

# PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps of Engineers®

Published: June 18, 2025 Expires: August 4, 2025

# Buffalo, Huntington, Louisville, and Pittsburgh Districts

# **Nationwide Permits Reissuance Request for Comments**

On June 18, 2025, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) published in the <u>Federal</u> <u>Register</u> its proposal to reissue 56 existing nationwide permits (NWPs) and issue one new NWP. One NWP is not proposed for reissuance.

NWPs are general permits issued on a nationwide basis to streamline the authorization of activities that result in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects. Many of the proposed NWPs require notification to the district engineer before commencing those activities, to ensure that the activities authorized by those NWPs cause no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects.

### National Issues Concerning the Proposed NWPs:

The <u>Federal Register</u> notice is the public's opportunity to comment on the proposed NWPs, general conditions, and definitions. Comments on national issues relating to these NWPs should be submitted to docket number COE-2025-0002 at **www.regulations.gov**, or by email to **2026nationwidepermits@usace.army.mil** or by mail to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Attn: CECW-CO-R, 441 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20314-1000. Instructions for submitting comments are provided in the June 18, 2025 <u>Federal Register</u> notice. Comments on the proposed NWPs are due by July 18, 2025.

Regional Issues Concerning the Proposed NWPs, Including Regional Conditioning: Division engineers are authorized to add regional conditions specific to the needs and/or requirements of a particular region or state. Regional conditions are an important mechanism to help ensure that the adverse environmental effects of activities authorized by the NWPs are no more than minimal, both individually and cumulatively. Division engineers may also suspend or revoke specific NWPs in certain geographic areas (e.g., states or watersheds) or high-value aquatic systems where the adverse environmental effects caused by activities authorized by those NWPs may be more than minimal. An enclosure for this public notice (Enclosure 1) lists the proposed regional conditions currently under consideration by the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division for the State of Ohio. The Buffalo, Huntington, Louisville, and Pittsburgh Districts are seeking comments on the proposed regional conditions and seeking comments on the need for additional regional conditions to help ensure that the adverse environmental effects of activities authorized by the proposed NWPs are no more than minimal, individually and cumulatively. Unless otherwise noted, all proposed regional conditions listed on this enclosure are applicable for activities in the State of Ohio. Comments on regional issues relating to the proposed NWPs and proposed regional conditions should be sent to the Huntington District at 502 Eighth Street, Huntington, West Virginia 25701-20701 and 304-399-5210. Comments relating to regional conditions are due by August 4, 2025. Similar public notices proposing regional conditions in other regions or states are being published concurrently by other division or district offices. After the final NWPs are issued, the final regional conditions will be issued after they are approved by the Division Commander.

#### 401 Water Quality Certification and Coastal Zone Management Act:

States, tribes, and other certifying authorities will make their Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification (WQC) decisions after reviewing the proposed NWPs. States will make their Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) consistency determination decisions after reviewing the proposed NWPs.

### Draft Decision Documents:

Draft decision documents for each of the proposed NWPs, which include environmental documentation prepared for the purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act, have been written by Corps Headquarters. The decision documents will address compliance of the NWPs with the requirements for issuance under the Corps' general permit authority. These draft decision documents, as well as the proposed NWPs, are available for viewing at **www.regulations.gov**, docket number COE-2025-0002. Final decision documents will be prepared for the NWPs that are issued.

Enclosed is an index of the proposed NWPs and conditions. Anyone wishing to provide comments may obtain a full text copy of the NWPs through the Corps Home Page at <a href="https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-">https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-</a><br/>
Permits/Nationwide-Permits/, at <a href="https://www.regulations.gov">www.regulatory-Program-and-</a><br/>
Permits/Nationwide-Permits/, at <a href="https://www.regulations.gov">www.regulatory-Program-and-</a><br/>
0002, or at the following <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/06/18/2025-11190/proposal-to-reissue-and-modify-nationwide-permits">www.regulations.gov</a><br/>
and-modify-nationwide-permits/

# Index of Proposed Nationwide Permits, General Conditions, 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. Oil or Natural Gas Pipeline 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. Response Operations for Oil or Hazardous Substances
- 21. Surface Coal Mining Activities
- 22. Removal of Vessels
- 23. Approved Categorical Exclusions
- 24. Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs
- 25. Structural Discharges
- 26. [Reserved]
- 27. Aquatic Ecosystem 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. [Reserved]
- 48. Commercial Shellfish Mariculture Activities
- 49. Coal Remining Activities
- 50. Underground Coal Mining Activities
- 51. Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities
- 52. Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects
- 53. Removal of Low-Head Dams
- 54. Living Shorelines
- 55. Seaweed Mariculture Activities
- 56. [Reserved]
- 57. Electric Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities
- 58. Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances
- 59. Water Reclamation and Reuse Facilities
- A. Activities to Improve Passage of Fish and Other Aquatic Organisms

# 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. Single and Complete Project
- 16. Wild and Scenic Rivers
- 17. Tribal Rights
- 18. Endangered Species
- 19. Migratory Birds and Bald and Golden Eagles
- 20. Historic Properties
- 21. Discovery of Previously Unknown Remains and Artifacts
- 22. Designated Critical Resource Waters
- 23. Mitigation
- 24. Safety of Impoundment Structures
- 25. Water Quality
- 26. Coastal Zone Management
- 27. Regional and Case-by-Case Conditions

- 28. Use of Multiple Nationwide Permits
- 29. Transfer of Nationwide Permit Verifications
- 30. Compliance Certification
- 31. Activities Affecting Structures or Works Built by the United States
- 32. Pre-Construction Notification

#### **District Engineer's Decision**

#### Further Information

#### Nationwide Permit Definitions

Best management practices (BMPs) Compensatory mitigation Currently serviceable Direct effects Discharge **Ecological reference** Enhancement Establishment (creation) **High Tide Line** Historic property Independent utility Indirect effects Loss of waters of the United States Nature-based solutions Navigable waters 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 linear project Single and complete non-linear project Stormwater management Stormwater management facilities Stream bed Stream channelization Structure

Tidal wetland Tribal lands Tribal rights Vegetated shallows Waterbody Enclosure 1



# Below is a map showing the district boundaries for the State of Ohio.

**Navigable Limits of <u>Major Section 10 Streams in Ohio</u> (There are slackwaters of the Ohio River, Hocking River, and Little Hocking River, that are also subject to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; Contact the proper District office for information.)** 

**Buffalo District** 

#### **Huntington District**

Ohio River	below MP 127.2	Portage River	12.0 miles
Scioto River	175.0 miles	Maumee River	To Ind. St. Line
Olentangy River	74.3 miles	Sandusky River	96.0 miles
Hocking River	79.0 miles	Huron River	10.0 miles
Muskingum River	112.5 miles	Cuyahoga River	41.1 miles
Walhonding River	8.8 miles	Grand River	91.6 miles
Tuscarawas River	113.3 miles		
Great Miami River	117.0 miles		
Little Miami River	90.7 miles	<u>Pittsburgh District</u>	
E. Fk. Little Miami River	6.4 miles	Ohio River	below MP 40.0
		Little Beaver Creek	15.7 miles
		Middle Fk. L. B. Creek	17.3 miles
Louisville District		North Fk. L. B. Creek	14.3 miles
Ohio River	below MP 438.0	Mahoning River	41.0 miles

**Note:** The Huntington District processes all projects where the Ohio Department of Transportation is the applicant.

# A. Special Note

### B. Regional General Conditions (apply to all Nationwide Permits)

- 1. Bogs and/or fens, Category 3 wetlands, or other rare Ohio wetlands (such as Hemlock Swamps
- 2. Diversion of water from the Great Lakes
- 3. Littoral transport within Lake Erie
- 4. In-Water Work Exclusion Dates
- 5. Waters of Special Concern
- 6. Pre-Construction Notification (PCN)
- 7. Compensatory Mitigation
- 8. Invasive Species
- 9. Aquatic Life Movements

# C. Nationwide Permits Terms and Proposed Specific Regional Conditions

- 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. Oil or Natural Gas Pipeline 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. Response Operations for Oil or Hazardous Substances
- 21. Surface Coal Mining Activities
- 22. Removal of Vessels
- 23. Approved Categorical Exclusions
- 24. Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs
- 25. Structural Discharges
- 26. [Reserved]
- 27. Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration, Enhancement, and Establishment 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 and Irrigation Ditches
- 42. Recreational Facilities
- 43. Stormwater Management Facilities
- 44. Mining Activities
- 45. Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events
- 46. Discharges in Ditches
- 47. [Reserved]
- 48. Commercial Shellfish Mariculture Activities
- 49. Coal Remining Activities
- 50. Underground Coal Mining Activities
- 51. Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities
- 52. Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects
- 53. Removal of Low-Head Dams
- 54. Living Shorelines
- 55. Seaweed Mariculture Activities
- 56. [Reserved]
- 57. Electric Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities
- 58. Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances
- 59. Water Reclamation and Reuse Facilities

A. Activities to Improve Passage of Fish and Other Aquatic Organisms

#### **D. 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. Single and Complete Project
- 16. Wild and Scenic Rivers
- 17. Tribal Rights
- 18. Endangered Species
- 19. Migratory Birds and Bald and Golden Eagles
- 20. Historic Properties
- 21. Discovery of Previously Unknown Remains and Artifacts
- 22. Designated Critical Resource Waters
- 23. Mitigation
- 24. Safety of Impoundment Structures
- 25. Water Quality
- 26. Coastal Zone Management
- 27. Regional and Case-by-Case Conditions
- 28. Use of Multiple Nationwide Permits
- 29. Transfer of Nationwide Permit Verifications
- 30. Compliance Certification
- 31. Activities Affecting Structures or Works Built by the United States
- 32. Pre-Construction Notification

### E. District Engineer's Decision

#### F. Further Information

### G. General Limitations and Conditions for all OEPA 401 Certified Nationwide Permits

#### **H. Definitions**

Best management practices (BMPs) Compensatory mitigation Currently serviceable Direct effects Discharge Ecological reference Enhancement Establishment (creation) High Tide Line Historic property Independent utility Indirect effects Loss of waters of the United States Nature-based solutions Navigable waters 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 linear project Single and complete non-linear project Stormwater management Stormwater management facilities Stream bed Stream channelization Structure Tidal wetland Tribal lands Tribal rights Vegetated shallows Waterbody
- A. Special Note: For NWPs that do not require PCN to the Corps, it is an applicant's responsibility to review the Section 401 Clean Water Act Water Quality Certification (401 WQC) general and NWP-specific terms and conditions and submit information to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency as required by their 401 WQC. A project that meets the terms and conditions of a NWP with no PCN to the Corps is only valid when accompanied by a blanket or individual 401 WQC from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. No work in waters of the United States may commence until the required 401 WQC (or waiver) has been obtained from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

# B. Nationwide Permits Regional General Conditions (Applies to All 2026 Nationwide Permits in Ohio)

 Bogs and/or fens, Category 3 wetlands, or other rare Ohio wetlands (such as Hemlock Swamps): The NWPs shall not authorize any regulated activity which negatively impacts the functions and services of bogs and/or fens, Category 3 wetlands, or other rare Ohio wetlands (such as Hemlock Swamps). Negative impacts include conversion of an area of the waters of the United States considered as a bog, fen, Category 3 wetland as determined using the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Ohio Rapid Assessment Method, or other rare Ohio wetlands (such as Hemlock Swamps) into a use to which it was not previously subject, where the flow or circulation of waters of the United States may be impaired, or the reach of such waters reduced. Where the proposed discharge will result in significant discernible alterations to flow or circulation, the presumption is that flow or circulation may be impaired by such alteration.

