

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Joe Lombardo, *Governor*James A. Settelmeyer, *Director*Jennifer L. Carr, *Administrator* 

## Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application

Please refer to the "Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application Guidance" document for assistance with completing this application.

| A. Pre-Filing Meeting  |   |
|--|---|
| Please provide the date that a pre-filing meeting was requeste from Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEI Bureau of Water Quality Planning (BWQP). |   |
| Note: If a pre-filing meeting has not been requested, pleas schedule a pre-filing meeting with NDEP BWQP.  | 2 |

| B. Contact Information        |                         |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Project Proponent Information |                         |                                   |
| Company Name: Carson Valle    | y Conservation District | Address: 1702 County Rd., Suite A |
| Applicant Name: Richard Wilk  | inson                   | City: Minden                      |
| Phone: 775-782-3661           | Fax: N/A                | State: Nevada                     |
| Email: Richard.wilkinson@nv.  | nacdnet.net             | Zip Code: 89423                   |
| Agent Information             |                         |                                   |
| Company Name: Carson Valle    | y Conservation District | Address: 1702 County Rd., Suite A |
| Agent Name: Richard Wilkinso  | on                      | City: Minden                      |
| Phone: 775-782-3661           | Fax: N/A                | State: Nevada                     |
| Email: Richard.wilkinson@nv.  | nacdnet.net             | Zip Code: 89423                   |

| C. Project General Information                         |                     |   |                |  |
|--|---------------------|---|----------------|--|
| Project Location                                       | Project Location    |   |                |  |
| Project/Site Name: Charney #4 –<br>Restoration Project | Genoa Phase 4 River | Name of receiving waterbody   | : Carson River |  |
| Address: No physical address. AP                       | N: 1419-35-002-003  | Type of waterbody present at project location (select a apply):  ☑ Perennial River or Stream ☐ Intermittent River or Stream |                |  |
| City: Genoa  |                     |   |                |  |
| County: Douglas  |                     | ☐ Ephemeral River or Stre ☐ Lake/Pond/Reservoir ☐ Wetland   | ream           |  |
| State: Nevada  |                     | ☐ Other:  |                |  |
| Zip Code: 89423  |                     |   |                |  |
| Latitude (UTM or Dec/Deg): 39.03                       | 33661               | Longitude (UTM or Dec/Deg):   | -119.814204    |  |
| Township: 14N  | Range: 19E          | Section: 35   | ¼ Section:     |  |

## NV 401 - \_\_\_\_ -**Project Details** Project purpose: The purpose of this project is to stabilize a highly eroded section of the Carson Riverbank at site Charney #4, one of five sites proposed as part of the Genoa Phase 4 River Restoration Project. This riverbank stabilization project was previously approved for construction in 2022 but experienced extensive damage before construction was complete due to flooding events in 2023. The top of the bank will be cut back to create a 3 to 1 slope with the intent to create a gradual connection of the river to the floodplain. Some excess instream materials deposited in the channel during flooding events will also be used to reshape the banks and prevent erosion and degradation during future high-flow events. Rock riprap will be placed on the toe and lower slope where it was previously washed out and bioengineering applications on the upper slope. Describe current site conditions: This is the northernmost site of the Genoa Phase 4 Project, where a 2023 flooding event damaged a riverbank stabilization Attachments can include, but are not limited to, relevant site project that was begun in 2022 but could not be completed due data, photographs that represent current site conditions, or to the heavy winter and high river flows. CVCD noted that much other relevant documentation. of the rock riprap placed in 2022 still remains in place, though some areas have washed out. Thus, the riprap in these areas will be replaced. Bioengineering was not completed in 2022 and will be completed under this project authorization. The project length is approximately 818 linear feet of the riverbank, and the average current bank height is 9 feet. Site characteristics: vertical to concave banks, no desirable vegetation, noticeable sedimentation and turbidity of the river, erosion undermining the landowner's bridge abutments, landowner's fence had been washed out during flooding. Describe the proposed activity including methodology of each The failing riverbank will be re-graded by cutting from the project element: proposed crest lines and through utilization of instream material as fill which will be dredged from specified borrow areas on attached Engineered Drawings. The project length is 818 linear feet. It is estimated that 800 cubic yards of material will be cut from the banks and that an additional 30 cubic yards of instream material will be used as fill. A total of 229 cubic yards of large riprap rock will be placed along the toe and lower slope to reinforce the shaped bank, prevent future erosion, and allow for sediment deposition in between the rock spaces. The project construction contractor will utilize the following equipment for the specified actions: a dozer to push in-stream materials to the bank, an excavator to load and place materials, a loader to haul and drop materials, haul trucks to transport

