Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer to Notice No. below

US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District
1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No.

Date: March 19, 2012

Notice No. 12-15

Closing Date: March 18, 2017

NATIONWIDE PERMITS FOR THE STATE OF OHIO

CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGULATORY PROGRAM
ISSUANCE OF NATIONWIDE PERMITS

WITHOUT OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

WITHOUT OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES CONSISTENCY
DETERMINATION UNDER THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT

On February 21, 2012, the Corps of Engineers (the Corps) published, in the Federal Register, the final rule for the administration of its nationwide permit program regulations under the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, and the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act. The rule became effective on March 19, 2012.

An integral part of the Corps' regulatory program is the concept of nationwide permits (NWPs) for minor activities. NWPs are activity specific, and are designed to relieve some of the administrative burdens associated with permit processing for both the applicant and the Federal government. The NWPs, published in the February 21, 2012, Federal Register, Issuance of Nationwide Permits (77 FR 10184), are issued by the Chief of Engineers, and are intended to apply throughout the entire United States and its territories. The Corps Districts representing Ohio have imposed regional conditions on the NWPs that are applicable throughout the entire state. For convenience, all NWPs with the appropriate regional, general, and special conditions are attached.

The publication of the final NWPs in the Federal Register served as the Corps application for water quality certification (WQC) to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act for those NWPs that will result in a discharge in the State of Ohio. The Federal Register notice was also the Corps determination of Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) consistency, pursuant to Section 307(c)(1) of the CZMA for NWP activities within or affecting the coastal zone of the State of Ohio. The Federal Register notice

began the consistency determination process by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

The Ohio EPA has yet to issue 401 WQC for NWPs. While Ohio EPA completes the WQC process, the use of a NWP to authorize a discharge into waters of the United States is contingent upon obtaining individual water quality certification or a case-specific WQC waiver from:

Director
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Surface Water
PO Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049
(614) 644-2001

Likewise, ODNR has yet to concur with the Corps determination of CZMA consistency for the NWPs. While ODNR completes the CZMA consistency determination process, the use of a NWP to authorize an activity within, or outside, Ohio's coastal zone that will affect land or water uses or natural resources of the state's coastal zone, is contingent upon obtaining an individual CZMA consistency determination, or a case-specific presumption of CZMA concurrence from:

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Office of Coastal Management
105 West Shoreline Drive
Sandusky, Ohio 44870
(419) 626-7980

Some NWPs require advance notification. The notification must be made in writing as early as possible prior to commencing the proposed activity. The notification procedures are located under General Condition 31. The notification to the Corps can be made concurrently with the request for individual state certification, if required. The district engineer may require an individual permit for any activity determined to have more than minimal adverse environmental effects, individually or cumulatively, or would be contrary to the public interest.

The NWPs provide a simplified, expeditious means of project authorization under the various authorities of the Corps. We encourage prospective permit applicants to consider the advantages of nationwide permit authorization during the preliminary design of their projects. Assistance and further information regarding all aspects of the Corps regulatory program may be obtained by contacting:

BUFFALO DISTRICT

Name: Diane Kozlowski, Chief Regulatory Branch
Address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District
1776 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14207-3199
Phone: (716) 879-4330

HUNTINGTON DISTRICT

Name: Ginger Mullins, Chief, Regulatory Division
Address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070
Phone: (304) 399-5389

LOUISVILLE DISTRICT

Name: James Townsend, Chief, Regulatory Branch
Address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District
Post Office Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059
Phone: (502) 582-6461

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Name: Scott Hans, Chief, Regulatory Branch
Address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District
William S. Moorhead Federal Building
1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222-4186
Phone: (412) 395-7155

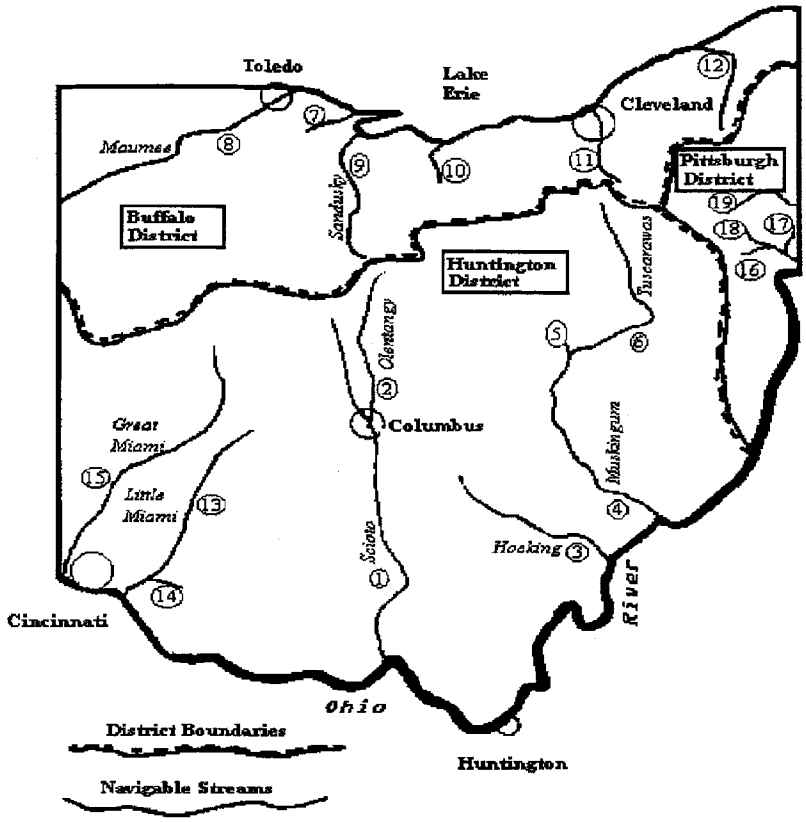
Attached is a map showing the district boundaries for the State of Ohio.

/signed/

Ginger Mullins, Chief
Regulatory Division

(O)

Corps Districts and Navigable Streams in the State of Ohio



Navigable Limits of <u>Major Section 10 Streams in Ohio</u> (Due to the scale of this map, all Section 10 streams are <u>not</u> shown. Contact the proper District office for information.)

<u>Huntington District</u>

Scioto River.....175.0 miles
Olentangy River.....74.3 miles
Hocking River.....79.0 miles
Muskingum River.....112.5 miles
Walhonding River.....8.8 miles
Tuscarawas River..... .....113.3 miles
Great Miami River.....117.0 miles
Little Miami River.....90.7 miles
E. Fk. Little Miami River.....6.4 miles

<u>Louisville District</u>

Ohio River.....below MP 438

<u>Buffalo District</u>

Portage River.....12.0 miles
Maumee River.....To Ind. St. Line
Sandusky River.....96.0 miles
Huron River.....10.0 miles
Cuyahoga River.....41.1 miles
Grand River.....91.6 miles

<u>Pittsburgh District</u>

Little Beaver Creek.....15.7 miles
Middle Fk. L. B. Creek...17.3 miles
North Fk. L. B. Creek.....14.3 miles
Mahoning River.....41.0 miles

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

A. Index of Nationwide Permits, Conditions, District Engineer's Decision, Further Information, and Definitions

Nationwide Permits

1. Aids to Navigation
2. Structures in Artificial Canals
3. Maintenance
4. Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities
5. Scientific Measurement Devices
6. Survey Activities
7. Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures
8. Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf
9. Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas
10. Mooring Buoys
11. Temporary Recreational Structures
12. Utility Line Activities
13. Bank Stabilization
14. Linear Transportation Projects
15. U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges
16. Return Water from Upland Contained Disposal Areas
17. Hydropower Projects
18. Minor Discharges
19. Minor Dredging
20. Response Operations for Oil and 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 Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities
28. Modifications of Existing Marinas
29. Residential Developments
30. Moist Soil Management for Wildlife
31. Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities
32. Completed Enforcement Actions
33. Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering
34. Cranberry Production Activities
35. Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins
36. Boat Ramps
37. Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation
38. Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste
39. Commercial and Institutional Developments
40. Agricultural Activities
41. Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches
42. Recreational Facilities

43. Stormwater Management Facilities
44. Mining Activities
45. Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events
46. Discharges in Ditches
47. [Reserved]
48. Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture 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

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 Bird and Bald and Golden Eagle Permits
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. Pre-Construction Notification

District Engineer's Decision

Further Information

Nationwide Permit Regional General Conditions

Definitions

Best management practices (BMPs)
Compensatory mitigation
Currently serviceable
Direct effects
Discharge
Enhancement
Ephemeral stream
Establishment (creation)
High Tide Line
Historic property
Independent utility
Indirect effects
Intermittent stream
Loss of waters of the United States
Non-tidal wetland
Open water
Ordinary high water mark
Perennial stream
Practicable
Pre-construction notification
Preservation
Re-establishment
Rehabilitation
Restoration
Riffle and pool complex
Riparian areas
Shellfish seeding
Single and complete linear project
Single and complete non-linear project
Stormwater management
Stormwater management facilities
Stream bed
Stream channelization
Structure
Tidal wetland
Vegetated shallows
Waterbody

B. Nationwide Permits and Conditions

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

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

Nationwide Permit 2 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for any proposed structure exceeding 25% of the width of the existing canal.

3. Maintenance.

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

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

engineer under separate authorization. The placement of new or additional riprap must be the minimum necessary to protect the structure or to ensure the safety of the structure. Any bank stabilization measures not directly associated with the structure will require a separate authorization from the district engineer.