- 2. Lake Erie Diversion of Water: NWPs shall not authorize any regulated activity in Lake Erie which would result in diversion of water from the Great Lakes.
- 3. Lake Erie Littoral Transport: NWPs shall not authorize any regulated activity which has an adverse impact on littoral transport within Lake Erie.
- 4. **In-Water Work Exclusion Dates:** Any work associated with a regulated activity under a NWP cannot take place during the restricted period of the following Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife In-Water Work Restrictions, unless the applicant receives advanced written approval (a copy of which should be submitted with the application submittal) from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife and receives written approval from the Corps:
  - a. Salmonid Locations Restriction Period: September 15 June 30
  - b. Other Locations Restriction Period: March 15 June 30

**Note 1**: This list of restriction locations can be found at https://dam.assets.ohio.gov/image/upload/ohiodnr.gov/documents/wildlife/genera //IN-WATER\_WORK\_RESTRICTION\_PERIODS\_AND\_LOCATIONS.pdf and is subject to change as determined by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife.

**Note 2**: This condition does not apply to Ohio Department of Transportation projects that are covered under the "Memorandum of Agreement Between The Ohio Department of Transportation, The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and The United States Fish and Wildlife Service For Interagency Coordination For Projects Which Require Consultation Under the Endangered Species Act, Impact State Listed Species, and/or Modify Jurisdictional Waters 2016 Agreement Number: 19394" or subsequent amendments to this Ohio Department of Transportation memorandum of agreement.

5. **Waters of Special Concern:** PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for regulated activities in the following resources:

#### a. Critical Resource Waters:

i. In Ohio, two (2) areas have been designated critical habitat for the piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) and are defined as lands 0.62 mile

inland from normal high water line. Unit OH-1 extends from the mouth of Sawmill Creek to the western property boundary of Sheldon Marsh State Natural Area, Erie County, encompassing approximately two (2) miles. Unit OH-2 extends from the eastern boundary line of Headland Dunes Nature Preserve to the western boundary of the Nature Preserve and Headland Dunes State Park, Lake County, encompassing approximately 0.5 mile. For maps of the designated critical habitat, visit <u>https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2001-05-07/pdf/01-11205.pdf#page=1</u>

- ii. In Ohio three (3) areas have been designated critical habitat for the rabbitsfoot mussel (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*). Unit RF26 includes 17.5 river kilometers (rkm) (10.9 river miles [rimi]) of the Walhonding River from the convergence of the Kokosing and Mohican Rivers downstream to Ohio Highway 60 near Warsaw, Coshocton County, Ohio. Unit RF27 includes 33.3 rkm (20.7 rmi) of Little Darby Creek from Ohio Highway 161 near Chuckery, Union County, Ohio, downstream to U.S. Highway 40 near West Jefferson, Madison County, Ohio. Unit RF29 includes 7.7 rkm (4.8 rmi) of Fish Creek from the Indiana and Ohio State line northwest of Edgerton, Ohio, downstream to its confluence with the St. Joseph's River north of Edgerton, Williams County, Ohio. For maps of the designated critical habitat, visit https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-04-30/pdf/2015-09200.pdf#page=1
- iii. Old Woman Creek National Estuarine Research Preserve. For information pertaining to this reserve, visit <u>https://ohiodnr.gov/go-anddo/plan-a-visit/find-a-property/old-woman-creek-nerr-state-naturepreserve</u>
- iv. Round hickorynut (*Obovaria subrotunda*): Grand River Unit RH 2 consists of 92 river miles (148.2 km) of the Grand River in Ashtabula, Lake, and Trumbull Counties, Ohio, from the Trumbull/ Geauga County line south of Lake County, Ohio State Route 88, downstream to the mouth of the Grand River at its confluence with Lake Erie. For maps to the designated critical habitat, visit <u>https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-03-09/pdf/2023-</u>03998.pdf#page=1
- b. Oak Openings: Wetland activities conducted in the Oak Openings Region of Northwest Ohio located in Lucas, Henry and Fulton Counties. For a map of the Oak Openings Region, visit <u>https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1JADupaZXJzO6AUDvnUaV18GVj</u> G7yfBim&usp=sharing
- c. **Category 3 Wetlands:** As determined through use of the latest approved version of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Ohio Rapid Assessment Method wetland evaluation form.

- d. **Ohio Stream Designations:** Exceptional Warmwater Habitat, Cold Water Habitat, Seasonal Salmonid, or any equivalent designation; or water bodies with an antidegradation category of Superior High Quality Water, Outstanding National Resource Water, or Outstanding State Waters as determined by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency except for NWPs 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 27, 28, 32, and 35 or maintenance activities covered under NWPs 7 and 12. The current list of these rivers and tributaries can be found on the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency web-site at: <u>https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/regulations/effective-rules</u>. These designations can be found under the "Anti-deg Rule #05."
- e. **Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Area:** The Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Area extends from Cleveland, Ohio to Dover, Ohio. For a map to the designated National Heritage Area, visit <u>https://www.ohioanderiecanalway.com/explore/america-s-byway/</u>
- f. Muskingum River Navigation Historic District: The Muskingum River Navigation Historic District is a 6,004 acres (24.30 km<sup>2</sup>) historic district in Ohio's Coshocton, Morgan, Muskingum, and Washington counties, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2007. The listing includes 12 contributing buildings, 32 contributing structures, and a contributing site. The "Muskingum River lock system was designated the first Navigation Historic District in the United States by the National Park Service." The Muskingum River Navigation System was also designated as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark by the American Society of Civil Engineers in 2001. For a map to the designated historic district, visit <u>https://ohiodnr.gov/go-and-do/plan-a-visit/find-aproperty/muskingum-river-state-park</u>
- 6. **Pre-Construction Notification (PCN):** In addition to the information required under NWP General Condition 32, the following information must be provided with the PCN:
  - a. Threatened and Endangered Species: Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) states that each federal agency shall, in consultation with the Secretary, ensure that any action they authorize, fund, or carry out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. Section 7 of the ESA, called "Interagency Cooperation," is the mechanism by which federal agencies ensure the actions they take, including those they fund or authorize, do not jeopardize the continued existence of any federally or proposed federally listed species. Consistent with NWP General Condition 18, information for federally listed or proposed threatened and endangered species must be provided in the PCN to determine the proposed activity's compliance with NWP General Condition 18 and to facilitate project-specific coordination with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

- b. Cultural Resources: Under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Corps must ensure no federal undertaking, including a Corps permit action, which may affect historic resources, is commenced before the impacts of such action are considered and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are provided an opportunity to comment as required by the NHPA, 36 CFR 800, and 33 CFR 325, Appendix C. Consistent with NWP General Condition 20, historic properties information must be provided in the PCN if the proposed undertaking might 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.
- c. **National Wild and Scenic Rivers**: Consistent with NWP General Condition 16, the applicant must submit a PCN to the Corps for proposed activities in the following waterways which are components of the National Wild and Scenic River System:

### Big and Little Darby Creeks

- Big Darby Creek from Champaign-Union County line downstream to the Conrail railroad trestle and from the confluence with the Little Darby Creek downstream to the Scioto River;
- Little Darby Creek from the Lafayette-Plain City Road bridge downstream to within 0.8 mile from the confluence with Big Darby Creek; and
- Total designation is approximately 82 miles.

#### Little Beaver Creek

- Little Beaver Creek main stem, from the confluence of West Fork with Middle Fork near Williamsport to mouth;
- North Fork from confluence of Brush Run and North Fork to confluence of North Fork with main stem at Fredericktown;
- Middle Fork from vicinity of Co. Rd. 901 (Elkton Road) bridge crossing to confluence of Middle Fork with West Fork near Williamsport;
- West Fork from vicinity of Co. Rd. 914 (Y-Camp Road) bridge crossing east to confluence of West Fork with Middle Fork near Williamsport; and
- Total designation is 33 miles.

#### Little Miami River

- Little Miami River St. Rt. 72 at Clifton to the Ohio River;
- Caesar Creek lower two (2) miles of Caesars Creek; and
- Total designation is 94 miles.

- d. **Temporary Fills or Structures:** When a PCN is required for temporary fills or structures, the PCN must specify how long the temporary fills or structures will remain and include a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre-construction contours and elevations. Native, non-invasive vegetation must be used unless otherwise authorized by a Corps NWP verification.
- e. Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification: When a project is not covered by a general 401 WQC, documentation must be provided that a request for an individual 401 WQC or a Director's Authorization was submitted to the appropriate certifying authority and this office concurrently, including the date of request. If a request for an individual 401 WQC or a Director's Authorization has not been submitted, the applicant must identify the anticipated date of the request following the submittal of a pre-filing meeting request to the certifying authority.
- f. **Another Lead Federal Agency:** For proposed activities where the Corps is not the lead federal agency, the applicant must provide this office with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with Section 106 of NHPA, and Section 7 of the ESA.
- g. **Ohio Rapid Assessment Method (ORAM):** A ORAM verification is required from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for each proposed wetland impact of greater than 1/10-acre. The following information should be provided to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency via their EBusiness center at <u>https://ebiz.epa.ohio.gov/</u> to expedite their review:
  - i. ORAM long forms;
  - A minimum of four (4) high resolution color photographs taken while facing each of the four (4) cardinal directions of each wetland proposed for impact. Photographs must accurately depict the quality of the wetland and may not include a majority of dying or dead vegetation or excessive cover due to seasonal conditions that vegetation and substrates cannot be observed, such as leaf litter, snow, or ice. Photographs deemed to be insufficient of representing the wetland will be required to be retaken once seasonal conditions are appropriate. Photographs shall be clearly labeled with the wetland name, direction, and date;
  - iii. United States Geological Survey topographical map, National Wetlands Inventory map, Soil Survey map and aerial images (both historical and current) which clearly outline the entire wetland boundary;
  - iv. Coordination letter from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Database indicating the presence or absence of state listed threatened or endangered species (requests should be sent via environmentalreviewrequest@dnr.ohio.gov); and

v. A detailed description of how the project meets public need, as defined in Ohio Administrative Code 3745-1-50, for impacts to Category 3 wetlands.

