



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

# **SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE**

## **MAY 18, 2007**

*LOS ANGELES DISTRICT*

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### **REISSUANCE OF THE NATIONWIDE PERMITS AND ISSUANCE OF REGIONAL CONDITIONS FOR THE LOS ANGELES DISTRICT**

On March 12, 2007, in Part II of the *Federal Register* (72 FR 11092), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) announced the reissuance of all existing Nationwide Permits (NWP), general conditions, and definitions with some modifications. The Corps also issued six new NWPs, two new general conditions, and 13 new definitions. The NWPs became effective on March 19, 2007.

After the publication of this *Federal Register* notice, Corps districts were required to finalize their regional conditions for the new and reissued NWPs. Regional conditions will provide additional protection for the aquatic environment, by ensuring that the NWPs authorize only those activities with minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment. Regional conditions will help ensure protection of high value waters within the District.

The publication of this *Federal Register* notice also begins the 60-day period for states, Indian Tribes, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to complete their water quality certification (WQC) process for the NWPs. This *Federal Register* notice also provides a 60-day period for coastal states to complete their Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) consistency determination processes. This 60-day period will end on May 11, 2007.

While the states, Indian Tribes, and EPA complete their WQC processes, the use of an NWP to authorize a discharge into waters of the United States is contingent upon obtaining individual water quality certification or a case-specific WQC waiver. Likewise, while states complete their CZMA consistency determination processes, the use of an NWP to authorize an activity within, or outside, a state's coastal zone that will affect land or water uses or natural resources of that state's coastal zone, is contingent upon obtaining an individual CZMA consistency determination, or a case-specific presumption of CZMA concurrence.

The March 12, 2007, *Federal Register* notice is available for viewing on the Internet at [http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/nwp/nwp\\_2007\\_final.pdf](http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/nwp/nwp_2007_final.pdf) . As an alternate, World Wide Web users can access the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Government Printing Office at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html> .

Corps Headquarters has also issued final decision documents for the new and reissued NWPs. These documents are also available on the Internet at [http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/nwp/nwp\\_final.htm](http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/nwp/nwp_final.htm) and Corps district offices. Furthermore, the NWP decision documents will be supplemented by Division Engineers to address decisions concerning regional conditioning of the NWPs.

## Index of Nationwide Permits, Conditions, Further Information, and Definitions

### Nationwide Permits

1. Aids to Navigation
2. Structures in Artificial Canals
3. Maintenance
4. Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities
5. Scientific Measurement Devices
6. Survey Activities
7. Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures
8. Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf
9. Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas
10. Mooring Buoys
11. Temporary Recreational Structures
12. Utility Line Activities
13. Bank Stabilization
14. Linear Transportation Projects
15. U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges
16. Return Water From Upland Contained Disposal Areas
17. Hydropower Projects
18. Minor Discharges
19. Minor Dredging
20. Oil Spill Cleanup
21. Surface Coal Mining Operations
22. Removal of Vessels
23. Approved Categorical Exclusions
24. Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs
25. Structural Discharges
26. [Reserved]
27. Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities
28. Modifications of Existing Marinas
29. Residential Developments
30. Moist Soil Management for Wildlife
31. Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities
32. Completed Enforcement Actions
33. Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering
34. Cranberry Production Activities
35. Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins
36. Boat Ramps
37. Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation
38. Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste
39. Commercial and Institutional Developments
40. Agricultural Activities
41. Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches
42. Recreational Facilities
43. Stormwater Management Facilities
44. Mining Activities
45. Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events

46. Discharges in Ditches
47. Pipeline Safety Program Designated Time Sensitive Inspections and Repairs
48. Existing Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities
49. Coal Remining Activities
50. Underground Coal Mining Activities

#### Nationwide Permit General Conditions

1. Navigation
2. Aquatic Life Movements
3. Spawning Areas
4. Migratory Bird Breeding Areas
5. Shellfish Beds
6. Suitable Material
7. Water Supply Intakes
8. Adverse Effects from Impoundments
9. Management of Water Flows
10. Fills Within 100-Year Floodplains
11. Equipment
12. Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls
13. Removal of Temporary Fills
14. Proper Maintenance
15. Wild and Scenic Rivers
16. Tribal Rights
17. Endangered Species
18. Historic Properties
19. Designated Critical Resource Waters
20. Mitigation
21. Water Quality
22. Coastal Zone Management
23. Regional and Case-by-Case Conditions
24. Use of Multiple Nationwide Permits
25. Transfer of Nationwide Permit Verifications
26. Compliance Certification
27. Pre-Construction Notification
28. Single and Complete Project

#### Further Information

#### Definitions

Best management practices (BMPs)  
Compensatory mitigation  
Currently serviceable  
Discharge  
Enhancement  
Ephemeral stream  
Establishment (creation)  
Historic property  
Independent utility

Intermittent stream  
Loss of waters of the United States  
Non-tidal wetland  
Open water  
Ordinary high water mark  
Perennial stream  
Practicable  
Pre-construction notification  
Preservation  
Re-establishment  
Rehabilitation  
Restoration  
Riffle and pool complex  
Riparian areas  
Shellfish seeding  
Single and complete project  
Stormwater management  
Stormwater management facilities  
Stream bed  
Stream channelization  
Structure  
Tidal wetland  
Vegetated shallows  
Waterbody

**Final Regional Conditions for the Los Angeles District:**

The following regional conditions will be effective throughout the Los Angeles District unless stated otherwise. The Los Angeles District is comprised of the coastal drainages of San Luis Obispo County, the eastern drainages of Mono County to the Conway Summit north of Mono Lake, the eastern drainages of Inyo County, all of Kern, San Bernardino, Riverside, Imperial, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties in California, and all of the State of Arizona.