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

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 3 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for the following activities:

- The use of any permanent 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;

- All activities in Section 10 waters within the Buffalo and Pittsburgh Districts of the Corps of Engineers. Notification is required for all activities in the Ohio River and the Muskingum River;

- For temporary structures, work, and discharges (including cofferdams) necessary for access fills or dewatering of construction sites occurring in wetlands, perennial streams, or Section 10 waters when the primary activity is otherwise authorized by the Corps of Engineers. The Notification must include a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre-project conditions; and

- The use of vertical sheet piling and closed structures in the special habitat waters of Lake Erie (See Nationwide Permit General Condition 22 *Designated Critical Resource Waters*, and Regional General Condition (5f) for *Critical Resource Waters*.)

(b) Any stream channel modification is limited to a distance of 50 feet upstream and 50 feet downstream of the structure.

(c) The placement of any new rip-rap is limited to a total of 200 feet.

(d) 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 (OHW) (573.4 feet IGLD 1985), will likely be required to 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.

4. <u>Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities</u>. Fish and wildlife harvesting devices and activities such as pound nets, crab traps, crab dredging, eel pots, lobster traps, duck blinds, and clam and oyster digging, fish aggregating devices, and small fish attraction devices such as open water fish concentrators (sea kites, etc.). This NWP does not authorize artificial reefs or impoundments and semi-impoundments of waters of the United States for the culture or holding of motile species such as lobster, or the use of covered oyster trays or clam racks. **(Sections 10 and 404)**

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

Nationwide Permit 5 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for any discharge associated with weirs and flumes.

(b) This nationwide permit does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material in wetlands, islands, island backchannels, embayments, and/or sites at the confluence of one stream with another.

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

Nationwide Permit 6 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for "exploratory trenching."

(b) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for discharges in streams exceeding 25 cubic yards.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 11 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) This nationwide permit does not authorize temporary recreational structures in or near wetlands, islands, island backchannels, embayments, and/or sites at the confluence of one stream with another.

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

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

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

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

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

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

This NWP may authorize utility lines in or affecting navigable waters of the United States even if there is no associated discharge of dredged or fill material (See 33 CFR Part 322). Overhead utility lines constructed over section 10 waters and utility lines that are routed in or under section 10 waters without a discharge of dredged or fill material require a section 10 permit.

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

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

of more than 500 feet; or (7) permanent access roads are constructed in waters of the United States with impervious materials. (See general condition 31.) **(Sections 10 and 404)**

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

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 12 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for the following activities and the notification must include a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre-project conditions:

- All work in waters of the U.S., including special aquatic sites, associated with utility line substations;
- All stream work (perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral) associated with foundations for overhead utility line towers, poles, and anchors;
- Impacts greater than 1/10 acre in waters of the U.S., including wetlands, associated with access roads;
- All temporary structures, work, and discharges (including cofferdams) necessary for access fills or dewatering of construction sites occurring in wetlands, perennial streams, or Section 10 waters when the primary activity is otherwise authorized by the Corps of Engineers; and
- All impacts to shrub/scrub and forested wetlands.

(b) Notifications for aerial transmission lines over Section 10 waters must include the nominal system voltage and the additional clearance above low steel for bridges, if available, or above maximum high water elevation.

Note: All aerial crossings will have the following minimum clearances above the clearance required for bridges, or the clearances which would be required by the U.S. Coast Guard for new fixed bridges, in the vicinity of the proposed crossing. These clearances are based on the low point of the line under conditions which produce the greatest sag, taking into consideration temperature, load, wind, length or span, and type of supports as outlined in the National Electrical Safety Code. For any non-electrical cable, the crossing must have a minimum clearance of 20 feet above the clearance required for bridges.

NOMINAL SYSTEM VOLTAGE, KV	ADDITIONAL CLEARANCE, FEET
115 and below	20
138	22
161	24
230	26
350	30
500	35
700	42
750 – 765	45

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

(d) Anti-seep collars or clay plugs must be utilized for trenching activities conducted in a wetland.

(e) This nationwide permit does not authorize the placement of manholes in wetlands.

(f) Excess material must be removed to upland areas immediately upon completion of construction.

(g) The loss of waters of the U.S. is limited to 300 feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects.

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

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

(b) The activity is no more than 500 feet in length along the bank, unless the district engineer

waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 13 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for the following activities:

- All activities in Section 10 waters within the Buffalo and Pittsburgh Districts of the Corps of Engineers. Notification is required for all activities in the Ohio River and the Muskingum River;

- 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; and

- Temporary structures, work, and discharges (including cofferdams) necessary for construction activities, access fills, or dewatering of construction sites occurring in wetlands, perennial streams, or Section 10 waters when the primary activity is otherwise authorized by the Corps of Engineers. The Notification must include a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre-project conditions.

(b) 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 (OHW) (573.4 feet IGLD 1985), shall be excavated down to clay or bedrock, and side cast into the nearshore area either immediately waterward or downdrift of the project area.

(c) For projects located along the shorelines of Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, a one-time sand prefill of 2 cubic yards of sand per linear foot of shoreline stabilized shall be placed in the nearshore area in less than three feet of water. The sand shall be from an upland source.

(d) Material used for bank stabilization or fill shall consist of suitable material free from toxic contaminants in other than trace quantities. Suitable material shall consist of rock, stone, vegetative erosion control measures, broken concrete (without exposed reinforcing bar) and when applicable, clean soil. 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.

(e) Proper installation is required for the use of this NWP. This nationwide permit does not authorize material that is dumped from the top of bank resulting in uncontrolled spilling of material over the bank into the waterway.

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

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

their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations. The areas affected by temporary fills must be revegetated, as appropriate.

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 14 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for the following activities:

- All activities in Section 10 waters;
- Temporary structures, work, and discharges (including cofferdams) necessary for construction activities, access fills, or dewatering of construction sites occurring in wetlands, perennial streams, or Section 10 waters when the primary activity is otherwise authorized by the Corps of Engineers. The Notification must include a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre-project conditions; and
- Stream impacts greater than 200 linear feet.

(b) Interior roadways for recreational facilities and residential, commercial, and institutional developments are not authorized by this nationwide permit.

(c) The loss of waters of the U.S. is limited to 300 feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects.

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

Nationwide Permit 15 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for all activities in Section 10 waters.

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

17. Hydropower Projects. Discharges of dredged or fill material associated with hydropower projects having: (a) Less than 5000 kW of total generating capacity at existing reservoirs, where the project, including the fill, is licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) under the Federal Power Act of 1920, as amended; or (b) a licensing exemption granted by the FERC pursuant to Section 408 of the Energy Security Act of 1980 (16 U.S.C. 2705 and 2708) and Section 30 of the Federal Power Act, as amended.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 18 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) This Nationwide permit does not authorize stream relocations.

(b) This Nationwide permit does not authorize valley fills in streams or the complete elimination of a stream.

(c) This Nationwide permit does not authorize impoundments or well pads for commercial or industrial use.

(d) 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 (OHW) (573.4 feet IGLD 1985), shall be excavated down to clay or bedrock, and side cast into the nearshore area either immediately waterward or downdrift of the project area.

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

Nationwide Permit 19 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Dredging operations in Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay that recover material consisting of greater than 60% sand and/or gravel shall be placed in the nearshore area either immediately waterward or downdrift of the project area.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 21 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) This nationwide permit does not authorize the discharge of refuse.

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

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

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

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

23. Approved Categorical Exclusions. Activities undertaken, assisted, authorized, regulated, funded, or financed, in whole or in part, by another Federal agency or department where:

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

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

The Office of the Chief of Engineers may require additional conditions, including pre-construction notification, for authorization of an agency's categorical exclusions under this NWP.

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

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

Nationwide Permit 23 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of this nationwide permit.

(b) Notifications must also include a copy of the CE determination, a delineation of special aquatic sites and a mitigation plan for impacts greater than 1/10 acre of waters of the U.S.

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

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 25 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required if the impacts to waters of the U.S. are more than 1/10 acre.

26. [Reserved]

27. <u>Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities</u>. Activities in waters of the United States associated with the restoration, enhancement, and establishment of tidal and non-tidal wetlands and riparian areas, the restoration and enhancement of non-tidal streams and other non-tidal open waters, and the rehabilitation or enhancement of tidal streams, tidal wetlands, and tidal open waters, provided those activities result in net increases in aquatic resource functions and services.

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

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

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

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

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

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

aquatic habitats. These documents must be submitted to the district engineer at least 30 days prior to commencing activities in waters of the United States authorized by this NWP.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 27 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for all work in waters of the U.S., including special aquatic sites.

(b) For impacts associated with development activities, the loss of waters of the U.S. is limited to ½ acre, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the District engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects.

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

29. Residential Developments. Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction or expansion of a single residence, a multiple unit residential development, or a residential subdivision. This NWP authorizes the construction of building foundations and building pads and attendant features that are necessary for the use of the residence or residential development. Attendant features may include but are not limited to

roads, parking lots, garages, yards, utility lines, storm water management facilities, septic fields, and recreation facilities such as playgrounds, playing fields, and golf courses (provided the golf course is an integral part of the residential development).

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 29 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) The Notification shall include information sufficient to demonstrate the proposed project represents a single and complete project.