Copies of any correspondence submitted to and received from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency should be included in the application package.

# 7. Compensatory Mitigation:

- Compensatory mitigation will be required for wetland loss of greater than 1/10-acre and permanent wetland conversion of greater than 1/10-acre within the state of Ohio.
- b. Compensatory mitigation projects provided to offset losses of aquatic resources must comply with the applicable provisions of 33 CFR Part 332.
- c. Compensatory mitigation will be required for losses of greater than 3/100-acre of stream bed within the state of Ohio.
- d. For wetland losses and permanent wetland conversions of 1/10-acre or less or stream losses of 3/100-acre or less, the district engineer may determine on a case-by-case basis that compensatory mitigation is required to ensure that the activity results in only minimal adverse environmental effects.
- 8. **Invasive Species:** No area for which grading has been completed will be unseeded or unmulched for longer than 14 days. All disturbed areas will be seeded and/or revegetated with native species and seed mixes (where practicable) after completion of construction activities for stabilization and to help preclude the establishment of non-native invasive species.
- 9. Aquatic Life Movements: Consistent with NWP General Condition 2, culverts and other crossings of waterbodies shall be designed and sized to accommodate bankfull discharge and match the existing depth of flow to facilitate the passage of aquatic organisms. When practicable, culverts shall be installed at the existing streambed slope, to allow for the natural movement of bedload and aquatic organisms. When practicable, as recommended by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, bottomless or buried culverts are required when culvert size is greater than 48-inches in diameter. This condition does not apply if the culverts have a gradient of greater than 1% grade or installed on bedrock. A buried culvert means that the bottom 10% by dimension shall be buried below the existing stream bed elevation.

# C. Nationwide Permit Terms and Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:

1. **Aids to Navigation**. The placement of aids to navigation and regulatory markers that 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). (Authority: Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (Section 10)).

# No proposed regional conditions.

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)). (Authority: Section 10).

#### No proposed regional conditions.

### 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. This NWP also authorizes the removal of previously authorized structures or fills. 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. This NWP also authorizes the removal of accumulated sediment and debris within, and in the immediate vicinity 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 outside the immediate vicinity of existing structures (e.g., bridges, culverted road crossings, water intake structures, etc.). 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. (c) This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work, including the use of temporary mats, 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 of dredged or fill material, 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. After conducting the maintenance activity, 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 32). The pre-construction notification must include information regarding the original design capacities and configurations of the outfalls, intakes, small impoundments, and canals. (Authorities: Section 10 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (Section 404))

**<u>Note</u>**: 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.

# **Corps NWP 3 Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:**

- PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for the following activities:
  - Any jurisdictional stream or ditch channel modification (reconfiguration or reconstruction of all or part of a channel, such as by straightening, relocating, lining, or excavating the channel, or by enclosing the channel within a structure such as a pipe or culvert) that exceeds a distance of 50 feet upstream and 50 feet downstream of the structure;
  - The placement of any new rip-rap below the ordinary high water mark when associated with an existing bridge or similar crossing exceeding a total of 200 feet extending in either direction from the crossing;
  - The replacement of any permanent vertical bulkhead greater than one (1) foot waterward of the original alignment. A vertical bulkhead is defined as any structure, or fill, with a vertical face. It may be constructed of timber, steel, concrete, etc.;
  - Activities in Section 10 navigable waters that involve the discharge of greater than 25 cubic yards of dredged or fill material below the

ordinary high water mark; and

- All activities in Section 10 navigable waters, and federal harbors in Lake Erie.
- For projects located along the shorelines of Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, all sand and gravel located below the proposed project, both below and above ordinary high water mark (573.4 feet International Great Lakes Datum 1985), will be excavated down to clay or bedrock, and side cast into the nearshore area either immediately waterward or downdrift of the project area. It will be at the discretion of the district engineer to determine whether the material located below the authorized structure needs to be relocated, where it should be relocated to, and the appropriate authorization, if needed, for the relocation. Verification of the placement of the excavated material within the nearshore area shall be documented through the submittal of dated photographs and an accompanying photo location map to the district engineer within 30 days of commencement of the project.

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 semiimpoundments 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. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404).

# No proposed regional conditions.

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 of dredged or fill material 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. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404).

# No proposed regional conditions.

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 preconstruction 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 of dredged or fill material does not exceed 1/10-acre in waters of the U.S. Discharges of dredged or fill material 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. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404).

# **Corps NWP 6 Proposed Specific Regional Condition:**

• PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for the discharge of greater than 25 cubic yards of dredged or fill material into rivers, lakes, and tributaries.

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 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404).

# No proposed regional conditions.

# 8. **Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf**. Revoked in the State of Ohio.

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 such areas have been established for that purpose. (Authority: Section 10)

# No proposed regional conditions.

10. **Mooring Buoys**. Non-commercial, single-boat, mooring buoys. (Authority: Section 10)

### No proposed regional conditions.

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 managers must approve each buoy or marker individually. (Authority: Section 10)

### No proposed regional conditions.

12. **Oil or Natural Gas Pipeline Activities.** Activities required for the construction, maintenance, repair, and removal of oil and natural gas pipelines 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.

**Oil or natural gas pipelines:** This NWP authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States and structures or work in navigable waters for crossings of those waters associated with the construction, maintenance, or repair of oil and natural gas pipelines. There must be no change in pre-construction contours of waters of the United States. An "oil or natural gas pipeline" is defined as any pipe or pipeline for the transportation of any form of oil or natural gas, including products derived from oil or natural gas, such as gasoline, jet fuel, diesel fuel, heating oil, petrochemical feedstocks, waxes, lubricating oils, and asphalt.

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.

Oil or natural gas pipeline substations: This NWP authorizes the construction, maintenance, or expansion of substation facilities (e.g., oil or natural gas or gaseous fuel custody transfer stations, boosting stations, compression stations, metering stations, pressure regulating stations) associated with an oil or natural gas pipeline 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 of dredged or fill material into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters of the United States to construct, maintain, or expand substation facilities. Foundations for above-ground oil or natural gas pipelines: This NWP authorizes the construction or maintenance of foundations for aboveground oil or natural gas pipelines in all waters of the United States, provided the foundations are the minimum size necessary.

Access roads: This NWP authorizes the construction of access roads for the construction and maintenance of oil or natural gas pipelines, 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 of dredged or fill material 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 preconstruction 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 oil or natural gas pipelines 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). Oil or natural gas pipelines routed in, over, or under section 10 waters without a discharge of dredged or fill material may require a section 10 permit.

This NWP authorizes, to the extent that Department of the Army authorization is required, temporary structures, fills, and work necessary for the remediation of inadvertent returns of drilling fluids to waters of the United States through sub-soil fissures or fractures that might occur during horizontal directional drilling activities conducted for the purpose of installing or replacing oil or natural gas pipelines. These remediation activities must be done as soon as practicable, to restore the affected waterbody. District engineers may add special conditions to this NWP to require a remediation plan for addressing inadvertent returns of drilling fluids to waters of the United States during horizontal directional drilling activities conducted for the purpose of installing activities.

This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work, including the use of temporary mats, necessary to conduct the oil or natural gas pipeline 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 of dredged or fill material, 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. After construction, temporary fills must be removed in their

entirety and the affected areas returned to preconstruction 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: (1) A section 10 permit is required; (2) the discharge will result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of waters of the United States; or (3) the proposed oil or natural gas pipeline activity is associated with an overall project that is greater than 250 miles in length and the project purpose is to install new pipeline (vs. conduct repair or maintenance activities) along the majority of the distance of the overall project length. If the proposed oil or gas pipeline is greater than 250 miles in length and the locations and proposed impacts (in acres or other appropriate unit of measure) for all crossings of waters of the United States that require DA authorization, including those crossings authorized by an NWP would not otherwise require preconstruction notification. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note 1**: Where structures or work are authorized in navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters) within the coastal United States, the Great Lakes, and United States territories, the permittee should provide a copy of the 'as-built drawings' and the geographic coordinate system used in the 'as-built drawings' to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), to inform updates to nautical charts and Coast Pilot corrections. The information should be transmitted via email to <u>ocs.ndb@noaa.gov</u>.

**Note 2**: For oil or natural gas pipeline activities crossing a single waterbody more than one time at separate and distant locations, or multiple waterbodies at separate and distant locations, each crossing is considered a single and complete project for purposes of NWP authorization. Oil or natural gas pipeline activities must comply with 33 CFR 330.6(d).

**Note 3**: 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 oil or natural gas pipeline must be removed upon completion of the work, in accordance with the requirements for temporary fills.

**Note 4**: Pipes or pipelines used to transport gaseous, liquid, liquescent, or slurry substances over navigable waters of the United States are considered to be bridges, and may require a permit from the U.S. Coast Guard pursuant to the General Bridge Act of 1946. However, any discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States associated with such oil or natural gas pipelines will require a section 404 permit (see NWP 15).

<u>Note 5</u>: This NWP authorizes oil or natural gas pipeline maintenance and repair activities that do not qualify for the Clean Water Act section 404(f) exemption for maintenance of currently serviceable fills or fill structures.

**Note 6**: For NWP 12 activities that require pre-construction notification, the PCN must include 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, including other separate and distant crossings that require Department of the Army authorization but do not require pre-construction notification (see paragraph (b)(4) of General Condition 32). The district engineer will evaluate the PCN in accordance with Section D, "District Engineer's Decision." The district engineer may require mitigation to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects (see General Condition 23).

**Note 7**: Where structures or work are proposed in navigable waters of the United States, project proponents should provide the location and dimensions of the proposed structures to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) prior to submittal of a Pre-Construction Notification, or prior to beginning construction. The USCG may assess potential navigation-related concerns associated with the location of proposed structures or work, and may inform project proponents of marking and lighting requirements necessary to comply with General Condition 1 (Navigation). For assistance identifying the appropriate USCG District or Sector Waterways Management Staff responsible for the area of the proposed work, contact USCG at <u>CGWWM@uscg.mil</u>.

