Tribe
P.O. Box 2109
Whiteriver, Arizona 85941
Telephone: 928-338-2472
Fax: 928-338-3933
E-mail: tarachief@wmat.us

Lee Anna Silversmith
Water Quality Program
Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 339
Window Rock, Arizona, 86515
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Fax: 928-871-7996
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Alex Cabillo
Water Resource Program Manager
Hualapai Dept. of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 300
Peach Springs, Arizona 86434
Telephone: 928-769-2254
Fax: 520-769-2309
E-mail: acabillo@hotmail.com

Lionel Puhuyesva
Hopi Water Resources Program
Hopi Tribe
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, Arizona 86309
Telephone: 928-734-3711
Fax: 928-734-3609
E-mail:
lpuhuyesva@hopi.nsn.us

Table 1 - ADEQ 401 WQCs for all Non-Tribal Lands

NWP	303(d) impaired waters [1]& Tributaries to 303[d]-impaired waters[2]	OAW[3] & Tributaries to OAW	Lakes[4]	Other Waters[5]	Comments
1 - Aids to Navigation	-	-	-	-	N/A
2 - Structures in Artificial Canals	-	-	-	-	N/A
3 - Maintenance	I	I	I	C	
4 - Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement ... Activities	I	I	I	C	
5 - Scientific Measurement Devices	I	I	I	C	
6 - Survey Activities	I	I	I	C	
7 - Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures	I	I	I	C	
8 - Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf	-	-	-	-	N/A
9 - Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas	-	-	-	-	N/A
10 - Mooring Buoys	-	-	-	-	N/A
11 - Temporary Recreational Structures	-	-	-	-	N/A
12 - Utility Line Activities	I	I	I	C	
13 - Bank Stabilization	I	I	I	C	
14 - Linear Transportation Projects	I	I	I	C	
15 - U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges	I	I	I	C	
16 - Return Water From Upland Contained Disposal Areas	I	I	I	C	
17 - Hydropower Projects	I	I	I	C	
18 - Minor Discharges	I	I	I	C	
19 - Minor Dredging	I	I	I	C	
20 - Response Operations for Oil and Hazardous Substances	I	I	I	T	If work begins within 14 days of event.
21 - Surface Coal Mining Activities	I	I	I	I	
22 - Removal of Vessels	I	I	I	C	
23 - Approved Categorical Exclusion	I	I	I	C	
24 - Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs	-	-	-	-	N/A
25 - Structural Discharges	I	I	I	C	
26 - [Reserved]	-	-	-	-	
27 - Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment ... Activities	I	I	I	I	
28 - Modifications of Existing Marinas	-	-	-	-	N/A
29 - Residential Developments	I	I	I	C	
30 - Moist Soil Management for Wildlife	I	I	I	C	
31 - Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities	I	I	I	C	
32 - Completed Enforcement Actions	I	I	I	C	
33 - Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering	I	I	I	C	
34 - Cranberry Production Activities	I	I	I	I	
35 - Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins	-	-	-	-	N/A
36 - Boat Ramps	I	I	I	C	
37 - Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation	I	I	I	T	If work begins within 30 days of event.
38 - Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste	I	I	I	T	If work begins within 2 days of discovery.
39 - Commercial and Institutional Developments	I	I	I	C	
40 - Agricultural Activities	I	I	I	C	
41 - Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches	I	I	I	C	
42 - Recreational Facilities	I	I	I	C	
43 - Stormwater Management Facilities	I	I	I	C	
44 - Mining Activities	I	I	I	I	
45 - Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events	I	I	I	T	If work begins within 14 days of event.
46 - Discharges in Ditches	I	I	I	C	
47 - [Reserved]	-	-	-	-	Reserved
48 - Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities	I	I	I	C	
49 - Coal Remining Activities	I	I	I	I	
50 - Underground Coal Mining Activities	I	I	I	I	
51 - Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities	I	I	I	C	
52 - Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects	I	I	I	C	

C = Conditionally certified in Other waters, all applicable CWA 401 General Conditions listed on following pages apply.
T = Conditionally certified only if work begins within designated time of event, otherwise individual 401 certification required.
I = Individual certification required. N/A = Not Available/Not Applicable.

[1] 303[d]-listed Impaired Waters list available at http://www.azdeq.gov/index.html. For projects on an impaired surface water, if the project is within 1600 meters (or 1 mile) upstream and/or 800 meters (½ mile) downstream of an impaired surface water.

[2] Tributaries to 303[d]-impaired waters. For projects on a tributary to an impaired surface water, or if the tributary mouth is to an impaired surface water and the project is within 1600 meters (or 1 mile) of its mouth.

[3] Outstanding Arizona Waters (OAW) are the surface waters of exceptional quality listed at http://www.azdeq.gov/index.html. For projects on a designated Outstanding Arizona Water OAW, if the project is within 1600 meters (or 1 mile) upstream and/or 800 meters (½ mile) downstream of a designated OAW. Also, Tributaries to Outstanding Arizona Waters: For projects on a tributary to a designated Outstanding Arizona Water, or if the tributary mouth is to an impaired surface water and the project is within 1600 meters (or 1 mile) of its mouth.

[4] Lakes are lakes and reservoirs listed at http://www.azdeq.gov/index.html

[5] Other Waters are all WUS that are not otherwise designated as a 303(d) Impaired, OAW, or a lake.

Table 2 - EPA 401 WQC for Tribal Lands (All Indian Reservations except Fort Apache, Hopi, Hualapai and Navajo Indian Reservations**)**

NWP	Conditional Certification		Notification	Impact Limits	Notes
	General Conditions	Specific Conditions			
1 - Aids to Navigation	X		MPCN	None	
2 - Structures in Artificial Canals	X		MPCN	None	
3 - Maintenance	X	X	PCN or MPCN	Generally no increase in fill footprint	1,2
4 - Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities	X		MPCN	None	
5 - Scientific Measurement Devices	X		MPCN	25 cyds	
6 - Survey Activities	X		MPCN	25 cyds	
7 - Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures	X		PCN	None	
8 - Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf	X		PCN	None	
9 - Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas	X		MPCN	None	
10 - Mooring Buoys	X		MPCN	None	
11 - Temporary Recreational Structures	X		MPCN	None	
12 - Utility Line Activities	X	X	PCN or MPCN	**½ acre or 300'	3,4
13 - Bank Stabilization	X	X	PCN or MPCN	**½ acre or 300'	5
14 - Linear Transportation Projects	X	X	PCN or MPCN	**½ acre or 300' nontidal, ⅓ acre or 300' tidal	3
15 - U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges	X		MPCN	None	
16 - Return Water From Upland Contained Disposal Areas	X		MPCN	None	
17 - Hydropower Projects	X		PCN	None	
18 - Minor Discharges	X		PCN or MPCN	1/10 acre or 25 cyds	
19 - Minor Dredging	X		MPCN	25 cyds	
20 - Response Operations for Oil and Hazardous Substances	X		MPCN	None	
21 - Surface Coal Mining Activities	X	X	PCN	½ acre or 300'	6
22 - Removal of Vessels	X		PCN or MPCN	None	
23 - Approved Categorical Exclusion	X		PCN or MPCN	None	
24 - Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs	X		MPCN	None	
25 - Structural Discharges	X		MPCN	None	
26 - [Reserved]					
27 - Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities	X	X	PCN or MPCN	None	7
28 - Modifications of Existing Marinas	X		MPCN	None	
29 - Residential Developments	X	X	PCN or MPCN	**¼ acres for single house, ½ acres or 300' for multi-unit	8, 9
30 - Moist Soil Management for Wildlife	X		MPCN	None	
31 - Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities	X	X	PCN	None	10
32 - Completed Enforcement Actions	X		MPCN	5 acres non-tidal or 1 acre tidal	
33 - Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering	X		PCN	None	
34 - Cranberry Production Activities	X		PCN	10 acres	
35 - Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins	X		MPCN	Lesser of previously authorized or controlling depths	
36 - Boat Ramps	X		PCN or MPCN	50 cyds, 20'-wide ramp	8
37 - Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation	X		PCN or MPCN	None	
38 - Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste	X		PCN	None	
39 - Commercial and Institutional Developments	X	X	PCN or MPCN	½ acre or 300' non-tidal	8
40 - Agricultural Activities	X	X	PCN or MPCN	½ acre or 300' non-tidal	8
41 - Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches	X	X	PCN or MPCN	**½ acre or 300' non-tidal	8
42 - Recreational Facilities	X	X	PCN	½ acre or 300' non-tidal	
43 - Stormwater Management Facilities	Individual Certification Required		MPCN	Not Applicable	
44 - Mining Activities	X	X	PCN or MPCN	½ acre or 300' non-tidal	8
45 - Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events	X	X	PCN or MPCN	**½ acre or 300'	8
46 - Discharges in Ditches	X	X	PCN or MPCN	**½ acre or 300' non-tidal	8
47 - [Reserved]					
48 - Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities	X	X	PCN or MPCN	**Impacts of submerged aquatic veg. prohibited	
49 - Coal Remining Activities	X	X	PCN or MPCN	**½ acre or 300' non-tidal	8
50 - Underground Coal Mining Activities	X	X	PCN or MPCN	½ acre or 300' non-tidal	8
51 - Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities	X	X	PCN or MPCN	½ acre or 300' non-tidal	8
52 - Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects	X	X	PCN or MPCN	½ acre or 300'	

X=Conditional Certification requires compliance with General and Specific Conditions on following pages.
MPCN=Modified Pre-Construction (MPCN) must be submitted to EPA even though Corps notification is not required.
PCN=Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) submitted to Corps must also be submitted to EPA.
** Impacts limits are modified by EPA

Notes:
1. No undersized structures
2. Bioengineering used whenever practicable
3. Only once per single and complete project with independent utility
4. Waiver approval required from EPA for 300"
5. Waiver approval required from EPA
6. EPA approves mitigation plan first
7. Approval required from EPA
8. Waiver approval required from EPA
9. No recreational impacts authorized
10. Approval for levee vegetation removal required from EPA

E. Additional Information

Three sections from the "Reissuance of Nationwide Permits" notice in the February 21, 2012 Federal Register are included below to better explain the NWP authorization review process and definitions for the terms that are used by the Corps.