(b) Perpetual protection, in the form of a conservation easement, deed restriction, deed-restricted open space, or other similar legal protection, should be placed on the remaining waters of the U.S. on-site to guarantee their preservation for aquatic resources, wildlife, open space, and flood protection. The Notification should include a written description of the perpetual protection and corresponding drawings. When perpetual protection is implemented, the permittee is required to clearly identify, on the plot plan, the boundary of the Federal jurisdictional waters and associated upland buffer that is protected by the easement. The restrictions shall specifically state that the aquatic resources are not to be adversely impacted by incompatible uses. A copy of the recorded easement shall be provided to the Army Corps of Engineers by December 31st in the year the authorized work commences, or by an approved time extension.

(c) Wetlands included within compensatory mitigation plans provided in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 23 shall not include lot lines within the wetland areas identified in the compensatory mitigation plan.

30. Moist Soil Management for Wildlife. Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States and maintenance activities that are associated with moist soil management for wildlife for the purpose of continuing ongoing, site-specific, wildlife management activities where soil manipulation is used to manage habitat and feeding areas for wildlife. Such activities include, but are not limited to, plowing or discing to impede succession, preparing seed beds, or establishing fire breaks. Sufficient riparian areas must be maintained adjacent to all open water bodies, including streams, to preclude water quality degradation due to erosion and sedimentation. This NWP does not authorize the construction of new dikes, roads, water control structures, or similar features associated with the management areas. The activity

must not result in a net loss of aquatic resource functions and services. This NWP does not authorize the conversion of wetlands to uplands, impoundments, or other open water bodies. **(Section 404)**

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

Nationwide Permit 30 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of this nationwide permit unless the applicant is working under the leadership of a governmental wildlife resource agency such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), the United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), or the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

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

Maintenance Baseline: The maintenance baseline is a description of the physical characteristics (e.g., depth, width, length, location, configuration, or design flood capacity, etc.) of a flood control project within which maintenance activities are normally authorized by NWP 31, subject to any case-specific conditions required by the district engineer. The district engineer will approve the maintenance baseline based on the approved or constructed capacity of the flood control facility, whichever is smaller, including any areas where there are no constructed channels but which are part of the facility. The prospective permittee will provide documentation of the physical characteristics of the flood control facility (which will normally consist of as-built or approved drawings) and documentation of the approved and constructed design capacities of the flood control facility. If no evidence of the constructed capacity exists, the approved capacity will be used. The documentation will also include best management practices to ensure that the impacts to the aquatic environment are minimal, especially in maintenance areas where there are no constructed channels. (The Corps may request maintenance records in areas where there has

not been recent maintenance.) Revocation or modification of the final determination of the maintenance baseline can only be done in accordance with 33 CFR 330.5. Except in emergencies as described below, this NWP cannot be used until the district engineer approves the maintenance baseline and determines the need for mitigation and any regional or activity-specific conditions. Once determined, the maintenance baseline will remain valid for any subsequent reissuance of this NWP. This NWP does not authorize maintenance of a flood control facility that has been abandoned. A flood control facility will be considered abandoned if it has operated at a significantly reduced capacity without needed maintenance being accomplished in a timely manner.

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

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

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer before any maintenance work is conducted (see general condition 31). The pre-construction notification may be for activity-specific maintenance or for maintenance of the entire flood control facility by submitting a five-year (or less) maintenance plan. The pre-construction notification must include a description of the maintenance baseline and the dredged material disposal site. **(Sections 10 and 404)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

33. <u>Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering</u>. Temporary structures, work, and discharges, including cofferdams, necessary for construction activities or access fills or dewatering of construction sites, provided that the associated primary activity is authorized by the Corps of Engineers or the U.S. Coast Guard. This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, work, and discharges, including cofferdams, necessary for construction activities not otherwise subject to the Corps or U.S. Coast Guard permit requirements. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain near normal downstream flows and to minimize flooding. Fill must consist of materials, and be placed in a manner, that will not be eroded by expected high flows. The use of dredged material may be allowed if the district engineer determines that it will not cause more

than minimal adverse effects on aquatic resources. Following completion of construction, temporary fill must be entirely removed to an area that has no waters of the United States, dredged material must be returned to its original location, and the affected areas must be restored to pre-construction elevations. The affected areas must also be revegetated, as appropriate. This permit does not authorize the use of cofferdams to dewater wetlands or other aquatic areas to change their use. Structures left in place after construction is completed require a separate section 10 permit if located in navigable waters of the United States. (See 33 CFR part 322.)

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

34. Cranberry Production Activities. Discharges of dredged or fill material for dikes, berms, pumps, water control structures or leveling of cranberry beds associated with expansion, enhancement, or modification activities at existing cranberry production operations. The cumulative total acreage of disturbance per cranberry production operation, including but not limited to, filling, flooding, ditching, or clearing, must not exceed 10 acres of waters of the United States, including wetlands. The activity must not result in a net loss of wetland acreage. This NWP does not authorize any discharge of dredged or fill material related to other cranberry production activities such as warehouses, processing facilities, or parking areas. For the purposes of this NWP, the cumulative total of 10 acres will be measured over the period that this NWP is valid.

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

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

Nationwide Permit 35 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of this nationwide permit.

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

> **(a)** The discharge into waters of the United States does not exceed 50 cubic yards of concrete, rock, crushed stone or gravel into forms, or in the form of pre-cast concrete planks or slabs, unless the district engineer waives the 50 cubic yard limit by making a

written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects;

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

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

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

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 36 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) The discharge into waters of the U.S. is limited to 50 cubic yards of material and the width of the boat ramp is limited to 20 feet. However, for public boat ramps, the district engineer may consider proposals for boat ramps with discharges into waters of the U.S. in excess of 50 cubic yards of material and a 20 foot width.

(b) This nationwide permit does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material into wetlands, islands, island backchannels, embayments, and/or sites at the confluence of one stream with another.

(c) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 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 Corps of Engineers lock and dam, or within 1500 feet of any emergency-mooring cell at any lock.

37. Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation. Work done by or funded by:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notification: Except in cases where there is an unacceptable hazard to life or a significant loss of property or economic hardship will occur, the permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity (see general condition 31). **(Sections 10 and 404)**

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

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

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

39. Commercial and Institutional Developments. Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction or expansion of commercial and institutional building foundations and building pads and attendant features that are necessary for the use and maintenance of the structures. Attendant features may include, but are not limited to, roads, parking lots, garages, yards, utility lines, storm water management facilities, and recreation facilities such as playgrounds and playing fields. Examples of commercial

developments include retail stores, industrial facilities, restaurants, business parks, and shopping centers. Examples of institutional developments include schools, fire stations, government office buildings, judicial buildings, public works buildings, libraries, hospitals, and places of worship. The construction of new golf courses and new ski areas is not authorized by this NWP.

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 39 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) The Notification shall include information sufficient to demonstrate the proposed project represents a single and complete project.

(b) Perpetual protection, in the form of a conservation easement, deed restriction, deed-restricted open space, or other similar legal protection, should be placed on the remaining waters of the U.S. on-site to guarantee their preservation for aquatic resources, wildlife, open space, and flood protection. The Notification should include a written description of the perpetual protection and corresponding drawings. When perpetual protection is implemented, the permittee is required to clearly identify, on the plot plan, the boundary of the Federal jurisdictional waters and associated upland buffer that is protected by the easement. The restrictions shall specifically state that the aquatic resources are not to be adversely impacted by incompatible uses. A copy of the recorded easement shall be provided to the Army Corps of Engineers by December 31st in the year the authorized work commences, or by an approved time extension.

(c) Wetlands included within compensatory mitigation plans provided in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 23 shall not include lot lines within the wetland areas identified in the compensatory mitigation plan.

40. Agricultural Activities. Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for agricultural activities, including the construction of building pads for farm buildings. Authorized activities include the installation, placement, or construction of drainage

tiles, ditches, or levees; mechanized land clearing; land leveling; the relocation of existing serviceable drainage ditches constructed in waters of the United States; and similar activities.

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

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

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

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

Note: Some discharges for agricultural activities may qualify for an exemption under Section 404(f) of the Clean Water Act (see 33 CFR 323.4). This NWP authorizes the construction of farm ponds that do not qualify for the Clean Water Act Section 404(f)(1)(C) exemption because of the recapture provision at Section 404(f)(2).

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 41 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of this nationwide permit.

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 42 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) The Notification shall include information sufficient to demonstrate the proposed project represents a single and complete project.

(b) Perpetual protection, in the form of a conservation easement, deed restriction, deed-restricted open space, or other similar legal protection, should be placed on the remaining waters of the U.S. on-site to guarantee their preservation for aquatic resources, wildlife, open space, and flood protection. The Notification should include a written description of the perpetual protection and corresponding drawings. When perpetual protection is implemented, the permittee is required to clearly identify, on the plot plan, the boundary of the Federal jurisdictional waters and associated upland buffer that is protected by the easement. The restrictions shall specifically state that the aquatic resources are not to be adversely impacted by incompatible uses. A copy of the recorded easement shall be provided to the Army Corps of Engineers by December 31st in the year the authorized work commences, or by an approved time extension.

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 43 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of this nationwide permit.

44. Mining Activities. Revoked from use in Ohio.

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

This NWP does not authorize beach restoration or nourishment.

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

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

Note: The uplands themselves that are lost as a result of a storm, flood, or other discrete event can be replaced without a section 404 permit, if the uplands are restored to the ordinary high

water mark (in non-tidal waters) or high tide line (in tidal waters). (See also 33 CFR 328.5.) This NWP authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States associated with the restoration of uplands.