# **Corps NWP 12 Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:**

- PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for all permanent conversion of scrub/shrub and forested wetlands of greater than 1/10-acre per each single and complete project. Use of conversion in this regional condition relates to the change of a scrub/shrub and forested wetlands to a herbaceous state or a forested wetland to a scrub/shrub state, but it would not result in a loss of waters of the United States (U.S.) as the wetland would continue to exist in the landscape.
- Should an inadvertent return of drilling mud occur during a directional drilling activity, and the clean-up of drilling muds results in a discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the U.S. which necessitates the use of NWP 12 the permittee must report to the Corps the location and circumstances of the clean-up after the work has been conducted unless a PCN is otherwise required.

13. **Bank Stabilization**. Bank stabilization activities necessary for erosion control or prevention, such as vegetative stabilization, bioengineering, sills, rip rap, revetment, gabion baskets, stream barbs, and bulkheads, or combinations of bank stabilization techniques, 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 of dredged or fill material will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects (an exception is for bulkheads – the district engineer cannot issue a waiver for a bulkhead that is greater than 1,000 feet in length along the bank);

(c) The activity will not exceed an average of one cubic yard per running foot, as measured along the length of the treated 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 of dredged or fill material will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental 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 of dredged or fill material will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental 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 native trees and treetops may be used in low energy areas);

(g) Native plants appropriate for current site conditions, including salinity, must be used for bioengineering or vegetative bank stabilization;

(h) The activity is not a stream channelization activity; and

(i) The activity must be properly maintained, which may require repairing it after severe storms or erosion events. This NWP authorizes those maintenance and repair activities if they require authorization.

This NWP authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States and structures and work in navigable waters of the United States to incorporate nature-based solutions into new and existing bank stabilization activities to provide habitat and other ecosystem functions and services and to reduce adverse effects of bank stabilization activities on the aquatic environment. Examples of nature-based solutions for bank stabilization activities include the use of construction materials for seawalls and bulkheads that have textured surfaces, crevices, shelves, benches, and pits that support attachment and growth of benthic organisms; the construction of rock pools next to the bank stabilization activity; the use of various sizes of rock for revetments to provide different sizes of spaces between rocks for habitat for various species of organisms; the placement of rock clusters next to a seawall or bulkhead; the placement of bags

of molluscs or the placement of small reef structures to provide habitat for molluscs and other sessile aquatic organisms next to a seawall, bulkhead, or revetment.

This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work, including the use of temporary mats, 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 of dredged or fill material, 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. After construction, 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 the bank stabilization activity: (1) involves discharges of dredged or fill material into special aquatic sites; or (2) is in excess of 500 feet in length; or (3) will involve the discharge of dredged or fill material of greater than an average of one cubic yard per running foot as measured along the length of the treated bank, below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the high tide line. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note 1**: In coastal waters and the Great Lakes, living shorelines may be an appropriate option for bank stabilization, and may be authorized by NWP 54.

**Note 2:** Under 33 CFR 320.4(g)(2), a landowner has the general right to protect his or her property from erosion, and the district engineer can provide general guidance to the landowner regarding possible alternative methods of protecting his or her property. Permittees are encouraged to use soft bank stabilization approaches (e.g., bioengineering, vegetative stabilization) at sites where those methods are likely to be effective in managing erosion, such as sites where shorelines and banks are subject to moderate to low erosive forces. However, hard bank stabilization activities (e.g., seawalls, bulkheads, revetments, riprap) may be necessary at sites where shorelines and banks are subject to strong erosive forces. An appropriate and effective approach to managing shoreline or bank erosion at a specific site requires consideration of a variety of factors, including but not limited to: bank height; bank condition; the energy of tides, waves, currents, or other water flows that the bank is exposed to; fetch; nearshore water depths; the potential for storm surges; sediment or substrate type; tidal range in waters subject to the ebb and flow of tides; shoreline configuration and orientation; the width of the waterway; and whether there is infrastructure in the vicinity of the proposed bank stabilization activity that needs to be protected and the degree of protection needed.

#### **Corps NWP 13 Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:**

• PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General

Condition 6 is required for the following activities:

- All activities within 2,000 feet of designated arrival points (specific locations depicted on river navigation charts where boats/barges enter a lock) of locks and dams on the Ohio River.
- All activities in Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay that involve the discharge of greater than 10 cubic yards of dredged or fill material below the ordinary high water mark; and
- The use of any vertical bulkhead. A vertical bulkhead is defined as any structure, or fill, with a vertical face. It may be constructed of timber, steel, concrete, etc.
- For projects located along the shorelines of Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, all sand and gravel located below the proposed project, both below and above ordinary high water mark (573.4 feet International Great Lakes Datum 1985), will be excavated down to clay or bedrock, and side cast into the nearshore area either immediately waterward or downdrift of the project area. Verification of the placement of the excavated material within the nearshore area shall be documented through the submittal of dated photographs and an accompanying photo location map to the district engineer within 30 days of commencement of the project.
- For projects located along the shorelines of Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, a one-time sand prefill of two (2) cubic yards of sand per linear foot of shoreline stabilized shall be placed at an approved location in the nearshore area in less than three (3) feet of water within 30 days of project commencement, unless the district engineer waives this requirement by making a written determination. Verification of the placement of the sand prefill material within the nearshore area shall be documented through the submittal of contractor's receipts, including the volume of sand prefill, dated photographs, and accompanying photo location map to the district engineer. The sand shall be from an upland source or other approved source and shall be similar in composition to the sand at the project site, free from organic material; limestone sand and topsoil are excluded.
- For bank stabilization projects located in Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, broken concrete shall not be used as suitable material, unless it is contained within a structure.
- Proper installation is required for use of this NWP and does not include material that is dumped from the top of bank resulting in uncontrolled spilling of material over the bank into the waterway.
- PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 is required for all regulated activities proposed to be located within the area between the upstream and the downstream arrival points of any Corps of Engineers lock and dam, or within 1,500 feet of any federal-mooring cell at any lock, as shown on the navigation charts.
- Soft bank stabilization techniques such as live stakes and brush mattresses are encouraged where practicable, alone or in combination with hard bank stabilization.

14. Linear Transportation Projects. Activities required for crossings of waters of the United States associated with the construction, expansion, modification, or improvement of linear transportation projects (e.g., roads, highways, railways, trails, driveways, airport runways, and taxiways) in waters of the United States. For linear transportation projects in non-tidal waters, the discharge of dredged or fill material 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 of dredged or fill material 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, including the use of temporary mats, 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 of dredged or fill material, 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 preconstruction 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 of dredged or fill material in a special aquatic site, including wetlands. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note 1**: For linear transportation projects crossing a single waterbody more than one time at separate and distant locations, or multiple waterbodies at separate and distant locations, each crossing is considered a single and complete project for purposes of NWP authorization. Linear transportation projects must comply with 33 CFR 330.6(d).

**Note 2**: Some discharges of dredged or fill material 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).

**Note 3**: For NWP 14 activities that require pre-construction notification, the PCN must include 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, including other separate and distant crossings that require Department of the Army

authorization but do not require pre-construction notification (see paragraph (b)(4) of General Condition 32). The district engineer will evaluate the PCN in accordance with Section D, "District Engineer's Decision." The district engineer may require mitigation to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects (see General Condition 23).

# Corps NWP 14 Proposed Specific Regional Condition:

- PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for all regulated activities in Section 10 navigable waters, and federal harbors of Lake Erie.
- A PCN is required for the discharge of dredged and/or fill material that will result in the loss of 3/100 acre or greater of stream bed.

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 the General Bridge Act of 1946, Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, or other applicable laws. Causeways and approach fills are not included in this NWP and will require a separate Clean Water Act Section 404 permit. (Authority: Section 404)

# No proposed regional conditions.

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 Clean Water Act 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. (Authority: Section 404)

#### No proposed regional conditions.

17. **Hydropower Projects**. Discharges of dredged or fill material associated with hydropower projects having: (a) Less than 10,000 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 32.) (Authority: Section 404)

#### No proposed regional conditions.

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 dredged or fill 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 of dredged or fill material will not cause the loss of more than 1/10acre of waters of the United States; and

(c) The discharge of dredged or fill material 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 of dredged or fill material 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 of dredged or fill material is in a special aquatic site, including wetlands. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

# **Corps NWP 18 Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:**

- For shore structure or bank stabilization projects located along the shorelines of Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, that will result in the permanent hardening or filling of the existing shoreline all sand and gravel located below the proposed project, both below and above ordinary high water mark (573.4 feet International Great Lakes Datum 1985), will be excavated down to clay or bedrock, and side cast into the nearshore area either immediately waterward or downdrift of the project area. Verification of the placement of the excavated material within the nearshore area shall be documented through the submittal of dated photographs and an accompanying photo location map to the district engineer within 30 days of commencement of the project.
- A PCN is required for the discharge of dredged and/or fill material that will result in the loss of 3/100 acre or greater of stream bed.

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)). All dredged material 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. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

# Corps NWP 19 Proposed Specific Regional Condition:

• Dredging operations in Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, that recover material consisting of greater than 60% sand and/or gravel, shall be disposed of in the nearshore area, in water with sufficient depth as determined by the district engineer, and downdrift from the dredging location.

20. **Response Operations for Oil or Hazardous Substances**. Activities conducted in response to a discharge or release of oil or 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. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

# No proposed regional conditions.

21. **Surface Coal Mining Activities.** Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States associated with surface coal mining and reclamation operations, provided the following criteria are met:

- (a) 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 by the Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement;
- (b) The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material into tidal waters or non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters; and
- (c) 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:** The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

#### No proposed regional conditions.

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 32.) If the vessel is listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the permittee cannot commence the activity until informed by the district engineer that compliance with the "Historic Properties" general condition is completed. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note 1**: Intentional ocean disposal of vessels at sea requires a permit from the U.S. EPA under the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act, which specifies that ocean disposal should only be pursued when land-based alternatives are not available. 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 possibility that shipwrecks may be historic properties.

#### No proposed regional conditions.

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 Section 106, 109, and 111(1) of the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR part 1500 et seq.), that the activity is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment analysis, 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 preconstruction 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 32). The activities that require pre-construction notification are listed in the appropriate Regulatory Guidance Letter(s). (Authorities: 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. Any changes to approved categorical exclusions applicable to this NWP will be announced in Regulatory Guidance Letters and posted on this same web site.