1. District Engineer's Decision

1. 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. For a linear project, this determination will include an evaluation of the individual crossings to determine whether they individually satisfy the terms and conditions of the NWP(s), as well as the cumulative effects caused by all of the crossings authorized by NWP. If an applicant requests a waiver of the 300 linear foot limit on impacts to intermittent or ephemeral streams or of an otherwise applicable limit, as provided for in NWPs 13, 21, 29, 36, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 50, 51 or 52, the district engineer will only grant the waiver upon a written determination that the NWP activity will result in minimal adverse effects. When making minimal effects determinations the district engineer will consider the direct and indirect effects caused by the NWP activity. The district engineer will also consider site specific factors, such as the environmental setting in the vicinity of the NWP activity, the type of resource that will be affected by the NWP activity, the functions provided by the aquatic resources that will be affected by the NWP activity, the degree or magnitude to which the aquatic resources perform those functions, the extent that aquatic resource functions will be lost as a result of the NWP activity (e.g., partial or complete loss), the duration of the adverse effects (temporary or permanent), the importance of the aquatic resource functions to the region (e.g., watershed or ecoregion), and mitigation required by the district engineer. If an appropriate functional assessment method is available and practicable to use, that assessment method may be used by the district engineer to assist in the minimal adverse effects determination. The district engineer may add case-specific special conditions to the NWP authorization to address site-specific environmental concerns.

2. If the proposed activity requires a PCN and will result in a loss of greater than 1/10-acre of wetlands, the prospective permittee should submit a mitigation proposal with the PCN. Applicants may also propose compensatory mitigation for projects with smaller impacts. 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 activity are minimal. The compensatory mitigation proposal may be either conceptual or detailed. 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 activity-specific conditions in the NWP verification the district engineer deems necessary. Conditions for compensatory mitigation requirements must comply with the appropriate provisions at 33 CFR 332.3(k). The district engineer must approve the final mitigation plan before the permittee commences work in waters of the United States, unless the district engineer determines that prior approval of the final mitigation plan is not practicable or not necessary to ensure timely completion of the required compensatory mitigation. 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 proposed compensatory mitigation plan within 45 calendar days of receiving a complete PCN and determine whether the 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, including any activity-specific conditions added to the NWP authorization by the district engineer.

3. 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: (a) 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; (b) that the project is authorized under the NWP subject to the applicant's submission of a mitigation plan that would reduce the adverse effects on the aquatic environment to the minimal level; or (c) 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, with activity-specific conditions that state the mitigation requirements. The authorization will include the necessary conceptual or detailed mitigation or a requirement that the applicant submit a mitigation plan that would reduce the adverse effects on the aquatic environment to the minimal level. When mitigation is required, no work in waters of the United States may occur until the district engineer has approved a specific mitigation plan or has determined that prior approval of a final mitigation plan is not practicable or not necessary to ensure timely completion of the required compensatory mitigation.

2. Further Information

1. District Engineers have authority to determine if an activity complies with the terms and conditions of an 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.

3. Definitions

Best management practices (BMPs): 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 non-structural.
Compensatory mitigation: The restoration (re-establishment or rehabilitation), establishment (creation), enhancement, and/or in certain circumstances preservation of aquatic resources for the purposes of offsetting unavoidable adverse impacts which remain after all appropriate and practicable avoidance and minimization has been achieved.
Currently serviceable: Useable as is or with some maintenance, but not so degraded as to essentially require reconstruction.
Direct effects: Effects that are caused by the activity and occur at the same time and place.
Discharge: The term “discharge” means any discharge of dredged or fill material.
Enhancement: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of an aquatic resource to heighten, intensify, or improve a specific aquatic resource function(s). Enhancement results in the gain of selected aquatic resource function(s), but may also lead to a decline in other aquatic resource function(s). Enhancement does not result in a gain in aquatic resource area.
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.
Establishment (creation): The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics present to develop an aquatic resource that did not previously exist at an upland site. Establishment results in a gain in aquatic resource area.
High Tide Line: The line of intersection of the land with the water’s surface at the maximum height reached by a rising tide. The high tide line may be determined, in the absence of actual data, by a line of oil or scum along shore objects, a more or less continuous deposit of fine shell or debris on the foreshore or berm, other physical markings or characteristics, vegetation lines, tidal gages, or other suitable means that delineate the general height reached by a rising tide. The line encompasses spring high tides and other high tides that occur with periodic frequency but does not include storm surges in which there is a departure from the normal or predicted reach of the tide due to the piling up of water against a coast by strong winds such as those accompanying a hurricane or other intense storm.
Historic Property: Any prehistoric or historic district, site (including archaeological site), building, structure, or other object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. This term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization and that meet the National Register criteria (36 CFR part 60).

Independent utility: A test to determine what constitutes a single and complete non-linear 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.
Indirect effects: Effects that are caused by the activity and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable.
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 United States: Waters of the United States that are permanently adversely affected by filling, flooding, excavation, or drainage because of the regulated activity. Permanent adverse effects include permanent discharges of dredged or fill material 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 United States is a threshold measurement of the impact to jurisdictional waters for determining whether a project may qualify for an 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 services. The loss of stream bed includes the linear feet of stream bed that is filled or excavated. Waters of the United States temporarily filled, flooded, excavated, or drained, but restored to pre-construction contours and elevations after construction, are not included in the measurement of loss of waters of the United States. Impacts resulting from activities eligible for exemptions under Section 404(f) of the Clean Water Act are not considered when calculating the loss of waters of the United States.
Non-tidal wetland: A non-tidal wetland is a wetland that is not subject to the ebb and flow of tidal waters. The definition of a wetland can be found at 33 CFR 328.3(b). Non-tidal wetlands contiguous to tidal waters are located landward of the high tide line (i.e., spring high tide line).
Open water: For purposes of the NWPs, an open water is any area that in a year with normal patterns of precipitation has water flowing or standing above ground to the extent that an ordinary high water mark can be determined. 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. Examples of “open waters” include rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds.
Ordinary High Water Mark: An ordinary high water mark is a line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics, or by other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas (see 33 CFR 328.3(e)).
Perennial stream: A perennial stream has flowing water year-round during a typical year. The water table is located above the stream bed for 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.
Practicable: Available and capable of being done after taking into consideration cost, existing technology, and logistics in light of overall project purposes.
Pre-construction notification: A request submitted by the project proponent to the Corps for confirmation that a particular activity is authorized by nationwide permit. The request may be a permit application, letter, or similar document that includes information about the proposed work and its anticipated environmental effects. Pre-construction notification may be required by the terms and conditions of a nationwide permit, or by regional conditions. A pre-construction notification may be voluntarily submitted in cases where pre-construction notification is not required and the project proponent wants confirmation that the activity is authorized by nationwide permit.
Preservation: The removal of a threat to, or preventing the decline of, aquatic resources by an action in or near those aquatic resources. This term includes activities commonly associated with the protection and maintenance of aquatic resources through the implementation of appropriate legal and physical mechanisms. Preservation does not result in a gain of aquatic resource area or functions.
Re-establishment: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former aquatic resource. Re-establishment results in rebuilding a former aquatic resource and results in a gain in aquatic resource area and functions.
Rehabilitation: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of repairing natural/historic functions to a degraded aquatic resource. Rehabilitation results in a gain in aquatic resource function, but does not result in a gain in aquatic resource area.
Restoration: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former or degraded aquatic resource. For the purpose of tracking net gains in aquatic resource area, restoration is divided into two categories: re-establishment and rehabilitation.

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 course 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.

Riparian areas: Riparian areas are lands adjacent to streams, lakes, and estuarine-marine shorelines. Riparian areas are transitional between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, through which surface and subsurface hydrology connects riverine, lacustrine, estuarine, and marine waters with their adjacent wetlands, non-wetland waters, or uplands. Riparian areas provide a variety of ecological functions and services and help improve or maintain local water quality. (See general condition 23.)

Shellfish seeding: The placement of shellfish seed and/or suitable substrate to increase shellfish production. Shellfish seed consists of immature individual shellfish or individual shellfish attached to shells or shell fragments (i.e., spat on shell). Suitable substrate may consist of shellfish shells, shell fragments, or other appropriate materials placed into waters for shellfish habitat.

Single and complete linear project: A linear project is a project constructed for the purpose of getting people, goods, or services from a point of origin to a terminal point, which often involves multiple crossings of one or more waterbodies at separate and distant locations. The term “single and complete project” is defined as that portion of the total linear project proposed or accomplished by one owner/developer or partnership or other association of owners/developers that includes all crossings of a single water of the United States (i.e., a single waterbody) at a specific location. For linear projects crossing a single or multiple waterbodies several times at separate and distant locations, each crossing is considered a single and complete project for purposes of NWP authorization. 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, and crossings of such features cannot be considered separately.

Single and complete non-linear project: For non-linear projects, 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. A single and complete non-linear project must have independent utility (see definition of “independent utility”). Single and complete non-linear projects may not be “piecemealed” to avoid the limits in an NWP authorization.

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 best management practices, 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 bed: The substrate of the stream channel between the ordinary high water marks. The substrate may be bedrock or inorganic particles that range in size from clay to boulders. Wetlands contiguous to the stream bed, but outside of the ordinary high water marks, are not considered part of the stream bed.

Stream channelization: The manipulation of a stream’s course, condition, capacity, or location that causes more than minimal interruption of normal stream processes. A channelized stream remains a water of the United States.

Structure: An object that is arranged in a definite pattern of organization. Examples of structures include, without limitation, any pier, boat dock, boat ramp, wharf, dolphin, weir, boom, breakwater, bulkhead, revetment, riprap, jetty, artificial island, artificial reef, permanent mooring structure, power transmission line, permanently moored floating vessel, piling, aid to navigation, or any other manmade obstacle or obstruction.

Tidal wetland: A tidal wetland is a wetland (i.e., water of the United States) 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, which is defined at 33 CFR 328.3(d).

