NATIONWIDE PERMITS FOR THE STATE OF OHIO

Public Notice

U S Army Corps of Engineers
Huntington District
Buffalo District
Pittsburgh District

In reply refer to Public Notice No. LRH-2016-00006-OH

Issuance Date: March 21, 2017

Stream: **N/A**

Closing Date: March 18, 2022

Please address all comments and inquiries to:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District
ATTN: CELRH-RD-N
502 8th Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070
Phone: (304) 399-5210

CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGULATORY PROGRAM
REISSUANCE AND ISSUANCE OF NATIONWIDE PERMITS

WITH OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
and
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES CONSISTENCY
DETERMINATION UNDER THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT

On January 6, 2017, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) published in the Federal Register (82 FR 1860) the final rule for the administration of its nationwide permit (NWP) 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, 2017. These NWPs will expire on March 18, 2022.

An integral part of the Corps' regulatory program is the concept of 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 are issued by the Chief of Engineers and are intended to apply throughout the entire U.S. 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 NWPs are not valid until the appropriate state agency certifies the discharge does not violate state water quality standards. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) granted water quality certification and imposed general conditions on NWP 19, and specific conditions on NWP nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 23, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 49, 51, and 53.

The OEPA denied water quality certification for NWP 17-*Hydropower Projects*, NWP

21- *Surface Coal Mining Activities*, NWP 44-*Mining Activities*, NWP 46-*Discharges in Ditches* **(revoked for use in Ohio)**, NWP 48-*Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities*, NWP 50-*Underground Coal Mining Activitie*s, and NWP 52-*Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects* **(revoked for use in Ohio)**. Discharges that are NOT included in OEPA's certification of the NWPs must obtain either individual water quality certification or a waiver from:

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

In addition, any state with a federally-approved Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) plan must agree with the Corps determination that the activities authorized by NWPs which are within, or will affect any land or water uses or natural resources of the state's coastal zone, are consistent with the CZMA plan. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) concurred with the Corps Federal Consistency Determination on NWPs nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 48, 49, 50, 51, and 53, and imposed specific conditions on NWP nos. 3, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 36, and 54. Activities which are NOT included in ODNR's concurrence of the NWPs must obtain a project specific CZMA consistency determination from:

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

Some NWP activities may proceed without notifying the Corps, as long as those activities comply with all applicable terms and conditions of the NWPs, including regional conditions imposed by division engineers. A non-reporting NWP may become a reporting NWP (requires the submittal of a Pre-Construction Notification [PCN] to the Corps in accordance with NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6) if the activity has the potential to affect a historic property (See NWP General Condition 20), federally-listed endangered or threatened species or their habitat (See NWP General Condition 18), waters of special concern (Regional General Condition 5), National Wild and Scenic Rivers (See NWP General Condition 16 and Regional General Condition 6(d)) or waters listed in Regional General Condition 4 during the in-water restriction periods established by the ODNR. **Applicants must review the water quality certification general and NWP-specific terms and conditions and submit an application to the OEPA, at the address provided above, when an individual 401 Water Quality Certification is required.**

Many of the proposed NWPs require advance notification (PCN) to the district engineer before commencing those activities, to ensure that the activities authorized by those NWPs cause no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects. The notification must be made in writing as early as possible prior to commencing the proposed activity. The

notification procedures are located under NWP General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6. The notification to the Corps can be made concurrently with the request for individual state water quality 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, on the aquatic environment 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 NWP 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

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

HUNTINGTON DISTRICT

Address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070
Phone: (304) 399-5210

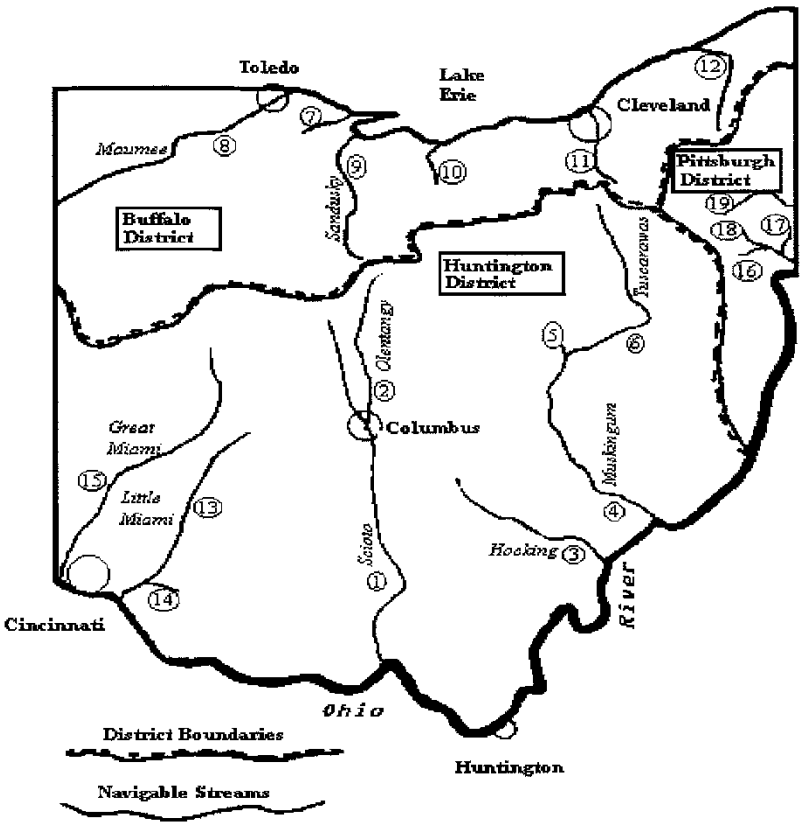
LOUISVILLE DISTRICT

Address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District
Post Office Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059
Phone: (502) 315-6733

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

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

Below is a map showing the district boundaries for 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.

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A. Special Note. For NWPs that do not require pre-construction notification to the Corps, it is an applicant's responsibility to review the Water Quality Certification general and NWP-specific terms and conditions and submit information to the OEPA as required by their water quality certification. Many high quality waters in Ohio require an individual 401 or authorization. A project that meets the terms and conditions of a NWP with no Pre-Construction Notification to the Corps is only valid when accompanied by a blanket or individual 401 Water Quality Certification from the OEPA. No work in waters of the United States may commence until the required 401 water quality certification (or waiver) has been obtained from the OEPA. For a map of waters where projects will be required to have an individual 401 or authorization from Ohio EPA for the NWP to be valid, please select the Nationwide Permit tab located at www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/401/permitting.aspx or contact the OEPA at:

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Surface Water
Lazarus Government Center
50 West Town Street, Suite 700
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 644-2001

B. Nationwide Permits Regional General Conditions (Applies to All Nationwide Permits):

1. Nationwide Permits shall not authorize any activity which negatively 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 has an adverse impact on littoral transport within Lake Erie.

4. **In-Water Work Exclusion Dates:** Any regulated work associated with a nationwide permit cannot take place during the restricted period of the following Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) In-Water Work Restrictions, unless the applicant receives advanced written approval from the ODNR and notifies the district engineer in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 and receives written approval from the Corps:

Location	**Restricted Period**
Percid streams a	3/15 - 6/30
Salmonid streams b	9/15 - 6/30
Other streams c	4/15 - 6/30

a. **Great Miami River** (dam south of New Baltimore to mouth), **Hocking River** (falls at White's Mill to mouth), **Little Miami River** (dam at Waynesville to mouth), **Maumee River** (split dam at Grand Rapids to mouth), **Maumee Bay**, **Muskingum River** (Devola Dam No.2 north of Marietta to mouth), **Ohio Brush Creek** (S.R. 32 bridge to mouth), **Ohio River** (entire reach), **Portage River** (entire reach), **Sandusky River** (first dam to mouth), **Sandusky Bay**, **Scioto River** (S.R. 207 bridge north of Chillicothe to mouth), **Toussaint River** (entire reach).

b. **Arcola Creek** (entire reach), **Ashtabula River** (Hadlock Rd. to mouth), **Ashtabula Harbor**, **Aurora Branch** (Chagrin River (RM 0.38 to mouth)), **Big Creek** (Grand River (Girdled Road to mouth)), **Black River** (entire reach), **Chagrin River** (Chagrin Falls to mouth), **Cold Creek** (entire reach), **Conneaut Creek** (entire reach), **Conneaut Harbor**, **Corporation Creek** (Chagrin River (entire reach)), **Cowles Creek** (entire reach), **Ellison Creek** (Grand River (entire reach)), **Euclid Creek** (entire reach), **Grand River** (dam at Harpersfield Covered Bridge Park to mouth), **Fairport Harbor**, **Gulley Brook** (Chagrin River (entire reach)), **Huron River** (East Branch-West Branch confluence to mouth) **Indian Creek** (entire reach), **Kellogg Creek** (Grand River (entire reach)), **Mill Creek** (Grand River (entire reach)), **Paine Creek** (Grand River (Paine Falls to mouth)), **Rocky River** (East Branch-West Branch confluence to mouth), **Smokey Run** (Conneaut Creek (entire reach)), **Turkey Creek** (entire reach), **Vermilion River** (dam at Wakeman upstream of the US 20 & SR 60 bridge to mouth), **Ward Creek** (Chagrin River (entire reach)), **Wheeler Creek** (entire reach), **Whitman Creek** (entire reach).

c. **Exceptional Warmwater Habitat, Cold Water Habitat, Warmwater Habitat,** or streams with known occurrences of threatened and/or endangered (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 1: To determine the defined Aquatic Life Habitat designation for a stream and project segment, refer to: www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/rules/3745_1.aspx

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

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

a. **Endangered Species and Threatened Species:** Due to the potential presence of federally threatened or endangered species or their habitats, Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32, Regional General Condition 6 and General Condition 18 is required for any regulated activity in jurisdictional waters of the United States in Ohio that includes:

- the removal of trees providing suitable roosting, foraging, or traveling habitat for the federally-listed endangered Indiana bat and the federally-listed threatened northern long-

eared bat. Suitable roosting, foraging, and traveling habitat is defined as forests, woodlots, fencerows comprised of trees, riparian forests, or other wooded corridors containing live trees and/or snags ≥3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh). Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they are ≥3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) and have any exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, hollows and/or cavities and are located within 1,000 feet (305 meters) of other forested/wooded habitat; or

- regulated work in the waterway or township of the corresponding counties listed in Appendix 1.

*__Note 1:__ Applicants must ensure they are referencing the latest version of Appendix 1 by contacting their nearest Corps district office and visiting the online resources identified in General Condition 18(f) of these NWPs, since federally-listed species are continuously listed, proposed for listing, and/or de-listed.

*__Note 2:__ 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, including applicants that have received federal funding, must provide the district engineer with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements.

*__Note 3:__ Suitable summer habitat for the federally-listed endangered Indiana bat and the federally-listed threatened northern long-eared bat consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and travel and may also include some adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, old fields and pastures. This includes forests and woodlots containing potential roosts (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) that have any exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, hollows and/or cavities), as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. These wooded areas may be dense or loose aggregates of trees with variable amounts of canopy closure. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet (305 meters) of other forested/wooded habitat.

*__Note 4:__ Appendix 1 is not applicable to the federally-listed endangered Indiana bat and the federally-listed threatened northern long-eared bat as both of these mammal species are known to occur throughout the State of Ohio. Appendix 1 column 1 is specific to federally-listed endangered, threatened, or proposed federally-listed endangered or threatened aquatic species (i.e. mussels and fish). Appendix 1 column 2 is specific to federally-listed endangered, threatened, or proposed federally-listed endangered or threatened semi-aquatic and terrestrial species (i.e. insects, birds, reptiles, amphibians).

b. **Critical Resource Waters:**

- In Ohio, two areas have been designated critical habitat for the piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) and are defined as lands 0.62 mile inland from normal high water line. Unit OH-1 extends from the mouth of Sawmill Creek to the western property boundary of Sheldon Marsh State Natural Area, Erie County, encompassing approximately 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.

- In Ohio, three areas have been designated critical habitat for the rabbitsfoot mussel (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*). Unit RF26 includes 17.5 rkm (10.9 rmi) of the Walhonding River from the convergence of the Kokosing and Mohican Rivers downstream to Ohio Highway 60 near Warsaw, Coshocton County, Ohio. Unit RF27 includes 33.3 rkm (20.7 rmi) of Little Darby Creek from Ohio Highway 161 near Chuckery, Union County, Ohio, downstream to U.S. Highway 40 near West Jefferson, Madison County, Ohio. Unit RF29 includes 7.7 rkm (4.8 rmi) of Fish Creek from the Indiana and Ohio State line northwest of Edgerton, Ohio, downstream to its confluence with the St. Joseph's River north of Edgerton, Williams County, Ohio.

- Old Woman Creek National Estuarine Research Preserve.

c. **Oak Openings:** Wetland activities conducted in the Oak Openings Region of Northwest Ohio located in Lucas, Henry, and Fulton counties. For a map of the Oak Openings Region, visit http://metroparkstoledo.com/media/2340/oak-openings-metropark.pdf

6. **PCN Submittals:** In addition to the information required under Nationwide Permit General Condition 32, the following information must be provided with the PCN:

a. **Illustrations/Drawings:** The illustrations/drawings must clearly depict the project boundaries and include all elements and phases of the proposed work, latitude and longitude of the project site, and the county where the proposed work would occur. Three types of illustrations or drawings are required to properly depict the work proposed 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 or drawing should identify the project, the applicant, and the type of illustration (vicinity map, plan view or cross-section). In addition, each illustration or drawing should be identified with a figure or attachment number.

b. **United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS):** Sufficient information must be provided in the PCN to determine the proposed activity's compliance with NWP General Condition 18. Prior to submitting PCN, 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, or by writing to 4625 Morse Road, Suite 104, Columbus, Ohio 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. Federal Candidate species are those for which the USFWS has sufficient information to propose them as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act, but for which a listing proposal is precluded by other higher priority listing activities. All relevant information obtained from the USFWS should be submitted with the Notification.

c. **Cultural Resources:** Sufficient information must be provided in the PCN to determine the proposed activity's compliance with NWP General Condition 20. The PCN should 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 (NRHP). This data

will be used 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:

- 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;

- 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;

- 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;

- Information regarding any past cultural resource studies or coordination pertinent to the project area, if available; and

- Any other data the applicant deems pertinent.

The applicant is encouraged to consult with the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (OSHPO) staff and 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 two (2) miles, centered on the project area, and consists of the following resources:

- OSHPO United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' series topographic maps;

- Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) files;

- Ohio Historic Inventory files (OHI);

- OSHPO Cultural Resources Management (CRM)/contract archaeology files;

- NRHP files including Historic Districts; and

- 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 OSHPO Section 106 Review Project Summary Form or request comments from the OSHPO and the 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. archaeological 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 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 a PCN for work in a National Wild and Scenic River System, it is recommended that the applicant contact the National Park Service Regional Wild and Scenic Rivers Specialist, at the Midwest Regional Office, 601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha, Nebraska 68102, for assistance in complying with Nationwide Permit General Condition 17. Any determination provided by the National Park Service should be submitted with the PCN. The following are components of the National Wild and Scenic River System and require PCN to the Corps:

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. **Agency Coordination:** To assist in agency coordination, a complete compact disc (CD) copy shall be submitted for any PCN Package greater than 15 pages and/or includes maps, drawings, spreadsheets or other similar materials which are larger than 8.5 inches by 11 inches. All files saved on the CD shall be in .pdf format. A hard copy of any oversized maps, drawings, spreadsheets etc. in the PCN package shall be submitted and accompany the complete CD. An index or table of contents shall be provided and correspond with each file saved on the CD and/or within the PCN hard copy.

APPENDIX 1 TO REGIONAL GENERAL CONDITION 5 (a)		
County	**Waterway (aquatic species)**	**Township (semi-aquatic and terrestrial species)**
Adams	Ohio River, Scioto Brush Creek, South Fork Scioto Brush Creek	Sprigg
Ashtabula	Grand River, Pymatuning Creek	All townships
Athens	Ohio River	Alexander, Ames, Athens, Bern, Dover, Lee, Trimble, Waterloo, York
Brown	East Fork Little Miami River, Ohio River	Huntington
Butler	Great Miami River	
Champaign		Mad River, Salem, Urbana
Clark	Little Miami River	All townships
Clermont	East Fork Little Miami River, Little Miami River, Ohio River	Miami, Pierce, Union
Clinton		Chester
Columbiana		Butler, Hanover
Coshocton	Killbuck Creek, Muskingum River, Walhonding River	
Crawford		Auburn, Bucyrus, Cranberry
Cuyahoga		Within 3 miles of the shore of Lake Erie in Brooklyn, Cleveland, Dover, East Cleveland, Euclid, Newburgh, Rockport, West Park
Darke	Stillwater River	
Defiance	St. Joseph River	Milford
Delaware	Mill Creek, Olentangy River	
Erie		Margaretta; within 3 miles of the shore of Lake Erie in Berlin, Huron, Perkins, Sandusky, and Vermillion
Fairfield		Walnut
Fayette		Concord, Green, Jasper, Jefferson

APPENDIX 1 TO REGIONAL GENERAL CONDITION 5 (a)		
Franklin	Big Darby Creek, Little Darby Creek, Scioto River	
Fulton	Swan Creek	
Gallia	Ohio River	
Greene	Little Miami River	Bath, Spring Valley
Hamilton	Great Miami River, Little Miami River, Ohio River	Colerain, Columbia, Crosby, Miami, Spencer, Sycamore, Symmes, Whitewater
Hancock	Blanchard River	
Hardin	Blanchard River	Blanchard, Hale, Jackson, Roundhead
Hocking		Benton, Green, Laurel, Marion, Starr, Ward, Washington
Holmes		All townships
Huron		New Haven, Richmond
Jackson		Liberty
Lake	Grand River	Within 3 miles of the shore of Lake Erie in Madison, Mentor, Painesville, Willoughby
Lawrence	Ohio River	Decatur, Rome, Union
Licking		Union
Logan	Great Miami River	Perry, Stokes, Zane
Lorain		Within 3 miles of the shore of Lake Erie in Amherst, Avon, Black River, Brownhelm, and Sheffield
Lucas	Swan Creek	All townships
Madison	Big Darby Creek, Little Darby Creek	
Mahoning		All townships
Marion	Tymochtee Creek	Big Island, Bowling Green, Grand, Montgomery, Salt Rock
Meigs	Ohio River	
Miami	Great Miami River, Stillwater River	
Montgomery	Great Miami River, Stillwater River	Mad River
Morgan	Muskingum River	Deerfield, Homer, Malta, Marion, Penn, Union
Muskingum	Muskingum River	
Ottawa		All townships
Perry		Bearfield, Coal, Monroe, Pike, Pleasant, Salt Lick
Pickaway	Big Darby Creek, Scioto River	

APPENDIX 1 TO REGIONAL GENERAL CONDITION 5 (a)		
Pike	Scioto River	
Portage		All townships
Preble		Gasper, Somers
Richland		Plymouth
Ross	Salt Creek, Scioto River	Colerain
Sandusky		All townships
Scioto	Ohio River, Scioto Brush Creek, Scioto River, South Fork Scioto Brush Creek	Nile, Rush, Union
Shelby	Great Miami River	
Summit		Tallmadge
Trumbull	Pymatuning Creek	All townships
Union	Big Darby Creek, Little Darby Creek, Mill Creek, Treacle Creek	
Vinton		Brown, Elk, Knox, Madison, Swan
Warren	Great Miami River, Little Miami River	Salem, Turtle Creek, Wayne
Washington	Muskingum River, Ohio River	
Wayne		All townships
Williams	Fish Creek, St. Joseph River	Bridgewater, Center, Florence, Jefferson, Madison, Northwest, St. Joseph, Superior
Wyandot	Tymochtee Creek	Marseilles, Mifflin, Pitt

C. **Nationwide Permit Terms and Specific Regional Conditions:**

1. ***Aids to Navigation***. The placement of aids to navigation and regulatory markers that are approved by and installed in accordance with the requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard (see 33 CFR, chapter I, subchapter C, part 66). (Authority: Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (Section 10))

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

Corps NWP 2 Specific Regional Condition:

> PCN in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 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. This NWP also authorizes the removal of previously authorized structures or fills. Any stream channel modification is limited to the minimum necessary for the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of the structure or fill; such modifications, including the removal of material from the stream channel, must be immediately adjacent to the project. This NWP also authorizes the removal of accumulated sediment and debris within, and in the immediate vicinity of, the structure or fill. This NWP also authorizes the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of those structures or fills destroyed or damaged by storms, floods, fire or other discrete events, provided the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement is commenced, or is under contract to commence, within two years of the date of their destruction or damage. In cases of catastrophic events, such as hurricanes or tornadoes, this two-year limit may be waived by the district engineer, provided the permittee can demonstrate funding, contract, or other similar delays.

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

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

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

Notification: For activities authorized by paragraph (b) of this NWP, the permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity (see

general condition 32). The pre-construction notification must include information regarding the original design capacities and configurations of the outfalls, intakes, small impoundments, and canals. (Authorities: Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and section 404 of the Clean Water Act (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.

Corps NWP 3 Specific Regional Conditions:

a. PCN in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for the following activities:

   - The replacement of any permanent vertical bulkhead greater than one foot waterward of the original alignment. A vertical bulkhead is defined as any structure, or fill, with a vertical face. It may be constructed of timber, steel, concrete, etc.;
   - Activities in Section 10 waters that involve the discharge of greater than 10 cubic yards of dredged and/or fill material below the ordinary high water mark;
   - For temporary structures, work, and discharges (including cofferdams) necessary for access fills or dewatering of construction sites occurring in Section 10 waters when the primary activity is otherwise authorized by the Corps of Engineers. The PCN must include a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre-project conditions;
   - All activities in the Ohio River and the Muskingum River; and
   - Any stream channel modification that exceeds a distance of 50 feet upstream and 50 feet downstream of the structure.

b. The placement of any new rip-rap when associated with an existing bridge or similar structure is limited to a total of 200 feet extending in either direction from the structure unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects..

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

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide

permit.

2. Temporary or permanent impacts to category 3 wetlands are limited to less than 0.1 acres for activities involving the repair, maintenance, replacement, or safety upgrades to existing infrastructure that meets the definition of public need. Ohio EPA will make the determination if a project meets public need during the ORAM verification process.

3. Temporary or permanent impacts to category 1 and category 2 wetlands are limited to 0.50 acres.

4. This certification does not authorize the replacement of existing structures that are open to the flow of water with structures that are not open to the flow of water.

5. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

6. Replacement vertical bulkheads shall not be placed more than an average of one foot waterward of the intersection of the ordinary high water mark of the waterbody and the existing shoreline.

7. Removal of accumulated sediment shall occur only once per year and shall be limited to low-flow conditions, except in cases of emergency situations that threaten life or property.

8. For projects which involve temporary impacts to wetlands: upon the cessation of earth moving activities, any hydric topsoil removed from a wetland shall be separated and saved for later placement as the topmost backfill layer when the wetland is restored to grade.

Ohio CZMA Federal Consistency Determination Condition:

For all activities located within or along the shore of Ohio's portion of Lake Erie, including Maumee Bay and Sandusky bay, all applicable authorizations under the Ohio Coastal Management Program must be obtained.

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

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

a. category 3 wetlands;

b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

e. state wild and scenic rivers;

f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

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

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

   a. category 3 wetlands;

   b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

   c. state wild and scenic rivers;

d. national wild and scenic rivers; and

e. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

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. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Corps NWP 6 Specific Regional Condition:

Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for the discharge of greater than 25 cubic yards of dredged and/or fill material into streams.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts, other than the backfilling of exploratory-type bore holes less than or equal to 12 inches in diameter, are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

   a. category 3 wetlands;

   b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

   c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

e. state wild and scenic rivers;

f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

4. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

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.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Except for maintenance activities authorized under this nationwide permit, individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

   a. category 3 wetlands;

   b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

   c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

   d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

   e. state wild and scenic rivers;

   f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

   g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

Ohio CZMA Federal Consistency Determination Condition:

For all activities located within or along the shore of Ohio's portion of Lake Erie, including Maumee Bay and Sandusky bay, all applicable authorizations under the Ohio Coastal Management Program must be obtained.

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

10. ***Mooring Buoys.*** Non-commercial, single-boat, mooring buoys. (Authority: 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 managers must approve each buoy or marker individually. (Authority: Section 10)

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

Utility lines: This NWP authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States and structures or work in navigable waters for crossings of those waters associated with the construction, maintenance, or repair of utility lines, including outfall and intake structures. There must be no change in pre-construction contours of waters of the United States. A “utility line” is defined as any pipe or pipeline for the transportation of any gaseous, liquid, liquescent, or slurry substance, for any purpose, and any cable, line, or wire for the transmission

for any purpose of electrical energy, telephone, and telegraph messages, and internet, 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 authorizes, to the extent that Department of the Army authorization is required, temporary structures, fills, and work necessary for the remediation of inadvertent returns of drilling fluids to waters of the United States through sub-soil fissures or fractures that might occur during horizontal directional drilling activities conducted for the purpose of installing or replacing utility lines. These remediation activities must be done as soon as practicable, to

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

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

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

Note 1: Where the 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, a copy of the 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: For utility line activities crossing a single waterbody more than one time at separate and distant locations, or multiple waterbodies at separate and distant locations, each crossing is considered a single and complete project for purposes of NWP authorization. Utility line activities must comply with 33 CFR 330.6(d).

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

Note 4: 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 5: 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 6: This NWP authorizes utility line maintenance and repair activities that do not qualify for the Clean Water Act section 404(f) exemption for maintenance of currently serviceable fills or fill structures.

Note 7: 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.

Note 8: For NWP 12 activities that require pre-construction notification, the PCN must include any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity, including other separate and distant crossings that require Department of the Army authorization but do not require pre-construction notification (see paragraph (b) of general condition 32). The district engineer will evaluate the PCN in accordance with Section D, "District Engineer's Decision." The district engineer may require mitigation to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects (see general condition 23).

Corps NWP 12 Specific Regional Conditions:

a. PCN in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for all permanent conversion to scrub/shrub and forested wetlands and for greater than 1/10 acre of temporary discharge of dredged or fill material into all wetlands.

b. The PCN must include a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre-project conditions.

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

d. This nationwide permit does not authorize the placement of manholes in wetlands.

e. Excess material must be removed to upland areas immediately upon completion of construction.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Except for maintenance activities authorized under this nationwide permit, individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 1 or 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

b. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

c. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

d. state wild and scenic rivers;

e. national wild and scenic rivers; and

f. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. Temporary or permanent impacts to category 3 wetlands are limited to less than 0.1 acres for activities involving the repair, maintenance, replacement, or safety upgrades to existing infrastructure that meets the definition of public need. Ohio EPA will make the determination if a project meets public need during the ORAM verification process.

4. Temporary or permanent impacts as a result of stream crossings shall not exceed a total of three per stream mile per stream.

5. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

6. All hydric soils up to 12 inches in depth within wetlands shall be stockpiled and replaced as the topmost backfill layer. Best management practices, such as silt fencing and soil stabilization, shall be implemented to reduce erosion and sediment run-off into adjacent wetlands.

7. Buried utility lines shall be installed at a 90-degree angle to the stream bank to the maximum extent practicable. When a 90-degree angle is not possible, the length of any buried utility line within any single water body shall not exceed twice the width of that water body at the location of the crossing.

8. The total width of any excavation, grading or mechanized clearing of vegetation and soil shall not exceed a maximum of 50 feet.

Ohio CZMA Federal Consistency Determination Condition:

For all activities located within or along the shore of Ohio's portion of Lake Erie, including Maumee Bay and Sandusky bay, all applicable authorizations under the Ohio Coastal Management Program must be obtained.

13. ***Bank Stabilization.*** Bank stabilization activities necessary for erosion control or prevention, such as vegetative stabilization, bioengineering, sills, rip rap, revetment, gabion baskets, stream barbs, and bulkheads, or combinations of bank stabilization techniques, provided the activity meets all of the following criteria:

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

(b) The activity is no more than 500 feet in length along the bank, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects (an exception is for bulkheads – the district engineer cannot issue a waiver for a bulkhead that is greater than 1,000 feet in length along the bank);

(c) The activity will not exceed an average of one cubic yard per running foot, as measured along the length of the treated bank, below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the high tide line, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects;

(d) The activity does not involve discharges of dredged or fill material into special aquatic sites, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects;

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if the bank stabilization activity: (1) involves discharges 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 as measured along

the length of the treated bank, below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the high tide line. (See general condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Corps NWP 13 Specific Regional Conditions:

a. PCN in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for the following activities:

   - All activities in the Ohio River and the Muskingum River;
   - All activities in Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay that involve the discharge of greater than 10 cubic yards of dredge and/or fill material below the ordinary high water mark; and
   - The use of any vertical bulkhead. A vertical bulkhead is defined as any structure, or fill, with a vertical face. It may be constructed of timber, steel, concrete, etc.

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) mark (573.4 feet IGLD 1985), will be excavated down to clay or bedrock, and side cast into the nearshore area either immediately waterward or downdrift of the project area. Verification of the placement of the excavated material within the nearshore area shall be documented through the submittal of dated photographs and an accompanying photo location map to the district engineer within 30 days of commencement of the project.

c. For projects located along the shorelines of Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, a one-time sand prefill of two (2) cubic yards of sand per linear foot of shoreline stabilized shall be placed at an approved location in the nearshore area in less than three feet of water within 30 days of project commencement, unless the district engineer waives this requirement by making a written determination. Verification of the placement of the sand prefill material within the nearshore area shall be documented through the submittal of contractor's receipts, including the volume of sand prefill, dated photographs, and accompanying photo location map to the district engineer. The sand shall be from an upland source or other approved source and shall be similar in composition to the sand at the project site, free from organic material; limestone sand and top soil are excluded.

d. 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.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. Bioengineering techniques shall be utilized, if practicable.

4. Material used for bank stabilization shall be free from toxic contaminants in other than trace quantities, free of exposed rebar, and free of asphalt, tires, and debris.

5. Material used for bank stabilization may consist of rock, stone, vegetative erosion control measures, broken concrete rubble, and clean soil.

6. Vertical bulkheads shall not be placed more than one foot waterward of the intersection of the ordinary high water mark of the water body and the existing shoreline. Toe stone shall be placed at the base of the vertical bulkhead except in areas where the original shoreline is composed of bedrock and slopes are predominantly greater than 75 percent or where the placement of toe stone will interfere with shipping activity. When required, toe stone shall be placed at an average rate of one-third the total height of the exposed face of the vertical bulkhead at a 2:1 slope.

Ohio CZMA Federal Consistency Determination Condition:

For all activities located within or along the shore of Ohio's portion of Lake Erie, including Maumee Bay and Sandusky bay, all applicable authorizations under the Ohio Coastal Management Program must be obtained.

14. *Linear Transportation Projects.* Activities required for crossings of waters of the United States associated with the construction, expansion, modification, or improvement of linear transportation projects (e.g., roads, highways, railways, trails, 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, including the use of temporary mats, necessary to construct the linear transportation project. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain normal downstream flows and minimize flooding to the maximum extent practicable, when temporary structures, work, and discharges, 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 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

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

Note 2: Some discharges for the construction of farm roads or forest roads, or temporary roads for moving mining equipment, may qualify for an exemption under section 404(f) of the Clean Water Act (see 33 CFR 323.4).

Note 3: For NWP 14 activities that require pre-construction notification, the PCN must include any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity, including other separate and distant crossings that require Department of the Army authorization but do not require pre-construction notification (see paragraph (b) of general condition 32). The district engineer will evaluate the PCN in accordance with Section D, "District Engineer's Decision." The district engineer may require mitigation to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects (see general condition 23).

Corps NWP 14 Specific Regional Conditions:

a. PCN in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required all activities in Section 10 waters; and

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

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Except for maintenance activities authorized under this nationwide permit, individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres.

    b. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    c. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    d. state wild and scenic rivers;

    e. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    f. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. Temporary or permanent impacts to category 3 wetlands are limited to less than 0.1 acres for activities involving the repair, maintenance, replacement, or safety upgrades to existing infrastructure that meets the definition of public need. Ohio EPA will make the determination if a project meets public need during the ORAM verification process.

4. Temporary or permanent impacts as a result of stream crossings shall not exceed a total of three per stream mile per stream.

5. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

Ohio CZMA Federal Consistency Determination Condition:

For all activities located within or along the shore of Ohio's portion of Lake Erie, including Maumee Bay and Sandusky bay, all applicable authorizations under the Ohio Coastal Management Program must be obtained.

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 or other applicable laws. Causeways and approach fills are not included in this NWP and will require a separate section 404 permit. (Authority: Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (Section 404))

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

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. (Authority: Section 404)

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in the any of following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

e. state wild and scenic rivers;

f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. This nationwide permit shall be limited to the authorization of the disposal of materials dredged from sites where there are no known areas of contaminated sediments, provided best management practices are used to minimize adverse impacts to water quality.

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 32.) (Authority: Section 404)

Individual state water quality certification is required for use of this nationwide permit.

Ohio CZMA Federal Consistency Determination Condition:

For all activities located within or along the shore of Ohio's portion of Lake Erie, including Maumee Bay and Sandusky bay, all applicable authorizations under the Ohio Coastal Management Program must be obtained.

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.

Corps NWP 18 Specific Regional Condition:

For shore structure or bank stabilization projects located along the shorelines of Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, that will result in the permanent hardening or

filling of the existing shoreline all sand and gravel located below the proposed project, both below and above Ordinary High Water (OHW) mark (573.4 feet IGLD 1985), will be excavated down to clay or bedrock, and side cast into the nearshore area either immediately waterward or downdrift of the project area. Verification of the placement of the excavated material within the nearshore area shall be documented through the submittal of dated photographs and an accompanying photo location map to the district engineer within 30 days of commencement of the project.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.1 acre;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. This nationwide permit shall not authorize disposal of dredged material into Lake Erie where that is the primary project purpose.

Ohio CZMA Federal Consistency Determination Condition:

For all activities located within or along the shore of Ohio's portion of Lake Erie, including Maumee Bay and Sandusky bay, all applicable authorizations under the Ohio Coastal Management Program must be obtained.

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

deposited and retained in an area that has no waters of the United States unless otherwise specifically approved by the district engineer under separate authorization. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Corps NWP 19 Specific Regional Condition:

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

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

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

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. This certification does not authorize impacts, temporary or permanent, to wetlands for the purpose of spill response training exercises.

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

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

(b) The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States. The discharge must not cause the loss of 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 no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects. The loss of stream bed

plus any other losses of jurisdictional wetlands and waters caused by the NWP activity cannot exceed 1/2-acre. This NWP does not authorize discharges into tidal waters or non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters; and

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

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer and receive written authorization prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Individual state water quality certification is required for use of this nationwide permit.

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

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if: (1) the vessel is listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; or (2) the activity is conducted in a special aquatic site, including coral reefs and wetlands. (See general condition 32.) If 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. (Authorities: 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 possibility that shipwrecks may be historic properties.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

e. state wild and scenic rivers; and

f. national wild and scenic rivers.

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 the requirement to prepare an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment analysis, because it is included within a category of actions which neither individually nor cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment; and

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

The Office of the Chief of Engineers may require additional conditions, including 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 32). The activities that require pre-construction notification are listed in the appropriate Regulatory Guidance Letters. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Note: The agency or department may submit an application for an activity believed to be categorically excluded to the Office of the Chief of Engineers (Attn: CECW-CO). Prior to approval for authorization under this NWP of any agency's activity, the Office of the Chief of Engineers will solicit public comment. As of the date of issuance of this NWP, agencies with approved categorical exclusions are: the Bureau of Reclamation, Federal Highway Administration, and U.S. Coast Guard. Activities approved for authorization under this NWP as of the date of this notice are found in Corps Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-07, which is available at: http://www.usace.army.mil/Portals/2/docs/civilworks/RGLS/rgl05-07.pdf . Any future approved categorical exclusions will be announced in Regulatory Guidance Letters and posted on this same web site.

Corps NWP 23 Specific Regional Conditions:

a. PCN in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of this nationwide permit.

b. The PCN must include a copy of the Categorical Exclusion determination.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. This certification only authorizes activities described in 23 CFR Part 771.117 of the Federal Highway Administration regulations.

3. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in potentially eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

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. (Authority: 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. (Authority: Section 404)

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

26. [Reserved]

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

To be authorized by this NWP, the aquatic habitat restoration, enhancement, or establishment activity must be planned, designed, and implemented so that it results in aquatic habitat that resembles an ecological reference. An ecological reference may be based on the characteristics of an intact aquatic habitat or riparian area of the same type that exists in the region. An ecological reference may be based on a conceptual model developed from regional ecological knowledge of the target aquatic habitat type or riparian area.

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, rehabilitation, or re-establishment of riffle and pool stream structure; the placement of in-stream habitat structures; modifications of the stream bed and/or banks to enhance, rehabilitate, or re-establish stream meanders; the removal of stream barriers, such as undersized culverts, fords, and

grade control structures; 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 restore or enhance 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., the conversion of a 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 32), 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 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. (Authorities: 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.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. This certification does not authorize projects where the primary purpose of the project is not the restoration, enhancement and establishment of tidal and non-tidal wetlands and riparian areas and the restoration and enhancement of non-tidal streams and other non-tidal open waters.

3. Bank stabilization activities authorized under this nationwide permit must utilize bioengineering techniques.

4. This certification does not authorize impacts to more than 0.50 acres of category 2 forested wetlands associated with the construction of a wetland mitigation bank unless Ohio EPA is a signatory to an Interagency Review Team (IRT) instrument which addresses the impact.

5. Temporary and permanent impacts to category 3 wetlands are not authorized under this certification except for impacts to Lake Erie coastal wetlands[1], which are category 3 wetlands for the following reasons:

    a. the wetland scores less than 60 on the Quantitative Rating of the ORAM, is "hydrologically unrestricted" and contains a predominance of native species within vegetation communities (i.e., they are category 3 wetlands using the Narrative Rating of ORAM), but the wetland has been drained, farmed, or degraded and is unvegetated or sparsely vegetated with wetland annuals or is vegetated with one or several of the following species: *Butomus umbellatus, Lythrum salicaria, Myriophyllum spicatum, Najas minor, Phalaris arundinacea, Phragmites australis, Potamogeton crispus, and/*or *Typha angustifolia;* or

    b. the wetland is diked and managed ("hydrologically restricted"), scores less than 60 on the Quantitative Rating of ORAM, is a category 3 wetland using the Narrative Rating of ORAM because of the presence of state or federally threatened or endangered species, and/or because of the documented presence of significant breeding or non-breeding bird concentration areas, and the proposed activities will not destroy, jeopardize or adversely affect, either directly or indirectly, *the continued existence of the threatened or endangered species.*

6. Impacts to Lake Erie coastal wetlands described above that are authorized under this NWP are as follows (no other impacts to category 3 wetlands except those described below that occur at Lake Erie coastal wetlands are authorized by this certification):

    a. *Tile alteration*. Removing, altering, disabling drain tile or replacing perforated drain tile with non-perforated drain tile.

    b. *De-leveling.* Re-grading for the purposes of microtopography to enhance hydrologic diversity, including the creation of shallow scrapes, channels,

[1] "Lake Erie coastal wetland" means a wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish.

submerged islands and interconnected areas of deeper water is authorized. Final grade of any excavation, following topsoil replacement if applicable, shall not exceed 60-cm (approximately two feet). Replacement of the original excavated topsoil is required for all de-leveling activities except when the seed bank is dominated by invasive vegetation. In these cases, the area must be seeded by using a seed mix of native Ohio vegetation indigenous to the area/region where the project is located and appropriate for the hydrological regime present in the area. Excess spoils that are not able to be incorporated into the re-grading activities shall be deposited in adjacent non-wetland areas, used in other restoration activities listed in this paragraph or trucked to an upland area off-site.

c. *Ditch plugs and ditch fills.* Ditch plugs and water control structures: Disabling surface drains by filling lengths, provided that the surface drains originate on the property of the project sponsors and have no base flow or installing water control structures (e.g., riser structures, flap gates, fixed weirs, trickle tubes). Ditch plugs may include an emergency spillway to safely route flows back into the ditch below the plug.

d. *Earthen embankments*. Earthen fill structures that do not exceed 1.8 m (six feet) in height with side slopes of 3:1 or greater with less than 50 acre-feet of storage. The embankments may include rock or vegetated overflow structures to pass base-flow as needed.

e. *Interior dikes.* Earthen fill structures constructed within the interior of an existing diked and managed wetland for the purpose of improving management of hydrology in the diked wetland in order to facilitate control of invasive plant species, exclude or control invasive animal species, improve habitat features, etc.

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

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. The discharge must not cause the loss of 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 no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. This NWP does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters. The loss of stream bed plus any other losses of jurisdictional wetlands and waters caused by the NWP activity cannot exceed 1/2-acre.

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

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

Corps NWP 29 Specific Regional Condition:

Whenever a multiple-lot subdivision is submitted to the Corps of Engineers for review, it must be designed such that preserved, restored or established wetlands included as part of a compensatory mitigation plan are not located on the resulting private individual lots.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

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

erosion and sedimentation. This NWP does not authorize the construction of new dikes, roads, water control structures, or similar features associated with the management areas. The activity must not result in a net loss of aquatic resource functions and services. This NWP does not authorize the conversion of wetlands to uplands, impoundments, or other open water bodies. (Authority: Section 404)

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

Corps NWP 30 Specific Regional Condition:

PCN in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 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.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

31. ***Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities.*** Discharges of dredged or fill material resulting from activities associated with the maintenance of existing flood control facilities, including debris basins, retention/detention basins, levees, and channels that: (i) were previously authorized by the Corps by individual permit, general permit, or 33 CFR 330.3, or did not require a permit at the time they were constructed, or (ii) were constructed by the Corps and transferred to a non-Federal sponsor for operation and maintenance. Activities authorized by this NWP are

limited to those resulting from maintenance activities that are conducted within the "maintenance baseline," as described in the definition below. Discharges of dredged or fill materials associated with maintenance activities in flood control facilities in any watercourse that have previously been determined to be within the maintenance baseline are authorized under this NWP. To the extent that a Corps permit is required, this NWP authorizes the removal of vegetation from levees associated with the flood control project. This NWP does not authorize the removal of sediment and associated vegetation from natural water courses except when these activities have been included in the maintenance baseline. All dredged and excavated material must be deposited and retained in an area that has no waters of the United States unless otherwise specifically approved by the district engineer under separate authorization. Proper sediment controls must be used.

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

Mitigation: The district engineer will determine any required mitigation one-time only for impacts associated with maintenance work at the same time that the maintenance baseline is approved. Such one-time mitigation will be required when necessary to ensure that adverse environmental effects are no more than minimal, both individually and cumulatively. Such mitigation will only be required once for any specific reach of a flood control project. However, if one-time mitigation is required for impacts associated with maintenance activities, the district engineer will not delay needed maintenance, provided the district engineer and the permittee establish a schedule for identification, approval, development, construction and completion of any such required mitigation. Once the one-time mitigation described above has been completed, or a determination made that mitigation is not required, no further mitigation will be required for maintenance activities within the maintenance baseline (see Note, below). In determining

appropriate mitigation, the district engineer will give special consideration to natural water courses that have been included in the maintenance baseline and require mitigation and/or best management practices as appropriate.

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

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer before any maintenance work is conducted (see general condition 32). The pre-construction notification may be for activity-specific maintenance or for maintenance of the entire flood control facility by submitting a five-year (or less) maintenance plan. The pre-construction notification must include a description of the maintenance baseline and the disposal site for dredged or excavated material. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Note: If the maintenance baseline was approved by the district engineer under a prior version of NWP 31, and the district engineer imposed the one-time compensatory mitigation requirement on maintenance for a specific reach of a flood control project authorized by that prior version of NWP 31, during the period this version of NWP 31 is in effect (March 19, 2017, to March 18, 2022) the district engineer will not require additional compensatory mitigation for maintenance activities authorized by this NWP in that specific reach of the flood control project.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. This certification shall only authorize projects constructed by the Corps and maintained by the Corps or transferred by the Corps to a local sponsor.

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

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

(a) The activities authorized by this NWP cannot adversely affect more than 5 acres of non-tidal waters or 1 acre of tidal waters;

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

NWP; and

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

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

(iii) The terms of a final court decision, consent decree, settlement agreement, or 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; non-compliance of the terms and conditions of an NWP 32 authorization may result in an additional enforcement action (e.g., a Class I civil administrative penalty). Any authorization under this NWP is automatically revoked if the permittee does not comply with the terms of this NWP or the terms of the court decision, consent decree, or judicial/non-judicial settlement agreement. This NWP does not apply to any activities occurring after the date of the decision, decree, or agreement that are not for the purpose of mitigation, restoration, or environmental benefit. Before reaching any settlement agreement, the Corps will ensure compliance with the provisions of 33 CFR part 326 and 33 CFR 330.6(d)(2) and (e). (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. This certification does not authorize any project with impacts to category 3 wetlands; impacts to category 1 and category 2 wetlands that exceed three acres; or impacts to any stream in excess of 500 linear feet unless Ohio EPA has been informed, in writing, of each specific project that exceeds these criteria and based on this information, has not chosen to issue a State Administrative Order or Consent Order resulting from a State enforcement action.

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

fill must be entirely removed to an area that has no waters of the United States, dredged material must be returned to its original location, and the affected areas must be restored to 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 if the activity is conducted in navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters) (see general condition 32). The pre-construction notification must include a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre-project conditions. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

4. This certification does not authorize construction or maintenance or modification of marina basins;

5. This nationwide permit shall not authorize temporary construction access and dewatering associated with mining activities.

34. ***Cranberry Production Activities.*** Discharges of dredged or fill material for dikes, berms,

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

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer once during the period that this NWP is valid, and the NWP will then authorize discharges of dredge or fill material at an existing operation for the permit term, provided the 10-acre limit is not exceeded. (See general condition 32.) (Authority: Section 404)

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

35. ***Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins.*** The removal of accumulated sediment for maintenance of existing marina basins, access channels to marinas or boat slips, and boat slips to previously authorized depths or controlling depths for ingress/egress, whichever is less. All dredged material must be deposited and retained in an area that has no waters of the United States unless otherwise specifically approved by the district engineer under separate authorization. Proper sediment controls must be used for the disposal site. (Authority: Section 10)

Corps NWP 35 Specific Regional Condition:

PCN in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of this nationwide permit.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Temporary or permanent impacts to category 3 wetlands are not authorized under this certification.

3. Temporary or permanent impacts to category 1 and category 2 wetlands are limited to 0.50 acres.

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 no more than minimal adverse environmental effects;

(b) The boat ramp does not exceed 20 feet in width, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects;

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

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

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

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

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if: (1) The discharge into waters of the United States exceeds 50 cubic yards, or (2) the boat ramp exceeds 20 feet in width. (See general condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

NWP 36 Specific Regional Conditions:

a. PCN in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required discharges of dredged or fill material into wetlands, islands, island backchannels, embayments, and/or sites at the confluence of one stream with another.

b. PCN in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for any boat ramp proposed to be located within the area between the upstream and downstream arrival points of any Corps of Engineers lock and dam, or within 1,500 feet of any emergency-mooring cell at any lock.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. This nationwide permit shall not authorize boat ramps where dredging is required to establish and maintain water depths necessary for boat launching.

Ohio CZMA Federal Consistency Determination Condition:

For all activities located within or along the shore of Ohio's portion of Lake Erie, including Maumee Bay and Sandusky bay, all applicable authorizations under the Ohio Coastal Management Program must be obtained.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notification: Except in cases where there is an unacceptable hazard to life or a significant loss of property or economic hardship will occur, the permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity (see general condition 32). (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Unless authorized under procedures established in Part One: General Conditions F.4., above, individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

38. ***Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste.*** Specific activities required to effect the containment, stabilization, or removal of hazardous or toxic waste materials that are performed,

ordered, or sponsored by a government agency with established legal or regulatory authority. Court ordered remedial action plans or related settlements are also authorized by this NWP. This NWP does not authorize the establishment of new disposal sites or the expansion of existing sites used for the disposal of hazardous or toxic waste.

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

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

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Except for emergency response actions required to address immediate threats to public health or the environment, an individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. This certification shall only authorize projects that are performed, ordered or sponsored by state or federal government agency with established legal or regulatory authority.

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

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

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States. The discharge must not cause the loss of 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 no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. The loss of stream bed plus any other losses of jurisdictional wetlands and waters caused by the NWP activity cannot exceed 1/2-acre. 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 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

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

Corps NWP 39 Specific Regional Condition:

> Whenever a multiple-lot subdivision is submitted to the Corps of Engineers for review, it must be designed such that preserved, restored or established wetlands included as part of a compensatory mitigation plan are not located on the resulting private individual lots.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

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. The discharge must not cause the loss of 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 no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. The loss of stream bed plus any other losses of jurisdictional wetlands and waters caused by the NWP activity cannot exceed 1/2-acre. 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 32.) (Authority: 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).

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

   a. category 3 wetlands;

b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

e. state wild and scenic rivers;

f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

4. This certification shall be used only once per farm. For the purposes of this condition, farm shall be defined to include all individual farm tracts, whether or not such tracts are contiguous, that are owned by the applicant.

5. This certification does not authorize the construction of farm ponds in streams or wetlands (i.e., non-tidal waters of the United States).

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. (Authority: Section 404)

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

a. category 3 wetlands;

b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

e. state wild and scenic rivers;

f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. This certification only authorizes impacts to existing maintained and channelized water conveyances that have been created or previously modified and maintained for the purpose of draining abutting existing agricultural land or existing roadways and meet the following criteria:

a. the ditch was man-made and is existing; or

b. the stream/ditch has existing entrenchment ratios that are less than 1.4 and the proposed dredging impacts do not reduce the sinuosity of the stream/ditch channel.

4. Prior to the commencement of the project, all drainage ditch reshaping projects must be certified in writing by either the Natural Resources Conservation Service or Soil and Water Conservation District or County Engineer in the county where the project occurs, or by a certified professional engineer, that the project complies with the above criteria. In order to be authorized under this paragraph, such certification shall be maintained by the person or entity engaged in the project and a copy shall be sent to: Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, Section 401 Unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049.

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. The discharge must not cause the loss of 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 no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. The loss of stream bed plus any other losses of jurisdictional wetlands and waters caused by the NWP activity cannot exceed 1/2-acre. 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 32.) (Authority: Section 404)

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. This certification does not authorize the construction, modification or expansion of golf courses or ski areas.

43. ***Stormwater Management Facilities.*** Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction of stormwater management facilities, including stormwater detention basins and retention basins and other stormwater management facilities; the construction of water control structures, outfall structures and emergency spillways; the construction of low impact development integrated management features such as bioretention facilities (e.g., rain gardens), vegetated filter strips, grassed swales, and infiltration trenches; and the construction of pollutant reduction green infrastructure features designed to reduce inputs of sediments, nutrients, and other pollutants into waters to meet reduction targets established under Total Daily Maximum Loads set under the Clean Water Act.

This NWP authorizes, to the extent that a section 404 permit is required, discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the maintenance of

stormwater management facilities, low impact development integrated management features, and pollutant reduction green infrastructure features. The maintenance of stormwater management facilities, low impact development integrated management features, and pollutant reduction green infrastructure features that are not waters of the United States does not require a section 404 permit.

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States. The discharge must not cause the loss of 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 no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. This NWP does not authorize discharges into non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters. The loss of stream bed plus any other losses of jurisdictional wetlands and waters caused by the NWP activity cannot exceed 1/2-acre. This NWP does not authorize discharges of dredged or fill material for the construction of new stormwater management facilities in perennial streams.

Notification: For discharges into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction of new stormwater management facilities or pollutant reduction green infrastructure features, or the expansion of existing stormwater management facilities or pollutant reduction green infrastructure features, the permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 32.) Maintenance activities do not require pre-construction notification if they are limited to restoring the original design capacities of the stormwater management facility or pollutant reduction green infrastructure feature. (Authority: Section 404)

Corps NWP 43 Specific Regional Condition:

Notification in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for use of this nationwide permit.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

44. ***Mining Activities.*** Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for mining activities, except for coal mining activities, provided the activity meets all of the following criteria:

(a) For mining activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal wetlands, the discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal wetlands;

(b) For mining activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material in non-tidal open waters (e.g., rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds) the mined area, including permanent and temporary impacts due to discharges of dredged or fill material into jurisdictional waters, must not exceed 1/2-acre; and

(c) The acreage loss under paragraph (a) plus the acreage impact under paragraph (b) does not exceed 1/2-acre.

The discharge must not cause the loss of 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 no more than minimal adverse environmental effects.

The loss of stream bed plus any other losses of jurisdictional wetlands and waters caused by the NWP activity cannot exceed 1/2-acre.

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 32.) If reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the final reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre-construction notification. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Individual state water quality certification is required for use of this nationwide permit.

45. ***Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events.*** This NWP authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material, including dredging or excavation, into all waters of the United States for activities associated with the restoration of upland areas damaged by storms, floods, or other discrete events. This NWP authorizes bank stabilization to protect the restored uplands. The restoration of the damaged areas, including any bank stabilization, must not exceed the contours, or ordinary high water mark, that existed before the damage occurred. The district engineer

retains the right to determine the extent of the pre-existing conditions and the extent of any restoration work authorized by this NWP. The work must commence, or be under contract to commence, within two years of the date of damage, unless this condition is waived in writing by the district engineer. This NWP cannot be used to reclaim lands lost to normal erosion processes over an extended period.

This NWP does not authorize beach restoration or nourishment.

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

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer (see general condition 32) within 12 months of the date of the damage; for major storms, floods, or other discrete events, the district engineer may waive the 12-month limit for submitting a pre-construction notification if the permittee can demonstrate funding, contract, or other similar delays. The pre-construction notification must include documentation, such as a recent topographic survey or photographs, to justify the extent of the proposed restoration. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Note: The uplands themselves that are lost as a result of a storm, flood, or other discrete event can be replaced without a 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.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

46. ***Discharges in Ditches.*** Revoked

47. [Reserved]

48. ***Existing Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities.*** Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or structures or work in navigable waters of the United States necessary for new and continuing 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 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 easement, lease, deed, contract, or other legally binding agreement that establishes an enforceable property interest for the operator. A "new commercial shellfish aquaculture operation" is an operation in a project area where commercial shellfish aquaculture activities have not been conducted during the past 100 years.

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;

(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; or

(d) Activities that directly affect more than 1/2-acre of submerged aquatic vegetation beds in project areas that have not been used for commercial shellfish aquaculture activities during the past 100 years.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer if: (1) the activity will include a species that has never been cultivated in the waterbody; or (2) the activity occurs in a project area that has not been used for commercial shellfish aquaculture activities during the past 100 years. If the operator will be conducting commercial shellfish aquaculture activities in multiple contiguous project areas, he or she can either submit one PCN for those contiguous project areas or submit a separate PCN for each project area. (See general condition 32.)

In addition to the information required by paragraph (b) of general condition 32, the pre-construction notification must also include the following information: (1) a map showing the boundaries of the project area(s), with latitude and longitude coordinates for each corner of each project area; (2) the name(s) of the species that will be cultivated during the period this NWP is

in effect; (3) whether canopy predator nets will be used; (4) whether suspended cultivation techniques will be used; and (5) general water depths in the project area(s) (a detailed survey is not required). No more than one pre-construction notification per project area or group of contiguous project areas should be submitted for the commercial shellfish operation during the effective period of this NWP. The pre-construction notification should describe all species and culture activities the operator expects to undertake in the project area or group of contiguous project areas during the effective period of this NWP. If an operator intends to undertake unanticipated changes to the commercial shellfish aquaculture operation during the effective period of this NWP, and those changes require Department of the Army authorization, the operator must contact the district engineer to request a modification of the NWP verification; a new pre-construction notification does not need to be submitted. (Authorities: 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."

Individual state water quality certification is required for use of this nationwide permit.

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 the Interior Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, or by states with approved programs under Title IV or Title V of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). Areas previously mined include reclaimed mine sites, abandoned mine land areas, or lands under bond forfeiture contracts.

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

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification and a document describing how the overall mining plan will result in a net increase in aquatic resource functions to the district engineer and receive written authorization prior to commencing the activity. (See general condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Corps NWP 49 Specific Regional Condition:

The PCN 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 or subsequent document.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

Water quality certification is provided for stream, wetland and open water impacts for surface coal mining within previously mined areas, conducted under a permit issued by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mineral Resources Management (DMRM) with the following conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. state wild and scenic rivers;

    c. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    d. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. Impacts to previously-mined stream reaches (ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial) as a result of re-mining and subsequent reclamation will require no further mitigation.

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 the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, or by states with approved programs under Title V of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States. The discharge must not cause the loss of 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 no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. The loss of stream bed plus any other losses of jurisdictional wetlands and waters caused by the NWP activity cannot exceed 1/2-acre. 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 32.) If reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre-construction notification. (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

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

Individual state water quality certification is required for use of this nationwide permit.

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

The discharge must not cause the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of non-tidal waters of the United States. The discharge must not cause the loss of 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 no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. The loss of stream bed plus any other losses of jurisdictional wetlands and waters caused by the NWP activity cannot exceed 1/2-acre. 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 if the discharge results in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of waters of the United States. (See general condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

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

Note 2: If the only activities associated with the construction, expansion, or modification of a land-based renewable energy generation facility that require Department of the Army authorization are discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States to construct, maintain, repair, and/or remove utility lines and/or road crossings, then NWP 12 and/or NWP 14 shall be used if those activities meet the terms and conditions of NWPs 12 and 14, including any applicable regional conditions and any case-specific conditions imposed by the district engineer.

Note 3: For any activity that involves the construction of a wind energy generating structure, solar tower, or overhead transmission line, a copy of the PCN and NWP verification will be provided to the Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse, which will evaluate potential effects on military activities.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

3. For an individual stream, while the repair or replacement of an existing culvert of any length is not limited by this certification, any culvert extension shall not exceed 300 linear feet.

4. Temporary or permanent impacts as a result of stream crossings shall not exceed a total of three per stream mile per stream.

5. All hydric soils up to 12 inches in depth within wetlands shall be stockpiled and replaced as the topmost backfill layer. Best management practices, such as silt fencing and soil stabilization, shall be implemented to reduce erosion and sediment run-off into adjacent wetlands.

6. The stockpiling of side cast dredged material in excess of three months requires individual 401 WQC.

7. Buried utility lines shall be installed at a 90-degree angle to the stream bank to the maximum extent practicable. When a 90-degree angle is not possible, the length of any buried utility line within any single water body shall not exceed twice the width of that water body at the location of the crossing.

52. ***Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects.*** Revoked

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

removal of low-head dams.

For the purposes of this NWP, the term "low-head dam" is defined as a dam built across a stream to pass flows from upstream over all, or nearly all, of the width of the dam crest on a continual and uncontrolled basis. (During a drought, there might not be water flowing over the dam crest.) In general, a low-head dam does not have a separate spillway or spillway gates but it may have an uncontrolled spillway. The dam crest is the top of the dam from left abutment to right abutment, and if present, an uncontrolled spillway. A low-head dam provides little storage function.

The removed low-head dam structure must be deposited and retained in an area that has no waters of the United States unless otherwise specifically approved by the district engineer under separate authorization.

Because the removal of the low-head dam will result in a net increase in ecological functions and services provided by the stream, as a general rule compensatory mitigation is not required for activities authorized by this NWP. However, the district engineer may determine for a particular low-head dam removal activity that compensatory mitigation is necessary to ensure the authorized activity results in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects.

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

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

Corps NWP 53 Specific Regional Conditions:

a. The PCN shall include the volume of sediments within the pool upstream of the dam that are to be released downstream and discussion of the steps taken to minimize the potential adverse effects on the downstream aquatic environment.

b. Sediments to be released from the pool upstream of the dam shall be consistent with Nationwide Permit General Condition 6.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

e. state wild and scenic rivers;

f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Corps NWP 54 Specific Regional Conditions:

a. PCN in accordance with Nationwide Permit General Condition 32 and Regional General Condition 6 is required for projects located on waters of the U.S.

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) mark (573.4 feet IGLD 1985), will be excavated down to clay or bedrock, and side cast into the nearshore area either immediately waterward or downdrift of the project area. Verification of the placement of the excavated material within the nearshore area shall be documented through the submittal of dated photographs and an accompanying photo location map to the district engineer within 30 days of commencement of the project.

c. For projects located along the shorelines of Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, a one-time sand prefill of two (2) cubic yards of sand per linear foot of shoreline stabilized shall be placed at an approved location in the nearshore area in less than three feet of water within 30 days of project commencement, unless the district engineer waives this requirement by making a written determination. Verification of

the placement of the sand prefill material within the nearshore area shall be documented through the submittal of contractor's receipts, including the volume of sand prefill, dated photographs, and accompanying photo location map to the district engineer. The sand shall be from an upland source or other approved source and shall be similar in composition to the sand at the project site, free from organic material; limestone sand and top soil are excluded.

d. For projects located in Lake Erie, Sandusky Bay, and Maumee Bay, broken concrete shall not be used as suitable material, unless it is contained within a structure.

Ohio 401 Certification Special Limitations and Conditions:

1. Ohio state certification general limitations and conditions apply to this nationwide permit.

2. Individual 401 WQC is required for use of this nationwide permit when temporary or permanent impacts are proposed on or in any of the following waters:

    a. category 3 wetlands;

    b. category 1 and category 2 wetlands when impacts exceed 0.50 acres;

    c. streams located in ineligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWP Stream Eligibility Map, Appendix C;

    d. streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map determined to be high quality through one of the NWP eligibility flowcharts, Appendix C;

    e. state wild and scenic rivers;

    f. national wild and scenic rivers; and

    g. general high quality water bodies which harbor federally and state listed threatened or endangered aquatic species.

Ohio CZMA Federal Consistency Determination Condition:

For all activities located within or along the shore of Ohio's portion of Lake Erie, including Maumee Bay and Sandusky bay, all applicable authorizations under the Ohio Coastal Management Program must be obtained.

D. **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 a 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. If a bottomless culvert cannot be used, then the crossing should be designed and constructed to minimize adverse effects to aquatic life movements.

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. A**ctivities 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, storm water management activities, and temporary and permanent road crossings, 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, or during low tides.

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.** (a) No NWP 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.

(b) If a proposed NWP activity will 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, the permittee must submit a pre-construction notification (see general condition 32). The district engineer will coordinate the

PCN with the Federal agency with direct management responsibility for that river. The permittee shall not begin the NWP activity until notified by the district engineer that the Federal agency with direct management responsibility for that river has determined in writing that the proposed NWP activity will not adversely affect the Wild and Scenic River designation or study status.

(c) 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). Information on these rivers is also available at: http://www.rivers.gov/.

17. **Tribal Rights.** No NWP activity may cause more than minimal adverse effects on tribal rights (including treaty rights), protected tribal resources, or tribal lands.

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 ESA section 7 consultation addressing the effects of the proposed activity has been completed. Direct effects are the immediate effects on listed species and critical habitat caused by the NWP activity. Indirect effects are those effects on listed species and critical habitat that are caused by the NWP activity and are later in time, but still are reasonably certain to occur.

(b) Federal agencies should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of the ESA. If pre-construction notification is required for the proposed activity, the Federal permittee must provide the district engineer with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements. The district engineer will verify that the appropriate documentation has been submitted. If the appropriate documentation has not been submitted, additional ESA section 7 consultation may be necessary for the activity and the respective federal agency would be responsible for fulfilling its obligation under section 7 of the ESA.

(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 activity, or if the activity 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 activity or that utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed activity. 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 activity, and has so notified the Corps, the applicant shall not begin work until the Corps has provided notification that the proposed activity will have "no effect" on listed species or critical habitat, or until ESA 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 permit conditions to the NWPs.

(e) Authorization of an activity by an 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 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) If the non-federal permittee has a valid ESA section 10(a)(1)(B) incidental take permit with an approved Habitat Conservation Plan for a project or a group of projects that includes the proposed NWP activity, the non-federal applicant should provide a copy of that ESA section 10(a)(1)(B) permit with the PCN required by paragraph (c) of this general condition. The district engineer will coordinate with the agency that issued the ESA section 10(a)(1)(B) permit to determine whether the proposed NWP activity and the associated incidental take were considered in the internal ESA section 7 consultation conducted for the ESA section 10(a)(1)(B) permit. If that coordination results in concurrence from the agency that the proposed NWP activity and the associated incidental take were considered in the internal ESA section 7 consultation for the ESA section 10(a)(1)(B) permit, the district engineer does not need to conduct a separate ESA section 7 consultation for the proposed NWP activity. The district engineer will notify the non-federal applicant within 45 days of receipt of a complete pre-construction notification whether the ESA section 10(a)(1)(B) permit covers the proposed NWP activity or whether additional ESA section 7 consultation is required.

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

19. **Migratory Birds and Bald and Golden Eagles.** The permittee is responsible for ensuring their action complies with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. The permittee is responsible for contacting appropriate local office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine applicable measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds or eagles, including whether “incidental take” permits are necessary and available under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for a particular activity.

20. **Historic Properties**. (a) In cases where the district engineer determines that the activity may have the potential to cause effects to 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. If pre-construction notification is

required for the proposed NWP activity, the Federal permittee must provide the district engineer with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements. The district engineer will verify that the appropriate documentation has been submitted. If the appropriate documentation is not submitted, then additional consultation under section 106 may be necessary. The respective federal agency is responsible for fulfilling its obligation to comply with section 106.

(c) Non-federal permittees must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer if the NWP activity might have the potential to cause effects to any historic properties listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, including previously unidentified properties. For such activities, the pre-construction notification must state which historic properties might have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity 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 properties can be sought from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or designated tribal representative, 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 in the PCN and these identification efforts, the district engineer shall determine whether the proposed NWP activity has the potential to cause effects on the historic properties. Section 106 consultation is not required when the district engineer determines that the activity does not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties (see 36 CFR 800.3(a)). Section 106 consultation is required when the district engineer determines that the activity has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. The district engineer will conduct consultation with consulting parties identified under 36 CFR 800.2(c) when he or she makes any of the following effect determinations for the purposes of section 106 of the NHPA: no historic properties affected, no adverse effect, or adverse effect. Where the non-Federal applicant has identified historic properties on which the activity might 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 to historic properties or that NHPA section 106 consultation has been completed.

(d) For non-federal permittees, 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. If NHPA section 106 consultation is required, the district engineer will notify the non-Federal applicant that he or she cannot begin the activity 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 (54 U.S.C. 306113) prevents the Corps from granting a permit or other assistance to an applicant who, with intent to avoid the requirements of section 106 of the NHPA, has intentionally significantly adversely affected a historic property to which the permit would relate, or having legal power to prevent it, allowed such significant adverse effect to occur, unless the Corps, after consultation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), determines that circumstances justify

granting such assistance despite the adverse effect created or permitted by the applicant. If circumstances justify granting the assistance, the Corps is required to notify the ACHP and provide documentation specifying the circumstances, the degree of damage to the integrity of any historic properties affected, and proposed mitigation. This documentation must include any views obtained from the applicant, SHPO/THPO, appropriate Indian tribes if the undertaking occurs on or affects historic properties on tribal lands or affects properties of interest to those tribes, and other parties known to have a legitimate interest in the impacts to the permitted activity on historic properties.

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

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

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

(b) For NWPs 3, 8, 10, 13, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, and 54, notification is required in accordance with general condition 32, 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 the individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects are no more than 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 individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects are no more than 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 environmental effects of the proposed activity are no more than minimal, and provides an activity-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 only minimal adverse environmental effects.

(d) For losses of streams or other open waters that require pre-construction notification, the district engineer may require compensatory mitigation to ensure that the activity results in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. Compensatory mitigation for losses of streams should be provided, if practicable, through stream rehabilitation, enhancement, or preservation, since streams are difficult-to-replace resources (see 33 CFR 332.3(e)(3)).

(e) Compensatory mitigation plans for NWP activities in or near streams or other open waters will normally include a requirement for the restoration or enhancement, maintenance, and legal protection (e.g., conservation easements) of riparian areas next to open waters. In some cases, the restoration or maintenance/protection of riparian areas may be the only compensatory mitigation required. Restored 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 restore or maintain/protect a riparian area on both sides of a stream, or if the waterbody is a lake or coastal waters, then restoring or maintaining/protecting 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 minimization or compensatory mitigation, the district engineer may waive or reduce the requirement to provide wetland compensatory mitigation for wetland losses.

(f) 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 no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. For the NWPs, the preferred mechanism for providing compensatory mitigation is mitigation bank credits or in-lieu fee program credits (see 33 CFR 332.3(b)(2) and (3)). However, if an appropriate number and type of mitigation bank or in-lieu credits are not available at the time the PCN is submitted to the district engineer, the district engineer may approve the use of permittee-responsible mitigation.

(2) The amount of compensatory mitigation required by the district engineer must be sufficient to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects (see 33 CFR 330.1(e)(3)). (See also 33 CFR 332.3(f)).

(3) Since the likelihood of success is greater and the impacts to potentially valuable uplands are reduced, aquatic resource restoration should be the first compensatory mitigation option considered for permittee-responsible mitigation.

(4) 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) through (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)).

(5) 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.

(6) 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 (see 33 CFR 332.4(c)(1)(ii)).

(g) 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 NWP activity 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 an NWP activity already meeting the established acreage limits also satisfies the no more than minimal impact requirement for the NWPs.

(h) Permittees may propose the use of mitigation banks, in-lieu fee programs, or permittee-responsible mitigation. When developing a compensatory mitigation proposal, the permittee must consider appropriate and practicable options consistent with the framework at 33 CFR 332.3(b). For activities resulting in the loss of marine or estuarine resources, permittee-responsible 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.

(i) Where certain functions and services of waters of the United States are permanently adversely affected by a regulated activity, such as discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States that will convert a forested or scrub-shrub wetland to a herbaceous wetland in a permanently maintained utility line right-of-way, mitigation may be required to reduce the adverse environmental effects of the activity to the no more than 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 implementation of 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 activity 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 activity and mitigation.

The completed certification document must be submitted to the district engineer within 30 days of completion of the authorized activity or the implementation of any required compensatory mitigation, whichever occurs later.

31. **Activities Affecting Structures or Works Built by the United States.** If an NWP activity also requires permission from the Corps pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will alter or temporarily or permanently occupy or use a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) federally authorized Civil Works project (a "USACE project"), the prospective permittee must submit a pre-construction notification. See paragraph (b)(10) of general condition 32. An activity that requires section 408 permission is not authorized by NWP until the appropriate Corps office issues the section 408 permission to alter, occupy, or use the USACE project, and the district engineer issues a written NWP verification.

32. **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 are in the vicinity of the activity, or to notify the Corps pursuant to general condition 20 that the activity might 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 Act (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 activity;

(3) Identify the specific NWP or NWP(s) the prospective permittee wants to use to authorize the proposed activity;

(4) A description of the proposed activity; the activity's purpose; direct and indirect adverse environmental effects the activity would cause, including the anticipated amount of loss of wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters expected to result from the NWP activity, in acres, linear feet, or other appropriate unit of measure; a description of any proposed mitigation measures intended to reduce the adverse environmental effects caused by the proposed activity; and any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity, including other separate and distant crossings for linear projects that require Department of the Army authorization but do not require pre-construction notification. The description of the proposed activity and any proposed mitigation measures should be sufficiently detailed to allow the district engineer to determine that the adverse environmental effects of the activity will be no more than minimal and to determine the need for compensatory mitigation or other mitigation measures. For single and complete linear projects, the PCN must include the quantity of anticipated losses of wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters for each single and complete crossing of those wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters. Sketches should be provided when necessary to show that the activity complies with the terms of the NWP. (Sketches usually clarify the activity 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);

(5) 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 wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters. Furthermore, the 45 day period will not start until the delineation has been submitted to or completed by the Corps, as appropriate;

(6) 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 environmental effects are no more than minimal and why compensatory mitigation should not be required. As an alternative, the prospective permittee may submit a conceptual or detailed mitigation plan.

(7) For non-Federal permittees, if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the activity, or if the activity is located in designated critical habitat, the PCN must include the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species that might be affected by the proposed activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed activity. For NWP activities that require pre-construction notification, Federal permittees must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with the Endangered Species Act;

(8) For non-Federal permittees, if the NWP activity might have the potential to cause effects to a historic property listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places, the PCN must state which historic property might have the potential to be affected by the proposed activity or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property. For NWP activities that require pre-construction notification, Federal permittees must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act;

(9) For an activity that will 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, the PCN must identify the Wild and Scenic River or the “study river” (see general condition 16); and

(10) For an activity that requires permission from the Corps pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will alter or temporarily or permanently occupy or use a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers federally authorized civil works project, the pre-construction notification must include a statement confirming that the project proponent has submitted a written request for section 408 permission from the Corps office having jurisdiction over that USACE project.

(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 an NWP PCN and must include all of the applicable information required in paragraphs (b)(1) through (10) of this general condition. A letter containing the required information may also be used. Applicants may provide electronic files of PCNs and supporting materials if the district engineer has established tools and procedures for electronic submittals.

(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 activity's adverse environmental effects so that they are no more than minimal.

(2) Agency coordination is required for: (i) 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; (ii) 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 stream bed; (iii) NWP 13 activities in excess of 500 linear feet, fills greater than one cubic yard per running foot, or involve discharges of dredged or fill material into special aquatic sites; and (iv) NWP 54 activities in excess of 500 linear feet, or that extend into the waterbody more than 30 feet from the mean low water line in tidal waters or the ordinary high water mark in the Great Lakes.

(3) When agency coordination is required, 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 (FWS, state natural resource or water quality agency, EPA, 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 notify the district engineer via telephone, facsimile transmission, or e-mail that they intend to provide substantive, site-specific comments. The comments must explain why the agency believes the adverse environmental 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 of the proposed activity are no more than 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.

(4) 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.

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

E. **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. If a project proponent requests authorization by a specific NWP, the district engineer should issue the NWP verification for that activity if it meets the terms and conditions of that NWP, unless he or she determines, after considering mitigation, that the proposed activity will result in more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse effects on the aquatic environment and other aspects of the public interest and exercises discretionary authority to require an individual permit for the proposed activity. For a linear project, this determination will include an evaluation of the individual crossings of waters of the United States 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 streams or of an otherwise applicable limit, as provided for in NWPs 13, 21, 29, 36, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 50, 51, 52, or 54, the district engineer will only grant the waiver upon a written determination that the NWP activity will result in only minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects. For those NWPs that have a waivable 300 linear foot limit for losses of intermittent and ephemeral stream bed and a 1/2-acre limit (i.e., NWPs 21, 29, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 50, 51, and 52), the loss of intermittent and ephemeral stream bed, plus any other losses of jurisdictional waters and wetlands, cannot exceed 1/2-acre.

2. When making minimal adverse environmental effects determinations the district engineer will consider the direct and indirect effects caused by the NWP activity. He or she will also consider the cumulative adverse environmental effects caused by activities authorized by NWP and whether those cumulative adverse environmental effects are no more than minimal. 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 or condition assessment method is available and practicable to use, that assessment method may be used by the district engineer to assist in the minimal adverse environmental effects determination. The district engineer may add case-specific special conditions to the NWP authorization to address site-specific environmental concerns.

3. 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 NWP activities with smaller impacts, or for impacts to other types of waters (e.g., streams). The district engineer will consider any proposed compensatory mitigation or other mitigation measures the applicant has included in the proposal in determining whether the net adverse environmental effects of the proposed activity are no more than 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 environmental effects are no more than 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 the NWP activity results in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. If the net adverse environmental effects of the NWP activity (after consideration of the mitigation proposal) are determined by the district engineer to be no more than minimal, the district engineer will provide a timely written response to the applicant. The response will state that the NWP activity can proceed under the terms and conditions of the NWP, including any activity-specific conditions added to the NWP authorization by the district engineer.

4. If the district engineer determines that the adverse environmental effects of the proposed activity are more than minimal, then the district engineer will notify the applicant either: (a) that the activity 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 activity is authorized under the NWP subject to the applicant's submission of a mitigation plan that would reduce the adverse environmental effects so that they are no more than minimal; or (c) that the activity 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 environmental effects, the activity will be authorized within the 45-day PCN period (unless additional time is required to comply with general conditions 18, 20, and/or 31, or to evaluate PCNs for activities authorized by NWPs 21, 49, and 50), with activity-specific conditions that state the mitigation requirements. The authorization will include the necessary conceptual or detailed mitigation plan or a requirement that the applicant submit a mitigation plan that would reduce the adverse environmental effects so that they are no more than minimal. When compensatory 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.

F. **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 (see general condition 31).

G. **General Limitations and Conditions for all Ohio EPA 401 Certified Nationwide Permits**

A. CULVERTS

For intermittent and perennial streams:

1. When practicable, bottomless or buried culverts are required when culvert size is greater than 36” in diameter. This condition does not apply if the culverts have a gradient of greater than 1% grade or installed on bedrock. A buried culvert means that the bottom 10% by dimension shall be buried below the existing stream bed elevation.

2. The culvert shall be designed and sized to accommodate bankfull discharge and match the existing depth of flow to facilitate the passage of aquatic organisms.

3. When practicable, culverts shall be installed at the existing streambed slope, to allow for the natural movement of bedload and aquatic organisms.

B. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

1. Unless subject to a more specific storm water National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, all best management practices for storm water management shall be designed and implemented in accordance with the most current edition of the NPDES construction general permit available at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/storm/index.aspx, or any watershed specific construction general permit.

2. Sediment and erosion control measures and best management practices must be designed, installed, and maintained in effective operating condition at all times during construction activities as required by applicable NPDES permits. Proper maintenance ensures corrective measures will be implemented for failed controls within 48 hours of discovery.

3. For perennial and intermittent streams, in-stream sediment control measures shall not be utilized, with the exception of turbidity curtains parallel to the stream bank, for the purpose of sediment collection. All sediment and erosion control measures shall be entirely removed and the natural grade of the site restored once construction is completed.

4. All avoided water resources and associated buffers/riparian areas shall be demarcated in the field and protected with suitable materials (e.g., silt fencing, snow fencing, signage, etc.) prior to site disturbance. These materials shall remain in place and be maintained throughout the construction process and shall be entirely removed once construction is completed.

5. Disturbance and removal of vegetation from the project construction area is to be avoided where possible and minimized to the maximum extent practicable. Entry to surface waters shall be through a single point of access to the maximum extent practicable to minimize disturbance to riparian habitat. Unavoidable temporary impacts to forested riparian habitat shall be restored as soon as practicable after in-water work is complete using tree and shrub species native to the specific ecoregion where the project is located.

6. All dredged material placed at an upland site shall be controlled so that sediment runoff to adjacent surface waters is minimized to the maximum extent practicable.

7. Straw bales shall not be used as a form of sediment control unless used in conjunction with another structural control such as silt fencing. Straw bales may be utilized for

purposes of erosion control such as ditch checks.

8. Heavy equipment shall not be placed below the ordinary high water mark of any surface water, except when no other alternative is practicable.

9. Temporary fill for purposes of access or staging shall consist of suitable non-erodible material and shall be maintained to minimize erosion.

10. Chromated copper arsenate (CCA) and creosote treated lumber shall not be used in structures that come into contact with waters of the state.

11. All dewatering activities must be conducted in such a manner that does NOT result in a violation of water quality standards.

12. All areas of final grade must be protected from erosion within seven days.

13. All disturbed areas which remain dormant in excess of fourteen days must be protected from erosion within seven days from the last earth disturbing activity.

14. In the event of authorized in-stream activities, provisions must be established to redirect the stream flow around or through active areas of construction in a stabilized, non-erosive manner to the maximum extent possible.

C. MITIGATION

1. Compensatory mitigation is required for the discharge of dredged or fill material into wetlands for permanent impacts exceeding 0.10 acres.

2. When required, compensatory mitigation shall be provided in accordance with chapters 3745-1 and 3745-32 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

3. When compensatory mitigation will be provided wholly or in part at a mitigation bank or through an in-lieu fee program, credit purchase shall only be authorized at those banks or in-lieu fee programs approved by the Interagency Review Team (IRT) and have an active instrument signed by the director of Ohio EPA.

4. Compensatory mitigation for stream impacts, if required, shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements in the applicable Nationwide Permit.

D. DIRECTOR'S AUTHORIZATION

1. In accordance with the procedures outlined in Appendix A, Ohio EPA may grant coverage under this certification for any project that does not meet one or more of the terms and conditions for eligibility of this certification or where the district engineer has been granted authority to waive certain requirements. Coverage may be granted when Ohio EPA determines, consistent with the special limitations and conditions for each certification, and after considering comments received on the requested director's authorization, that a project will have such a minimal impact on water quality that an individual 401 WQC is not necessary provided all other terms and conditions of this certification have been met. If a director's authorization is not granted,

an individual 401 WQC must be obtained. In no case may a director's authorization issued under this certification exceed an impact threshold authorized by the Corps' Nationwide Permit.

E. NOTIFICATION TO OHIO EPA

1. For any activity proposed to be authorized under NWPs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 22, 23, 25, 27, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 49, 51, 53, and 54, when a PCN is not required by the Corps, notification to Ohio EPA is required for impacts to the following resources:

a. category 3 wetlands;

b. ≥0.10 acres of wetland.

2. Notifications required by E.1 should contain all information required by Nationwide Permit General Condition 32(b) and (c), Regional General Condition 6, and Appendix B.

3. For any activity proposed to be authorized under NWPs 4, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 22, 23, 25, 29, 30, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 51, 53, and 54, when a PCN is not required by the Corps, notification to Ohio EPA is required for impacts to streams located in possibly eligible areas as depicted in the GIS NWPs Stream Eligibility Map.

4. Notifications required by E.3 should contain all information required by Nationwide Permit General Condition 32(b) and (c), Regional General Condition 6, and Appendix C.

5. When notification to Ohio EPA is required by conditions E.1 and E.3 above, the applicant shall not begin the activity until either:

a. He or she is notified in writing by Ohio EPA that the activity may proceed under the 401 WQC for the NWP; or

b. 45 calendar days have passed from Ohio EPA's receipt of the notification and the applicant has not received written notice from Ohio EPA that additional information is necessary or that an individual 401 WQC is required.

F. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Authorization under this certification does not relieve the certification holder from the responsibility of obtaining any other federal, state or local permits, approvals or authorizations.

2. For purposes of this certification the Corps' definition of single and complete linear and non-linear projects shall be applied to all conditions regarding impacts, mitigation, and director's authorizations. If a project includes impacts that are ineligible under this certification, an applicant must apply for an individual 401 WQC or a director's authorization for those impacts to resources that do not meet one or more of the terms and conditions within this certification.

3. For purposes of this certification temporary impact means temporary activities

which facilitate the nature of the activity or aid in the access, staging, or development of construction that are short term in nature and which are expected, upon removal of the temporary impact, to result in the surface water returning to conditions which support pre-impact biological function with minimal or no human intervention within 12 months following the completion of the temporary impact. Examples of temporary impacts include, but are not limited to access roads, work pads, staging areas, and stream crossings, including utility corridors. Activities that result in a wetland conversion (e.g. forested to non-forested) are not considered temporary impacts.

4. In the event that the issuance of a nationwide permit by the Corps requires individual 401 WQC for an activity that constitutes an emergency as defined in 33 CFR 325.2(e)(4), the limitation and/or condition requiring the individual 401 WQC is not applicable and the project may proceed upon approval by the Corps provided all other terms of this certification, including mitigation, are met.

5. Representatives from Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water will be allowed to inspect the authorized activity at any time deemed necessary to ensure that it is being or has been accomplished in accordance with the terms and conditions of this certification. This includes, but is not limited to, access to and copies of any records that must be kept under the conditions of this certification; and, authorization to sample and/or monitor any discharge activity or mitigation site. Ohio EPA will make a reasonable attempt to notify the applicant of its intention to inspect the site in advance of that inspection.

6. Impacts as referenced in this certification consist of waters of the state directly impacted by the placement of fill or dredged material.

7. In accordance with the procedures outlined in Appendix B, and where specifically required in the special limitations and conditions of this certification, an applicant proposing to impact a wetland shall perform a wetland characterization analysis consistent with the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method (ORAM) to demonstrate wetland category for all projects requiring a PCN to the Corps or notification to Ohio EPA.

8. In accordance with the procedures outlined in Appendix C, and where specifically required in the special limitations and conditions of this certification, an applicant proposing to impact a stream shall determine the eligibility of the stream proposed for impact for all projects requiring a PCN to the Corps or notification to Ohio EPA.

Appendix A
Director's Authorization Process

1. To apply for a director's authorization for coverage under this certification, the applicant must provide to Ohio EPA the following:

    a. A completed Director's Authorization Request Form available on the "Director's Authorization" tab located at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/401/permitting.aspx;

    b. A copy of the pre-construction notification submitted to the Corps including all attachments;

c. A copy of the provisional nationwide permit authorization letter issued by the Corps including all attachments and special conditions, if any;

d. A copy of the mitigation plan as approved by the Corps, if applicable;

e. A detailed description of the conditions within this certification that are not being met;

f. A detailed description of any NWP terms and conditions, including impact limits that the Corps district engineer has waived for the project, if applicable;

g. A rationale of how the applicant believes the project will minimally impact water quality for those impacts to resources that do not meet one or more of the terms and conditions within this certification, including reason(s) why the resources are unable to be avoided;

h. Comments received from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and United States Fish and Wildlife Service regarding threatened and endangered species or comments from an applicant that has been authorized by these entities to make threatened and endangered species determinations;

i. A one-time review fee of $2000 for the project;

j. A detailed description of how the project meets public need, as defined in OAC 3745-1-50, for impacts to category 3 wetlands;

k. Documentation as required under Appendix B and C;

l. Any other documentation as may be required under this certification.

2. Upon receipt of the director's authorization request containing items a. through o. outlined above, excluding item c., the director will post the materials on the Ohio EPA, DSW webpage and invite public comment on the request for 15 days. The director will review and consider the comments received during the public comment period before making a decision on the director's authorization.

Appendix B
ORAM Verification Process

The ORAM results shall be included with the pre-construction notification (PCN) or notification to Ohio EPA if a PCN is not required by the Corps.

For each wetland proposed for impact the applicant must provide the following information for review in accordance with the ORAM verification procedure:

a. Complete ORAM forms prepared in accordance with the current ORAM manual;

b. Wetland delineation prepared in accordance with the current method required by the Corps;

c. A minimum of four high resolution color photographs taken while facing each of the four cardinal directions of each wetland proposed for impact. Photographs must accurately

depict the quality of the wetland and may not include a majority of dying or dead vegetation or excessive cover due to seasonal conditions that vegetation and substrates cannot be observed, such as leaf litter, snow, or ice. Photographs deemed to be insufficient of representing the wetland will be required to be retaken once seasonal conditions are appropriate. Photographs shall be clearly labeled with the wetland name, direction, and date;

d. USGS topographical map, National Wetlands Inventory map, Soil Survey map and aerial images (both historical and current) which clearly outline the entire wetland boundary; and

e. Coordination letter from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Natural Heritage Database indicating the presence or absence of state listed threatened or endangered species or comments from an applicant that has been authorized by ODNR to make threatened and endangered species determinations.

Appendix C
Stream Eligibility Determination Process

1. The stream eligibility results shall be included with the PCN or notification to Ohio EPA if a PCN is not required by the Corps. For each single and complete project with potential impacts to streams, where it is specifically required in the special limitations and conditions of this certification, the applicant shall determine if the streams proposed for impact are eligible for coverage under the 401 WQC for the Nationwide Permits using the following procedure:

   a. Navigate to the Ohio EPA 401 website at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/401/permitting.aspx

   b. Click on the "Nationwide Permits" tab and then click on the "Stream Eligibility Web Map" link. To download the shapefile from the web map, click on the in the upper right hand corner of the webpage and select download. To draw project boundaries directly on the web map, click on the in the upper left hand corner of the webpage.

   c. Using a GIS program, overlay the project boundary, streams proposed for impact, current aerial imagery, and the stream eligibility layer. If the applicant does not have access to a GIS program, the project boundary should be drawn on the web map and a copy of the map can be printed from the webpage;

      i. If any stream proposed for impact within the project area falls within an ineligible area, impacts to that stream are not eligible for coverage under the 401 WQC for the Nationwide Permits, and the applicant shall apply for an individual 401 WQC or a director's authorization.

      ii. If any stream proposed for impact within the project area falls within a possibly eligible area, the applicant shall take pH values, when applicable, and perform a Qualitative Assessment Habitat Evaluation Index (QHEI) or Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index (HHEI) assessment for the stream. Using the flow charts provided below, the applicant shall determine if impacts to that stream are eligible for coverage under the 401 WQC for the Nationwide Permits or if an individual 401 WQC is required.

iii. If all streams proposed for impact within the project area are located within the eligible area, impacts to that stream are eligible for coverage under the 401 WQC for the Nationwide Permits and no further assessment is necessary.

d. The applicant shall submit the following information with the PCN or notification to Ohio EPA:

i. Color map(s), no smaller than 8”x10”, which clearly shows the project boundary, streams proposed for impact, current aerial imagery, and the stream eligibility GIS layer;

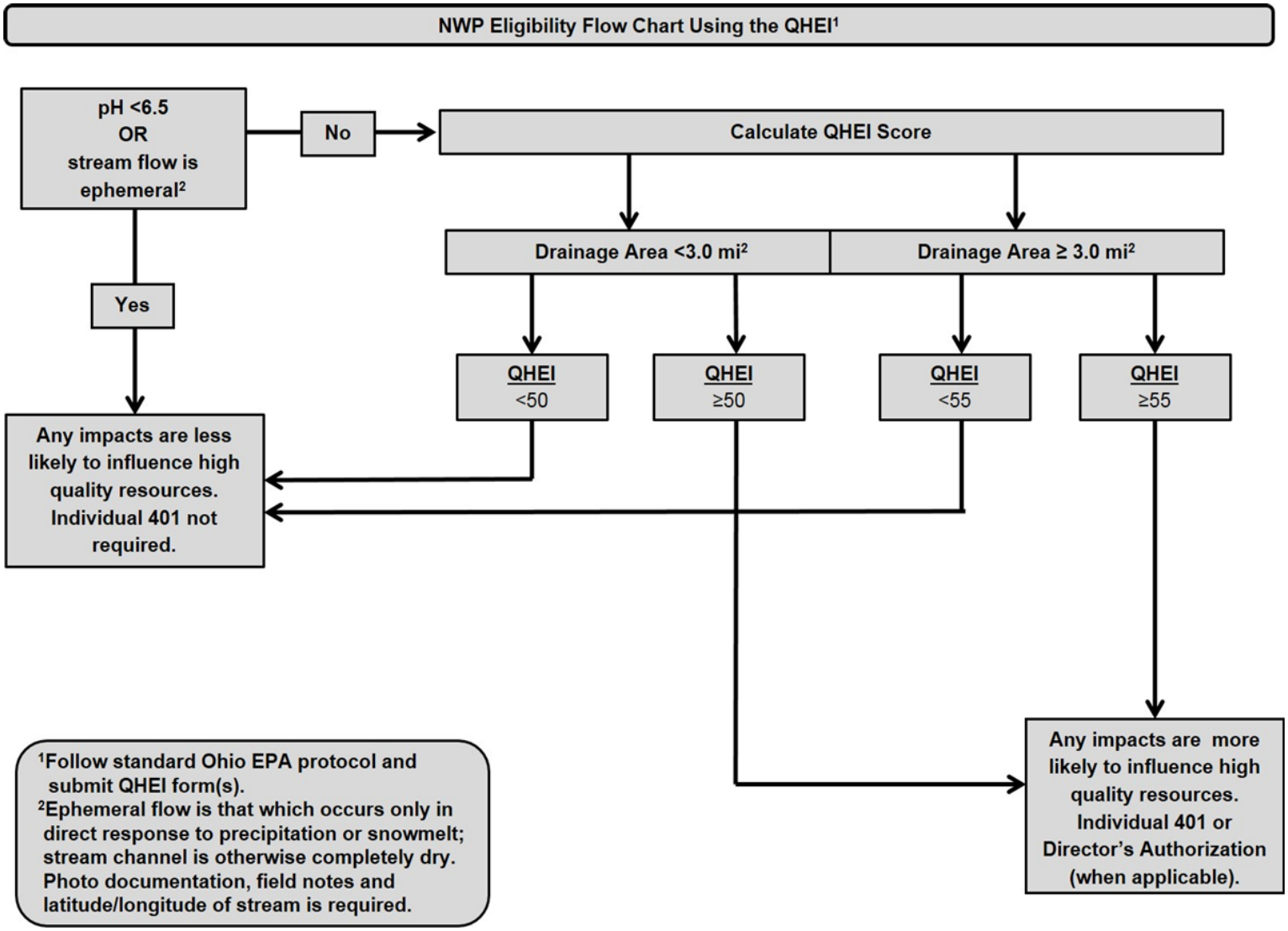
ii. For each stream located in possibly eligible areas;

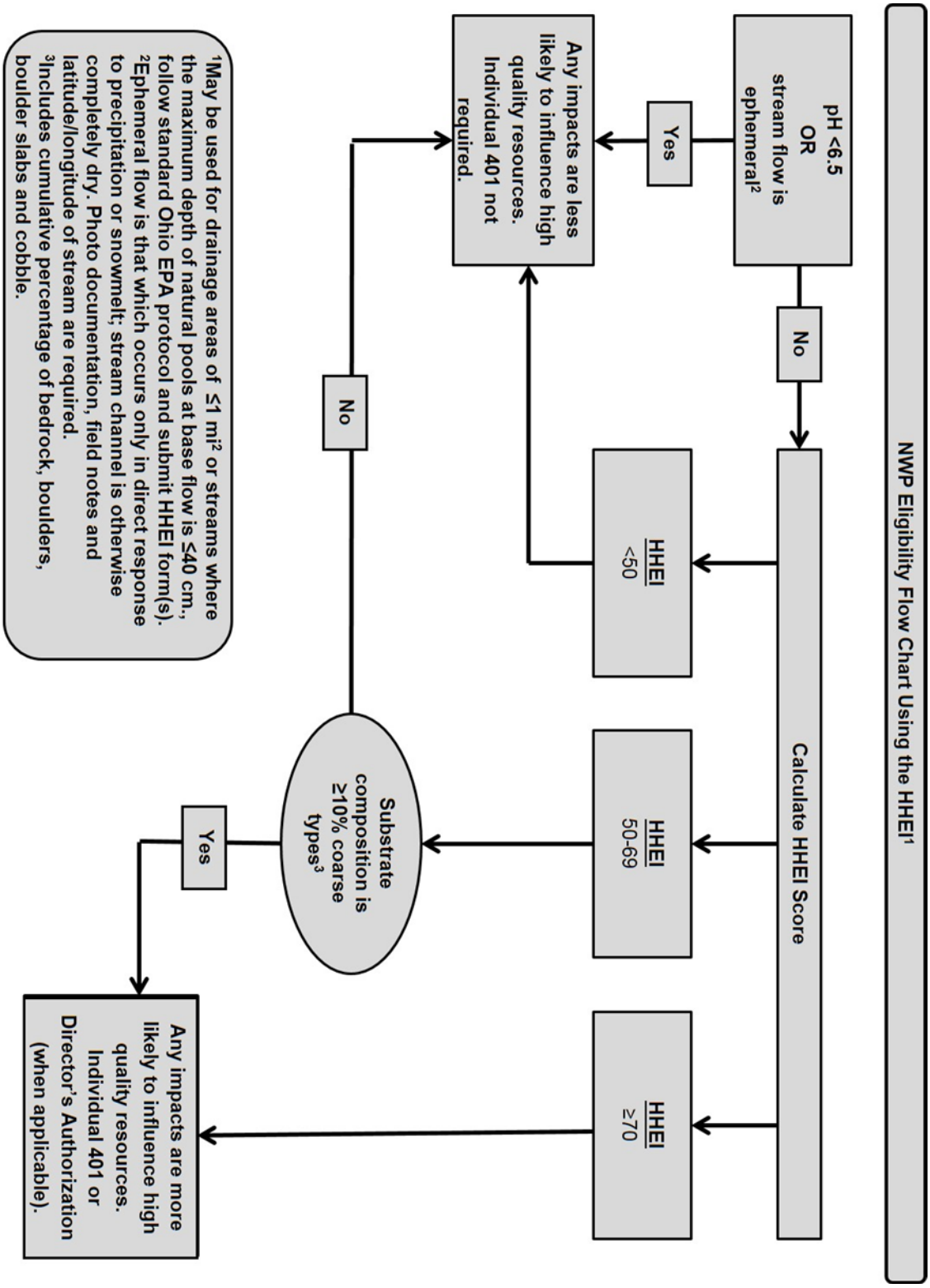
(1) A minimum of three high resolution color photographs taken of the proposed impact area, including one facing upstream, one facing downstream, and a close up which clearly depicts the substrate composition and size for each stream proposed for impact. Photographs must accurately depict the quality of the stream and may not include excessive cover due to seasonal conditions that substrates cannot be observed such as snow or ice. Photographs deemed to be insufficient of representing the stream will be required to be retaken once seasonal conditions are appropriate. Photographs shall be clearly labeled with the stream name, direction, and date;

(2) pH values for each stream proposed for impact taken within the proposed project area, where applicable;

(3) Complete QHEI or HHEI sheets prepared in accordance with the current manuals; and

(4) Statement of whether the streams proposed for impact within the project area are eligible for coverage under the 401 WQC for the Nationwide Permits or if an individual 401 WQC or a director’s authorization is required.


NWP Eligibility Flow Chart Using the QHEI[1]
pH <6.5 OR stream flow is ephemeral[2]
No
Calculate QHEI Score
Yes
Drainage Area <3.0 mi²
Drainage Area ≥ 3.0 mi²
QHEI <50
QHEI ≥50
QHEI <55
QHEI ≥55
Any impacts are less likely to influence high quality resources. Individual 401 not required.
Any impacts are more likely to influence high quality resources. Individual 401 or Director's Authorization (when applicable).
[1]Follow standard Ohio EPA protocol and submit QHEI form(s).
[2]Ephemeral flow is that which occurs only in direct response to precipitation or snowmelt; stream channel is otherwise completely dry. Photo documentation, field notes and latitude/longitude of stream is required.



H. **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 into waters of the United States.

Ecological reference: A model used to plan and design an aquatic habitat and riparian area restoration, enhancement, or establishment activity under NWP 27. An ecological reference may be based on the structure, functions, and dynamics of an aquatic habitat type or a riparian area type that currently exists in the region where the proposed NWP 27 activity is located. Alternatively, an ecological reference may be based on a conceptual model for the aquatic habitat type or riparian area type to be restored, enhanced, or established as a result of the proposed NWP 27 activity. An ecological reference takes into account the range of variation of the aquatic habitat type or riparian area type in the region.

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 acres or linear feet of stream bed that are filled or excavated as a result of the regulated activity. 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 that do not require Department of the Army authorization, such as 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.

Navigable waters: Waters subject to section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. These waters are defined at 33 CFR part 329.

Non-tidal wetland: A non-tidal wetland is a wetland that is not subject to the ebb and flow of tidal waters. 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 flowing or

standing 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.

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.

Protected tribal resources: Those natural resources and properties of traditional or customary religious or cultural importance, either on or off Indian lands, retained by, or reserved by or for, Indian tribes through treaties, statutes, judicial decisions, or executive orders, including tribal trust resources.

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 next 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 jurisdictional wetland that is inundated by tidal waters. 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.

Tribal lands: Any lands title to which is either: 1) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of any Indian tribe or individual; or 2) held by any Indian tribe or individual subject to restrictions by the United States against alienation.

Tribal rights: Those rights legally accruing to a tribe or tribes by virtue of inherent sovereign authority, unextinguished aboriginal title, treaty, statute, judicial decisions, executive order or agreement, and that give rise to legally enforceable remedies.

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 wetland is adjacent to a waterbody determined to be a water of the United States, that waterbody and any 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.