start this work as soon as possible and during the driest time of the year, likely January through the end of March. This work is proposed to be completed under a Nationwide Permit 13 (Bank Stabilization) with the US Army Corps of Engineers. This pathway for authorization has been proposed as the purpose of the project is to restore and stabilize the bank by using mostly bank-cut material to create a more gradual 3:1 slope (with the addition of minor instream dredge/fill material). As depicted on the attached Engineered Drawings, the vast majority of earthwork fill will be used to reshape the bank above the plane of the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) and the activity will not exceed an average of one cubic yard per running foot below the OHWM. The activity is more that 500 feet in length along the bank; thus the District has requested that the US Army Corps of Engineers district engineer wave the criterion due to the fact that the majority of the work will be done above the OHWM and that dredged or fill material will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. Estimate the nature, specific location, and number of The District does not anticipate any significant discharges as discharge(s) expected to be authorized by the proposed construction is planned during the driest time of the year. This section of the river often dries out during the winter so that activity: water levels are extremely low, however this is dependent on annual precipitation and runoff levels. A minor discharge is possible if water levels unexpectedly come up during construction or when first creating the dewatering channel. Responsible dewatering practices and the application of BMPs which will be determined in the construction contract will help minimize any potential discharges. Provide the date(s) on which the proposed activity is planned Preferred timeframe: January – end of March 2025. Anticipated completion of heavy earthwork is Feb. 28th. to begin and end and the approximate date(s) when any discharge(s) may commence: Early January or February 2025 (possible discharge with creating dewatering channel could happen around this time depending on water levels) The above preferred timeline is dependent upon processing and approval of permitting. If the January – March 2025 timeframe is unattainable, implementation will need to be delayed until the fall or winter of 2025 and possibly into early 2026. In this case, the work timeframe is estimated to be October 2025 – January 2026. Ideally, work would be completed between October – November 2025, but this will be dependent upon annual runoff and flow levels. Provide a list of the federal permit(s) or license(s) required to USACE Nationwide Permit 13 – Bank Stabilization (in progress) conduct the activity which may result in a discharge into See copy of attached NWP 13. regulated waters (see mandatory attachments): NV Division of State Lands Authorization to Use State-Owned Provide a list of all other federal, state, interstate, tribal, territorial, or local agency authorizations required for the Submerged Lands (submitted) proposed activity and the current status of each authorization: NDEP Temporary Working in Waterways (not yet submitted) Landowner Right of Entry Permit (complete) CVCD holds a General Permit for Routine Maintenance Activities

| Total area of impact to regulated waterbodies (acres):   | 1.56 acres  | J   |
|--|---|---|
| Total distance of impact to regulated waterbodies (linear feet):   | 818 linear feet   |   |
| Amount excavation and/or fill discharged within regulated waters (acres, linear feet, and cubic yards):  | Temporary: 30 cubic yards of k-rails 0.9 acre 1,480 linear feet   | Permanent: 800 cubic yards of bank material; 229 cubic yards of riprap rock |
| Amount of dredge material discharged within regulated waters (acres, linear feet, and cubic yards):  | Temporary:  | Permanent: 30 cubic yards of dredged instream material                      |
| Describe the reason(s) why avoidance of temporary fill in regulated waters is not practicable (if applicable):   | practicable due to the necessity of dewatering the construction site in order to avoid a discharge. K-rails will be necessary to dewater the site and will be temporarily used during   |   |
| Describe the Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented to avoid and/or minimize impacts to regulated waters:  Examples include sediment and erosion control measures, habitat preservation, flow diversions, dewatering, hazardous materials management, water quality monitoring, equipment or plans to treat, control, or manage discharges, etc. | 30 cubic yards of dredged instream material  The avoidance of temporary fill in regulated waters in not practicable due to the necessity of dewatering the construction in order to avoid a discharge. K-rails will be necessary to dewater the site and will be temporarily used during construction and removed afterwards.  The District will require contractors to bring clean and leak to equipment to and from the project site. In addition, extensi BMPs for mitigation of discharges will be in place and stated within all contract documents. The proposed work will take place at the driest time of the year and if necessary, will device the site to ensure that the project does not create a discharge. |   |

this will define specific work erosion control measures. Typical erosion control measure that will be required include:

- Limited site access.
- Stockpiles will have perimeter controls such as silt fencing and/or filtration wattles.
- Erosion prevention by implementing any or a combination of soil stabilization practices such as mulching, surface roughening, and temporary silt fencing.
- Work will be done during appropriate weather conditions and will shut down work during storms when wind, rain, or snow would cause increased site erosion due to active work.

Project boundaries will be marked to ensure that the minimum area necessary for project completion will be affected by construction activities. The site will likely be dewatered only once for construction. Dewatering will occur if there is any amount of water moving and/or present on the project site and is not dependent upon a threshold CFS (please disregard Engineer Plans Sheet C5.0, General De-Watering & Temporary Erosion Control Plan Notes, Note 23). The low elevation of the streambed will be determined during the engineering survey. Attached Engineered Drawings depict the general conceptual plan for dewatering. The construction contractor will determine the final method for dewatering and will submit a plan to CVCD, with a seven-day review period. The most common method is to use K-rails to block upstream with BMP materials installed downstream. The contractor may choose to terminate the backend of the project into a sand and gravel pile. A dewater trench will be utilized downstream and will not reduce the elevation of the streambed. K-rails will likely be used to direct materials into the trench, and a buffer will be left to keep flows in-channel. A small discharge may occur when first creating the dewatering channel. However, the District will utilize silt fencing and filtration waddles to capture any downstream sediment flow. If the amount of excavated instream material is greater than what will be utilized for bank construction, the remaining material will be removed from the site and off the floodplain. CVCD estimates that the site will be dewatered for a maximum of 8 weeks; this timeframe is dependent upon weather and the number of personnel available to work under the construction contractor and will likely be less than the maximum allotted.