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: For purposes of the NWPs, a waterbody is a jurisdictional water of the United States. If a jurisdictional wetland is adjacent – meaning bordering, contiguous, or neighboring – to a waterbody determined

to be a water of the United States under 33 CFR 328.3(a)(1)-(6), that waterbody and its adjacent wetlands are considered together as a single aquatic unit (see 33 CFR 328.4(c)(2)). Examples of “waterbodies” include streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands.

F. Document Availability

Reissuance of Nationwide Permits, Federal Register (77 FR 10184-10290) on February 21, 2012 (http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-02-21/pdf/2012-3687.pdf)

Special Public Notice - Reissuance of the Nationwide Permits and Issuance of Final Regional Conditions for the Los Angeles District dated March 15, 2012
(Contact Corps project manager for digital copy of document)

ADEQ 401 WQC letter dated March 16, 2012
(See Appendix or contact Corps project manager for digital copy of document.)

EPA 401 WQC letter dated March 30, 2012
(See Appendix or contact Corps project manager for digital copy of document.)

White Mountain Apache Tribe 401 WQC letter dated May 7, 2012
(See Appendix or contact Corps project manager for digital copy of document.)

Hopi Tribe 401 WQC letter dated April 11, 2012
(See Appendix or contact Corps project manager for digital copy of document.)

Hualapai Tribe 401 WQC letter dated April 25, 2012
(See Appendix or contact Corps project manager for digital copy of document.)

Navajo Nation 401 WQC letter dated May 7, 2012
(See Appendix or contact Corps project manager for digital copy of document.)

For additional information please call Robert J. Dummer at 602-230-6952 or contact via e-mail at Robert.J.Dummer@usace.army.mil. This public notice is issued by the Chief, Arizona Branch, Regulatory Division.

Regulatory Program Goals:

- To provide strong protection of the nation's aquatic environment, including wetlands.
- To ensure the Corps of Engineers provides the regulated public with fair and reasonable decisions.
- To enhance the efficiency of the Corps of Engineers’ administration of its regulatory program.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
3636 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 900
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85012-1939
http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Regulatory.aspx

G. Appendix (401 WQCs full text)

1. Arizona Department of Environmental Quality 401 WQC letter dated March 16, 2012
2. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 401 WQC letter dated March 30, 2012
3. Hopi Tribe 401 WQC letter dated April 11, 2012
4. Hualapai Tribe 401 WQC letter dated April 25, 2012
5. Navajo Nation 401 WQC letter dated May 7, 2012
6. White Mountain Apache Tribe 401 WQC letter dated May 7, 2012

1. Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

401 WQC letter dated March 16, 2012

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1110 West Washington Street • Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 771-2300 • www.azdeq.gov

COPY

Henry R. Darwin
Director

March 16, 2012

rs312:009

Department of The Army
Los Angeles District Corps of Engineers
Attn: David J. Castanon, Chief, Regulatory Division
P.O. Box 532711
Los Angeles, California 90053-2325

Subject: **Clean Water Act 401 Certification for Nationwide Permits - March 18, 2012**

Dear Mr. Castanon:

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has reviewed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CoE) reissuance of Nationwide Permits (NWPs). Based upon the information provided in the Federal Register, Tuesday, February 21, 2012, ADEQ has conditionally certified the NWPs as detailed below.

For purposes of this certification the following definitions apply:

- 303[d]-listed Impaired Waters are surface waters that are identified pursuant to Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303[d] as impaired (e.g., not meeting surface water quality standards) and as a result merit special consideration. The current 303[d] list of Impaired Waters is available on the ADEQ website via: http://www.azdeq.gov/index.html
- Outstanding Arizona Waters (OAW) are surface waters classified as an outstanding state resource water by the ADEQ Director pursuant to the Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) R18-11-112. These waters are of exceptional quality and therefore merit special consideration. The current list of OAW is available on the ADEQ website via: http://www.azdeq.gov/index.html
- Waters of the U.S. (WUS) as defined by the Corps of Engineers and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Water Act. This certification applies only to activities in any potentially impacted WUS.
- Temporary means not longer than the time required to complete the subject activities.
- Native material/fill is defined as pollutant-free soil, sand, gravel, etc. that constitutes the streambed or adjacent banks in the immediate area of the permitted work.

It is incumbent upon the applicant/permittee to check current rules and ADEQ publications to determine if any waterbody on their project site is named an "Outstanding Arizona Water" or is a 303[d]-listed impaired water. An Individual 401 Certification is required in every instance when a project has a potential to impact any of these waters.

401 General Conditions

The following 401 General Conditions apply to all waters of the State and all applicable NWP:

1) Any discharge occurring as a result of activities certified for the subject project shall not cause an exceedence of any Water Quality Standard (WQS). Applicability of this condition is as defined in A.A.C. R18-11-102.

2) This certification does not authorize the discharge of wastewater, process residues or other waste to any WUS.

3) Work shall be conducted and monitored to ensure that pollution from the activities certified herein does not cause an exceedence of Arizona WQS in any WUS.

4) Activities herein certified shall be performed during periods of low flow (baseflow or less) in any WUS, or no flow in the case of ephemeral and intermittent WUS. No work shall be done, nor shall any equipment or vehicles enter any WUS while flow is present, unless all applicable conditions in this certification are met.

5) The effectiveness of all pollution control measures, including erosion and sedimentation, shall be reevaluated after each flow event and repaired/modified as needed.

6) Applicant must minimize clearing, grubbing, scraping or otherwise limit exposure of erodible surface to the minimum necessary for each construction phase or location.

7) If activities certified herein are likely to cause or contribute to an exceedence of WQS, or create an impediment to the passage of fish or other aquatic life - operations shall cease until the problem is resolved or until control measures have been undertaken.

8) Erosion control, sediment control and/or bank protection measures shall be installed before construction and pre-operation activities, and shall be maintained during construction and post-construction periods to minimize channel or bank erosion, soil loss and sedimentation. Control measures shall not be constructed of uncemented or unconfined imported soil, or other materials easily transported by flow.

9) For portions of the project utilizing potable water or groundwater for irrigation or dust control, direct runoff of such water shall be limited to the extent practicable and shall not cause downstream erosion or flooding.

10) The applicant is responsible for ensuring construction material and/or fill (other than native fill or that necessary to support revegetation) placed in any WUS, shall not include materials that can cause or contribute to pollution of the WUS. Examples of prohibited fill include pollutant-contaminated soil and materials defined as pollutants or hazardous in Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) § 49-201. Fill used to support vegetation rooting or growth shall be protected from erosion.

11) Any washing of fill material must occur outside of any WUS prior to placement and the rinseate from such washing shall be settled, filtered or otherwise treated to prevent migration of pollutants (including sediment) or from causing erosion to any WUS. Other than replacement of native fill or material used to support vegetation rooting or growth, fill placed in locations subject to scour must resist washout whether such resistance is derived via particle size limits, presence of a binder, vegetation, or other armoring.

12) Any dredged material or waste material is to be placed and retained in areas outside any WUS. Runoff from this material/area is to be settled, filtered or otherwise treated to prevent migration of pollutants (including sediment) to any WUS.

13) Acceptable construction materials that will or may contact water in any WUS are: untreated logs and lumber, crushed stone, crushed clean concrete (recycled concrete), native fill, precast, sprayed or cast-in-place concrete (including soil cement and unmodified grouts), steel (including galvanized), plastic and aluminum. Use of other materials may be allowed, but require application for an individual 401 certification.

14) Upon completion of construction the applicant shall ensure no adverse change, due to the subject project, has occurred in the stability with respect to stream hydraulics, erosion and sedimentation, of any WUS including upstream and downstream from the project. If such change has occurred, the applicant shall take steps to restore the pre-project stability of any impacted segments.

15) Except where the activities certified herein are intended to permanently alter any WUS, all disturbed areas shall be restored and (re)vegetated as soon as physically practicable. Vegetation shall be maintained on unarmored banks and slopes to stabilize soil and prevent erosion.

16) If retention/detention basins are included in the project, applicant will complete the grading necessary to direct runoff towards retention/detention basins no later than immediately following initial land clearing or rough grading.

    Retention/detention basins shall be sized to accept storm runoff and capture sediment prior to it entering or moving downstream in any WUS. Detention basins will provide detention by controlling outflow and shall cause no significant change to the hydraulic conditions of the upstream or downstream WUS outside of the project boundaries.

    The basins shall be maintained; e.g., have sediment removed, as required to maintain their function.

17) Unless specifically permitted to do so when flow is present in any WUS within the project area, the applicant and any contractor will not alter the flow by any means except to prevent erosion or pollution of any WUS.

18) Silt laden or turbid water resulting from activities certified herein shall be settled, filtered or otherwise treated to ensure no violation of Arizona WQS in any WUS.

19) When flow in any WUS in the work area is sufficient to erode, carry or deposit material, activities certified herein shall cease until:

    - the flow decreases below the point where sediment movement ceases, or
    - control measures have been undertaken; e.g., equipment and materials easily transported by flow are protected with non-erodible barriers or moved outside the flow area.

20) The applicant will erect any barriers, covers, shields and other protective devices as necessary to prevent any construction materials, equipment or contaminants/pollutants from falling, being thrown or otherwise entering any WUS.

21) The applicant must designate area(s) for equipment staging and storage located entirely outside of any WUS. In addition, the applicant must designate areas, located entirely outside of any WUS, for fuel, oil and other petroleum product storage and for solid waste containment. All precautions shall be taken to avoid the release of wastes, fuel or other pollutants to any WUS.

    Any equipment maintenance, washing or fueling that cannot be done offsite will be performed in the designated area with the following exception: equipment too large or unwieldy to be readily moved; e.g., large cranes, may be fueled and serviced in the WUS (but outside of standing or flowing water) as long as material specifically manufactured and sold as spill containment is in place during fueling/servicing. All equipment shall be inspected for leaks, all leaks shall be repaired and all repaired equipment will be cleaned to remove any fuel or other fluid residue prior to use within (including crossing) any WUS.

    The applicant shall have a spill containment plan onsite to ensure that pollutants are prevented from entering any WUS. Any pollutant generated by activities certified herein shall be properly disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations.