#### No proposed regional conditions.

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)-(I) is permitted pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. (Authority: Section 10)

**Note 1**: As of the date of the promulgation of this NWP, only Florida, New Jersey and Michigan administer their own Clean Water Act Section 404 permit programs.

<u>Note 2</u>: Those activities that do not involve an Indian Tribe or State Clean Water Act 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)).

#### No proposed regional conditions.

25. **Structural Discharges**. Discharges of dredged or fill 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. (Authority: Section 404)

# Corps NWP 25 Proposed Specific Regional Condition:

• PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for all discharges of dredged and/or fill material into Section 10 navigable waters.

27. Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration, Enhancement, and Establishment 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 rivers and streams and their riparian areas, the restoration and enhancement of other non-tidal open waters, and the restoration or enhancement of tidal streams, tidal wetlands, and tidal open waters, provided those activities result in net increases in aquatic ecosystem functions and services.

To be authorized by this NWP, the aquatic ecosystem restoration, enhancement, or establishment activity must be planned, designed, and implemented so that it results in an aquatic ecosystem that resembles an ecological reference (i.e., a natural ecosystem). An ecological reference may be based on the characteristics of aquatic ecosystems or riparian areas that currently exist in the region, or the characteristics of aquatic ecosystems or riparian area that existed in the region in the past. Ecological references include cultural ecosystems, which are ecosystems that have developed under the joint influence of natural processes and human management activities (e.g., fire stewardship for vegetation management). An ecological reference may also be based on regional ecological knowledge, including indigenous and local ecological knowledge, of the target aquatic ecosystem type or riparian area.

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 ecosystem functions and services.

This NWP does not authorize: (1) dam removal activities; (2) stream channelization activities; and (3) the conversion of tidal wetlands to open water impoundments and other aquatic uses.

Only native plant species should be planted at the site.

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

*Reversion*. For aquatic ecosystem restoration, enhancement, 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), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), 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 of dredged or fill material 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, BLM, 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 Program requirements are applicable to that type of land at the time. The requirement that the activity results in a net increase in aquatic ecosystem 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.

**<u>Reporting</u>**: The permittee must submit a report containing information on the proposed aquatic ecosystem restoration, enhancement, and establishment activity to the district engineer at least 30 days prior to commencing activities in waters of the United States authorized by this NWP. The report must include the following information:

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

(2) Location of the proposed activity;

(3) Information on baseline ecological conditions at the project site, including a general description and map of aquatic and terrestrial habitat types on that site. The map of existing aquatic and terrestrial habitat types and their approximate boundaries on the project site should be based on recent aerial imagery or similar information, and verified with photo points or other field-based data points for each mapped habitat type;

(4) A sketch of the proposed project elements of the NWP 27 activity drawn over a copy of the map of existing aquatic and terrestrial habitat types on the project site;

(5) A description of the techniques or mechanisms that are proposed to be used to increase aquatic ecosystem functions and services on the project site, and if applicable;

(6) A copy of: (a) the binding stream enhancement or restoration agreement or wetland enhancement, restoration, or establishment agreement with the FWS, NRCS, FSA, NMFS, NOS, USFS, BLM, or their designated state cooperating agencies; (b) the NRCS or USDA Technical Service Provider documentation for the voluntary stream enhancement or restoration action or wetland restoration, enhancement, or establishment action; or (c) the SMCRA permit issued by OSMRE or the applicable state agency.

(Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note 1**: 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.

**Note 2**: If an activity authorized by this NWP requires a PCN because of an NWP general condition (e.g., NWP general condition 18, endangered species) or a regional condition imposed by a division engineer, the information required by paragraph (3) of the Reporting requirement substitutes for the delineation of waters, wetlands, and other special aquatic sites required by paragraph (b)(5) of general condition 32.

#### No proposed regional conditions.

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. (Authority: Section 10)

#### No proposed regional conditions.

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. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material 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 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

## No proposed regional conditions.

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. (Authority: 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).

#### **Corps NWP 30 Proposed Specific Regional Condition:**

 PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of this NWP unless the applicant is working under the leadership of a governmental wildlife resource agency such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), or the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

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 and excavated material 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. Proper sediment 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 adverse environmental impacts caused by the maintenance activities are no more than 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. A flood control facility will not be considered abandoned if the prospective permittee is in the process of obtaining other

authorizations or approvals required for maintenance activities and is experiencing delays in obtaining those authorizations or approvals.

*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 effects 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 (see Note, below). 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 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 32). 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 disposal site for dredged or excavated material. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note:** If the maintenance baseline was approved by the district engineer under a prior version of NWP 31, and the district engineer imposed the one-time compensatory mitigation requirement on maintenance for a specific reach of a flood control project authorized by that prior version of NWP 31, during the period this version of NWP 31 is in effect, the district engineer will not require additional compensatory mitigation for maintenance activities authorized by this NWP in that specific reach of the flood control project.

### No proposed regional conditions.

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 activities authorized by this NWP cannot adversely affect 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 nonjudicial 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; non-compliance of the terms and conditions of an NWP 32 authorization may result in an additional enforcement action (e.g., a Class I civil administrative penalty). 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). (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

# No proposed regional conditions.

33. Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering. Temporary structures, work, and discharges of dredged or fill material, 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 of dredged or fill material, 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 environmental effects. 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 preconstruction 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 if the activity is conducted in navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters) (see General Condition 32). 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. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

# Corps NWP 33 Proposed Specific Regional Condition:

• PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required whenever the work is conducted in a perennial tributary or is expected to take more than one (1) year to complete to allow the Corps to consider the temporal effects of the regulated activity.

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 32.) (Authority: Section 404)

# No proposed regional conditions.

35. **Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins**. The 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. All dredged material 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. Proper sediment controls must be used for the disposal site. (Authority: Section 10)

## **Corps NWP 35 Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:**

• PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of this NWP.

36. **Boat Ramps**. Activities required for the construction, repair, or replacement of boat ramps, provided the activity meets all of the following criteria:

(a) The discharge of dredged or fill material 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 of dredged or fill material will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental 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 of dredged or fill material will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental 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 of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States exceeds 50 cubic yards, or (2) the boat ramp exceeds 20 feet in width. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

# Corps NWP 36 Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:

- PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for discharges of dredged or fill material into islands (a piece of land surrounded by Section 10 navigable waters), island backchannels (a channel located between an island and the mainland), embayments. (indentation off of a Section 10 navigable water that forms a bay), and/or sites at the confluence of one (1) tributary with another.
- PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for any boat ramp proposed to be located within the area between the upstream and downstream arrival points of any U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lock and dam, or within 1,500 feet of any emergency-mooring cell at any lock, as shown on the navigation charts.
- PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 4 is required for all activities within 2,000 feet of designated arrival points (specific locations depicted on river navigation charts where boats/barges enter a lock) of locks and dams on the Ohio River.

# 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 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 32). (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

## No proposed regional conditions.

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 32.) (Authorities: 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.

#### No proposed regional conditions.

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, wastewater treatment 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. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material 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 32.) (Authorities: 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 by the Corps to the Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse, which will evaluate potential effects on military activities.

# No proposed regional conditions.

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 jurisdictional waters of the United States to relocate existing serviceable drainage ditches constructed in nontidal streams. The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters.

**Notification:** The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See General Condition 32.) (Authority: Section 404)

<u>Note</u>: Some discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States 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).

# No proposed regional conditions.

41. **Reshaping Existing Drainage and Irrigation 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 and irrigation ditches constructed in waters of the United States, for the purpose of improving water quality by regrading the drainage or irrigation 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 drainage ditch cannot increase drainage capacity beyond the original as-built capacity nor can it expand the area drained by the drainage ditch as originally constructed (i.e., the capacity of the drainage 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 or irrigation ditches constructed in waters of the United States; the location of the centerline of the reshaped drainage or irrigation ditch must be approximately the same as the location of the centerline of the original drainage or irrigation ditch. This NWP does not authorize stream channelization or stream relocation projects. (Authority: Section 404)

## No proposed regional conditions.

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. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material 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 32.) (Authority: Section 404)

#### No proposed regional conditions.

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; the construction of nature-based solutions for managing stormwater and reducing inputs of sediments, nutrients, and other pollutants into waters. Examples of such nature-based solutions include, but are not limited to, stream biofilters, bioretention ponds or swales, rain gardens, vegetated filter strips, vegetated swales (bioswales), constructed wetlands, infiltration trenches, and

regenerative stormwater conveyances, as well as other nature-based solutions and other features that are conducted to meet reduction targets established under Total Maximum Daily Loads set under the Clean Water Act.

This NWP 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, and nature-based solutions for managing stormwater and reducing inputs of sediments, nutrients, and other pollutants into waters. The maintenance of stormwater management facilities and nature-based solutions that do not contain waters of the United States 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. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material 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 discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction of new stormwater management facilities or nature-based solutions, or the expansion of existing stormwater management facilities or nature-based solutions, the permittee must submit a preconstruction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See General Condition 32.)

Maintenance activities do not require pre-construction notification if they are limited to restoring the original design capacities of the stormwater management facility or nature-based solution. (Authority: Section 404)

# **Corps NWP 43 Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:**

• PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of the NWP.

**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, provided the activity meets all of the following criteria:

- (a) For mining activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal jurisdictional wetlands, the discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2acre of non-tidal jurisdictional wetlands;
- (b) For mining activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material in non-tidal jurisdictional open waters (e.g., rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds) or work in nontidal navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters), the mined area, including permanent and temporary impacts due to discharges of dredged or fill material into jurisdictional waters, must not exceed 1/2-acre; and
- (c) The acreage loss under paragraph(a) plus the acreage impact under paragraph (b) does not exceed 1/2-acre.

This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material 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 32.) If reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the final reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre-construction notification. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

## No proposed regional conditions.

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 32) within 12 months of the date of the damage; for major storms, floods, or other discrete events, the district engineer may waive the 12-month limit for submitting a pre-construction notification if the permittee can demonstrate funding, contract, or other similar delays. The pre-construction notification must include documentation, such as a recent topographic survey or photographs, to justify the extent of the proposed restoration. (Authorities: 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 Clean Water Act 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.

#### No proposed regional conditions.

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) determined to be waters of the United States. The discharge of dredged or fill material 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 32.) (Authority: Section 404)

## No proposed regional conditions.

48. **Commercial Shellfish Mariculture Activities**. Structures or work in navigable waters of the United States and discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States necessary for new and continuing commercial shellfish mariculture operations (i.e., the cultivation of bivalve mollusks such as oysters, mussels, clams, and scallops) in authorized project areas. For the purposes of this NWP, the project area is the area in which the operator is authorized to conduct commercial shellfish mariculture activities, as identified through a lease or permit issued by an appropriate state or local government agency, a treaty, or any easement, lease, deed, contract, or other legally binding agreement that establishes an enforceable property interest for the operator. This NWP does not authorize structures or work in navigable waters of the United States within Washington State.