The method of removal for temporary fill used during dewatering will be to use a barrier lift attached to a chain attached to an excavator or loader bucket. The dewatering channel will be backfilled. There will be no piles of material remaining, and the area will be clear of debris. The removal of the diversion will allow for the return of the live stream flows to the original low flow channel. The work will be ordered so that equipment will not be driving through live stream flows.

Describe how the activity has been designed to avoid and/or CVCD has been implementing riverbank stabilization projects for minimize adverse effects, both temporary and permanent, to over two decades and has continually worked to ensure that the regulated waters: bidding, contracting, and construction process includes detailed requirements to avoid adverse effects to regulated waters. Contract documents will specify the requirements mentioned above and CVCD staff will ensure that any known violations will result in the stoppage of all work until the violation is corrected. Safety of personnel and the preservation of regulated waters within and adjacent to the work site are of upmost importance. All of the above-mentioned BMPs and work requirements will be in place to ensure the minimization of adverse effects. USACE Nationwide Permit 13 requires compensatory mitigation Describe any compensatory mitigation planned for this project (if applicable): for the following: 1) loss of wetlands that exceed 1/10-acre, 2) losses of stream bed that exceed 3/100-acre, 3) restoration or enhancement, maintenance, and legal protection of riparian areas next to open waters, and 4) losses of aquatic resources. This project will not result in losses described in 1), 2), and 4). Therefore, restoration of the riparian and adjacent upland area will be the only compensatory mitigation planned for this project. CVCD will apply bioengineering methods on the bank area immediately upslope of the riprap rock; this will include live willow pole plantings, willow fascines and mats for stabilization, and COIR fabric for stabilization and protection from erosion. All adjacent upland areas which are disturbed during the construction process will be reseeded with native or desirable vegetation appropriate to the ecological site.

| D. Signature  |                |            |
|---|----------------|------------|
| Name and Title (Print):                             | Phone Number:  | Date:      |
| Richard Wilkinson, District Manager                 | (775) 782-3661 | 11/25/2024 |
|   |                |            |
| X Aichant College Signature of Responsible Official |                |            |

#### **Mandatory Attachments:**

### • Federal Permit or License Identification:

- Project proponents seeking a federal general permit or license must include a copy of the draft federal license or permit and any readily available water quality-related materials that informed the development of the draft federal license or permit, or;
- o Project proponents seeking a federal <u>individual permit or license</u> must include a copy of the federal permit or license application and any readily available water quality-related materials that informed the development of the federal license or permit application.

- **Site Map** A map or diagram of the proposed project site including project boundaries in relation to regulated waters, local streets, roads, and highways.
- Engineered Drawings Engineered drawings are preferred to be submitted at the 70% design level. If only conceptual designs are available at the time of application, plans for construction should be submitted prior to the start of the project. Specific locations of the proposed activities and details of specific work elements planned for the project should be identified (e.g., staging areas, concrete washouts, perimeter controls, water diversions, or other BMPs).

Submit the completed application materials to NDEP (<a href="ndep401@ndep.nv.gov">ndep401@ndep.nv.gov</a>) with the appropriate U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Office copied on the communication (<a href="http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Contacts/Contact-Your-Local-Office/">http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Contacts/Contact-Your-Local-Office/</a>).



U S Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District

# 2021 Nationwide Permit Summary

33 CFR Part 330; Issuance of Nationwide Permits – February 25, 2022

- **13. Bank Stabilization.** Bank stabilization activities necessary for erosion control or prevention, such as vegetative stabilization, bioengineering, sills, rip rap, revetment, gabion baskets, streambarbs, and bulkheads, or combinations of bank stabilization techniques, provided the activity meets all of the following criteria:
  - (a) No material is placed in excess of the minimum needed for erosion protection;
  - (b) The activity is no more than 500 feet in length along the bank, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge of dredged or fill material will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects (an exception is for bulkheads—the district engineer cannot issue a waiver for a bulkhead that is greater than 1,000 feet in length along the bank);
  - (c) The activity will not exceed an average of one cubic yard per running foot, as measured along the length of the treated bank, below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the high tide line, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge of dredged or fill material will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects;
  - (d) The activity does not involve discharges of dredged or fill material into special aquatic sites, unless the district engineer waives this criterion by making a written determination concluding that the discharge of dredged or fill material will result in no more than minimal adverse environmental effects;
  - (e) No material is of a type, or is placed in any location, or in any manner, that will impair surface water flow into or out of any waters of the United States;
  - (f) No material is placed in a manner that will be eroded by normal or expected high flows (properly anchored native trees and treetops may be used in low energy areas);
  - (g) Native plants appropriate for current site conditions, including salinity, must be used for bioengineering or vegetative bank stabilization;
  - (h) The activity is not a stream channelization activity; and

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

This NWP 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 downstreamflows and minimize flooding to the maximum extent practicable, when temporary structures, work, and discharges of dredged or fill material, including cofferdams, are necessary for construction activities, access fills, or dewatering of construction sites. Temporary fills must consist of materials, and be placed in a manner, that will not be eroded by expected high flows. After construction, temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to preconstruction elevations. The areas affected by temporary fills must be revegetated, as appropriate.