    A spill response kit will be maintained in this (these) area(s) to mitigate any spills. The kit will include material specifically manufactured and sold as spill adsorbent/absorbent and spill containment. The applicant will ensure that whenever there is activity on the site, that there are personnel on site trained in the proper response to spills and the use of spill response equipment.

22) Permanent and temporary pipes and culverted crossings shall be adequately sized to handle expected flow and properly set with end section, splash pads, or headwalls that dissipate water energy to control erosion.

23) All temporary structures, within any WUS, constructed of imported materials and all permanent structures within any WUS, including but not limited to, access roadways; culverted and unculverted crossings; staging areas; material stockpiles; berms, dikes and pads, shall be constructed so as to accommodate overtopping and must resist washout of the feature by streamflow.

24) Any temporary crossing, other than fords on native material, shall be constructed in such a manner so as to provide armoring of the stream channel. Materials used to provide this armoring shall not include anything easily transportable by flow. Examples of acceptable materials include steel plates, wooden planks, pre-cast concrete planks or blocks; examples of unacceptable materials include clay, silt, sand and gravel finer than cobble (roughly fist-sized). The armoring must, via mass, anchoring systems or a combination of the two, resist washout.

    Any ford shall be designed, and maintained as necessary, to carry the proposed traffic without causing erosion or sedimentation of the stream channel while dry or during a flow event equal to or less than the crossing's design event; i.e., the flow event which closes the ford to traffic.

    No unarmored ford shall be subject to heavy-truck or equipment traffic after a flow event until the stream bed is dry enough to support the traffic without disturbing streambed material to a greater extent than in dry conditions. Light vehicles (less than 14,000 pounds gross weight) are not restricted by this condition.

Applicant will take measures necessary to prevent approaches to any WUS crossing from causing erosion or contributing sediment to any WUS.

25) Temporary structures constructed of imported materials are to be removed no later than upon completion of the permitted activity.

26) Temporary structures constructed of native materials, if they provide an obstacle to flow or can contribute to or cause sedimentation or erosion, are to be removed no later than upon completion of the permitted activity.

27) Upon completion of the activities certified herein (except as noted in condition 28 -concrete curing), areas within any WUS shall be promptly cleared of all forms, piling, construction residues, equipment, debris or other obstructions.

28) If fully, partially or occasionally submerged structures are constructed of cast-in-place concrete instead of pre-cast concrete, applicant will take steps; e.g., sheet piling or temporary dams, to prevent contact between water (instream and runoff) and the concrete until it cures and until any curing agents have evaporated or otherwise cease to be available; i.e., are no longer a pollutant threat. Where practicable, construction work will be during extreme low water conditions or at a time and season with the highest probability of ensuring work is done in "the dry".

29) Any permanent WUS crossings other than fords, shall not be equipped with gutters, drains, scuppers or other conveyances that allow untreated runoff (due to events equal to or lesser in magnitude than the design event for the crossing structure) to directly enter a WUS if such runoff can be directed to a local stormwater drainage, containment and/or treatment system.

30) Applicant will clear debris as needed from culverts, ditches, dips and other drainage structures in any WUS to prevent clogging or conditions that may lead to washout.

Arizona's CWA 401 Certification Conditions that are applicable to specific nationwide permits are outlined in the attached table.

ADEQ CWA 401 Water Quality Certification of these activities to operate under the terms (including the conditions herein) of the applicable CoE NWP does not affect or modify in any way the obligations or liability of any person for any damages, injury, or loss, resulting from these activities. This Certification is not intended to waive any other federal, state or local laws.

Sincerely,

COPY

Michael Fulton, Director
Water Quality Division

electronic copies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch – Attn.: Sallie McGuire, Robert Dummer, C. Ann Palaruan, Antal J. Szijj
USEPA, Wetlands Regulatory Office

NWP-Specific 401 Certification Conditions:

The table below lists the NWP and under what conditions an individual 401 certification is required per the following:

303[d]-impaired waters: For projects on an impaired surface water, if the project is within 1600 meters (≈ 1 mile) upstream and/or 800 meters (≈ ½ mile) downstream of an impaired surface water. **Tributaries to 303[d]-impaired waters**: For projects on a tributary to an impaired surface water, or if the tributary mouth is to an impaired surface water and the project is within 1600 meters (≈ 1 mile) of its mouth.

Outstanding Arizona Waters: For projects on a designated Outstanding Arizona Water (OAW), if the project is within 1600 meters (≈ 1 mile) upstream and/or 800 meters (≈ ½ mile) downstream of a designated OAW. **Tributaries to Outstanding Arizona Waters**: For projects on a tributary to a designated OAW, or if the tributary mouth is to an impaired surface water and the project is within 1600 meters (≈ 1 mile) of its mouth.

Lakes: applications or projects that would impact lakes or reservoirs.

Other waters: Conditionally certified (all applicable 401 general conditions apply). Note: Conditional certification only applies when none of the above characteristics apply.

Table Legend:
C = Conditional certified in all waters – all applicable CWA 401 general conditions apply
T = Conditionally certified only if work begins within designated time of the discharge/release, otherwise individual 401 certification required
I = Individual certification required
N/A = Not Available in Arizona under CWA 404 Program

1 NWP	303(d) impaired waters & tributaries to 303(d) impaired waters	OAW & tributaries to OAWs	Lakes	Other waters	Comments
1 - Aids to Navigation	-	-	-	-	N/A
2 - Structures in Artificial Canals	-	-	-	-	N/A
3 - Maintenance	I	I	I	C	
4 - Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities	I	I	I	C	
5 - Scientific Measurement	I	I	I	C	

Devices					
6 - Survey Activities	I	I	I	C	
7 - Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures	I	I	I	C	
8 - Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf	-	-	-	-	N/A
9 - Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas	-	-	-	-	N/A
10 - Mooring Buoys	-	-	-	-	N/A
11 - Temporary Recreational Structures	-	-	-	-	N/A
12 - Utility Line Activities	I	I	I	C	
13 - Bank Stabilization	I	I	I	C	
14 - Linear Transportation Projects	I	I	I	C	
15 - U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges	I	I	I	C	
16 - Return Water From Upland Contained Disposal Areas	I	I	I	C	
17 - Hydropower Projects	I	I	I	C	
18 - Minor Discharges	I	I	I	C	
19 - Minor Dredging	I	I	I	C	
20 - Response Operations for Oil and Hazardous Substances	I	I	I	T	Conditionally certified only if work begins within 14 days of the discharge/release
21 - Surface Coal Mining Activities	I	I	I	I	
22 - Removal of Vessels	I	I	I	C	

23 - Approved Categorical Exclusion	I	I	I	C	
24 - Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs	-	-	-	-	In accordance with state-administered CWA 404 program if such exists
25 - Structural Discharges	I	I	I	C	
26 - [Reserved]	-	-	-	-	
27 - Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities	I	I	I	I	
28 - Modifications of Existing Marinas	-	-	-	-	N/A
29 - Residential Developments	I	I	I	C	
30 - Moist Soil Management for Wildlife	I	I	I	C	
31 - Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities	I	I	I	C	
32 - Completed Enforcement Actions	I	I	I	C	
33 - Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering	I	I	I	C	
34 - Cranberry Production Activities	I	I	I	I	
35 - Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins	-	-	-	-	N/A
36 - Boat Ramps	I	I	I	C	
37 - Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation	I	I	I	T	Conditionally certified if work begins within 30 days of event creating problem
38 - Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste	I	I	I	T	Conditionally certified if work begins within 2 days

					of discovery of the waste
39 - Commercial and Institutional Developments	I	I	I	C	
40 - Agricultural Activities	I	I	I	C	
41 - Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches	I	I	I	C	
42 - Recreational Facilities	I	I	I	C	
43 - Stormwater Management Facilities	I	I	I	C	
44 - Mining Activities	I	I	I	I	
45 - Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events	I	I	I	T	Conditionally certified if work begins within 14 days of event creating problem
46 - Discharges in Ditches	I	I	I	C	
47 - [Reserved]	-	-	-	-	Reserved
48 - Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities	I	I	I	C	
49 - Coal Remining Activities	I	I	I	I	
50 - Underground Coal Mining Activities	I	I	I	I	
51 - Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities	I	I	I	C	
52 - Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects	I	I	I	C	

2. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

401 WQC letter dated March 30, 2012

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

MAR 30 2012

Colonel Michael C. Wehr, PE
Division Engineer, South Pacific Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
1455 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94103-1398

Subject: Conditional Clean Water Act Section 401 certification of the 2012 Nationwide Permits for tribal lands within Region 9 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Dear Colonel Wehr:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 (EPA) has responsibility under section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) to evaluate and certify water quality protections for federal permits or licenses issued for work on most tribal lands. We have reviewed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) February 21, 2012 Federal Register notice announcing the reissuance of the Corps' CWA Section 404 Nationwide Permits (NWPs), and are transmitting our conditional programmatic water quality certification of these general permits. The enclosed conditions become binding requirements of any NWP issued for work on tribal lands within Region 9[1]. Please instruct your regulatory staff to provide this certification to anyone contacting the Corps with applicable projects.

Consistent with the *EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes*, EPA sent a letter dated October 31, 2011, offering to consult with tribes in Region 9 on this certification. We subsequently provided our draft conditional certification, dated February 2, 2012, to tribes for review and comment. EPA did not receive any formal requests for consultation or any written comments on the draft certification.

In summary, we are certifying 49 of the 50 proposed active permits with general conditions, 17 of which are further subject to permit-specific conditions. These requirements will protect water quality and help ensure that the NWP program will have no more than minimal adverse impacts on the aquatic environment on tribal lands, both individually and cumulatively, as required by CWA Section 404(e). A table summarizing types of conditions, notification requirements, impact limits, and additional information for each NWP is included in the attached certification. Some conditions of note include:

- Notification to EPA for use of any NWP on tribal lands (General Condition 01)
- Modifications to length, size and/or acreage limits on ten of the NWPs (12, 13, 14, 29, 40, 41, 45, 46, 48, and 49)

[1] This water quality certification does not apply to activities proceeding in the territories of the ten tribes in Region 9 that have been approved as Section 401 certifying authorities —the Navajo Nation, Hualapai Tribe, Paiute-Shoshone of the Bishop Community, Big Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, Hoopa Valley Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Dry Creek Rancheria of Pomo Indians, and White Mountain Apache Tribe. In limited circumstances some lands within tribal boundaries fall outside a tribe's Section 401 certifying authority and are subject to this certification.