46. Discharges in Ditches. Revoked from use in Ohio.

47. [Reserved]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification and a document describing how the overall mining plan will result in a net increase in aquatic resource functions to the district engineer and receive written authorization prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 31.) **(Sections 10 and 404)**

Nationwide Permit 49 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) The Notification shall include the information required in the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Mineral Resource Management Policy Procedure Directive Regulatory 99-1 entitled Lands Eligible for Remining and dated November 18, 1999.

(b) Agency coordination as described in Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 (d)(2) is required when the loss of stream bed exceeds 300 linear feet.

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

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

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

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

Nationwide Permit 50 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) This nationwide permit does not authorize the discharge of refuse.

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

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States, including the loss of no more than 300 linear feet of stream bed, unless for intermittent and ephemeral stream beds the district engineer waives the 300 linear foot limit by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in minimal adverse effects. This permit does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters.

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

Note 1: Utility lines constructed to transfer the energy from the land-based renewable generation facility to a distribution system, regional grid, or other facility are generally considered to be linear projects and each separate and distant crossing of a waterbody is eligible for treatment as a

separate and complete linear project. Those utility lines may be authorized by NWP 12 or another Department of the Army authorization. If the only activities associated with the construction, expansion, or modification of a land-based renewable energy generation facility that require Department of the Army authorization are discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States to construct, maintain, repair, and/or remove utility lines, then NWP 12 shall be used if those activities meet the terms and conditions of NWP 12, including any applicable regional conditions and any case-specific conditions imposed by the district engineer.

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

Nationwide Permit 51 Specific Regional Conditions:

(a) The Notification shall include information sufficient to demonstrate the proposed project represents a single and complete project.

(b) Perpetual protection, in the form of a conservation easement, deed restriction, deed-restricted open space, or other similar legal protection, should be placed on the remaining waters of the U.S. on-site to guarantee their preservation for aquatic resources, wildlife, open space, and flood protection. The Notification should include a written description of the perpetual protection and corresponding drawings. When perpetual protection is implemented, the permittee is required to clearly identify, on the plot plan, the boundary of the Federal jurisdictional waters and associated upland buffer that is protected by the easement. The restrictions shall specifically state that the aquatic resources are not to be adversely impacted by incompatible uses. A copy of the recorded easement shall be provided to the Army Corps of Engineers by December 31st in the year the authorized work commences, or by an approved time extension.

52. Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects. Revoked from use in Ohio.

C. Nationwide Permit General Conditions

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

1. Navigation.

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

(b) Any safety lights and signals prescribed by the U.S. Coast Guard, through regulations or otherwise, must be installed and maintained at the permittee's expense on authorized facilities in navigable waters of the United States.

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

2. Aquatic Life Movements. No activity may substantially disrupt the necessary life cycle movements of those species of aquatic life indigenous to the waterbody, including those species that normally migrate through the area, unless the activity's primary purpose is to impound water. All permanent and temporary crossings of waterbodies shall be suitably culverted, bridged, or otherwise designed and constructed to maintain low flows to sustain the movement of those aquatic species.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

12. Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls. Appropriate soil erosion and sediment controls must be used and maintained in effective operating condition during construction, and all exposed soil and other fills, as well as any work below the ordinary high water mark or high tide line, must be permanently stabilized at the earliest practicable date. Permittees are encouraged to perform work within waters of the United States during periods of low-flow or no-flow.

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

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

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

16. Wild and Scenic Rivers. No activity may occur in a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System, or in a river officially designated by Congress as a "study river" for possible inclusion in the system while the river is in an official study status, unless the appropriate Federal agency with direct management responsibility for such river, has determined in writing that the proposed activity will not adversely affect the Wild and Scenic River designation or study status. Information on Wild and Scenic Rivers may be obtained from the appropriate Federal land management agency responsible for the designated Wild and Scenic River or study river (e.g., National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).

17. Tribal Rights. No activity or its operation may impair reserved tribal rights, including, but not limited to, reserved water rights and treaty fishing and hunting rights.

18. Endangered Species.

(a) No activity is authorized under any NWP which is likely to directly or indirectly jeopardize the continued existence of a threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, as identified under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), or which will directly or indirectly destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of such species. No activity is authorized under any NWP which "may affect" a listed species or critical habitat, unless Section 7 consultation addressing the effects of the proposed activity has been completed.

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

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

has been completed. If the non-Federal applicant has not heard back from the Corps within 45 days, the applicant must still wait for notification from the Corps.

(d) As a result of formal or informal consultation with the FWS or NMFS the district engineer may add species-specific regional endangered species conditions to the NWPs.

(e) Authorization of an activity by a NWP does not authorize the "take" of a threatened or endangered species as defined under the ESA. In the absence of separate authorization (e.g., an ESA Section 10 Permit, a Biological Opinion with "incidental take" provisions, etc.) from the U.S. FWS or the NMFS, The Endangered Species Act prohibits any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to take a listed species, where "take" means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. The word "harm" in the definition of "take" means an act which actually kills or injures wildlife. Such an act may include significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding or sheltering.

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

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

20. Historic Properties.

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

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

(c) Non-federal permittees must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer if the authorized activity may have the potential to cause effects to any historic properties listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, including previously unidentified properties. For such activities, the pre-

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

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

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

21. <u>Discovery of Previously Unknown Remains and Artifacts</u>. If you discover any previously unknown historic, cultural or archeological remains and artifacts while accomplishing the activity authorized by this permit, you must immediately notify the district engineer of what you have found, and to the maximum extent practicable, avoid construction activities that may affect the remains and artifacts until the required coordination has been completed. The district

engineer will initiate the Federal, Tribal and state coordination required to determine if the items or remains warrant a recovery effort or if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

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

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

(b) For NWPs 3, 8, 10, 13, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 36, 37, and 38, notification is required in accordance with general condition 31, for any activity proposed in the designated critical resource waters including wetlands adjacent to those waters. The district engineer may authorize activities under these NWPs only after it is determined that the impacts to the critical resource waters will be no more than minimal.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(f) Compensatory mitigation plans for projects in or near streams or other open waters will normally include a requirement for the restoration or establishment, maintenance, and legal protection (e.g., conservation easements) of riparian areas next to open waters. In some cases, riparian areas may be the only compensatory mitigation required. Riparian areas should consist of native species. The width of the required riparian area will address

documented water quality or aquatic habitat loss concerns. Normally, the riparian area will be 25 to 50 feet wide on each side of the stream, but the district engineer may require slightly wider riparian areas to address documented water quality or habitat loss concerns. If it is not possible to establish a riparian area on both sides of a stream, or if the waterbody is a lake or coastal waters, then restoring or establishing a riparian area along a single bank or shoreline may be sufficient. Where both wetlands and open waters exist on the project site, the district engineer will determine the appropriate compensatory mitigation (e.g., riparian areas and/or wetlands compensation) based on what is best for the aquatic environment on a watershed basis. In cases where riparian areas are determined to be the most appropriate form of compensatory mitigation, the district engineer may waive or reduce the requirement to provide wetland compensatory mitigation for wetland losses.

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

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

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

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

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

27. Regional and Case-By-Case Conditions. The activity must comply with any regional conditions that may have been added by the Division Engineer (see 33 CFR 330.4(e)) and with any case specific conditions added by the Corps or by the state, Indian Tribe, or U.S. EPA in its section 401 Water Quality Certification, or by the state in its Coastal Zone Management Act consistency determination.

28. Use of Multiple Nationwide Permits. The use of more than one NWP for a single and complete project is prohibited, except when the acreage loss of waters of the United States authorized by the NWPs does not exceed the acreage limit of the NWP with the highest specified acreage limit. For example, if a road crossing over tidal waters is constructed under NWP 14, with associated bank stabilization authorized by NWP 13, the maximum acreage loss of waters of the United States for the total project cannot exceed 1/3-acre.

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

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

_____
(Transferee)

_____
(Date)

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

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

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

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

31. Pre-Construction Notification.

(a) Timing. Where required by the terms of the NWP, the prospective permittee must notify the district engineer by submitting a pre-construction notification (PCN) as early as possible. The district engineer must determine if the PCN is complete within 30 calendar days of the date of receipt and, if the PCN is determined to be incomplete, notify the prospective permittee within that 30 day period to request the additional information necessary to make the PCN complete. The request must specify the information needed to make the PCN complete. As a general rule, district engineers will request additional information necessary to make the PCN complete only once. However, if the prospective permittee does not provide all of the requested information, then the district engineer will notify the prospective permittee that the PCN is still incomplete and the PCN review process will not commence until all of the requested information has been received by the district engineer. The prospective permittee shall not begin the activity until either:

(1) He or she is notified in writing by the district engineer that the activity may proceed under the NWP with any special conditions imposed by the district or division engineer; or

(2) 45 calendar days have passed from the district engineer's receipt of the complete PCN and the prospective permittee has not received written notice from the district or division engineer. However, if the permittee was required to notify the Corps pursuant to general condition 18 that listed species or critical habitat might be affected or in the vicinity of the project, or to notify the Corps pursuant to general condition 20 that the activity may have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, the permittee cannot begin the activity until receiving written notification from the Corps that there is "no effect" on listed species or "no potential to cause effects" on historic properties, or that any consultation required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (see 33 CFR 330.4(f)) and/or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation (see 33 CFR 330.4(g)) has been completed. Also, work cannot begin under NWPs 21, 49, or 50 until the permittee has received written approval from the Corps. If the proposed activity requires a written waiver to exceed specified limits of an NWP, the permittee may not begin the activity until the district engineer issues the waiver. If the district or division engineer notifies the permittee in writing that an individual permit is required within 45 calendar days of receipt of a complete PCN, the permittee cannot begin the activity until an individual permit has been obtained. Subsequently, the permittee's right to proceed under the NWP may be modified, suspended, or revoked only in accordance with the procedure set forth in 33 CFR 330.5(d)(2).