**Regional Condition 1**

For coastal watersheds from the southern reach of the Santa Monica Mountains in Los Angeles County to the San Luis Obispo County/Monterey County boundary, all road crossings must employ a bridge crossing design that ensures passage and/or spawning of steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) is not hindered in any way. In these areas, bridge designs that span the stream or river, including designs for pier- or pile-supported spans, or designs based on use of a bottomless arch culvert simulating the natural stream bed (i.e., substrate and streamflow conditions in the culvert are similar to undisturbed stream bed channel conditions) shall be employed unless it can be demonstrated the stream or river does not support resources conducive to the recovery of federally listed anadromous salmonids, including migration of adults and smolts, or rearing and spawning. This proposal also excludes approach embankments into the channel unless they are determined to have no detectable effect on steelhead.

**Regional Condition 2**

For the State of Arizona and the Mojave and Sonoran (Colorado) desert regions of California in Los Angeles

District (generally north and east of the San Gabriel, San Bernardino, San Jacinto, and Santa Rosa mountain ranges, and south of Little Lake, Inyo County), no nationwide permit, except Nationwide Permits 1 (Aids to Navigation), 2 (Structures in Artificial Canals), 3 (Maintenance), 4 (Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities), 5 (Scientific Measurement Devices), 6 (Survey Activities), 9 (Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas), 10 (Mooring Buoys), 11 (Temporary Recreational Structures), 20 (Oil Spill Cleanup), 22 (Removal of Vessels), 27 (Stream and Wetland Restoration Activities), 30 (Moist Soil Management for Wildlife), 31 (Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Projects), 32 (Completed Enforcement Actions), 35 (Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins), 37 (Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation), 38 (Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste) and 47 (Pipeline Safety Program Designated Time Sensitive Inspections and Repairs), or other nationwide or regional general permits that specifically authorize maintenance of previously authorized structures or fill, can be used to authorize the discharge of dredged or fill material into a jurisdictional special aquatic site as defined at 40 CFR Part 230.40-45 (sanctuaries and refuges, wetlands, mudflats, vegetated shallows, coral reefs, and riffle-and-pool complexes).

### **Regional Condition 3**

For all projects proposed for authorization by nationwide or regional general permits where prior notification to the district engineer is required, applicants must provide color photographs or color photocopies of the project area taken from representative points documented on a site map. Pre-project photographs and the site map would be provided with the permit application. Photographs should represent conditions typical or indicative of the resources before impacts.

### **Regional Condition 4**

Notification pursuant to general condition 27 shall be required for projects in all special aquatic sites as defined at 40 CFR Part 230.40-45 (sanctuaries and refuges, wetlands, mudflats, vegetated shallows, coral reefs, and riffle-and-pool complexes), and in all perennial waterbodies in the State of Arizona and the Mojave and Sonoran (Colorado) desert regions of California in Los Angeles District (generally north and east of the San Gabriel, San Bernardino, San Jacinto, and Santa Rosa mountain ranges, and south of Little Lake, Inyo County), excluding the Colorado River from Davis Dam downstream to the north end of Topock and downstream of Imperial Dam (Federal Register dated March 12, 2007 (72 FR 11092) - regional conditions requiring notification do not apply to Nationwide Permit 47).

### **Regional Condition 5**

Notification pursuant to general condition 27 shall be required for projects in all areas designated as Essential Fish Habitat by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (i.e., all tidally influenced areas - Federal Register dated March 12, 2007 (72 FR 11092), regional conditions requiring notification do not apply to Nationwide Permit 47).

### **Regional Condition 6**

Notification pursuant to general condition 27 shall be required for projects in 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 (Federal Register dated March 12, 2007 (72 FR 11092) - regional conditions requiring notification do not apply to Nationwide Permit 47).

**Regional Condition 7**

Individual permits shall be required for all discharges of fill material in jurisdictional vernal pools.

**Regional Condition 8**

Individual permits shall be required in Murrieta Creek and Temecula Creek watersheds in Riverside County for new permanent fills in perennial and intermittent watercourses otherwise authorized under NWP 29, 39, 42 and 43, and in ephemeral watercourses for these NWPs for projects that impact greater than 0.1 acre of waters of the United States. In addition, when NWP 14 is used in conjunction with residential, commercial, or industrial developments the 0.1 acre limit would also apply.

**Regional Condition 9**

Individual permits shall be required in San Luis Obispo Creek and Santa Rosa Creek in San Luis Obispo County for bank stabilization projects and in Gaviota Creek, Mission Creek and Carpinteria Creek in Santa Barbara County for bank stabilization projects and grade control structures.

**Regional Condition 10**

Notification pursuant to general condition 27 shall be required for projects in 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 (Federal Register dated March 12, 2007 (72 FR 11092) - regional conditions requiring notification do not apply to Nationwide Permit 47).

The Los Angeles District (LAD) has decided not to include Regional Condition 11 in the final version of regional conditions, which would have required a PCN for heavy shading impacts. As proposed, the 0.5 acre threshold would have resulted in very few additional PCN's received by LAD. LAD recognizes that shading from structures like bridges and docks can affect aquatic resources. We believe that it is more appropriate to evaluate the effects of shading on a case by case basis. In this manner, we can evaluate whether or not shading associated with structures or fills within Corps jurisdiction causes additional reductions of aquatic resource functions and services that would result in the project having more than minimal impacts. In those cases, the Corps would ensure that impacts, including shading, are avoided, minimized and mitigated when appropriate. It is important to note that this discussion only applies to projects that require authorization from the Corps. Projects that completely avoid Corps jurisdiction are not subject to any additional requirements.

For additional information please contact Dr. Aaron O. Allen at (805) 585-2148. This public notice is issued by the Chief, Regulatory Division.