- General prohibition of impact limit waivers under this programmatic certification, except where EPA approves a written determination that a waiver would result in minimal impacts to aquatic resource functions
- Limiting NWPs 12 (Utility Line Activities) and 14 (Linear Transportation Projects) to a single use for a single and complete project having independent utility
- Requiring EPA approval that NWP 27 projects will increase aquatic resource functions
- Requiring EPA approval that NWP 31 levee vegetation removal will have minimal adverse impacts
- Denial without prejudice of NWP 43 (Stormwater Management Facilities) due to ongoing experience with adverse impacts from in-stream stormwater structures

Projects failing to meet the enclosed conditions, but otherwise qualifying for use of a NWP, are not eligible for coverage under this programmatic certification and must contact EPA for individual project certification. Projects meeting the enclosed conditions must notify EPA pursuant to General Condition 01. *Notification*, but may proceed without further written verification from EPA except when a specific EPA approval is required in accordance with general or permit-specific conditions of this certification. Finally, EPA may periodically undertake inspections or other compliance monitoring activities pursuant to our CWA enforcement authorities (CWA Section 308(a)(4)(B)).

In 2002, we concluded that twelve of the NWPs were insufficiently protective of water quality to be covered by our programmatic certification; in 2007, that list was narrowed to four NWPs. With each five-year revision of the program, the NWPs generally become more protective of the environment, and we commend the many Corps and EPA staff across the nation who worked to further improve the 2012 NWPs. This conditional certification will remain in effect for the authorization period of the 2012 NWPs, and will be revisited and potentially revised when the NWPs are next proposed for reissuance and revisions in 2017.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in implementing the regulatory programs of the CWA. Please contact me at (415) 972-3572 with any questions regarding this conditional certification, or have your staff contact Paul Amato at (415) 972-3847 or amato.paul@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

for Alexis Strauss
Director
Water Division

Enclosure:
General and Permit-Specific Conditions of EPA's Programmatic Clean Water Act Section 401 certification of the 2012 Nationwide Permits for tribal lands in California, Nevada and Arizona

cc:
All federally recognized Indian Tribes within EPA Region 9
Jane Hicks, Regulatory Branch Chief, San Francisco District
Michael Jewel, Regulatory Branch Chief, Sacramento District
David Castanon, Regulatory Branch Chief, Los Angeles District
Allan Steinle, Regulatory Branch Chief, Albuquerque District
Wade Eakle, Corps, South Pacific Division
Debra Daniel, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Kelly Wolff-Krauter, Arizona Department of Game and Fish
Thor Anderson, Arizona Department of Transportation
Bill Orme, California State Water Resources Control Board
Sarah Rains, California Department of Fish and Game
Jay Norvell, California Department of Transportation
John Heggeness, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Brad Hardenbrook, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Steve Cooke, Nevada Department of Transportation

General Conditions

Projects that are unable to comply with the general conditions of this programmatic certification are denied certification without prejudice and the applicant must apply to EPA for an individual certification. Applicants can apply for an individual certification by providing the same content required in a MPCN described in General Condition 01. *Notification*, of this programmatic certification, but EPA may request additional project information for individual certifications after receiving notification materials. When an individual certification is required, EPA will strive to issue, deny, or waive certification within sixty days of receipt of complete project information, but our review shall not exceed one year, the statutory limit beyond which certification is considered waived.[2]

01. Notification

To improve the government's ability to demonstrate whether the NWP program has minimal adverse impacts to the aquatic environment, individually and cumulatively, all NWP-authorized projects proceeding on tribal lands within Region 9 shall submit a form of notification to EPA Region 9 as described below.[3] Notification is required in order to be eligible for any NWP under this certification.

Projects seeking authorization under this certification will fall under one of the following two notification categories:

Pre-Construction Notification (PCN):

- The Corps already requires a PCN, subject to criteria in the Corps' General Condition 31, because the project proposes use of a NWP that requires a PCN automatically or for specific activities authorized by the NWP. Applicants must simply forward a second copy of the PCN already required by the Corps to EPA Region 9 for notification. If a PCN is already required by the Corps and a waiver of impact limits is proposed beyond what is approved under this certification, applicants must include written determinations specified in General Condition 02. *Waivers* for EPA approval.

Modified Pre-Construction Notification (MPCN):

- The Corps does not require a PCN for any activities authorized under the NWP proposed for use, or for impacts below limits identified in the NWP for a PCN. Applicants must forward a MPCN to EPA Region 9 for notification, subject to the criteria below. If a waiver of impact limits is proposed beyond what is approved under this certification, applicants must include written determinations specified in General Condition 02. *Waivers* for EPA approval.

1) ***Timing.*** Applicants shall submit an MPCN to EPA Region 9 as early as possible, and in advance of any authorization letter from the Corps allowing the applicant to proceed under a given NWP. When an EPA approval is required by condition of this certification, EPA will act within sixty days of receiving a complete MPCN.

2) ***Content.*** MPCNs must be in writing (electronic mail submittal is acceptable) and include the following information:

[2] Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification (a): http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/guidance/wetlands/sec401.cfm

[3] NOTE: this requirement does not modify or eliminate existing Corps requirements regarding PCNs for projects proceeding on tribal lands (or elsewhere).

a) Name, address and telephone numbers of the applicant and any agents or representatives. If available, the electronic mail address and fax numbers for these persons;
b) Location of the proposed project;
c) A description of the proposed project and impacts including
   i) the project's purpose;
   ii) direct and indirect adverse environmental effects the project would cause, including the proposed acreages and linear feet (for streams) of waters impacted, avoided, and where applicable, created or otherwise mitigated;
   iii) 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.

The description should be sufficiently detailed to determine compliance with NWP and EPA 401 conditions and to determine whether compensatory mitigation may be necessary. Maps, drawings and/or photographs of the project area and aquatic resources are not mandatory, but usually help to clarify the project and allow for quicker review. At minimum, a narrative description of any special aquatic sites and other waters of the United States on the project site must be included;

d) Consistent with General Condition 02. *Waivers*, a written demonstration that any proposed impact limit waiver that may be allowable under this certification will result in minimal impacts to aquatic resource functions;
e) Consistent with General Condition 03. *Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation*, a written statement documenting measures taken to avoid and minimize temporary and permanent impacts to waters of the U.S.;
f) Consistent with General Condition 04. *Prohibition on the Multiple Use of One NWP for a Single Project*, for proposed utility or transportation projects where the same NWP is proposed at multiple locations, a written determination will be provided describing independent utility of each impact location and how the project will not contribute to more than minimal direct, indirect and cumulative impacts to waters of the U.S., either at the impact site or to upstream, downstream, or adjacent aquatic resources;
g) The name(s) of any species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act which may be adversely affected by the proposed work, either directly or by impacting designated critical habitat;
h) Identification of any cultural or historic properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places that may be adversely affected by the proposed work.

Written notification should be mailed to USEPA Region 9, WTR-8, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105.

02. Waivers

For certain NWPs, Corps District Engineers may waive impact thresholds for intermittent and ephemeral drainages by making a written determination that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects. To ensure that these waters, commonly found on tribal lands in the arid southwest, receive an adequate level of protection, and to prevent the NWP Program from having more than minimal adverse impacts to the aquatic environment, all proposed impact limit waivers are denied under this certification unless EPA approves a written determination that the waiver will not exceed minimal impacts to aquatic resource functions.

For some NWPs where the Corps does not include an impact limit, EPA has added an impact limit as a permit-specific condition. Some of these NWPs also include a condition that a waiver may be provided when EPA approves a written determination that the waiver will not exceed minimal impacts to aquatic resource functions.

Impacts to special aquatic sites are not permitted under this certification unless EPA approves a written determination that impacts to aquatic resource functions will be minimal. "Special aquatic sites" include sanctuaries and refuges, wetlands, mud flats, vegetated shallows, coral reefs and riffle pool complexes.

When EPA approval is required for a waiver, EPA will act within sixty days of receiving a complete PCN or MPCN.

03. Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation

To protect water quality and beneficial uses of U.S. waters on tribal lands, all projects using NWPs must avoid discharges to the maximum extent practicable, and utilize the best available and practicable means of minimizing the adverse impact of discharges that cannot be avoided.

A written statement documenting measures taken to avoid and minimize temporary and permanent impacts to waters of the U.S. will be provided to EPA and the Corps with each PCN or MPCN.

To the extent practicable, temporary impact sites will be returned to pre-construction contours and substrate. Where applicable, banks shall be reseeded or replanted with native vegetation.

EPA shall make a written determination, within sixty days of receipt of a complete PCN or MPCN, whether compensatory mitigation measures are required to ensure the activity will have only minimal adverse effects, but no such determination is required for a project to begin work if otherwise in compliance with the NWP, this programmatic certification, and any applicable tribal or local authorities' requirements. Nevertheless, should compensatory mitigation be determined necessary by EPA, the mitigation becomes a condition of water quality certification and thus a condition of the Corps' permit. Failure to address an EPA mitigation requirement would therefore place a permitee out of compliance with their NWP and potentially subject to a range of Corps and EPA enforcement actions.

The need for post-project performance and/or mitigation monitoring and reporting (if applicable) will be determined by EPA on a case-by-case basis.