(b) Contents of Pre-Construction Notification: The PCN must be in writing and include the following information:

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

(2) Location of the proposed project;

(3) A description of the proposed project; the project's purpose; direct and indirect adverse environmental effects the project would cause, including the anticipated amount of loss of water of the United States expected to result from the NWP activity, in acres, linear feet, or other appropriate unit of measure; any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity. The description should be sufficiently detailed to allow the district engineer to determine that the adverse effects of the project will be minimal and to determine the need for compensatory mitigation. Sketches should be provided when necessary to show that the activity complies with the terms of the NWP. (Sketches usually clarify the project and when provided results in a quicker decision. Sketches should contain sufficient detail to provide an illustrative description of the proposed activity (e.g., a conceptual plan), but do not need to be detailed engineering plans);

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

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

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

(7) For an activity that may affect a historic property listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places, for non-Federal applicants the PCN must state which historic property may be affected by the proposed work or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property. Federal applicants must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

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

(d) Agency Coordination:

(1) The district engineer will consider any comments from Federal and state agencies concerning the proposed activity's compliance with the terms and conditions of the NWPs and the need for mitigation to reduce the project's adverse environmental effects to a minimal level.

(2) For all NWP activities that require pre-construction notification and result in the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States, for NWP 21, 29, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 50, 51, and 52 activities that require pre-construction notification and will result in the loss of greater than 300 linear feet of intermittent and ephemeral stream bed, and for all NWP 48 activities that require pre-construction notification, the district engineer will immediately provide (e.g., via e-mail, facsimile transmission, overnight mail, or other expeditious manner) a copy of the complete PCN to the appropriate Federal or state offices (U.S. FWS, state natural resource or water quality agency, EPA, State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) or Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO), and, if appropriate, the NMFS). With the exception of NWP 37, these agencies will have 10 calendar days from the date the material is transmitted to telephone or fax the district engineer notice that they intend to provide substantive, site-specific comments. The comments must explain why the agency believes the adverse effects will be more than minimal. If so contacted by an agency, the district engineer will wait an additional 15 calendar days before making a decision on the pre-construction notification. The district engineer will fully consider agency comments received within the specified time frame concerning the proposed activity's compliance with the terms and conditions of the NWPs, including the need for mitigation to ensure the net adverse environmental effects to the aquatic environment of the proposed activity are minimal. The district engineer will provide no response to the resource agency, except as provided below. The district engineer will indicate in the administrative record associated with each pre-construction notification that the resource agencies' concerns were considered. For NWP 37, the emergency watershed protection and rehabilitation activity may proceed immediately in cases where there is an unacceptable hazard to life or a significant loss of property or economic hardship will occur. The district engineer will consider any comments received to decide whether the NWP 37 authorization should be modified, suspended, or revoked in accordance with the procedures at 33 CFR 330.5.

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

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

D. District Engineer's Decision

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

2. If the proposed activity requires a PCN and will result in a loss of greater than 1/10-acre of wetlands, the prospective permittee should submit a mitigation proposal with the PCN. Applicants may also propose compensatory mitigation for projects with smaller impacts. The district engineer will consider any proposed compensatory mitigation the applicant has included in the proposal in determining whether the net adverse environmental effects to the aquatic environment of the proposed activity are minimal. The compensatory mitigation proposal may be either conceptual or detailed. If the district engineer determines that the activity complies with the terms and conditions of the NWP and that the adverse effects on the aquatic environment are minimal, after considering mitigation, the district engineer will notify the permittee and include any activity-specific conditions in the NWP verification the district engineer deems necessary. Conditions for compensatory mitigation requirements must comply with the appropriate provisions at 33 CFR 332.3(k). The district engineer must approve the final mitigation plan before the permittee commences work in waters of the United States, unless the district engineer determines that prior approval of the final mitigation plan is not practicable or not necessary to ensure timely completion of the required compensatory mitigation. If the prospective permittee elects to submit a compensatory mitigation plan with the PCN, the district engineer will expeditiously review the proposed compensatory mitigation plan. The district engineer must review the proposed compensatory mitigation plan within 45 calendar days of receiving a

complete PCN and determine whether the proposed mitigation would ensure no more than minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment. If the net adverse effects of the project on the aquatic environment (after consideration of the compensatory mitigation proposal) are determined by the district engineer to be minimal, the district engineer will provide a timely written response to the applicant. The response will state that the project can proceed under the terms and conditions of the NWP, including any activity-specific conditions added to the NWP authorization by the district engineer.

3. If the district engineer determines that the adverse effects of the proposed work are more than minimal, then the district engineer will notify the applicant either: (a) That the project does not qualify for authorization under the NWP and instruct the applicant on the procedures to seek authorization under an individual permit; (b) that the project is authorized under the NWP subject to the applicant's submission of a mitigation plan that would reduce the adverse effects on the aquatic environment to the minimal level; or (c) that the project is authorized under the NWP with specific modifications or conditions. Where the district engineer determines that mitigation is required to ensure no more than minimal adverse effects occur to the aquatic environment, the activity will be authorized within the 45-day PCN period, with activity-specific conditions that state the mitigation requirements. The authorization will include the necessary conceptual or detailed mitigation or a requirement that the applicant submit a mitigation plan that would reduce the adverse effects on the aquatic environment to the minimal level. When mitigation is required, no work in waters of the United States may occur until the district engineer has approved a specific mitigation plan or has determined that prior approval of a final mitigation plan is not practicable or not necessary to ensure timely completion of the required compensatory mitigation.

E. Further Information

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

2. NWPs do not obviate the need to obtain other federal, state, or local permits, approvals, or authorizations required by law.

3. NWPs do not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges.

4. NWPs do not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

5. NWPs do not authorize interference with any existing or proposed Federal project.

F. Nationwide Permits Regional General Conditions

1. Nationwide Permits shall not authorize any activity which impacts bogs and/or fens.

2. No Nationwide permit may be used in Lake Erie for purposes of diverting water from the Great Lakes.

3. Nationwide Permits shall not authorize any activity which will trap littoral material and interrupt littoral transport within Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay.

4. ***ODNR In-Water Work Exclusion Dates***: Any work associated with a nationwide permit cannot take place during the restricted period of the following ODNR, Division of Wildlife Statewide In-Water Work Restrictions unless the applicant notifies the district engineer in accordance Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and receives written approval from the Corps:

Location	Restricted Period
Salmonid streams[1]	9/15 – 6/30
Percid streams[2]	3/15 – 6/30
Other streams[3]	4/15 – 6/30

1. **Arcola Creek** (entire reach), **Ashtabula River** (Hadlock Rd. to mouth), **Ashtabula Harbor**, **Aurora** Branch of the Chagrin River (RM 0.38 to mouth), **Big Creek** ((Grand River drainage basin) Girdled Road to mouth), **Chagrin River** (Chagrin Falls to mouth), **Cold Creek** (entire reach), **Conneaut Creek** (entire reach), **Conneaut Harbor**, **Corporation Creek** ((Chagrin River RM 0.27) entire reach), **Cowles Creek** (entire reach), **Ellison** Creek ((Grand River drainage basis) entire reach), **Euclid Creek** (entire reach), **Grand River** (to dam at Harpersfield Covered Bridge Park just upstream of the S.R. 534 bridge to mouth)/**Fairport Harbor**, **Gulley Brook** ((Chagrin River RM 5.54) entire reach), **Indian Creek** (entire reach), **Kellogg Creek** (Grand River drainage basin) entire reach), **Mill Creek** ((Grand River drainage basin) entire reach), **Paine Creek** ((Grand River drainage basin) from Paine Falls to mouth), **Rocky River** (Cedar Point Rd. (East Branch/West Branch confluence) to mouth), **Smokey Run** ((Conneaut Creek RM 3.5) entire reach), **Turkey Creek** (entire reach), **Vermilion River** (dam at Wakeman upstream of the S.R. 20/60 bridge to mouth), **Ward Creek** ((Chagrin River RM 1.0) entire reach), **Wheeler Creek** (entire reach), **Whitman Creek** (entire reach).

2. **Cuyahoga River** (dam below the S.R. 82 bridge east of Brecksville (Chippewa Rd.) to mouth), **Great Miami River** (dam south of New Baltimore to mouth), **Hocking River** (lower section), **Huron River** (from the East Branch/West Branch confluence to Lake Erie), **Little Miami River** (lower section), **Maumee River** (split dam at Mary Jane Thurston State Park and Providence Park in Grand Rapids to mouth), **Maumee Bay**, **Muskingum River** (to Devola Dam No. 2 off S.R. 60 north of Marietta to mouth), **Ohio River** (entire reach), **Portage River** (entire reach), **Sandusky River** (to Ballville Dam off River Road in Fremont to mouth), **Sandusky Bay**, **Scioto River** (lower section), **Toussaint River** (entire reach).