**Notification:** The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if the bank stabilization activity:

- (1) Involves discharges of dredged or fill material into special aquatic sites; or
- (2) is in excess of 500 feet in length; or
- (3) will involve the discharge of dredged or fill material of greater than an average of one cubic yard per running foot as measured along the length of the treated bank, below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the high tide line. (See general condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

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

#### A. Regional Conditions

- 1. Regional Conditions for California
- 2. Regional Conditions for Nevada and Utah

#### B. Nationwide Permit General Conditions

Note: To qualify for NWP authorization, the prospective permittee must comply with the following general conditions, as applicable, in addition to any regional or case-specific conditions imposed by the division engineer or district engineer. Prospective permittees should contact the appropriate Corps district office to determine if regional conditions have been imposed on an NWP. Prospective permittees should also contact the appropriate Corps district office to determine the status of Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification and/or Coastal Zone Management Act consistency for an NWP. Every person who may wish to obtain permit authorization under one or more NWPs, or who is currently relying on an existing or

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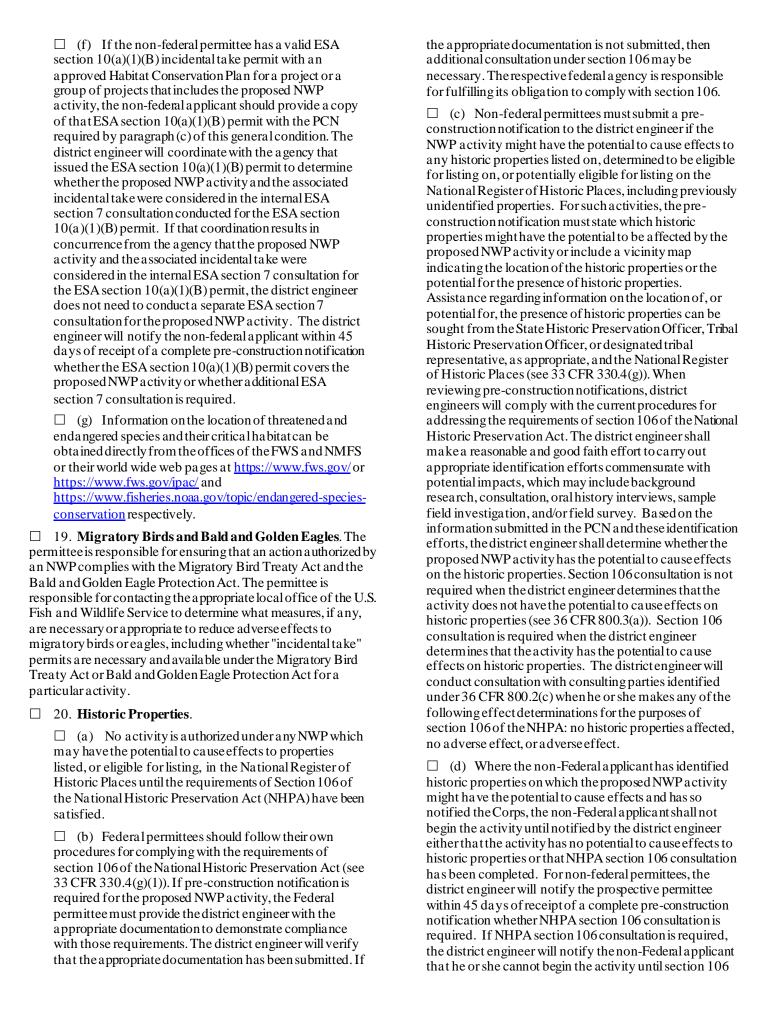
## U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS - SACRAMENTO DISTRICT

1325 J ST. - SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

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| 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.  | ☐ 7. <b>Water Supply Intakes</b> . 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.   |
|---|--|
| □ 1. Navigation.  | □ 8. Adverse Effects From Impoundments. If the activity creates an impoundment of water, adverse effects to the aquatic  |
| ☐ (a) No activity may cause more than a minimal adverse effect on navigation.   | system due to accelerating the passage of water, and/or restricting its flow must be minimized to the maximum extent practicable.  |
| <ul> <li>□ (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 na vigable waters of the United States.</li> <li>□ (c) The permittee understands and a grees 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 or her authorized representative, said structure or work shall cause</li> </ul> | 9. <b>Management of Water Flows</b> . 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 |
| 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.  | 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.   |
| 2. Aquatic Life Movements. No activity may substantially disrupt the necessary life cycle movements of those species of a quatic 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 a quatic species. If a bottomless culvert cannot be used,   | □ 12. <b>Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls</b> . 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.   |
| then the crossing should be designed and constructed to minimize a dverse 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  | ☐ 13. <b>Removal of Temporary Fills</b> . Temporary structures must be removed, to the maximum extent practicable, a fter their use has been discontinued. 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.   |
| substantial turbidity) of an important spawning area are not authorized.  4. Migratory Bird Breeding Areas. Activities in waters of the United States that serve as breeding areas for migratory  | ☐ 14. <b>Proper Maintenance</b> . Any authorized structure or fill shall be properly maintained, including maintenance to ensure public safety and compliance with a pplicable NWP general conditions, as well as any activity-specific conditions added by  |
| birds must be a voided to the maximum extent practicable.   | the district engineer to an NWP authorization.   |
| □ 5. <b>Shellfish Beds</b> . No activity may occur in a reas 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   | ☐ 15. <b>Single and Complete Project</b> . 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.  |
| authorized by NWP 27.   | ☐ 16. Wild and Scenic Rivers.  |
| ☐ 6. <b>Suitable Material</b> . 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).  | ☐ (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 a gency with direct management responsibility for such river, has  |





| 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 a ware that section 110(k) 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 | waters including wetlands adjacent to those waters. The district engineer may authorize activities under these NWPs only after she or he determines 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. |
|---|---|
| of any historic properties a ffected, 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 a ffects 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  | ☐ (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-   |
| Artifacts. Permittees that discover any previously unknown historic, cultural or archeological remains and artifacts while accomplishing the activity authorized by an NWP, they must immediately notify the district engineer of what they have found, and to the maximum extent practicable, a void 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  | 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) Compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-forone ratio will be required for all losses of stream bed that exceed 3/100-acre and require pre-construction notification, unless the district engineer determines in  |
| if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.  22. <b>Designated Critical Resource Waters</b> . Critical resource waters include, NOAA-managed marine sanctuaries and marine monuments, and National Estuarine Research Reserves. The district engineer may designate, a fter 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.   | 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. This compensatory mitigation requirement may be satisfied through the restoration or enhancement of riparian areas next to streams in accordance with paragraph (e) of this general condition. For losses of stream bed of 3/100-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   |
| <ul> <li>□ (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, 52, 57 and 58 for any activity within, or directly affecting, critical resource waters, including wetlands a djacent to such waters.</li> <li>□ (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 by permittees in the designated critical resource</li> </ul>  | only 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 riparia n areas may be the only compensatory mitigation required. If restoring riparian areas involves planting vegetation, only native species should be planted. The width of the required riparian area will address documented water quality or a quatic 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 | 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)). If permittee-responsible mitigation is the proposed option, and the proposed compensatory mitigation site is located on land in which another federal agency holds an easement, the district engineer will coordinate with that federal agency to determine if proposed compensatory mitigation project is compatible with the terms of the easement.   (5) If mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program credits are the proposed option, the mitigation plan needs to address only the baseline conditions at the impact site and the number of credits to be provided (see 33 CFR 332.4(c)(1)(ii)). |
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| 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 a quatic resources must comply with the applicable provisions of 33 CFR part 332.  | ☐ (6) Compensatory mitigation requirements (e.g. resource type and a mount to be provided as compensatory mitigation, site protection, ecological performance standards, monitoring requirements) may be addressed through conditions a dded to the NWP authorization, instead of components of a compensatory mitigation plan (see 33 CFR 332.4(c)(1)(ii)).   |
| ☐ (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.   | ☐ (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 a creage limits also satisfies the no more than minimal impact requirement for the NWPs.   |
| <ul> <li>□ (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).)</li> <li>□ (3) Since the likelihood of success is greater and the impacts to potentially valuable uplands are</li> </ul>  | ☐ (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  |
| 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  | 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   |

| in a permanently maintained utility line right-of-way,  | Act consistency determination.  |
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| mitigation may be required to reduce the adverse environmental effects of the activity to the no more than minimal level.   | ☐ 28. Use of Multiple Nationwide Permits. The use of more than one NWP for a single and complete project is authorized, subject to the following restrictions:  |
| □ 24. <b>Safety of Impoundment Structures</b> . 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 or federal, 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.  | ☐ (a) If only one of the NWPs used to authorize the single and complete project has a specified acreage limit, the acreage loss of waters of the United States cannot 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.   |
| ☐ 25. Water Quality.  | $\Box$ (b) If one or more of the NWPs used to authorize the   |
| ☐ (a) Where the certifying authority (state, authorized tribe, or EPA, as appropriate) has not previously certified compliance of an NWP with CWA section 401, a CWA section 401 water quality certification for the proposed discharge must be obtained or waived (see 33 CFR 330.4(c)). If the permittee cannot comply with all of the conditions of a water quality certification previously issued by certifying authority for the issuance of the NWP, then the permittee must obtain a water quality certification or waiver for the proposed discharge in order for the activity to be authorized by an NWP. | single and complete project has specified acreage limits, the acreage loss of waters of the United States authorized by those NWPs cannot exceed their respective specified acreage limits. For example, if a commercial development is constructed under NWP 39, and the single and complete project includes the filling of an upland ditch authorized by NWP 46, the maximum acreage loss of waters of the United States for the commercial development under NWP 39 cannot exceed 1/2-acre, and the total acreage loss of waters of United States due to the NWP 39 and 46 activities cannot exceed 1 acre. |
| •   |   |
| □ (b) If the NWP activity requires pre-construction notification and the certifying authority has not previously certified compliance of an NWP with CWA section 401, the proposed discharge is not authorized by an NWP until water quality certification is obtained or waived. If the certifying authority issues a water quality certification for the proposed discharge, the permittee must submit a copy of the certification to the district engineer. The discharge is not authorized by an NWP until the district engineer has notified the permittee that  | □ 29. <b>Transfer of Nationwide Permit Verifications</b> . 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   |
| the water quality certification requirement has been satisfied by   | permit are still in existence at the time the property is   |
| the issuance of a water quality certification or a waiver.  (c) The district engineer or certifying authority may require a dditional water quality management measures to ensure that the authorized activity does not result in more than minimal degradation of water quality.   | 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."   |
| 26. Coastal Zone Management. In coastal states where an   | sign and date octow.  |
| 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)).  | (Transferee)  |
| If the permittee cannot comply with all of the conditions of a coastal zone management consistency concurrence previously issued by the state, then the permittee must obtain an individual   | (Date)  □ 30. Compliance Certification. Each permittee who  |
| coastal zone management consistency concurrence or presumption of concurrence in order for the activity to be authorized by an NWP. The district engineer or a state may require a dditional measures to ensure that the authorized a ctivity is consistent with state coastal zone management requirements.  | 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  |
| □ 27. <b>Regional and Case-By-Case Conditions.</b> 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 CWA section 401 Water Quality   | 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   | notice from the district or division engineer.  |
|--|---|
| accordance with the NWP authorization, including any general,  | However, if the permittee was required to notify the  |
| regional, or activity-specific conditions;   | Corps pursuant to general condition 18 that listed  |
| ☐ (b) A statement that the implementation of any required  | species or critical habitat might be affected or are in   |
| compensatory mitigation was completed in accordance with the   | the vicinity of the activity, or to notify the Corps<br>pursuant to general condition 20 that the activity  |
| permit conditions. If credits from a mitigation bank or in-lieu fee  | might have the potential to cause effects to historic   |
| program are used to satisfy the compensatory mitigation  | properties, the permittee cannot begin the activity   |
| requirements, the certification must include the documentation   | until receiving written notification from the Corps   |
| required by 33 CFR 332.3(l)(3) to confirm that the permittee   | that there is "no effect" on listed species or "no  |
| secured the appropriate number and resource type of credits; and   | potential to cause effects" on historic properties, or  |
| $\Box$ (c) The signature of the permittee certifying the   | that any consultation required under Section 7 of the   |
| completion of the activity and mitigation.   | Endangered Species Act (see 33 CFR 330.4(f))  |
|  | and/or section 106 of the National Historic   |
| The completed certification document must be submitted to the  | Preservation Act (see 33 CFR 330.4(g)) has been   |
| district engineer within 30 days of completion of the authorized   | completed. If the proposed activity requires a written  |
| activity or the implementation of any required compensatory  | waiver to exceed specified limits of an NWP, the  |
| mitigation, whichever occurs later.  | permittee may not begin the activity until the district   |
| ☐ 31. Activities Affecting Structures or Works Built by  | engineer issues the waiver. If the district or division   |
| the United States. If an NWP activity also requires review by,   | engineer notifies the permittee in writing that an  |
| or permission from, the Corps pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408  | individual permit is required within 45 calendar days   |
| because it will alter or temporarily or permanently occupy or use  | of receipt of a complete PCN, the permittee cannot  |
| a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) federally authorized  | begin the activity until an individual permit has been  |
| Civil Works project (a "USACE project"), the prospective   | obtained. Subsequently, the permittee's right to  |
| permittee must submit a pre-construction notification. See   | proceed under the NWP may be modified, suspended,   |
| paragraph (b)(10) of general condition 32. An activity that  | or revoked only in accordance with the procedure set  |
| requires section 408 permission and/or review is not authorized  | forth in 33 CFR 330.5(d)(2).  |
| by an NWP until the appropriate Corps office issues the section  | ☐ (b) Contents of Pre-Construction Notification: The  |
| 408 permission or completes its review to alter, occupy, or use  | PCN must be in writing and include the following  |
|  |   |
| the USACE project, and the district engineer issues a written  | information:  |
| NWP verification.  |   |
|  | ☐ (1) Name, address and telephone numbers of  |
| NWP verification.  ☐ 32. <b>Pre-Construction Notification</b> .  | ☐ (1) Name, address and telephone numbers of the prospective permittee;   |
| NWP verification.  □ 32. <b>Pre-Construction Notification</b> .  □ (a) <u>Timing</u> . Where required by the terms of the  | ☐ (1) Name, address and telephone numbers of  |
| NWP verification.  ☐ 32. <b>Pre-Construction Notification</b> .  | ☐ (1) Name, address and telephone numbers of the prospective permittee;   |
| NWP verification.  32. Pre-Construction Notification.  (a) Timing. Where required by the terms of the NWP, the prospective permittee must notify the district  | <ul> <li>□ (1) Name, address and telephone numbers of the prospective permittee;</li> <li>□ (2) Location of the proposed activity;</li> </ul>   |
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| compensatory mitigation or other mitigation   | designation) that might be affected by the proposed   |
|---|---|
| measures.   | activity. For NWP activities that require pre-  |
| ☐ (ii) For linear projects where one or more  | construction notification, Federal permittees must provide documentation demonstrating compliance     |
| single and complete crossings require pre-  | with the Endangered Species Act;  |
| construction notification, the PCN must include the   | with the Endangered Species Act,  |
| quantity of anticipated losses of wetlands, other   | $\square$ (8) For non-federal permittees, if the NWP  |
| special a quatic sites, and other waters for each single  | activity might have the potential to cause effects to a   |
| and complete crossing of those wetlands, other  | historic property listed on, determined to be eligible  |
| special aquatic sites, and other waters (including  | for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on, the   |
| those single and complete crossings authorized by an  | National Register of Historic Places, the PCN must  |
| NWP but do not require PCNs). This information  | state which historic property might have the potential  |
| will be used by the district engineer to evaluate the   | to be affected by the proposed activity or include a  |
| cumulative adverse environmental effects of the   | vicinity map indicating the location of the historic  |
| proposed linear project, and does not change those  | property. For NWP activities that require pre-  |
| non-PCN NWP activities into NWP PCNs.   | construction notification, Federal permittees must  |
| ☐ (iii) Sketches should be provided when  | provide documentation demonstrating compliance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation |
| necessary to show that the activity complies with the   |   |
| terms of the NWP. (Sketches usually clarify the   | Act;  |
| activity and when provided results in a quicker   | $\Box$ (9) For an activity that will occur in a   |
| decision. Sketches should contain sufficient detail to  | component of the National Wild and Scenic River   |
| provide an illustrative description of the proposed   | System, or in a river officially designated by  |
| activity (e.g., a conceptual plan), but do not need to  | Congress as a "study river" for possible inclusion in   |
| be detailed engineering plans);   | the system while the river is in an official study  |
| $\Box$ (5) The PCN must include a delineation of  | status, the PCN must identify the Wild and Scenic   |
| wetlands, other special a quatic sites, and other   | River or the "study river" (see general condition 16);  |
| waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial and  | and   |
| intermittent streams, on the project site. Wetland  | $\Box$ (10) For an NWP activity that requires   |
| delineations must be prepared in accordance with the  | permission from, or review by, the Corps pursuant to  |
| current method required by the Corps. The permittee   | 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will alter or temporarily or   |
| may ask the Corps to delineate the special a quatic   | permanently occupy or use a U.S. Army Corps of  |
| sites and other waters on the project site, but there   | Engineers federally authorized civil works project,   |
| may be a delay if the Corps does the delineation,   | the pre-construction notification must include a  |
| especially if the project site is large or contains many  | statement confirming that the project proponent has   |
| wetlands, other special a quatic sites, and other   | submitted a written request for section 408   |
| waters. Furthermore, the 45-day period will not start   | permission from, or review by, the Corps office   |
| until the delineation has been submitted to or  | having jurisdiction over that USACE project.  |
| completed by the Corps, as appropriate;   | $\Box$ (c) Form of Pre-Construction Notification: The   |
| $\Box$ (6) If the proposed activity will result in the  | nationwide permit pre-construction notification form  |
| loss of greater than 1/10-acre of wetlands or 3/100-  | (Form ENG 6082) should be used for NWP PCNs. A  |
| acre of stream bed and a PCN is required, the   | letter containing the required information may also be  |
| prospective permittee must submit a statement   | used. Applicants may provide electronic files of PCNs   |
| describing how the mitigation requirement will be   | and supporting materials if the district engineer has   |
| satisfied, or explaining why the adverse  | established tools and procedures for electronic submittals.   |
| environmental effects are no more than minimal and  | ☐ (d) <u>Agency Coordination</u> :  |
| why compensatory mitigation should not be required.   | · / - · · ·   |
| As an alternative, the prospective permittee may  | ☐ (1) The district engineer will consider any   |
| submit a conceptual or detailed mitigation plan.  | comments from Federal and state agencies  |
| $\square$ (7) For non-federal permittees, if any listed   | concerning the proposed a ctivity's compliance with the terms and conditions of the NWPs and the need |
| species (or species proposed for listing) or designated   | for mitigation to reduce the activity's a dverse  |
| critical habitat (or critical habitat proposed for such   | environmental effects so that they are no more than   |
| designation) might be affected or is in the vicinity of   | minimal.  |
| the activity, or if the activity is located in designated   |   |
| critical habitat (or critical habitat proposed for such   | $\square$ (2) Agency coordination is required for: (i) all  |
| designation), the PCN must include the name(s) of   | NWP activities that require pre-construction  |
| those endangered or threatened species (or species  | notification and result in the loss of greater than 1/2-  |
| proposed for listing) that might be affected by the   | acre of waters of the United States; (ii) NWP 13  |
| proposed activity or utilize the designated critical habitat (or critical habitat proposed for such | activities in excess of 500 linear feet, fills greater  |

discharges of dredged or fill material into special aquatic sites; and (iii) 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.  $\square$  (3) When a gency 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 a gencies 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 a gency 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 that the net adverse environmental effects of the proposed activity are no more than minimal. The district engineer will provide no response to the resource a gency, except as provided below. The district engineer will indicate in the administrative record associated with each preconstruction notification that the resource a gencies' 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

☐ (4) In cases of where the prospective permittee is not a Federal a gency, 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.

accordance with the procedures at 33 CFR 330.5.

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

#### C. District Engineer's Decision

 $\square$  1. In reviewing the PCN for the proposed activity, the district engineer will determine whether the activity a uthorized 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 a quatic 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 single and complete crossings of waters of the United States that require PCNs 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 of waters of the United States authorized by an NWP. If an applicant requests a waiver of an applicable limit, as provided for in NWPs 13, 36, 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 en vironmental effects.

□ 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 an 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 a quatic 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 a vailable and practicable to use, that assessment method may be used by the district engineer to a ssist in the minimal adverse environmental effects determination. The district engineer may add casespecific 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 or 3/100-acre of stream bed, 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. 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 that the NWP activity results in no more than minimal a dverse 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 activityspecific 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), 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.

## D. 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).

#### E. Nationwide Permit 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 a quatic resources for the purposes of offsetting unavoidable a dverse impacts which remain after all appropriate and practicable a voidance and minimization has been a chieved.

**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 a quatic resource area.

**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 a quatic 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.

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. The loss of stream bed includes the acres of stream bed that are permanently adversely affected by filling or excavation 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 or wetlands 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. 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: The term ordinary high water mark means that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.

**Perennial stream:** A perennial stream has surface water flowing continuously year-round during a typical year.

**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 a uthorized by nationwide permit. The request may be a permit application, letter, or similar document that includes information a bout 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 a uthorized by nationwide permit.

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

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

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

**Restoration:** The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former or degraded aquatic resource. For the purpose of tracking net gains in aquatic resource area, restoration is divided into two categories: reesta blishment 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 a reas are lands next to streams, lakes, and estuarine-marine shorelines. Riparian a reas are transitional between terrestrial and a quatic ecosystems, through which surface and subsurface hydrology connects riverine, lacustrine, estuarine, and marine waters with their adjacent wetlands, nonwetland 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 a ccomplished 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 jurisdictional stream remains a water of the United States.

**Structure:** An object that is a rranged 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.

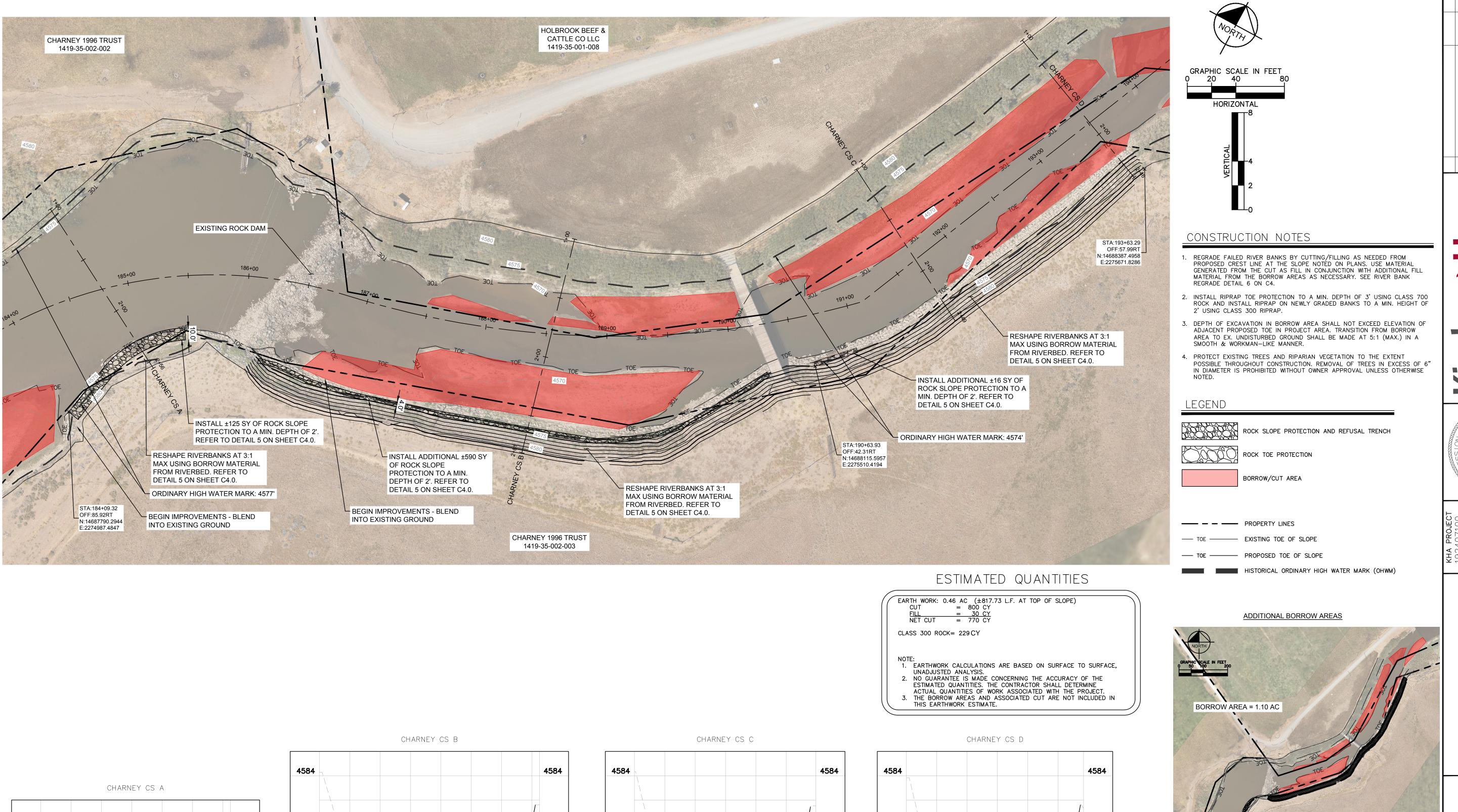
**Tidal wetland:** A tidal wetland is a jurisdictional wetland that is inundated by tidal waters. Tidal waters rise and fall in a predictable and measurable rhythm or cycle due to the gravitational pulls of the moon and sun. Tidal waters end where the rise and fall of the water surface canno longer be practically measured in a predictable rhythm due to masking by other waters, wind, or other effects. Tidal wetlands are located channel ward 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 a lienation.

**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 a greement, 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 "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)).



2 + 49

- EXISTING GROUND

2+00

1+00

2 + 46

- EXISTING GROUND

2+00

2+56

- EXISTING GROUND

2+00

1+00

2+81

- EXISTING GROUND

2+00

1+00

1+00

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