04. Prohibition on the Multiple Use of One NWP for a Single Project

Permittees may not use the same NWP multiple times (more than once) for one single and complete project at locations that do not have independent utility; to do so circumvents acreage limitations of the NWPs and may result in more than minimal adverse impacts to water quality and other ecosystem services. For example, under this certification, linear transportation projects on tribal lands must sum the impacts of each proposed crossing of individual waters of the U.S. and use that total to determine eligibility for NWP 14 (Linear Transportation Projects). If the acreage or linear foot impacts exceed the limits of the applicable NWP (or combination of applicable *different* NWPs), minimal adverse impacts to water quality may be exceeded and the project is not eligible for 401 certification under this programmatic action. Under these circumstances, projects must seek individual certification from EPA, and EPA may grant, grant with conditions, waive, or deny 401 certification of the project under the NWP. In the event of a denial, the NWP would not be available to the project proponent and therefore

applicants may need to apply to the Corps for authorization under a different General Permit, Letter of Permission, or Individual Permit as appropriate and determined by the Corps. EPA would review these other proposed permit actions for case-by-case certification. Note that, on a case-by-case basis, EPA may waive this General Condition and allow the use of multiple NWPs if the applicant so appeals, and demonstrates in their PCN or MPCN that authorization under the NWP will result in minimal and/or completely mitigated impacts to the aquatic environment, individually and cumulatively.

05. Use of Appropriate Fill Material

To the extent practicable, local, native materials should be used as fill material. (*e.g.*, soil, sand, or rock from the site or near the site; clean building materials or clean imported earthen fill). Inappropriate and unauthorized fill materials include, but are not limited to: tires, junked or abandoned vehicles, appliances, or other equipment; garbage; debris; oil drums or other chemically contaminated vessels; artificial turf; non-native vegetation; etc. If an applicant has any doubts or questions about the suitability of a proposed fill material, they should consult with the Corps and/or EPA prior to discharging into waters of the U.S. Such consultation may be via phone, or written letter, fax or electronic mail.

06. Dewatered Conditions

Discharges below the ordinary high water mark or within jurisdictional wetlands are not approved under this certification unless the discharge site is naturally dewatered (*e.g.,* seasonally dry), or dewatering has been authorized by the Corps, thereby avoiding direct discharge of pollutants into the water column. If the site is artificially dewatered, permitees shall, to the extent practicable, avoid dewatering techniques that require additional temporary or permanent discharges of fill material within jurisdictional waters (*e.g.,* coffer dams).

07. Fills Within Floodplains

Projects requiring NWP authorization for discharges of fill material within 100-year floodplains shall include in their PCN or MPCN a statement of compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management). However, discharges within the FEMA-mapped 100-year floodplain associated with residential and commercial development are not certified for use under the NWP program on tribal lands. The 100-year floodplain is based on hydrologic conditions prior to permit issuance.

08. Best Management Practices

Except as specified in the application, no debris, silt, sand, cement, concrete, oil or petroleum, organic material, or other construction related materials or wastes shall be allowed to enter into or be stored where it may be washed by rainfall or runoff into waters of the U.S.

Silt fences, straw wattles, and other techniques shall be employed as appropriate to protect waters of the U.S. from sedimentation and other pollutants.

Water used in dust suppression shall not contain contaminants that could violate surface water or aquifer standards.

Permitees and their contractors shall take necessary steps to minimize channel and bank erosion within waters of the United States during and after construction.

A copy of the permit conditions shall be provided to all contractors and subcontractors, and will be posted visibly at project construction sites.

09. Transportation Projects
Permittees shall implement State transportation agencies' guidelines for construction sites to protect water quality and aquatic habitat. In California, CALTRANS has guidance in the *CALTRANS Stormwater Quality Manuals and Handbooks*[4]; in Nevada NDOT has guidance in their *NDOT Water Quality Manuals*[5]; and in Arizona, ADOT has guidance in their *Erosion and Pollution Control Manual*[6].

10. Inspections
The permittee shall allow EPA representatives to inspect the authorized activity and any mitigation areas at any time deemed necessary to determine compliance with the terms and conditions of the NWP verification.

11. Buffers
Unless specifically determined to be impracticable by the Corps and EPA, for NWPs 29, 39, 40, and 42, the permittee shall establish and maintain upland buffers in perpetuity between upland structures constructed as part of the project approved by the NWP and all preserved open waters, streams and wetlands, including created, restored, enhanced or preserved waters of the U.S. Buffers should be vegetated whenever practicable. Plantings in buffers should be dominated by native species, and not include any federal or state listed invasive or noxious weed species[7]. Except in unusual circumstances, as determined by the Corps and EPA, buffers shall be at least 50 feet in width from the lateral limits of the Corp's jurisdiction[8].

12. ***Protected Lands***
The permittee shall record the NWP verification with the Registrar of Deeds or other appropriate official charged with the responsibility for maintaining records of title of interest in real property for areas designated to be preserved as part of compensatory mitigation for authorized impacts, including any associated covenants or restrictions.

13. ***Impaired Water Bodies***
If a proposed activity would result in dredge or fill in water bodies listed as impaired under Section 303(d) of the CWA, the PCN or MPCN must include specific measures that will be used to avoid exacerbating the impairment(s).[9]

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[4] http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/construc/stormwater/manuals.htm
[5] http://www.nevadadot.com/About_NDOT/NDOT_Divisions/Engineering/Hydraulics/Water_Quality_BMP_Manuals.aspx
[6] http://www.azdot.gov/inside_adot/OES/Water_Quality/Stormwater/Manuals.asp
[7] http://plants.usda.gov/java/noxiousDriver
[8] ordinary high water mark in non-tidal and the mean higher high water line in tidal waters
[9] EPA Region 9 lists of impaired water bodies: http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/tmdl/303d.html

Specific Nationwide Permits

NWP-01 Aids to Navigation
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-02 Structures in Artificial Canals
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-03 Maintenance
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

"Currently serviceable structures" which may be maintained under this permit do not include undersized culverts or structures that cause or exacerbate channel incision, bank destabilization, and/or prevent fish and wildlife passage due to inadequate design or construction standards.

Certification of this permit is granted only if the existing structure proposed to be maintained demonstrably preserves (via design, flow modeling or other information in the PCN) the natural functions of the affected aquatic resource when the structure is fully operational. Otherwise, an alternative permit should be utilized as appropriate (*e.g.*, NWP 13 Bank Stabilization).

Where existing bank stabilization structures are to be maintained, bioengineered methods shall be utilized to the extent practicable in lieu of "rip-rap" or other hardscape engineered materials.

This permit shall not authorize the enlargement of, or increase in, the footprint of a structure within waters of the U.S., unless that enlargement consists of the replacement of existing artificial channel armoring materials (e.g., rip-rap, soil cement, etc.) with low-impact bioengineered natural channel design structures (e.g., log revetments, geotextile rolls/mats, root wads, brush mattresses, willow wattling, etc.)

NWP-04 Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-05 Scientific Measurement Devices
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-06 Survey Activities
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-07 Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-08 Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-09 Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-10 Mooring Buoys
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-11 Temporary Recreational Structures
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-12 Utility Line Activities
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Impacts under this permit are limited to the greater of 1/2 acre or 300 linear feet of waters of the U.S., including intermittent and ephemeral streams. Only the 300 linear foot limit may be waived by EPA upon approval, consistent with General Condition 02. *Waivers*.

Under this certification, NWP 12 can only be used once for a single and complete project having independent utility. When NWP 12 is proposed for multiple locations a written determination will be provided describing independent utility of each impact location for approval by EPA, consistent with General Condition 01. *Notification*.

Permittees are required to ensure that the construction of utility lines does not result in the draining of any water of the U.S., including wetlands. This may be accomplished through the use of clay blocks, bentonite, or other suitable material (as approved by EPA) to seal the trench.

For utility line trenches, during construction, the permittee shall remove and stockpile, separately, the top 6 – 12 inches of topsoil. Following installation of the utility line(s), the permittee shall replace the stockpiled topsoil on top and seed the area with native vegetation.

NWP-13 Bank Stabilization
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Unless approved by EPA, consistent with General Condition 02. *Waivers*, impacts under this permit are limited to the greater of 1/2 acre or 300 linear feet of waters of the U.S., including intermittent and ephemeral streams.

All bank stabilization activities under this permit shall involve either the sole use of native vegetation or other bioengineered design techniques (e.g. willow plantings, root wads, large woody debris, etc.) or a combination of hard-armoring (e.g. rock) and native vegetation or bioengineered design techniques, unless specifically determined to be impracticable by the EPA.

NWP-14 Linear Transportation Projects
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Impacts under this permit are limited to the greater of 1/2 acre or 300 linear feet of non-tidal waters of the U.S., including intermittent and ephemeral streams, and 1/3 acre or 300 linear feet of tidal waters of the U.S.

NWP 14 can only be used once for a single and complete project having independent utility. When NWP 14 is proposed for multiple locations a written determination will be provided describing independent utility of each impact location for approval by EPA, consistent with General Condition 01. *Notification.*

All bank stabilization activities under this permit shall involve either the sole use of native vegetation or other bioengineered design techniques (e.g. willow plantings, root wads, large woody debris, etc.) or a combination of hard-armoring (e.g. rock) and native vegetation or bioengineered design techniques, unless specifically determined to be impracticable by the EPA.

NWP-15 U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-16 Return Water from Upland Contained Disposal Areas
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-17 Hydropower Projects
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-18 Minor Discharges
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-19 Minor Dredging
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-20 Response Operations for Oil and Hazardous Substances
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-21 Surface Coal Mining Activities
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Before an applicant may use this permit, EPA must approve a compensatory mitigation plan sufficient to ensure impacts to aquatic resource functions are minimal.

NWP-22 Removal of Vessels
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-23 Approved Categorical Exclusions
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-24 Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-25 Structural Discharges
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-26 [Reserved]
This NWP is no longer in use. No certification is necessary.

NWP-27 Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific condition, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Upon review of a PCN or MPCN, consistent with General Condition 01. *Notification*, EPA will approve or deny on a case-by-case basis whether the proposed project will result in a net increase in aquatic resource functions and services, consistent with the NWP. An individual certification may be required in the event EPA denies approval of a waiver for this NWP.

NWP-28 Modifications of Existing Marinas
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-29 Residential Developments
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Unless approved by EPA, consistent with General Condition 02. *Waivers*, impacts under this permit are limited to 1/4 acre of impacts to non-tidal waters of the U.S. for single family houses, and the greater of 1/2 acre or 300 linear feet of impact to waters of the U.S. for multi-unit residential developments.