3. **Class 3 primary headwater streams** (watershed $\leq$1 mi^2), **EWH, CWH, WWH**, or streams **with T&E species**. Includes **Lake Erie & bays** not listed above. Special conditions (such as occurrence of T&E species) may mandate local variation of

restrictions.

Note: This condition does not apply to Ohio Department of Transportation projects that are covered under the "Memorandum of Agreement between Ohio Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and United States Fish and Wildlife Service For Interagency Coordination For Highway Projects Which Involve Stream Crossings, Bank Stabilization, and/or Minor Wetland Fills.

5. ***Waters of Special Concern***: The applicant must notify the district engineer in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 and Regional General Condition 6 for activities in the following resources:

(a) ***Category 3 Wetlands***: Notification is required for all temporary or permanent impacts to Category 3 wetlands as determined through use of the latest approved version of Ohio EPA's Ohio Rapid Assessment Method (ORAM) for wetland evaluation **long form.**

(b) ***Ohio Stream Designations***: Notification is required for all temporary or permanent impacts to 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 Ohio EPA except for NWP 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 streams can be found on the Ohio EPA web-site at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/rules/3745_1.aspx. You should look for these designations under the aquatic life use of the stream within its basin and under the "Anti-deg Rule #05."

(c) ***State Wild and Scenic Rivers***: Notification is required for all activities in State Wild and Scenic Rivers. The following are **State Wild and Scenic Rivers**:

The Ashtabula River

- The Ashtabula River from the confluence of the East Branch and West Branch of the Ashtabula River at river mile 27.54, downstream to the East 24th Street bridge crossing at river mile 2.3.
- The East Branch of the Ashtabula River from Pennline Fen at river mile 12.0, downstream to the mouth of the East Branch at river mile 0.0.
- The West Branch of the Ashtabula River from the North Richmond Road (Co. Rd. 302) bridge crossing at river mile 9.05, downstream to the mouth of the West Branch at river mile 0.0.
- Miles designated (approximate): Scenic 46

Big and Little Darby Creeks

- Big Darby Creek from the Champaign/Union County line downstream to the U.S. Rt. 40 bridge, from the northern boundary of Battelle-Darby

Creek Metro Park to the confluence with the Little Darby Creek downstream to the Scioto River.

- Little Darby Creek from the Lafayette-Plain City Road bridge downstream to the confluence with Big Darby Creek.
- Miles designated (approximate): 84

Chagrin River

- Aurora Branch from St. Rt. 82 bridge downstream to confluence with the Chagrin River.
- Chagrin River from confluence with Aurora Branch downstream to U.S. Rt. 6 bridge.
- Chagrin River from Woodiebrook Road bridge crossing downstream to the confluence with Aurora Branch of the Chagrin River in Bentleyville.
- East Branch from Heath Road bridge downstream to confluence with the Chagrin River.
- Miles designated (approximate): Scenic 71

Conneaut Creek

- *Scenic Segment:* Creek Road bridge crossing to the Penn Central Railroad bridge crossing at river mile 2.0 in Conneaut.
- *Wild Segment:* Ohio/Pennsylvania border at river mile 23.83 to the Creek Road bridge crossing at river mile 7.39.
- Miles designated (approximate): Scenic 5.39, Wild 16.44, Total 21.83

Grand River

- *Wild segment* - from Harpersfield covered bridge downstream to Norfolk and Western Railroad trestle south of Painesville.
- *Scenic segment* - from U.S. Rt. 322 bridge in Ashtabula County downstream to Harpersfield covered bridge.
- Miles designated (approximate): Scenic 33, Wild 23, Total 56

Kokosing River

- Kokosing River from Knox/Morrow County line to confluence with Mohican River.
- North Branch of Kokosing from confluence with East Branch downstream to confluence with main stem.
- Miles designated (approximate): 48

Little Beaver Creek

- *Wild segments* - **West Fork** from 1/4 mile downstream from Twp. Rd. 914 to confluence with Middle Fork. **North Fork** from Twp. Rd. 952 to confluence with Little Beaver Creek. **Little Beaver** Creek from confluence of West and Middle Forks downstream to 3/4 mile north of Grimm's Bridge.

- *Scenic segments* - **North Fork** from Ohio-Pennsylvania line downstream to Jackman Road. **Middle Fork** from Elkton Road. (Twp. Rd. 901) downstream to confluence with West Fork. **Little Beaver Creek** from 3/4 mile north of Grimm's Bridge downstream to the Ohio-Pennsylvania line.
- Miles designated (approximate): Wild 20, Scenic 16, Total 36

Little Miami River

- Clermont County line at Loveland to headwaters, including North Fork, Clermont County line at Loveland to confluence with East Fork and from the confluence with East Fork to Ohio River.
- Miles designated (approximate): 105

Maumee River

- *Scenic segment* - Ohio-Indiana line to St. Rt. 24 bridge west of Defiance.
- *Recreational segment* - St. Rt. 24 bridge west of Defiance to U.S. Rt. 25 bridge near Perrysburg.
- Miles designated (approximate): Scenic 43, Recreational 53

Mohican River

- The entire main stem of the Mohican River from the confluence of the Clear Fork to the confluence with the Kokosing State Scenic River.
- The Clear Fork of the Mohican River from the base of the Pleasant Hill Dam to the confluence with the Black Fork of the Mohican River.
- Miles designated (approximate): 32.3

Olentangy River

- Delaware Dam to Old Wilson Bridge Road in Worthington.
- Miles designated (approximate): 22

Sandusky River

- U.S. Rt. 30 in Upper Sandusky to Roger Young Memorial Park in Fremont.
- Miles designated (approximate): 65

Stillwater River System

- *Recreational segment* - Englewood dam to confluence with Great Miami River.
- *Scenic segments* - Stillwater River from Riffle Road bridge in Darke County to Englewood dam.
- Greenville Creek from the Ohio-Indiana state line to the confluence with the Stillwater.

- Miles designated (approximate): Scenic 83, Recreational 10

Upper Cuyahoga River

- Troy-Burton Township line in Geauga County to St. Rt. 14.
- Miles designated (approximate): Scenic 25

(d) ***National Wild and Scenic Rivers***: Notification is required for all work in components of the National Wild and Scenic River System. The following are components of the **National Wild and Scenic River System:**

Big and Little Darby Creeks (National Wild and Scenic River System):

- 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.
- Total designation is approximately 82 miles.

Little Beaver Creek (National Wild and Scenic River System):

- 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.
- Total designation is 33 miles.

Little Miami (National Wild and Scenic River System)

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

(e) ***Endangered Species***: Due to the potential presence of Federally threatened or endangered species or their habitats, Notification is required for all work in the following waterway or township of the corresponding county:

County	Waterway	Township
Adams	Ohio Brush Creek, Ohio River, Scioto Brush Creek, South Fork Scioto Brush Creek, West Fork Ohio Brush Creek	
Allen	Auglaize River, Cranberry Creek, Ottawa	

	River, Riley Creek, Sugar Creek	
Ashtabula	Grand River, Pymatuning Creek	
Athens	Ohio River	
Auglaize	Auglaize River, Pusheta Creek, St. Marys River	
Belmont	Ohio River	
Brown	Eagle Creek, East Fork Eagle Creek, East Fork Little Miami River, East Fork Whiteoak Creek, Ohio River, Straight Creek, West Fork Eagle Creek, Whiteoak Creek	
Butler	Dicks Creek, Dry Fork Whitewater River, Elk Creek, Four Mile Creek, Great Miami River, Indian Creek, Sevenmile Creek	
Champaign	Chapman Creek, Kings Creek, Mad River, Nettle Creek	
Clark	Beaver Creek, Chapman Creek, Honey Creek, Little Miami River, Mad River, Mud Run	Bethel
Clermont	East Fork Little Miami River, Indian Creek, Little Miami River, O'Bannon Creek, Ohio River, Stonelick Creek	
Clinton	Anderson Fork, Cowan Creek, Little East Fork, Rattlesnake Creek, Todd Fork Little Miami River	
Columbiana	Ohio River	
Coshocton	Doughty Creek, Killbuck Creek, Kokosing River, Mill Creek, Mohican River, Muskingum River, Tuscarawas River, Wakatomika Creek, Walhonding River, White Eyes Creek, Wills Creek	
Crawford	Broken Sword Creek, Olentangy River, Sandusky River, Sycamore Creek	
Darke	Greenmile Creek, Painter Creek, Stillwater River, Swamp Creek, West Branch Greenmile Creek	
Defiance	Auglaize River, Gordon Creek, Lick Creek, Lost Creek, Maumee River, Mud Creek, North Powell Creek, South Powell Creek, St. Joseph River, Tiffin River	Milford
Delaware	Alum Creek, Big Walnut Creek, Bokes Creek, Mill Creek, Olentangy River, Scioto River, Whetstone Creek	
Fairfield	Clear Creek, Hocking River, Rush Creek, Salt Creek, Walnut Creek	
Fayette	Compton Creek, Deer Creek, East Fork Paint Creek, North Fork Compton Creek, Paint Creek, Rattlesnake Creek, Sugar Creek	