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.

**Notification:** The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer if the activity directly affects more than 1/2-acre of submerged aquatic vegetation. If the operator will be conducting commercial shellfish mariculture activities in multiple contiguous project areas, he or she can either submit one PCN for those contiguous project areas or submit a separate PCN for each project area. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note 1**: Where structures or work are proposed in navigable waters of the United States, project proponents should provide the location and dimensions of the proposed structures to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) prior to submittal of a Pre-Construction Notification, or prior to beginning construction. The USCG may assess potential navigation-related concerns associated with the location of proposed structures or work, and may inform project proponents of marking and lighting requirements necessary to comply with General Condition 1 (Navigation). For assistance identifying the appropriate USCG District or Sector Waterways Management Staff responsible for the area of the proposed work, contact USCG at CGWWM@uscg.mil.

**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."

**Note 4**: Where structures or work are authorized in navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters) within the coastal United States, the Great Lakes, and United States territories, the permittee should provide a copy of the 'as-built drawings' and the geographic coordinate system used in the 'as-built drawings' to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), to inform updates to nautical charts and Coast Pilot corrections. The information should be transmitted via email to <u>ocs.ndb@noaa.gov</u>.

# No proposed regional conditions.

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 by the Department of the 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 of 1977 (SMCRA). 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 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

## Corps NWP 49 Proposed Specific Regional Condition:

• The PCN shall include the information required in the ODNR Division of Mineral Resource Management Policy Procedure Directive Regulatory 99-1 entitled Lands Eligible for Remining and dated November 18, 1999 or subsequent document.

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 by the Department of the 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. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material 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. (See General Condition 32.) If reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre-construction notification. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

#### No proposed regional conditions.

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 landbased 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. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material 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 if the discharge results in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of waters of the United States. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note 1**: Electric utility lines constructed to transfer the energy from the land-based renewable energy 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 electric utility lines may be authorized by NWP 57 or another Department of the Army authorization.

**Note 2**: 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 electric utility lines and/or road crossings, then NWP 57 and/or NWP 14 shall be used if those activities meet the terms and conditions of NWPs 57 and 14, including any applicable regional conditions and any case-specific conditions imposed by the district engineer.

**Note 3**: 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 by the Corps to the Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse, which will evaluate potential effects on military activities.

#### No proposed regional conditions.

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, water-based solar, wave energy, 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 waterbased renewable energy generation units will be monitored to collect information on their performance and environmental effects at the project site. 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 limit. For each single and complete project, no more than 10 generation units (e.g., wind turbines, wave energy devices, or hydrokinetic devices) are authorized.

For floating solar panels in navigable waters of the United States, each single and complete project cannot exceed 1/2- acre in water surface area covered by the floating solar panels.

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 322.5(I)(2). Structures may not be placed in established danger zones or restricted areas 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 322.5(I)(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 required.

**Notification:** The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note 1**: Electric 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 electric utility lines may be authorized by NWP 57 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 review and/or approval from the Corps under 33 U.S.C. 408.

**Note 3**: Where structures or work are authorized in navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters) within the coastal United States, the Great Lakes, and

United States territories, the permittee should provide a copy of the 'as-built drawings' and the geographic coordinate system used in the 'as-built drawings' to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), to inform updates to nautical charts and Coast Pilot corrections. The information should be transmitted via email to <u>ocs.ndb@noaa.gov</u>.

**Note 4**: Hydrokinetic renewable energy generation projects that require authorization by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission under the Federal Power Act of 1920 do not require separate authorization from the Corps under section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

**Note 5**: 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 by the Corps to the Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse, which will evaluate potential effects on military activities.

**Note 6**: Where structures or work are proposed in navigable waters of the United States, project proponents should provide the location and dimensions of the proposed structures to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) prior to submittal of a Pre-Construction Notification, or prior to beginning construction. The USCG may assess potential navigation-related concerns associated with the location of proposed structures or work, and may inform project proponents of marking and lighting requirements necessary to comply with General Condition 1 (Navigation). For assistance identifying the appropriate USCG District or Sector Waterways Management Staff responsible for the area of the proposed work, contact USCG at CGWWM@uscg.mil.

#### No proposed regional conditions.

53. **Removal of Low-Head Dams**. Structures and work in navigable waters of the United States and discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States associated with the removal of low-head dams.

For the purposes of this NWP, the term "low-head dam" is generally defined as a dam or weir built across a stream to pass flows from upstream overall, or nearly all, of the width of the dam crest and does not have a separate spillway or spillway gates, but it may have an uncontrolled spillway. The dam crest is the top of the dam from left abutment to right abutment. A low-head dam may have been built for a range of purposes (e.g., check dam, mill dam, irrigation, water supply, recreation, hydroelectric, or cooling pond), but in all cases, it provides little or no storage function.

The removed low-head dam structure 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.

Because the removal of the low-head dam will result in a net increase in ecological functions and services provided by the stream, as a general rule compensatory

mitigation is not required for activities authorized by this NWP. However, the district engineer may determine for a particular low-head dam removal activity that compensatory mitigation is necessary to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects.

**Notification:** The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note:** This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or structures or work in navigable waters to restore the stream in the vicinity of the low-head dam, including the former impoundment area. Nationwide permit 27 or other Department of the Army permits may authorize such activities. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or structures or work in navigable waters to stabilize stream banks. Bank stabilization activities may be authorized by NWP 13 or other Department of the Army permits.

## No proposed regional conditions.

54. Living Shorelines. 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 and maintenance of living shorelines to stabilize banks and shores in coastal waters, which includes the Great Lakes, along shores with small fetch and gentle slopes that are subject to low- to mid-energy waves. A living shoreline has a footprint that is made up mostly of native material. It incorporates vegetation or other living, natural "soft" elements alone or in combination with some type of harder shoreline structure (e.g., oyster or mussel reefs or rock sills) for added protection and stability. Living shorelines should maintain the natural continuity of the land-water interface, and retain or enhance shoreline ecological processes. Living shorelines must have a substantial biological component, either tidal or lacustrine fringe wetlands or oyster or mussel reef structures, but a portion of a living shoreline may consist of an unvegetated cobble, gravel, and/or sand beach, (i.e., a pocket beach). The following conditions must be met:

(a) The structures and fill area, including cobble, gravel, and/or sand fills, sills, breakwaters, or reefs, cannot extend into the waterbody more than 30 feet from the mean low water line in tidal waters or the ordinary high water mark in the Great Lakes, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the activity will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects;

(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 activity will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects;

(c) Coir logs, coir mats, stone, native oyster shell, native wood debris, and other structural materials must be adequately anchored, of sufficient weight, or installed in a manner that prevents relocation in most wave action or water flow conditions, except for extremely severe storms;

(d) For living shorelines consisting of tidal or lacustrine fringe wetlands, native plants appropriate for current site conditions, including salinity and elevation, must be used if the site is planted by the permittee;

(e) Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, and oyster or mussel reef structures in navigable waters, must be the minimum necessary for the establishment and maintenance of the living shoreline;

(f) If sills, breakwaters, or other structures must be constructed to protect fringe wetlands for the living shoreline, those structures must be the minimum size necessary to protect those fringe wetlands;

(g) The activity must be designed, constructed, and maintained so that it has no more than minimal adverse effects on water movement between the waterbody and the shore and the movement of aquatic organisms between the waterbody and the shore; and

(h) The living shoreline must be properly maintained, which may require periodic repair of sills, breakwaters, or reefs, or replacing cobble, gravel, and/or sand fills after severe storms or erosion events. Vegetation may be replanted to maintain the living shoreline. This NWP authorizes those maintenance and repair activities, including any minor deviations necessary to address changing environmental conditions.

This NWP does not authorize beach nourishment or land reclamation activities.

**Notification:** The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the construction of the living shoreline. (See General Condition 32.) The pre-construction notification must include a delineation of special aquatic sites (see paragraph (b)(4) of General Condition 32). Pre-construction notification is not required for maintenance and repair activities for living shorelines unless required by applicable NWP general conditions or regional conditions. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**<u>Note</u>**: In waters outside of coastal waters, nature-based bank stabilization techniques, such as bioengineering and vegetative stabilization, may be authorized by NWP 13.

#### **Corps NWP 54 Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:**

• For projects located along the shorelines of Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, all sand and gravel located below the proposed project, both below and above ordinary high water mark (573.4 feet International Great Lakes Datum 1985), will be excavated down to clay or bedrock, and side cast into the nearshore area either immediately waterward or downdrift of the project area. Verification of the placement of the excavated material within the nearshore area shall be documented through the submittal of dated photographs and an accompanying photo location map to the district engineer within 30 days of commencement of the project.

- For projects located along the shorelines of Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, a one-time sand prefill of two (2) cubic yards of sand per linear foot of shoreline stabilized shall be placed at an approved location in the nearshore area in less than three (3) feet of water within 30 days of project commencement, unless the district engineer waives this requirement by making a written determination. Verification of the placement of the sand prefill material within the nearshore area shall be documented through the submittal of contractor's receipts, including the volume of sand prefill, dated photographs, and accompanying photo location map to the district engineer. The sand shall be from an upland source or other approved source and shall be similar in composition to the sand at the project site, free from organic material; limestone sand and topsoil are excluded.
- For projects located in Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, broken concrete shall not be used as suitable material, unless it is contained within a structure.
- 55. Seaweed Mariculture Activities. Revoked in the State of Ohio.
- 56. Finfish Mariculture Activities. Revoked in the State of Ohio.

57. Electric Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities. Activities required for the construction, maintenance, repair, and removal of electric utility lines, telecommunication 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.

**Electric utility lines and telecommunication lines:** This NWP authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States and structures or work in navigable waters for crossings of those waters associated with the construction, maintenance, or repair of electric utility lines and telecommunication lines. There must be no change in preconstruction contours of waters of the United States. An "electric utility line and telecommunication line" is defined as any cable, line, fiber optic line, or wire for the transmission for any purpose of electrical energy, telephone, and telegraph messages, and internet, radio, and television communication.

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 electric utility line or telecommunication line crossing of each waterbody.

**Electric utility line and telecommunications substations:** This NWP authorizes the construction, maintenance, or expansion of substation facilities associated with an electric utility line or telecommunication 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 of dredged or fill material into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters of the United States to construct, maintain, or expand substation facilities.

**Foundations for overhead electric utility line or telecommunication line towers, poles, and anchors:** This NWP authorizes the construction or maintenance of foundations for overhead electric utility line or telecommunication 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 electric utility lines or telecommunication lines, including overhead lines and substations, in nontidal 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 of dredged or fill material 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 electric utility lines or telecommunication 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). Electric utility lines or telecommunication lines constructed over section 10 waters and electric utility lines or telecommunication 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 authorizes, to the extent that Department of the Army authorization is required, temporary structures, fills, and work necessary for the remediation of inadvertent returns of drilling fluids to waters of the United States through sub-soil

fissures or fractures that might occur during horizontal directional drilling activities conducted for the purpose of installing or replacing electric utility lines or telecommunication lines. These remediation activities must be done as soon as practicable, to restore the affected waterbody. District engineers may add special conditions to this NWP to require a remediation plan for addressing inadvertent returns of drilling fluids to waters of the United States during horizontal directional drilling activities conducted for the purpose of installing or replacing electric utility lines or telecommunication lines.

This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work, including the use of temporary mats, necessary to conduct the electric 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 of dredged or fill material, 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. After construction, temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to preconstruction 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: (1) A section 10 permit is required; or (2) the discharge will result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of waters of the United States. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note 1**: Where structures or work are authorized in navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters) within the coastal United States, the Great Lakes, and United States territories, the permittee should provide a copy of the 'as-built drawings' and the geographic coordinate system used in the 'as-built drawings' to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), to inform updates to nautical charts and Coast Pilot corrections. The information should be transmitted via email to ocs.ndb@noaa.gov.

**Note 2**: For electric utility line or telecommunications activities crossing a single waterbody more than one time at separate and distant locations, or multiple waterbodies at separate and distant locations, each crossing is considered a single and complete project for purposes of NWP authorization. Electric utility line and telecommunications activities must comply with 33 CFR 330.6(d).

**Note 3**: Electric utility lines or telecommunication lines consisting of aerial electric power transmission lines crossing navigable waters of the United States (which are defined at 33 CFR part 329) must comply with the applicable minimum clearances specified in 33 CFR 322.5(i).

**<u>Note 4</u>**: 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 electric utility line or telecommunication line must be removed upon completion of the work, in accordance with the requirements for temporary fills.

<u>Note 5</u>: This NWP authorizes electric utility line and telecommunication line maintenance and repair activities that do not qualify for the Clean Water Act section 404(f) exemption for maintenance of currently serviceable fills or fill structures.

**Note 6**: For overhead electric utility lines and telecommunication lines authorized by this NWP, a copy of the PCN and NWP verification will be provided by the Corps to the Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse, which will evaluate potential effects on military activities.

**Note 7**: For activities that require preconstruction notification, the PCN must include 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, including other separate and distant crossings that require Department of the Army authorization but do not require preconstruction notification (see paragraph (b)(4) of General Condition 32). The district engineer will evaluate the PCN in accordance with Section D, "District Engineer's Decision." The district engineer may require mitigation to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects (see General Condition 23).

# **Corps NWP 57 Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:**

- PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for all permanent conversion of scrub/shrub and forested wetlands of greater than 1/10-acre per each single and complete project. Use of conversion in this regional condition relates to the change of a scrub/shrub and forested wetlands to a herbaceous state or a forested wetland to a scrub/shrub state, but it would not result in a loss of waters of the U.S. as the wetland would continue to exist in the landscape.
- Should an inadvertent return of drilling mud occur during a directional drilling activity, and the clean-up of drilling muds results in a discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the U.S. which necessitates the use of NWP 57 the permittee must report to the Corps the location and circumstances of the clean-up after the work has been conducted unless a PCN is otherwise required.

**58. Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances**. Activities required for the construction, maintenance, repair, and removal of utility lines for water and other substances, excluding oil, natural gas, products derived from oil or natural gas, and electricity. Oil or natural gas pipeline activities or electric utility line and

telecommunications activities may be authorized by NWPs 12 or 57, respectively. This NWP also authorizes associated utility line 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 discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States and structures or work in navigable waters for crossings of those waters associated with the construction, maintenance, or repair of utility lines for water and other substances, including outfall and intake structures. There must be no change in pre-construction contours of waters of the United States. A "utility line" is defined as any pipe or pipeline for the transportation of any gaseous, liquid, liquescent, or slurry substance, for any purpose that is not oil, natural gas, or petrochemicals. Examples of activities authorized by this NWP include utility lines that convey water, sewage, stormwater, wastewater, brine, irrigation water, and industrial products that are not petrochemicals. 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 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 of dredged or fill material into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters of the United States to construct, maintain, or expand substation facilities.

**Foundations for above-ground utility lines:** This NWP authorizes the construction or maintenance of foundations for above-ground utility lines in all waters of the United States, provided the foundations are the minimum size necessary.

**Access roads:** This NWP authorizes the construction of access roads for the construction and maintenance of utility lines, including 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 of dredged or fill material 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 authorizes, to the extent that Department of the Army authorization is required, temporary structures, fills, and work necessary for the remediation of inadvertent returns of drilling fluids to waters of the United States through sub-soil fissures or fractures that might occur during horizontal directional drilling activities conducted for the purpose of installing or replacing utility lines. These remediation activities must be done as soon as practicable, to restore the affected waterbody.

District engineers may add special conditions to this NWP to require a remediation plan for addressing inadvertent returns of drilling fluids to waters of the United States during horizontal directional drilling activities conducted for the purpose of installing or replacing utility lines.

This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work, including the use of temporary mats, 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 of dredged or fill material, 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. After construction, temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to preconstruction 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: (1) A section 10 permit is required; or (2) the discharge will result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of waters of the United States. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

**Note 1**: Where structures or work are authorized in navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters) within the coastal United States, the Great Lakes, and United States territories, the permittee should provide a copy of the 'as-built drawings' and the geographic coordinate system used in the 'as-built drawings' to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), to inform updates to nautical charts and Coast Pilot corrections. The information should be transmitted via email to <u>ocs.ndb@noaa.gov</u>.

**Note 2**: For utility line activities crossing a single waterbody more than one time at separate and distant locations, or multiple waterbodies at separate and distant locations, each crossing is considered a single and complete project for purposes of NWP authorization. Utility line activities must comply with 33 CFR 330.6(d).

**Note 3**: 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 4**: 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 the General Bridge Act of 1946. 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 5**: This NWP authorizes utility line maintenance and repair activities that do not qualify for the Clean Water Act section 404(f) exemption for maintenance of currently serviceable fills or fill structures.

**Note 6**: For activities that require preconstruction notification, the PCN must include 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, including other separate and distant crossings that require Department of the Army authorization but do not require preconstruction notification (see paragraph (b)(4) of General Condition 32). The district engineer will evaluate the PCN in accordance with Section D, "District Engineer's Decision." The district engineer may require mitigation to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects (see General Condition 23).

#### **Corps NWP 58 Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:**

 PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for all permanent conversion of scrub/shrub and forested wetlands of greater than 1/10 of an acre per each single and complete project. Use of conversion in this regional condition relates to the change of a scrub/shrub and forested wetlands to a herbaceous state or a forested wetland to a scrub/shrub state, but it would not result in a loss of waters of the U.S. as the wetland would continue to exist in the landscape.

 Should an inadvertent return of drilling mud occur during a directional drilling activity, and the clean-up of drilling muds results in a discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the U.S. which necessitates the use of NWP 58 the permittee must report to the Corps the location and circumstances of the clean-up after the work has been conducted unless a PCN is otherwise required.

59. **Water reclamation and reuse facilities**. Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction, expansion, and maintenance of water reclamation and reuse facilities, including vegetated areas enhanced to improve water infiltration and constructed wetlands to improve water quality.

The discharge of dredged or fill material must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2acre of waters of the United States. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters.

This NWP also authorizes temporary fills, including the use of temporary mats, necessary to construct the water reuse project and attendant features. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain normal downstream flows and minimize flooding to the maximum extent practicable, when temporary structures, work, and discharges of dredged or fill material, 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. After construction, 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. (See General Condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

#### No proposed regional conditions.

A. Activities to Improve Passage of Fish and Other Aquatic Organisms. Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States and structures and work in navigable waters of the United States for activities that restore or enhance the ability of fish and other aquatic organisms to move through aquatic ecosystems. Examples of activities that may be authorized by this NWP include, but are not limited to: the construction, maintenance, or expansion of conventional and nature-like fishways; the construction or expansion of fish bypass channels around existing in-stream structures; the replacement of existing culverts or low-water crossings with culverts planned, designed, and constructed to restore or enhance passage of fish and other aquatic organisms; the installation of fish screens to prevent fish and other aquatic organisms

from being trapped or stranded in irrigation ditches and other features; the modification of existing in-stream structures, such as dams or weirs, to improve the ability of fish and other aquatic organisms to move past those structures.

The activity must not cause the loss of greater than one acre of waters of the United States.

This NWP does not authorize dam removal activities.

**Notification**: For activities resulting in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of waters of the United States, the permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

#### **Corps NWP A Proposed Specific Regional Conditions:**

• PCN in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of the NWP.

## HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE REGIONAL AND GENERAL CONDTIONS

DISCLAIMER: The below information is intended to provide helpful contact information and other submittal recommendations. Contact the appropriate local, state, or federal agency for the most updated links to ensure compliance with the conditions with the special and general conditions.

#### **General Condition 1 (Navigation)**

*Navigation Charts:* The navigation charts for the Buffalo, Huntington, Louisville and Pittsburgh Districts can be found in the Inland Electronic Navigational Charts at the following link: <u>https://ienccloud.us/</u>

**Locks and Dams:** Information for all Locks and Dams located within the Buffalo, Huntington, Louisville, and Pittsburgh Districts can be found at the following link: <a href="https://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/Water-Information/Navigation/">https://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/Water-Information/Navigation/</a>

*Notice to Navigation Interests Request Sheets:* The Notice to Navigation Interests Request Sheets for the Buffalo, Huntington, Louisville, and Pittsburgh Districts can be found at the following link: https://ndc.ops.usace.army.mil/ords/f?p=107:1:::::

## General Condition 3 (Spawning Areas) and Regional General Condition 4 (In-Water Work Exclusion Dates)

For information about specific stream designations contact Ohio Environmental Protection Agency at 614-644-2001 or use the following link for their effective Division of

Surface Water Rules: <u>https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-</u> <u>water/regulations/effective-rules</u>. For information or questions regarding in-water work exclusion dates, including any waiver request questions for in-water work exclusion dates, please contact the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife at 614-265-7017 or by email at <u>matthew.stooksbury@dnr.ohio.gov</u>.

## <u>General Condition 4 (Migratory Bird Breeding Areas) and General Condition 19</u> (Migratory Birds and Bald and Golden Eagles)

Prior to the submittal of a PCN, information to assist in complying with General Conditions 4 and 19 may be obtained from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Ohio Ecological Services Field Office at:

Address:4625 Morse Road, Suite 104<br/>Columbus, Ohio 43230Email:ohio@fws.gov<br/>(614) 416-8993

The Ohio Division of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife may be contacted at (800) 945-3543.

# **General Condition 5 (Shellfish Beds)**

Shellfish beds in Ohio include concentrations of freshwater mussels, as determined by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. All native mussels are protected in the State of Ohio (Section 1533.324 of the Ohio Revised Code). In addition, federally listed or proposed species occur in the state and are protected by the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.). All rivers and tributaries that contain mussels or potential mussel habitat must be surveyed prior to any proposed streambed disturbance. Should federally listed or proposed species be encountered, the work must cease, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service must be contacted for consultation. Any juvenile and adult specimens must be located to an acceptable location, as approved by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Individual adult mussel specimens must be marked when relocated. Juveniles are not to be marked. Currently accepted protocol and supporting materials can be found on the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' website:

https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/buy-and-apply/special-use-permits/collectingresearch/ohio-mussel-surveyor

# General Condition 7 (Water Supply Intakes)

Locations of drinking water source protection areas associated with public water supply intakes, including the name of the public water supply, can be found at the following link: https://oepa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3b39e11ba7fc43c3b4 1801e3580e6d21

Contact information for public water suppliers can be obtained from Ohio Environmental Protection Agency by contacting the Division of Drinking and Ground Waters at whp@epa.ohio.gov or 614-644-2752.

## General Condition 10 (Fills Within 100-year Floodplains)

The following website provides a statewide listing of Floodplain Managers in Ohio: <u>https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/about-ODNR/water-resources/floodplains/</u>

# General Condition 16 (Wild and Scenic Rivers) and Regional General Condition 6c (National Wild and Scenic Rivers)

Prior to submitting a PCN for work in a National Wild and Scenic River System, it is recommended that the applicant contact the National Park Service Regional Wild and Scenic Rivers Specialist, at the Midwest Regional Office, 601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha, Nebraska 68102, for assistance in complying with General Condition 16 and Regional General Condition 6c. Any determination provided by the National Park Service should be submitted with the PCN. The following website provides information on National Wild and Scenic Rivers within Ohio: <u>https://www.rivers.gov/ohio.php</u>

# General Condition 18 (Endangered Species) and Regional General Condition 6a (Threatened and Endangered Species)

To obtain the most up to date information on federally threatened and endangered species, and to download and official species list, applicants are encouraged to utilize the United States Fish and Wildlife Service IPaC System found at https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/. To expedite processing, available and applicable determination keys in IPaC should be completed with the submission of any PCN or biological resources report. The report must include a description of the action to be considered; the specific area that may be affected by the action; any listed or proposed species or critical habitat or proposed critical habitat that may be affected by the action; the manner in which the action may affect any listed or proposed species or critical habitat or proposed critical habitat; and an analysis of any cumulative effects on listed or proposed species and/or their critical habitat or proposed critical habitat. The report must include copies of all references, any proposed mitigation plan, and any other relevant available information. Information on the location of federally listed or proposed threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat or proposed critical habitat can be obtained directly from the offices of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service at http://www.fws.gov/ or https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/

As mentioned in General Condition 18, federal applicants should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of the ESA. Federal applicants,

including applicants that have received federal funding, must provide the district engineer with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with ESA requirements.

Prior to the submittal of a PCN, applicants may also contact the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Ohio Ecological Services Field Office at:

Address:4625 Morse Road, Suite 104<br/>Columbus, Ohio 43230Email:<a href="mailto:ohio@fws.gov">ohio@fws.gov</a>Phone:(614) 416-8993

The Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol may be found at the following link: <u>https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/buy-and-apply/special-use-permits/collecting-research/ohio-mussel-surveyor</u>

#### <u>General Condition 20 (Historic Properties), Regional General Conditions 5f (Ohio</u> and Erie Canal National Heritage Area), 5g (Muskingum River Navigation Historic District), and 6b (Cultural Resources)

The Ohio National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) can be found at the following link: <u>https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserve/state-historic-preservation-office/nationalregister</u>

When reviewing a PCN, the Corps will scope appropriate historic property identification efforts and, if applicable, work with the applicant to take into account the effect of the proposed activity on historic properties. In these instances, information and coordination may include:

• Requesting comments directly from the Ohio History Connection State Historic Preservation Office on the effect the proposed regulated activity may have on historic properties. The Ohio History Connection, State Historic Preservation Office may be contacted at:

Address:	Ohio History Connection
	800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43211
Phone:	(614) 297-2300
Email:	Section106@ohiohistory.org

To identify potential historic properties that may be affected by a proposed project, the following information may be reviewed and/or provided with the PCN when applicable:

- a. A detailed description of the project site in its current condition (i.e. prior to construction activities) including information on the terrain and topography of the site, the acreage of the site, the proximity of the site to major waterways, and any known disturbances within the site.
- b. A detailed description of past land uses in the project site.

- c. Photographs and mapping showing the site conditions and all buildings or structures within the project site and on adjacent parcels are useful. Photographs and maps supporting past land uses should be provided as available.
- d. Information regarding any past cultural resource studies or coordination pertinent to the project area, if available.
- e. United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' series topographic maps;
- f. Ohio History Connection State Historic Preservation Office files including:
  - i. Ohio Archaeological Inventory files;
  - ii. Ohio Historic Inventory files;
  - iii. Ohio State Historic Preservation Office Cultural Resources Management /contract archaeology files;
  - iv. NRHP files including Historic Districts; and
  - v. County atlases, histories and historic USGS 15' series topographic map(s).
- When needed to evaluate effects to historic properties, the applicant is encouraged to consult with professionals meeting the Professional Qualification Standards as set forth in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716) during this data gathering process. These professionals can assist with compiling the project information discussed above and should provide recommendations as to whether the proposal has the potential to affect historic properties and if further effort is needed to identify or assess potential effects to historic properties. These professionals can also compile preliminary review information to submit to the district engineer as part of the application submittal. The Corps may request additional information and/or surveys be conducted such as a Phase 1 Archaeological Survey or an Architectural Survey. The applicant may choose to conduct pre-coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office prior to submitting a PCN via Section106@ohiohistory.org. Any correspondence related to this pre-coordination should be provided with the PCN.

# <u>General Condition 23 (Mitigation) and Regional General Condition 7</u> (Compensatory Mitigation)

Information pertaining to mitigation can be found at the following link:

https://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Ohio/

# General Condition 25 (Water Quality) and Regional General Condition 6e (Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification)

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency may be contacted at:

Address: Lazarus Government Center 50 W Town St. Suite 700 Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: (614) 644-2001

Information pertaining to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency water quality certification (WQC) program, including the Section 401 Clean Water Act WQC application form, can be obtained at the following link: <u>https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/water-quality-certification-and-isolated-wetland-permits</u>

# General Condition 24 (Coastal Consistency)

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources may be contacted at:

Address:	2514 Cleveland Road East
	Huron, Ohio 44839
Phone:	419-626-7980
	888-644-6267 (toll free)

Information pertaining to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Coastal Management Program, including the Federal Consistency form, can be obtained at the following link: <u>https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/about-odnr/coastal-management</u>

## <u>General Condition 32 (Pre-Construction Notification) and Regional General</u> <u>Condition 6 (Pre-Construction Notification)</u>

The nationwide permit pre-construction notification form (Form ENG 6082) may be obtained at the following link: <u>https://www.publications.usace.army.mil/Portals/76/Eng\_Form\_6082\_2019Oct.pdf?ver=</u>2019-10-22-081550-710/

# PCN Submittal:

a. PCNs may be submitted via the Corps' Regulatory Request System at: <u>https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs/home or</u>saved as a PDF document, and then submitted as an attachment in an email to the respective district, as follows:

Buffalo District – <u>LRB.Ohio.RegActions@usace.army.mil</u> Huntington District – <u>LRH.permits@usace.army.mil</u> Pittsburgh District – <u>Regulatory.Permits@usace.army.mil</u> Louisville District – <u>CELRL.Door.To.The.Corps@usace.army.mil</u>

 Electronic documents must have sufficient resolution to show project details. The Department of the Army permit application and supporting documents submitted electronically must not exceed 10 megabytes (10MB) per email. Multiple emails may be required to transmit documents to ensure the 10MB limit is not exceeded. Alternatively, use of the
Department of Defense Secure Access File Exchange (DoD SAFE) service to transfer large files may be requested in your email.

- c. For tracking and processing purposes, the email should include the following:
  - i. Email Subject Line: include the name of the applicant, type of Department of the Army permit application request, and location (County and State). Example: RE: Doe, John, Department of the Army permit application and CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification Request, Fayette County, Ohio;
  - ii. Email Body: 1) Brief description of the proposed project; 2) contact information (phone number, mailing address, and email address) for the applicant and/or their agent; and 3) the project location: address and latitude/longitude in decimal degrees (e.g., 42.92788° N, 88.36257° W).
- d. If you do not have internet access, information may be submitted through the United States Postal Service to the appropriate Regulatory Office however, it is optimal to expedite processing by providing a complete application package electronically:

United States Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District ATTN: Regulatory Branch 478 Main Street Buffalo, New York 14202

United States Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District ATTN: Regulatory Division 502 Eighth Street Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070

United States Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District ATTN: CELRL-RD, Room 752 600 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Place Louisville, Kentucky 40202-0059

United States Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District William S. Moorhead Federal Building 1000 Liberty Avenue Regulatory Division, Ste. 2200 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222-4186

## **Ordinary High Water Mark**

Ordinary high water mark identification and/or delineation for official Corps' Regulatory purposes will continue in accordance with the applicable ordinary high water mark definition in the Federal regulations, Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-05, and any applicable Corps' district policies. However, the Final National Ordinary High Water

Mark Field Delineation Manual for Rivers and Streams and Revised <u>Ordinary High</u> <u>Water Mark</u> Data Sheet (ENG 6250) may be used as technical resources to assist with identifying and delineating the ordinary high water mark using a scientifically supported, rapid framework.