Under this certification, this permit will not be used to approve residential developments and their attendant features within the 100-year floodplain. The 100-year floodplain is determined based on hydrologic conditions at the time of the NWP application.

Recreational facilities such as playgrounds, playing fields, and golf courses are not authorized under this certification. These projects are separate and distinct from residential developments, are not required to be included in a residential development project for it to be practicable, and their construction within waters is normally avoidable.

NWP-30 Moist Soil Management for Wildlife
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-31 Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Upon review of a PCN, consistent with General Condition 01. *Notification*, EPA will approve or deny on a case-by-case basis whether the proposed project will result in minimal impacts to waters of the U.S. for projects that include removal of levee vegetation.

NWP-32 Completed Enforcement Actions
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-33 Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-34 Cranberry Production Activities
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-35 Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-36 Boat Ramps
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Unless approved by EPA, consistent with General Condition 02. *Waivers*, impacts under this permit are limited to 50 cubic yards of fill and ramps that are 20 feet wide or less.

NWP-37 Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-38 Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-39 Commercial and Institutional Developments
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Under this certification, this permit will not be used to approve commercial and institutional developments and their attendant features within the 100-year floodplain. The 100-year floodplain is determined based on hydrologic conditions at the time of the NWP application.

Recreational facilities such as playgrounds, playing fields, and golf courses are not authorized under this certification. These projects are separate and distinct from commercial and institutional development, are not required to be included in such developments to be practicable, and their construction within waters is normally avoidable.

NWP-40 Agricultural Activities
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Construction of farmponds under this certification is limited to those that do not qualify for the Clean Water Act section 404(f)(1)(C) exemption because of the recapture provision at section 404(f)(2).

Under this certification, no discharges are authorized which would impact hydrological connectivity between jurisdictional waters to such an extent as to convert waters of the U.S. to uplands, or otherwise isolate waters and eliminate federal regulatory jurisdiction.

Unless approved by EPA, consistent with General Condition 02. *Waivers*, impacts under this permit are limited to the greater of 1/2 acre or 300 linear feet of impacts to non-tidal waters of the U.S., including intermittent and ephemeral streams.

NWP-41 Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Unless approved by EPA, consistent with General Condition 02. *Waivers*, impacts under this permit are limited to the greater of 1/2 acre or 300 linear feet of impacts to non-tidal waters of the U.S., including intermittent and ephemeral streams.

All sidecast materials from excavation must be stored and/or disposed of within non-jurisdictional uplands under this certification. A statement must be included in the notification as to how the applicant's activities will improve water quality.

Under this certification, no discharges are authorized which would impact hydrological connectivity between jurisdictional waters to such an extent as to convert waters of the U.S. to uplands, or otherwise isolate waters to eliminate federal regulatory jurisdiction.

NWP-42 Recreational Facilities
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-43 Stormwater Management Facilities
Use of this NWP is not covered by this programmatic certification, and prospective users on tribal lands must seek individual project certification from EPA in all cases. NWP authorization of constructing stormwater facilities within waters of the U.S. discourages applicants from using practicable construction options that locate stormwater retention and detention facilities "off line" from streams. For example, retention facilities are often built as sediment (or debris) basins within a stream. This practice includes constructing a dam in the stream, excavating out a basin, and regular sediment removal to maintain the structure. These facilities cause considerable and unnecessary damages to stream functions as retention facilities can be located "off line" by constructing a high flow diversion channel above the ordinary high water mark. If applicants can continue to use the traditional, more damaging practices that are sanctioned by this NWP, there is no incentive for these management practices to improve. We do not believe NWP-43 for new facilities complies with the CWA Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines.

CWA section 401 certification for this NWP is denied without prejudice. Applicants for projects on tribal lands must apply to EPA for individual certification if this NWP is proposed to be used. Applicants can apply for an individual certification by providing the same content required in a MPCN described in General Condition 01. *Notification*, of this certification.

NWP-44 Mining Activities
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Applicants must ensure that mining activities (e.g., aggregate mining) approved by this NWP will not cause upstream head cutting or downstream incision. Notification to EPA shall include a narrative description and design drawing, when applicable, of any measure that will be implemented to comply with the condition.

When used for in-stream aggregate mining activities, compensatory mitigation is likely to be required due to extensive indirect impacts and temporal losses typical of this type of impact.

NWP-45 Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Unless approved by EPA, consistent with General Condition 02. *Waivers*, impacts under this permit are limited to the greater of 1/2 acre or 300 linear feet of impacts to non-tidal waters of the U.S., including intermittent and ephemeral streams.

NWP-46 Discharges in Ditches
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Unless approved by EPA, consistent with General Condition 02. *Waivers*, impacts under this permit are limited to the greater of 1/2 acre or 300 linear feet of impacts to non-tidal waters of the U.S., including intermittent and ephemeral streams.

NWP-47 [Reserved]
This NWP is no longer in use. No certification is necessary.

NWP-48 Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Under this certification, impacts to submerged aquatic vegetation are prohibited, consistent with NWP 19. *Minor Dredging*, and NWP 36. *Boat Ramps*.

NWP-49 Coal Remining Activities
Subject to the General Conditions above, and the following permit-specific conditions, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Unless approved by EPA, consistent with General Condition 02. *Waivers*, impacts under this permit are limited to the greater of 1/2 acre or 300 linear feet of impacts to non-tidal waters of the U.S., including intermittent and ephemeral streams.

Applicants must provide information in the PCN illustrating that activities authorized under NWP-49 will result in a net increase in aquatic resource functions.

NWP-50 Underground Coal Mining Activities
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-51 Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

NWP-52 Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects
Subject to the General Conditions above, this NWP is hereby programmatically certified.

Summary Table – EPA Region 9 §401 Certification of NWPs for projects on tribal lands

NWP	Certification Status			*Notification	Impact Limits	Notes
	General Conditions	Specific Conditions	Denied			
1	X			MPCN	None	
2	X			MPCN	None	
3	X	X		PCN or MPCN	Generally no increase in fill footprint	-No undersized structures -Bioengineering used whenever practicable
4	X			MPCN	None	
5	X			MPCN	25 cyds	
6	X			MPCN	25 cyds	
7	X			PCN	None	
8	X			PCN	None	
9	X			MPCN	None	
10	X			MPCN	None	
11	X			MPCN	None	
12	X	X		PCN or MPCN	**1/2 acre or 300'	-Only once per single and complete project with independent utility -Waiver approval required from EPA for 300'
13	X	X		PCN or MPCN	**1/2 acre or 300'	Waiver approval required from EPA
14	X	X		PCN or MPCN	**1/2 acre or 300' non-tidal, 1/3 acre or 300' tidal	Only once per single and complete project with independent utility
15	X			MPCN	None	
16	X			MPCN	None	
17	X			PCN	None	
18	X			PCN or MPCN	1/10 acre or 25 cyds	
19	X			MPCN	25 cyds	
20	X			MPCN	None	
21	X	X		PCN	1/2 acre or 300'	EPA approves mitigation plan first
22	X			PCN or MPCN	None	
23	X			PCN or MPCN	None	
24	X			MPCN	None	
25	X			MPCN	None	
26						Reserved
27	X	X		PCN or MPCN	None	Approval required from EPA
28	X			MPCN	None	
29	X	X		PCN or MPCN	**1/4 acre for single house, 1/2 acre or 300' for multi-unit	-Waiver approval required from EPA -No recreational impacts authorized
30	X			MPCN	None	
31	X	X		PCN	None	Approval for levee vegetation removal required from EPA

32	X			MPCN	5 acres non-tidal or 1 acre tidal	
33	X			PCN	None	
34	X			PCN	10 acres	
35	X			MPCN	Lesser of previously authorized or controlling depths	
36	X			PCN or MPCN	50 cyds, 20'-wide ramp	Waiver approval required from EPA
37	X			PCN or MPCN	None	
38	X			PCN	None	
39	X	X		PCN or MPCN	1/2 acre or 300' non-tidal	Waiver approval required from EPA
40	X	X		PCN or MPCN	1/2 acre or 300' non-tidal	Waiver approval required from EPA
41	X	X		PCN or MPCN	**1/2 acre or 300' non-tidal	Waiver approval required from EPA
42	X	X		PCN	1/2 acre or 300' non-tidal	
43			X	MPCN	N/A	Must apply to EPA for individual cert.
44	X	X		PCN or MPCN	1/2 acre or 300' non-tidal	Waiver approval required from EPA
45	X	X		PCN or MPCN	**1/2 acre or 300'	Waiver approval required from EPA
46	X	X		PCN or MPCN	**1/2 acre or 300' non-tidal	Waiver approval required from EPA
47						Reserved
48	X	X		PCN or MPCN	**Impacts to submerged aquatic veg. prohibited	
49	X	X		PCN or MPCN	**1/2 acre or 300' non-tidal	Waiver approval required from EPA
50	X	X		PCN or MPCN	1/2 acre or 300' non-tidal	Waiver approval required from EPA
51	X	X		PCN or MPCN	1/2 acre or 300' non-tidal	Waiver approval required from EPA
52	X	X		PCN or MPCN	1/2 acre or 300'	Waiver approval required from EPA

***Notification Category: Pre-Construction Notification (PCN):**

- The Corps already requires a PCN, subject to criteria in the Corps' General Condition 31, because the project proposes use of a NWP that requires a PCN automatically or for specific activities authorized by the NWP. Applicants must simply forward a second copy of the PCN already required by the Corps to EPA Region 9 for notification. If a PCN is already required by the Corps and a waiver is proposed for impacts beyond those approved under this certification, applicants must include a written determination that the waiver will not result in more than minimal impacts to aquatic resource functions for EPA approval.

Notification Category: Modified Pre-Construction Notification (MPCN):

- The Corps does not require a PCN for any activities authorized under the NWP proposed for use, or because proposed impacts fall below impact limits identified in the NWP for a PCN. Applicants must forward a MPCN to EPA Region 9 for notification. If a waiver is proposed for impacts beyond those approved under this certification, applicants must include a written determination that the waiver will not result in more than minimal impacts to aquatic resource functions for EPA approval, subject to the criteria below.

**Impact limits are modified by EPA

3. Hopi Tribe

401 WQC letter dated April 11, 2012

THE HOPI TRIBE

LeRoy N Shingoitewa
Chairman
Herman G Honanie
Vice Chairman

April 11, 2012

David J. Castanon, Chief
Regulatory Division
Department of the Army
Los Angeles District Corps of Engineers
PO Box 532711
Los Angeles, California 90053-2325

RE: Response to Federal Register Vol. 77 No. 34 – Re-issuance of Nationwide Permits

Chief Castanon,

This letter constitutes the Hopi Tribe's formal response to the Federal Register (Vol. 77, No. 34 February 21, 2012) notice of a 60-day period for states, Indian Tribes, and EPA to complete their water quality certification process for the proposed Nationwide Permits (NWPs). The Hopi Tribe received program authorization under Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303 and recognition of its authority to administer CWA Section 401 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) - Region IX on April 23, 2008. This authorization extends to all lands within the exterior boundaries of the Hopi Indian Reservation. On July 8, 2008, the USEPA approved the Hopi Tribe's Water Quality Standards, which allows the tribe to issue federal permit certifications. This was reaffirmed with the USEPA approval of the amended Water Quality Standards from the tri-annual review on August 24, 2011.

The Hopi Tribe has reviewed the February 21, 2012 Federal Register containing the new nationwide permits. The purpose of this letter is to notify the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that the Hopi Tribe will not provide conditional certifications for any Nationwide Permits and will require that the Hopi Tribe certify each individual permit. Each individual applicant will need to apply for Section 401 certification through the Hopi Tribe's Water Resources Program. By conducting project specific reviews of Nationwide Permits, the Hopi Tribe will ensure that projects comply with all applicable Tribal and federal regulations. This assures the Tribe that the permitted activities will be conducted in a manner consistent with the Tribe's Water Quality Standards, Tribal Ordinances and other CWA provisions. Therefore, we respectfully DENY conditional water quality certification for ALL Nationwide Permits.

PO Box 123 Kykotsmovi, Arizona 86039

Anyone requesting to perform activities that require a Nationwide Permit must first obtain a project specific Section 401 water quality certification from the Hopi Tribe's Water Resources Program before proceeding under a Nationwide Permit.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Lionel Puhuyesva, Director at Lpuhuyesva@hopi.nsn.us or by phone at (928) 734-3711.

Sincerely,

Lionel Puhuyesva, Director
Hopi Water Resources Program

CC: Alexis Strauss, Director, USEPA Region IX Water Division, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105
Wendell Smith, Manager, USEPA Region IX Water Division, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105
Clayton Honyumptewa, Director, Hopi Department of Natural Resources
Hopi Tribal Council
File

4. Hualapai Tribe

401 WQC letter dated April 25, 2012

HUALAPAI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

P.O. BOX 300 ● PEACH SPRINGS, ARIZONA 86434 ● 520 769-2254 ● 520 769-2255 ● FAX 520 769-2309

April 25, 2012

David J. Castanon, Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Los Angeles District
P.O. Box 532711
Los Angeles, CA 90053-2325

RE: Response to Federal Registers Vol. 77 No. 34 and Vol. 77. No.53 Reissuance of Nationwide Permits.

Mr. David J. Castanon:

This letter constitutes the Hualapai Tribe's formal response to the Federal Registers (vol. 77, no. 34, February 21, 2012 and vol. 77, no. 53, March 19, 2012) notice of a 60-day period for states, Indian Tribes, and EPA to complete their water quality certification process for the proposed Nationwide Permits (NWPs). The Hualapai Tribe received program authorization under Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303 and recognition of its authority to administer CWA Section 401 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) – Region IX on July 22, 2004. This authorization extends to all lands within the exterior boundaries of the Hualapai Indian Reservation. On September 12, 2004, the USEPA approved the Hualapai Tribe's Water Quality Standards, which allows the tribe to issue federal permit certifications.

The Hualapai Tribe has reviewed the February 21st and March 19, 2012 Federal Registers containing the new nationwide permits. The purpose of this letter is to notify the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that the Hualapai Tribe will not provide conditional certifications for any Nationwide Permits and will require that the Hualapai Tribe certify each individual permit. Each individual applicant will need to apply for Section 401 certification through the Hualapai Tribes Water Resource Program. By conducting case-by-case reviews of NWPs, the Hualapai Tribe will ensure that projects comply with all applicable Tribal and federal regulations. In particular, this process will provide reasonable assurance that the permitted activities will be conducted in a manner, which will not violate the Hualapai Tribes Water Quality Standards and provisions of the CWA. Therefore, we respectfully DENY conditional water quality certification for ALL Nationwide Permits.

Anyone requesting to perform such activities must first obtain a project specific Section 401 water quality certification from the Hualapai Tribes Water Resource Program before proceeding under a Nationwide Permit.

If you have any questions, please contact Alex Cabillo, Water Resources Program Manager (928) 769 - 2254.

Sincerely,

Alex Cabillo, Water Resource Program Manager
Hualapai Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 300, Peach Springs, AZ 86434

Cc: Louise Benson, Chairwoman, Hualapai Tribal Council

5. Navajo Nation

401 WQC letter dated May 7, 2012

NAVAJO NATION ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
P.O. Box 339, Window Rock, Navajo Nation, (AZ) 86515
Tel. (928) 871-7692 · Fax. (928) 871-7996

Ben Shelly
PRESIDENT

Rex Lee Jim
VICE-PRESIDENT

May 7, 2012

Colonel R. Mark Toy, P.E.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch
Los Angeles District
P.O. Box 532711
Los Angeles, CA 90053-2325

Chief Toy:

The Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency Water Quality & NPDES Programs received its Treatment As State (TAS) from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region IX on January 20, 2006 for assumption of the federal Clean Water Act Sections 303 & 401 authorities for all lands within (1) the formal Reservation excluding the former Bennett Freeze area and lands leased to the power plants, (2) the 3 satellite reservations of Alamo, Tohajiilee, and Ramah, and (3) all tribal trust lands in the Eastern Navajo Agency. On March 23, 2006 the USEPA approved the Navajo Nation Surface Water Quality Standards (NNSWQS), which allows the Navajo Nation to issue federal permit certifications.

The Navajo Nation has reviewed the Federal Register notice *Proposed to Reissue and Modify Nationwide Permits* (FR Notice). The purpose of this letter is to notify the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that the Navajo Nation does not waive water quality certification for any Nationwide Permits and will require that the Navajo Nation certify each individual permit. Each individual applicant will need to apply for a § 401 permit from the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA)/Surface and Ground Water Protection Department/Water Quality Program. By reviewing and certifying each individual permit request, the Navajo Nation ensures that individuals that apply for a Nationwide Permit will comply with § 301, § 302, § 303, § 306, and § 307 of the federal CWA, the NNSWQS [RCN-191-99], and other applicable Navajo Nation requirements. These certifications will provide reasonable assurance that the permitted activities will be conducted in a manner, which will not violate the Navajo Nation Surface Water Quality Standards and provisions of the CWA. Therefore, we respectfully DENY water quality certification for ALL Nationwide Permits.

Anyone requesting to perform such activities must first obtain a project specific Section 401 water quality certification from the NNEPA Water Quality Program before proceeding under a Nationwide Permit. NNEPA WQP staff will be available to work with your office regarding this matter.

If you have any questions, please contact Lee Anna M. Silversmith, 401 Certification Coordinator, NNEPA WQ & NPDES Program at 928-871-7700 or Patrick Antonio, Program Manager/Principal Hydrologist, NNEPA WQ & NPDES Programs at 928-871-7185.

Sincerely,

Stephen B. Etsitty, Executive Director
Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency

Copy furnished:

USEPA, Region IX-Alexis Strauss, Director, Water Division, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105.
USACOE, LA District, Cynthia Palaruan, Project Manager, 3636 N. Central Avenue, Suite 900, Phoenix, AZ 85012
NNEPA/WQP & NPDES Programs, Post Office Box 339, Window Rock, AZ 86515

6. White Mountain Apache Tribe

401 WQC letter dated May 7, 2012

WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE
WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM
202 E. Walnut Street • P.O. Box 2109 • Whiteriver, Arizona 85941
Phone: (928) 338-2472 • Fax (928) 338-3933

May 7, 2012

David J. Castanon
Chief, Regulatory Division
Department of the Army
Los Angeles District Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 532711
Los Angeles, CA 90053-2325

RE: Response to Federal Register Proposal to Reissue and Modify Nationwide Permits

Dear Mr. Castanon:

This letter constitutes the White Mountain Apache Tribe's formal response to the Federal Register's proposal to reissue and modify Nationwide Permits (NWPs), general conditions and definitions with some modifications as well as the issuance of two new NWPs, three new general conditions and three new definitions.

The White Mountain Apache Tribe has reviewed the February 21, 2012 Federal Register presenting the new NWPs, updates, modifications, new general conditions and new definitions. This letter serves at the formal notification to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that the White Mountain Apache Tribe has no additional conditions or concerns.

In summary, the White Mountain Apache Tribe declines to offer any additional conditions or concerns regarding the February 21, 2012 Federal Register. The White Mountain Apache Tribe denys conditional water quality certification (WQC) for the re-issued Nationwide Permits; applicants will need to apply for individual Section 401 WQC through WMAT's Water Resource Program Please direct your questions to myself, Tara Chief, WMAT Water Quality Officer at the information provided above.

Sincerely,

Tara Chief, Water Quality Officer
White Mountain Apache Tribe
Water Resources

Cc: Cheryl Pailzote, WMAT Hydrologist
Brenda Pusher-Begay, WMAT Environmental Protection Office
Sallie McGuire, Army Corps of Engineers
Cynthia Palaruan, Army Corps of Engineers
Robert Hitchcock, WMAT Assistant Tribal Attorney

CF:
1. File Copy 2. Clipboard

MCGUIRE.
CESPL-RG-A

DUMMER
CESPL-RG-A