Franklin	Alum Creek, Big Darby Creek, Big Walnut Creek, Blacklick Creek, Hellbranch Run, Little Darby Creek, Olentangy River, Scioto River, Walnut Creek	
Fulton	Bad Creek, Brush Creek, Mill Creek, Swan Creek, Tenmile Creek, Tiffin River	
Gallia	Ohio River	
Greene	Caesar Creek, Little Miami River, Mad River, Massies Creek, Mud Run	
Hamilton	Dry Fork Whitewater River, Great Miami River, Mill Creek, Ohio River, West Fork Mill Creek, Whitewater River	
Hancock	Blanchard River, Eagle Creek, Ottawa Creek, Riley Creek	
Hardin	Blanchard River, Ottawa River, Panther Creek, Scioto River, Taylor Creek	Blanchard, Jackson
Henry	Bad Creek, Beaver Creek, Brush Creek, Lost Creek, Maumee River, South Turkeyfoot Creek, Turkeyfoot Creek	
Highland	Baker Fork, East Fork Little Miami River, East Fork Whiteoak Creek, Lees Creek, Paint Creek, Rattlesnake Creek, Rocky Fork, Whiteoak Creek	
Holmes		Prairie
Jefferson	Ohio River	
Lake	Grand River	
Lawrence	Ohio River	
Logan	Cherokee Mans Run, Great Miami River, Mad River,, Mill Creek, Muchinippi Creek, Rush Creek, Stoney Creek	
Lucas	Maumee River, Swan Creek, Tenmile Creek	Jerusalem
Madison	Big Darby Creek, Bradford Creek, Deer Creek, Little Darby Creek, Paint Creek, Spring Fork, Walnut Run	
Marion	Little Scioto River, Mud Run, Olentangy River, Rush Creek, Scioto River, Tymochtee Creek	
Meigs	Ohio River	
Mercer	Beaver Creek, Black Creek, Burntwood Creek, Chickasaw Creek, Goldwater, Little Beaver Creek, Little Black Creek, Mile Creek, St. Marys River, Twelvemile Creek, Wabash River	
Miami	Great Miami River, Greenville Creek, Honey Creek, Lost Creek, Ludlow Creek, Painter Creek, Spring Creek, Stillwater River	
Monroe	Ohio River	

Montgomery	Great Miami River, Little Bear Creek, Mad River, Stillwater River, Twin Creek, Wolf Creek	
Morgan	Muskingum River	
Morrow	Alum Creek, Big Walnut Creek, Kokosing River, Olentangy River, Shaw Creek, Whetstone Creek	
Muskingum	Muskingum River	
Ottawa	Cedar Creek, Crane Creek, Muddy Creek, Nine Mile Creek, Packer Creek, Portage River, Sugar Creek, Terwilegars Pond, Toussaint Creek, Turtle Creek, Wolf Creek	
Paulding	Auglaize River, Blue Creek, Dog Creek, Flatrock Creek, Gordon Creek, Hagerman Creek, Hoaglin Creek, Little Auglaize River, Maddox Creek, Maumee River, Prairie Creek, Town Creek	
Pickaway	Big Darby Creek, Big Walnut Creek, Deer Creek, Scioto River, Scippo Creek, Walnut Creek	
Pike	Beaver Creek, Crooked Creek, Peepee Creek, Scioto River, Sunfish Creek	
Portage		Aurora
Preble	Bantas Fork, Four Mile Creek, Price Creek, Sevenmile Creek, Twin Creek	
Putnam	Auglaize River, Blanchard River, Cranberry Creek, Little Auglaize River, North Powell Creek, Ottawa River, Plum Creek, Riley Creek, South Powell Creek, Sugar Creek	
Ross	Buckskin Creek, Deer Creek, Kinnikinnick Creek, Little Salt Creek, North Fork Paint Creek, Paint Creek, Pigeon Creek, Salt Creek, Scioto River, Walnut Creek	
Sandusky	East Branch Sandusky River, Green Creek, Little Muddy Creek, Muddy Creek, Muskellunge Creek, Nine Mile Creek, Pickerel Creek, Portage River, Sandusky River, South Creek, Sugar Creek, Toussaint Creek, Wolf Creek (Portage River), Wolf Creek (Sandusky River)	Riley
Scioto	Little Scioto River, Ohio River, Pine Creek, Rocky Fork, Scioto Brush Creek, Scioto River, South Fork Scioto Brush Creek, Turkey Creek	Rush, Union
Seneca	East Branch Sandusky River, Green Creek, Honey Creek, Rock Creek, Sandusky River, Wolf Creek	

Shelby	Great Miami River, Leatherwood Creek, Loramie Creek, Mile Creek, Mosquito Creek	
Trumbull	Grand River, Pymatuning Creek	
Union	Big Darby Creek, Bokes Creek, Little Darby Creek, Mill Creek, Rush Creek	
Van Wert	Black Creek, Blue Creek, Dog Creek, Hagerman Creek, Hoaglin Creek, Little Auglaize River, Maddox Creek, St. Marys River, Town Creek	
Warren	Clear Creek, Great Miami River, Little Miami River, Todd Fork	
Washington	Muskingum River, Ohio River	
Wayne		Clinton, Wooster
Williams	Bear Creek, Brush Creek, Clear Fork, Eagle Creek, East Branch St. Joseph River, Fish Creek, Lick Creek, Mill Creek, Nettle Creek, St. Joseph River, Tiffin River, West Branch St. Joseph River	Bridgewater, Center, Florence, Jefferson, Madison, Northwest, St. Joseph, Superior
Wood	Beaver Creek, Brush Creek, Bull Creek, Cedar Creek, Crane Creek, Cutoff Ditch, East Branch Portage River, Maumee River, Middle Branch Portage River, Portage River, Rocky Ford, South Branch Portage River, Toussaint Creek	
Wyandot	Broken Sword Creek, Sandusky River, Sycamore Creek, Tymochtee Creek	

Note: As mentioned in General Condition 18-*Endangered Species*, Federal Agencies should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of the ESA. Federal applicants must provide the district engineer with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements.

(f) *Critical Resource Waters*: Notification is required for all work in Critical Resource Waters. The following are designated as **Critical Resource Waters**:

- Special habitat waters of Lake Erie including the shoreline, off shore islands, rock outcrops, and adjacent waters within the boundaries defined as 82□ 22' 30" West Longitude, 83□ 07' 30" West Longitude, 41□ 33' 00" North Latitude, and 42□00'00" North Latitude.

- In Ohio, two areas have been designated critical habitat for the piping plover (Charadrius melodus) and are defined as lands 0.62 miles 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 2.0 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.

(g) ***Oak Openings:*** Notification is required for all 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 http://www.oakopen.org/maps/.

6. ***Notification Submittals***: In addition to the information required under Nationwide Permit General Condition 31, the following information is needed for all Notifications:

(a) Drawings: The Notification must include project drawings on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. The illustrations must clearly depict the project boundaries and include all known elements and phases of the proposed work. Three types of illustrations are needed to properly depict the work to be undertaken. These illustrations or drawings are identified as a Vicinity Map (i.e. a location map such as a USGS topographical map), a Plan View and a Typical Cross-Section. Each illustration should identify the project, the applicant, and the type of illustration (vicinity map, plan view or cross-section). In addition, each illustration should be identified with a figure or attachment number.

(b) United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS): Prior to submitting notifications, it is recommended that the applicant contact the USFWS, Ohio Ecological Services Field Office by phone at (614) 416-8993, by e-mail at ohio@fws.gov, through their website at http://www.fws.gov/midwest/ohio, or by writing to 625 Morse Road, Suite 104, Columbus, OH 43230. The USFWS can provide information to assist in complying with Nationwide Permit General Condition 18 pertaining to endangered species and Nationwide Permit General Condition 19 pertaining to migratory birds and bald and golden eagles. The USFWS can also provide project recommendations specific to Federal Candidate species and the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). Federal Candidate species are those for which the USFWS has sufficient information to propose them as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), but for which a listing proposal is precluded by other higher priority listing activities. Information regarding Federal Candidate species can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/section7/s7process/index.html.

Bald Eagle: Applicants must ensure that activities associated with Nationwide Permits do not result in unpermitted take of bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Information regarding activities that may result in take of bald eagles, thus requiring a permit from the USFWS under the Act, can be found at http://www.fws.gov/midwest/MidwestBird/EaglePermits/index.html. Applicants should determine whether a bald eagle nest is located near a permitted activity by contacting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ohio Ecological Services Field Office, 4625 Morse Road, Suite 104, Columbus, Ohio 43230, phone: 614-416-8993, http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Ohio/.

All relevant information obtained from the USFWS should be submitted with the

Notification.

(c) Cultural Resources: The Notification must provide justified conclusions concerning whether or not the proposed activity could affect any historic properties listed, determined to be eligible, or which you have reason to believe may be eligible, for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This data shall be utilized by the Corps to determine if the proposed activity has the potential to affect historic properties. Be advised that further effort may be required to take into account the effects the proposed activity may have on historic properties, as required by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

To ensure compliance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 20, the following basic project information is needed:

> **(1)** 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 project site, the acreage of the project site, the proximity of the project site to major waterways, and any known disturbances within the project site. Photographs, keyed to mapping, are also needed which show the site conditions and all buildings or structures both within the project site and on adjacent parcels.
> **(2)** A detailed description of past land uses in the project site. Particular attention should be given to past activities pertinent to the potential for historic properties to exist in the project area. Photographs and maps supporting past land uses should be provided as available.
>
> **(3)** A detailed description of the construction activities proposed to take place on the project site and a comparison of how the site will look after completion of the project compared to how it looked before the project.
>
> **(4)** Information regarding any past cultural resource studies or coordination pertinent to the project area, if available.
>
> **(5)** Any other data the applicant deems pertinent.

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 basic project information discussed above and should provide recommendations as to whether or not the proposed project has the potential to affect historic properties and if further effort is required or not required to identify historic properties or assess potential effects to historic properties. These professionals can also compile basic preliminary review information to submit to the district engineer. A preliminary resource review encompasses a search radius of 2 miles, centered on the project area, and consists of the following resources:

(1) OHPO United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' series topographic maps;
(2) Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) files;
(3) Ohio Historic Inventory files (OHI);
(4) OHPO Cultural Resources Management (CRM)/contract archaeology files;
(5) National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) files including Historic Districts; and
(6) County atlases, histories and historic USGS 15' series topographic map(s).

As an alternative to submitting the information described above, the applicant may choose to complete the Ohio Historic Preservation Office Section 106 Review Project Summary Form or request comments from the Ohio Historic Preservation Office and district engineer on specific requirements appropriate to the particular circumstances of the project. Similarly, the applicant may choose to hire someone 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) to conduct what they recommend to be appropriate historic property identification efforts (e.g. archeological survey and/or historic structure inventories) to expedite the review process. Be advised, undertaking identification efforts prior to consideration of the potential of the proposed activity to affect historic properties by the Corps in not without risk. It is possible that previous efforts could be determined insufficient or even potentially unnecessary once reviewed by the Corps and other consulting parties.

Upon receipt and review of the information listed above, the Corps will evaluate the submittal. If the Corps determines the proposed activity has the potential to cause effects to a historic property, the Corps will seek consulting parties. In consultation with those parties, the Corps will scope appropriate historic property identification efforts and take into account the effect of the proposed activity on historic properties.

(d) National Wild and Scenic Rivers: Prior to submitting Notifications 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 Nationwide Permit General Condition 16.

(e) 401 Water Quality Certification: For activities that result in between 1/10 and ½ acre of loss of waters of the U.S., **two copies** of the Notification must be submitted. In order to determine if a project meets the terms and conditions of Ohio EPA's 401 water quality certification the following additional information must be submitted:

1) To determine the quality of the wetlands on the site, all wetland delineations must include the latest approved version of the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method (ORAM) for wetland evaluation **long form**; and

2) Photographs of all the waterbodies.

Prior to submitting Notifications, the applicant may contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water by writing to (614) 644-2001 at P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049 and request verification of the ORAM score of the wetlands on the site to expedite the permit process. All relevant information obtained from Ohio EPA should be submitted with the Notification.

(f) Agency Coordination: In an effort to expedite full agency permit review, it is requested that the applicant submit five (5) copies of the Notification package when the Notification requires full agency coordination in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 (d)(2). Applicants are encouraged to submit this information in electronic format as CDs, in order to minimize the use of paper.

(g) Floodplain Coordination: All Notifications must include a copy of the applicable FIRM map. You can get a FIRMette free from: http://www.msc.fema.gov. From this page select the "Product Catalog" tab at the top. Then select "Effective FIRMs /FHBMs". The choices allow you to select a state and county. Then you follow the instructions to create a FIRMette. In addition, from the same web-site, you can obtain a FIRMette for a specific address. From http://www.msc.fema.gov **conduct a "Product Search" for "Public Flood Map" and then follow the instructions to create a FIRMette.**

Note 1: In circumstances where there is another lead Federal agency with set procedures for addressing Endangered Species, Cultural Resources, and National Wild and Scenic River Coordination, the applicant can submit documentation showing the coordination has already been completed instead of submitting the additional Notification information requested above.

Note 2: Nationwide Permit General Condition 31 requires the applicant to include a delineation of special aquatic sites and all other waters of the U.S. on the project site. Special aquatic sites include sanctuaries and refuges, wetlands, mudflats, vegetated shallows, coral reefs, and riffle and pool complexes.

G. Definitions

Best management practices (BMPs): Policies, practices, procedures, or structures implemented to mitigate the adverse environmental effects on surface water quality resulting from development. BMPs are categorized as structural or non-structural.

Compensatory mitigation: The restoration (re-establishment or rehabilitation), establishment (creation), enhancement, and/or in certain circumstances preservation of aquatic resources for the purposes of offsetting unavoidable adverse impacts which remain after all appropriate and practicable avoidance and minimization has been achieved.

Currently serviceable: Useable as is or with some maintenance, but not so degraded as to essentially require reconstruction.

Direct effects: Effects that are caused by the activity and occur at the same time and place.

Discharge: The term "discharge" means any discharge of dredged or fill material.

Enhancement: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of an aquatic resource to heighten, intensify, or improve a specific aquatic resource function(s). Enhancement results in the gain of selected aquatic resource function(s), but may also lead to a decline in other aquatic resource function(s). Enhancement does not result in a gain in aquatic resource area.

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

Establishment (creation): The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics present to develop an aquatic resource that did not previously exist at an upland site. Establishment results in a gain in aquatic resource area.

High Tide Line: The line of intersection of the land with the water's surface at the maximum height reached by a rising tide. The high tide line may be determined, in the absence of actual data, by a line of oil or scum along shore objects, a more or less continuous deposit of fine shell or debris on the foreshore or berm, other physical markings or characteristics, vegetation lines, tidal gages, or other suitable means that delineate the general height reached by a rising tide. The line encompasses spring high tides and other high tides that occur with periodic frequency but does not include storm surges in which there is a departure from the normal or predicted reach of the tide due to the piling up of water against a coast by strong winds such as those accompanying a hurricane or other intense storm.

Historic Property: Any prehistoric or historic district, site (including archaeological site), building, structure, or other object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. This term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization and that meet the National Register criteria (36 CFR part 60).

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

Indirect effects: Effects that are caused by the activity and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable.

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

Loss of waters of the United States: Waters of the United States that are permanently adversely affected by filling, flooding, excavation, or drainage because of the regulated activity. Permanent adverse effects include permanent discharges of dredged or fill material that change an aquatic area to dry land, increase the bottom elevation of a waterbody, or change the use of a waterbody. The acreage of loss of waters of the United States is a threshold measurement of the impact to jurisdictional waters for determining whether a project may qualify for an NWP; it is not a net threshold that is calculated after considering compensatory mitigation that may be used to offset losses of aquatic functions and services. The loss of stream bed includes the linear feet of stream bed that is filled or excavated. Waters of the United States temporarily filled, flooded, excavated, or drained, but restored to pre-construction contours and elevations after construction, are not included in the measurement of loss of waters of the United States. Impacts resulting from activities eligible for exemptions under Section 404(f) of the Clean Water Act are not considered when calculating the loss of waters of the United States.

Non-tidal wetland: A non-tidal wetland is a wetland that is not subject to the ebb and flow of tidal waters. The definition of a wetland can be found at 33 CFR 328.3(b). Non-tidal wetlands contiguous to tidal waters are located landward of the high tide line (i.e., spring high tide line).

Open water: For purposes of the NWPs, an open water is any area that in a year with normal patterns of precipitation has water flowing or standing above ground to the extent that an ordinary high water mark can be determined. Aquatic vegetation within the area of standing or flowing water is either non-emergent, sparse, or absent. Vegetated shallows are considered to be open waters. Examples of "open waters" include rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds.

Ordinary High Water Mark: An ordinary high water mark is a line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics, or by other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas (see 33 CFR 328.3(e)).

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

Practicable: Available and capable of being done after taking into consideration cost, existing technology, and logistics in light of overall project purposes.

Pre-construction notification: A request submitted by the project proponent to the Corps for confirmation that a particular activity is authorized by nationwide permit. The request may be a permit application, letter, or similar document that includes information about the proposed work and its anticipated environmental effects. Pre-construction notification may be required by the terms and conditions of a nationwide permit, or by regional conditions. A pre-construction

notification may be voluntarily submitted in cases where pre-construction notification is not required and the project proponent wants confirmation that the activity is authorized by nationwide permit.

Preservation: The removal of a threat to, or preventing the decline of, aquatic resources by an action in or near those aquatic resources. This term includes activities commonly associated with the protection and maintenance of aquatic resources through the implementation of appropriate legal and physical mechanisms. Preservation does not result in a gain of aquatic resource area or functions.

Re-establishment: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former aquatic resource. Re-establishment results in rebuilding a former aquatic resource and results in a gain in aquatic resource area and functions.

Rehabilitation: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of repairing natural/historic functions to a degraded aquatic resource. Rehabilitation results in a gain in aquatic resource function, but does not result in a gain in aquatic resource area.

Restoration: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former or degraded aquatic resource. For the purpose of tracking net gains in aquatic resource area, restoration is divided into two categories: re-establishment and rehabilitation.

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

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

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

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

Single and complete non-linear project: For non-linear projects, the term "single and complete project" is defined at 33 CFR 330.2(i) as the total project proposed or accomplished by one owner/developer or partnership or other association of owners/developers. A single and complete non-linear project must have independent utility (see definition of "independent utility"). Single and complete non-linear projects may not be "piecemealed" to avoid the limits in an NWP authorization.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Waterbody: For purposes of the NWPs, a waterbody is a jurisdictional water of the United States. If a jurisdictional wetland is adjacent – meaning bordering, contiguous, or neighboring – to a waterbody determined to be a water of the United States under 33 CFR 328.3(a)(1)-(6), that waterbody and its adjacent wetlands are considered together as a single aquatic unit (see 33 CFR 328.4(c)(2)). Examples of "waterbodies" include streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands.