NOME PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 02, 2022 at 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL

102 Division St. ▪ P.O. Box 281 . Nome, Alaska 99762 . Phone (907) 443-6663 . Fax (907) 443-5345

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING

ADJOURNMENT

NOME PLANNING COMMISSION
RESCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2022 at 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL

102 Division St. ▪ P.O. Box 281 . Nome, Alaska 99762 . Phone (907) 443-6663 . Fax (907) 443-5345

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Colleen Deighton; Mathew Michels (virtual - Microsoft Teams); Melissa Ford; Carol Piscoya; John Odden; Gregory Smith

Members Absent: Ken Hughes

Also Present: Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Clifton McHenry, Building Inspector; Jeremy Jacobson, Deputy City Clerk; John Blees, City Engineer (virtual - Microsoft Teams)

In the audience: Peter Loewi, Nome Nugget

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. Smith and seconded by C. Deighton to approve the agenda.

At the roll call:

Aye: Michels; Ford; Piscoya; Odden; Smith; Deighton

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 1, 2022 Nome Planning Commission Minutes

A motion was made by C. Smith and seconded by C. Deighton to approve the March 1, 2022 minutes.

At the roll call:

Aye: Michels; Ford; Piscoya; Odden; Smith; Deighton

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

CITY OF NOME GENERAL PERMIT RENEWAL W/ USACE

A. City Engineer

(2:05)

- City Engineer John Blees joined the meeting virtually via Microsoft Teams.
- City Manager Steckman acknowledged the potential East end of town development, a lack of funding for water and sewer placement, and natural drainage that would need addressing before development.
- City Engineer John Blees informed the Commission that any area added to the existing Nome General Permit would likely need fieldwork and wetland delineations. In 2017, five to six regions were added to the then-current Nome General Permit, costing around $65k.
- Commissioner Smith inquired into adding East of the Bypass and Kruscheck Ave, around the Swanberg Dredge area.
- City Engineer John Blees suggested that while the Nome General Permit (NGP) does not cover East of the bypass, the area could remain until after mining occurs as the subsequent ponds are considered man-made and more easily permitted.
- Commissioner Odden cited interest in the West Beach area, East of the Nome Wastewater lagoon site.
- City Engineer John Blees noted past discussions regarding East of the Wastewater Lagoon, whether paying for and supplying work toward permitting the area, owned by Alaska Gold Co. and Bering Straits Native Corp., was worthwhile. Either corporation could secure their permits by paying and filing the necessary paperwork.
- Commissioner Smith inquired into Nome 21st Century Subdivision.
- City Engineer John Blees stated Nome 21st Century Subdivision was already completely covered under the Nome General Permit (NGP). He recommended adding any wetlands of interest to the NGP.
- Commissioner Odden inquired into the tailings north of the Monofill, near Anvil Mountain Correctional Center.
- City Engineer John Blees noted that the tailings were considered uplands.
- Commissioner Smith suggested that all areas look to be covered.
- City Manager Steckman inquired into Area 15, Rotary Park, as an addition to the NGP.
- City Engineer John Blees confirmed that Area 15 was included in the NGP. He noted that development in the area near the drainage channels would require additional caution while building.
- City Manager Steckman questioned the Planning Commission's satisfaction with current coverage. He noted that development had been a topic not just locally but statewide.
- Commissioner Ford inquired into the length of coverage with renewing the NGP and options to modify if needed.

- City Manager Steckman commented that any expansion or amendment would involve additional studies and costs.
- City Engineer John Blees further commented that the size of the area added to the NGP plays a factor. A simple renewal of the NGP would require a written request to the Army Core of Engineers.

A motion was made by C. Ford and seconded by C. Smith to accept the current NGP as it is and seek renewal.

Discussion:

- City Engineer John Blees added that there would still be an opportunity to expand the NGP if needed. For example, residential development in areas already covered by utilities or in the process of utilities being added and designated in a wetlands area.
- Commissioner Michels inquired into the potential loss of government funding from development over disturbed wetland to upland.
- City Engineer Blees noted that while not having extensive experience with the topic, typically, development over disturbed land is thought of positively by most.

At the roll call:

Aye: Ford; Piscoya; Odden; Smith; Deighton; Michels

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

A. Historic Preservation Plan

(30:52)

- City Manager Steckman recounted past Historic Preservation Plan (HPP) discussions, suggesting moving forward. As City Manager, he would work on completing the HPP in the absence of a City Planner.
- Commissioner Oden opined that it was a great idea.
- Commissioner Piscoya questioned whether a draft would be available before finalization.
- City Manager Steckman confirmed that a draft would be available for review before finalization.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. FW: Local Planning & Review for the Port Road Reconstruction

(33:40)

- Deputy Clerk Jacobson stated that the 90-day commentary period would conclude in June.
- City Manager Steckman asked if should Department of Transportation present at the next Planning Commission meeting for the public.
- Commissioner Oden agreed.

- Commissioner Ford agreed.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

(35:22)

- Scot Henderson, City Council member seat "C," gave an outline for the housing development incentive plan City Manager Steckman and himself currently were working on. The plan specifically targets long-term rental and multi-family housing available to the general public. The first of three tiers of the program would address deteriorated properties. The second tier of the program would target new construction. Both programs ideally would be property tax-exempt, ten years for redevelopment and 20 years for new construction. Additional municipal fees, such as permitting fees, would be considered. Designing a "utility's credits" program was to be discussed with NJUS soon.
- City Manager Steckman noted that the development incentive plan would likely see revision before a first and second reading with the City Council.
- Commissioner Deighton suggested that if the goal were to decrease upfront development costs, cutting initial utility hookup fees to the development site would be ideal.
- Commissioner Odden inquired into how the City would manage the loss of revenue.
- Scot Henderson, City Council Member "seat C," suggested deferring costs over time for a short period, such as five years, easing construction costs burdens. In contrast, the City would gain new services and housing worth a lifetime of a home.
- Commissioner Smith suggested that spending money to make money in business is required at times.

NEW BUSINESS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

STAFF REPORTS

A. City Manager's Report

(58:59)

- City Manager Steckman noted that the 2022/2023 yearly budget would be available Monday, and seasonal sales tax will not be in effect. Without seasonal sales tax revenue, the City's budget would be affected by at least one million dollars. The city permitting process is transitioning from paper to electronic. There was a meaningful housing discussion during Senator Murkowski's recent visit.

(1:03:00)

- Building Inspector McHenry noted vacant properties around town that are creating issues. George foot property was of note.
- City Manager Steckman noted that the individual assisting in probate has been working very smoothly with the City in correcting the property and situation.
- Building Inspector McHenry encouraged citizens to contact the City before building, pointing out the City of Nome's new permitting software to promote efficiency in the process.

- City Manager Steckman noted past abatements by the City. As things returned to normalcy, the City would update and review the abatement list.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- Commissioner Piscoya approved completing the Historic Preservation Plan, written staff reports, collaboration with an abatement list, and approval of Scot Henderson's economic development plan.
- Commissioner Odden recognized the importance of abatement, noting the right of way hazards as a public safety issue.
- Commissioner Smith applauded the HPP effort moving forward and Scot Henderson's plan to stimulate construction. He opined his excitement towards abatement, identifying housing enforcement as a need everywhere, particularly locally, opining a need to establish a property maintenance code.
- Commissioner Deighton opined her interest in establishing development incentives.
- Commissioner Michels thanked City Manager Steckman for his efforts to move the HPP forward. In his most recent experience, he opined that the City's new permitting software is more efficient than the paper process. He suggested updating building code standards in Nome.
- Commissioner Ford thanked Scott Henderson for the development incentives project, Building Inspector Cliff McHenry, and the City's new permitting process.

SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Nome Planning Commission is scheduled for May 10th.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections the Planning Commission adjourned at 8:37 PM.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 12th day of July, 2022.

_____

KENNETH HUGHES III
Chair

ATTEST:

_____

JEREMY JACOBSON
Deputy City Clerk

NOME PLANNING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 23, 2022 at 7:00 PM
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM

102 Division St. ▪ P.O. Box 281 . Nome, Alaska 99762 . Phone (907) 443-6663 . Fax (907) 443-5345

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Ken Hughes; Greg Smith; Carol Piscoya; Melissa Ford (telephonic); Mathew Michels (telephonic);

Members Absent: John Odden (excused); Colleen Deighton (excused)

Also Present: Jeremy Jacobson, Deputy City Clerk; Clifton McHenry, City Building Inspector

In the audience:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. Piscoya and seconded by C. Smith to approve the agenda.

At the roll call:

Aye: Piscoya; Hughes; Smith; Michels; Ford

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None given.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Variance Application for Lot 1 S' 71' Block 30 - 301 Division St., **PUBLIC HEARING**

For the purpose of holding a public hearing the Commission recessed at 7:08 PM.

Public Hearing:

- Caroline Kauer, variance applicant, respectfully acknowledged Planning Commissioners in attendance amid such a beautiful day. As she described, in light of recent health issues and at direction from an inspector and appraiser, requirements to meet current building code with various properties ensued, restoration and repairs. Subsequent instruction was given that any

exterior landing less than 36" wide does not meet current code. The front step landing at 301 Division St. did not meet that criteria. She proposed an alternate design, referencing sketches provided with her Variance application. She noted the width of the proposed landing still would not meet 36" wide.

The Commission reconvened at 7:14 PM.

A motion was made by C. Smith and seconded by C. Piscoya to approve Variance #2022-02V.

Discussion:

- Commissioner Smith inquired into reviewing the Variance criteria.
- Chairman Hughes affirmed reviewing Variance criteria.
- Caroline Kauer made suggestion to a sub-standard lot reviewal in a Variance process be done administratively, rather than a special meeting of various time and resource.
- Chairman Hughes read through all requirements for granting a Variance, finding, criteria 1-8 to be true.

At the roll call:

Aye: Piscoya; Smith; Hughes; Ford; Michels

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn by C. Smith, hearing no objections, the Nome Planning Commission adjournment at 7:33 PM.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 12th day of July, 2022.

_____

KENNETH HUGHES III
Chair

ATTEST:

_____

JEREMY JACOBSON
Deputy City Clerk

Glenn Steckman

From: Bryant Hammond
Sent: Friday, July 8, 2022 2:01 PM
To: Glenn Steckman
Cc: Amy Chan
Subject: FW: POA-1998-00090-M3, Pioneer Ditch, SHPO Correspondence

Glenn and Amy,

I just got off the phone with Leslie about this. She's looking for an agreement between interested parties (normally the local museum, historical preservation society, and State Historical Preservation Office) to mitigate the impacts of a mining project. In this case, Paul Sayer will be mining through one of the historic mining ditches, about 2300 linear feet. This particular ditch was selected as a possible designation for the national historic register.

Mitigation is open ended, and usually occurs through the local museum. Leslie said she's been trying to discuss with the Museum, but has had no luck in making any more contact than this email shows. I'm befuddled why Amy would simply pass this off the Clerk's Office when its squarely set in the Museum's purview. So, when I spoke with Leslie, I suggested Cheryl has the expertise to work on an oral history project for the museum. I think she'd enjoy it too.

Ms. Tose will be in Nome Monday through Friday this week (11 – 15) and would like to schedule a meeting. I told her I'd make it happen, with whoever is willing and qualified to assist.

Bryant

From: Tose, Leslie W CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA) <Leslie.W.Tose@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2022 3:39 PM
To: Bryant Hammond <BHammond@nomealaska.org>
Subject: RE: POA-1998-00090-M3, Pioneer Ditch, SHPO Correspondence

Hi Bryant – I will give you a call in the Am. Thanks, Leslie

From: Bryant Hammond <BHammond@nomealaska.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2022 11:28 AM
To: Tose, Leslie W CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA) <Leslie.W.Tose@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: POA-1998-00090-M3, Pioneer Ditch, SHPO Correspondence

Hi Leslie,

I'm not at all familiar with the SHPO process, but am happy to work with you. Amy may not understand what you are asking.

What are the requirements?

Bryant

From: Tose, Leslie W CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA) <Leslie.W.Tose@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2022 10:31 AM
To: Bryant Hammond <BHammond@nomealaska.org>
Subject: RE: POA-1998-00090-M3, Pioneer Ditch, SHPO Correspondence

Hello Mr. Hammond,

You have received this message chain.

I am a project manager with the Corps of Engineers. I am working with Paul Sayer on a wetlands permit. We need to figure out how to mitigate for his proposal to mine thru the Pioneer Ditch on his property under Section 106

Trying to figure out how to work with the museum, but have sent several emails and never received a clear answer from the director on how this would occur. Are you the person we work with?

Respectfully,
Leslie Tose

Leslie W. Tose
Project Manager
Regulatory Division - CEPOA RD
PO Box 6898, 2204 3rd St.
JBER, Alaska 99506

Email: leslie.w.tose@usace.army.mil
Phone: 907-753-5515

From: Amy Chan <AChan@nomealaska.org>
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2022 4:36 PM
To: Tose, Leslie W CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA) <Leslie.W.Tose@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Bryant Hammond <BHammond@nomealaska.org>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fw: POA-1998-00090-M3, Pioneer Ditch, SHPO Correspondence

Hi Leslie,

Hope all is well. I am forwarding this communication on to City Clerk Bryant Hammond, cc'd here.

Best wishes,

Amy

Amy Phillips-Chan, PhD
Museum Director
Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum
100 West 7th Avenue | P.O. Box 53
Nome, Alaska 99762 | 907-443-6631

From: frankie sayer <pfsayer@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2022 9:30 PM
To: Tose, Leslie W CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA)
Cc: Amy Chan; Johnson, McKenzie S (DNR)
Subject: Re: POA-1998-00090-M3, Pioneer Ditch, SHPO Correspondence

Hi Leslie
I am available all of this weekend and next week at any time that you want to come out just let me know thanks for letting me know that they want to be here I hope we get them to see that we need to mine where that dich is
Be safe Paul
Sent from my iPhone

> On Jun 24, 2022, at 2:47 PM, Tose, Leslie W CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA) <Leslie.W.Tose@usace.army.mil> wrote:
>
> Hello Dr. Chan,
>
> I am a Project Manager with the US Army Corps of Engineers in Anchorage. I work on permits for projects that take place in wetlands. I have been working with Dr. Paul Sayer, who is mining on the hillside north of Dredge 5, to get a wetland permit. He is proposing to mine through a 2300 lf segment of the Pioneer Ditch, which has been listed as eligible for the National Historic Register. This will necessitate developing a Memorandum of Agreement to resolve adverse impacts to the ditch; I am reaching out for your participation.
>
> I will be in Nome during the week of July 11-15 and would love to meet in person with yourself and Dr. Sayer. Mackenzie Johnson with SHPO can be available by teleconference. The Corps now has an archaeologist, Chris Parrish, and he may participate telephonically as well.
>
> Are you available during this timeframe?
>
> I will also try to reach you by phone next week.
>
> Respectfully,
> Leslie Tose

Leslie W. Tose
Project Manager
Regulatory Division - CEPOA RD
PO Box 6898, 2204 3rd St.
JBER, Alaska 99506

Email: leslie.w.tose@usace.army.mil
Phone: 907-753-5515

US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

ANCHORAGE
Regulatory Division (1145)
CEPOA-RD
Post Office Box 6898
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

Public Notice of Application for Permit

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: **January 14, 2022.**

EXPIRATION DATE: **February 14, 2022**

REFERENCE NUMBER: **POA-1998-00090-M3**

WATERWAY: **Newton Gulch**

Interested parties are hereby notified that a Department of the Army permit application has been received for work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed project drawings.

All comments regarding this Public Notice should be sent to the address noted above. If you desire to submit your comments by email, you should send it to the Project Manager's email as listed below or to regpagemaster@usace.army.mil. All comments should include the Public Notice reference number listed above.

All comments should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Leslie Tose at (907) 753-5515, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, by fax at (907) 753-5567, or by email at Leslie.w.tose@usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

APPLICANT: Dry Gulch, LLC., Dr. Paul Sayer, Gen. Mgr., Post Office Box 10, Homer, Alaska 99603 Email: pfsayer@gmail.com Phone Number: 907-299-2077

LOCATION: The project site is located within Sections 7, 8, 17, and 18, T. 11 S., R. 33 W., Kateel River Meridian; USGS Quad Map Nome C-1; Latitude 64.5391° N., Longitude 165.3331° W.; in Nome, Alaska.

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated purpose is to conduct commercial gold mining.

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant proposes to modify his permit, adding 18-acres to his existing 91 acre mine site. He proposes to discharge approximately 4,050,000 cubic yards of overburden and non-pay material into 4.5 acres of wetlands and 13.5 acres of uplands to conduct mechanical land clearing and reclamation in association with a placer mining operation. A summary of the permit and modifications are summarized in the table below. Details on the proposed modification are included on the enclosed plans (sheets 1-4), dated January 12, 2022.

POA#	Acres Total	Wetland Acres	Upland Acres
POA-1998-00090	15	15	
POA-1998-00090-M1	7	7	
POA-1998-00090-M2 *(active)*	91	46.5	44.5
POA-1998-00090-M3 *(active)*	18	4.5	13
Total Active Acres -M2, -M3	109		

APPLICANT PROPOSED MITIGATION: The applicant proposes the following mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, and compensate for impacts to waters of the United States from activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material.

a. Avoidance: There is existing infrastructure –roads, camp, and staging areas - located in uplands. The operation is located on a hillside bench, there will be no stream impacts. Mining will avoid unnecessary impacts, because there are historic drill and mining records that identify the location of a probable economic gold resource.

b. Minimization: The operation is located on a hillside with little slope, away from any creek. Erosion from the operation is managed by filling previously mined cuts with tailings. Water from melting permafrost is managed by allowing exposed frozen material to thaw over one to two mining seasons, with water travelling a short distance to existing ditches and seeping into shallow ponds. The ponds store water and accumulate sediment. Eventually these sediment areas will form nice areas for natural vegetation to thrive during the rainy season.

c. Compensatory Mitigation is not being proposed for this project, because the avoidance and minimization measures described in this Mitigation Statement are appropriate and practicable to the scope and degree of the environmental impacts of the project.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are cultural resources in the permit area and within the vicinity of the permit area. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the Corps at this time. The Corps has made an Adverse Effect determination for the proposed project. This application is being coordinated with SHPO and the ACHP. Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The project area is within the known or historic range of critical habitat for the polar bear *(Ursus maritimus)*.

We have determined the described activity would have no effect on the polar bear, and, would have no effect on any designated or proposed critical habitat, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). Therefore, no consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is required. However, any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). No EFH species are known to use the project area.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Alaska District fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between Federally recognized Tribes and the Federal government. Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Alaska District on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This Public Notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Commander during the public comment period.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The outcome of the general balancing process would determine whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur. The decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(l) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Commander determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authority:

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States – Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

Project drawings and a Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are enclosed with this Public Notice.

District Commander
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

PUBLIC NOTICE

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program/401 Certification
555 Cordova Street, Anchorage AK 99501-2617
Phone: 907-269-6285 | Email: DEC-401Cert@alaska.gov

Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the CWA, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws.

Notice is hereby given that a request for a CWA §401 Water Quality Certification of a Department of the Army Permit application, Corps of Engineers' Reference Number POA-1998-00090-M3, Newton Gulch, has been received for the discharge of dredged and/or fill materials into waters of the United States (WOUS), including wetlands, as described in the Corps public notice and project figures/drawings (18 AAC 15.180).

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to water quality, may submit comments electronically via email to DEC-401cert@alaska.gov by the expiration date of the Corps of Engineer's public notice. All comments need to include the Corps public notice reference number in the subject heading. Physically mailed comments must be postmarked on or before the expiration date of the public notice.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify there is reasonable assurance the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the CWA, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

The permit application and associated documents are available for review. For inquires or to request copies of the documents, contact dec-401cert@alaska.gov, or call 907-269-6285.

Disability Reasonable Accommodation Notice

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need special accommodation in order to participate in this public process, please contact ADA Coordinator Brian Blessington at 907-269-6272 or TDD Relay Service 1-800-770-8973/TTY or dial 711 within 5 days of the expiration date of this public notice to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

From: frankie sayer
To: Tose, Leslie W CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] POA-1998-00090-M3:Permit Mod_Plans
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:51:14 PM

Leslie Tose. APMA 9703
FROM Paul Sayer
Re: COE POA-1998-00090-M3

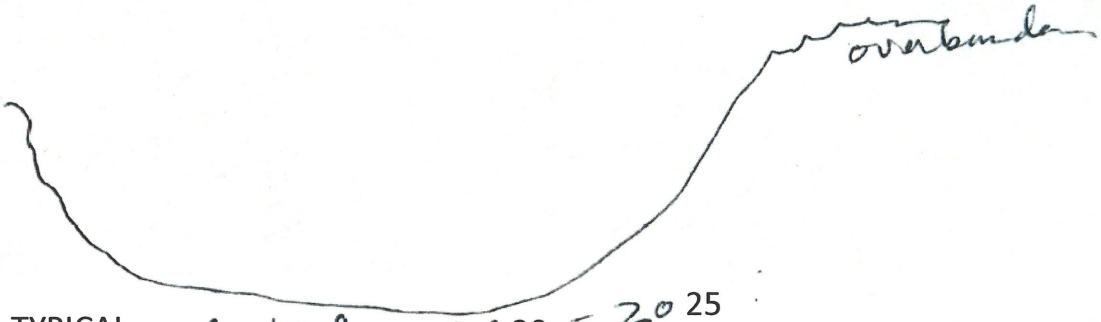
I would like a modification of the current permit.
Referring to the current Permit as per your email of 10/13/2021.
We wish to modify the permit to include the modification of additional 18 acres referred to as M3 Mod of wetlands 4.5 acres and uplands 13.5 acres on the northwest sides of years 2021 thru 2025 marked in the shape of a knife blade.

Our mining plans are to move about 810,000 cubic yards of mining material per year.
Equipment used includes three deck shaker plant, D10 Cat dozer, a 135 Komatsu dozer, three Hitachi excavators, sizes :200, 450, 700, hydraulic nozzle, six water pumps sizes 6,8,and 10 inches, 988B Cat loader.
About 4 acres mined and about four acres reclaimed per year.

Sent from my iPad

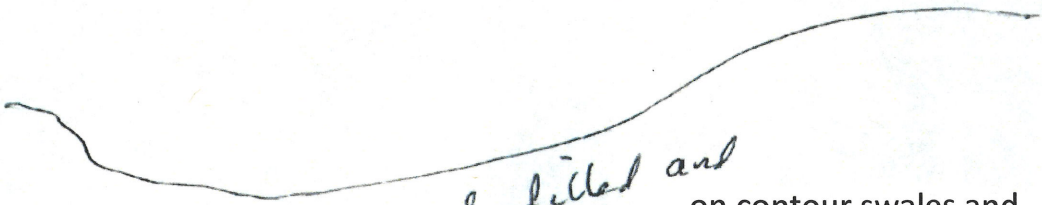
TYPICAL Cross Sections

STRIPPING OVERBURDEN



TYPICAL Cut for 2020 - 2025
Year by year from 1' deep
to pay end - 40' - 70' Deep

Mining



Cut burned, filled and
Contoured creating on contour swales and
approximately 5' deep ponds

Restoration

7/25/17 bA

Location: Sec. 29, T. 11 S., R. 33 W., KRM
USGS Quad Nome C-1
Lat. 64.5336, Long. -165.3372

POA-1998-00090-M3, APMA 9703, Newton Gulch
Permittee: Dry Gulch LLC , Mr. Paul Sayer
P 4 of 4 Date: 1/12/2022

RECLAMATION: TYPICAL SETTLING POND, BEFORE *(Top)* & AFTER *(Bottom)* MINING

From: Blees, John
To: Jeremy Jacobson
Cc: Bryant Hammond
Subject: FW: RGP-01_POA-2006-214
Date: Friday, July 08, 2022 4:13:19 PM
Attachments: NWP-03_FS_2021.pdf
NWP-14_FS_2021.pdf
NWP-23_FS_2021.pdf
NWP-29_FS_2021.pdf
NWP-39_FS_2021.pdf
NWP-57_FS_2021.pdf
NWP-58_FS_2021.pdf
2021_NWP_Summary_Chart.pdf

Information from Swade.

John Blees, P.E. LEED AP
Senior Engineer
Bristol Engineering Services Company, LLC
Phone : (907) 743-9356
jblees@bristol-companies.com

From: Hammond, Swade D POA <Swade.D.Hammond@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Friday, July 8, 2022 4:05 PM
To: Blees, John <jblees@bristol-companies.com>
Cc: Jacobson, Gwendolyn A POA <Gwendolyn.A.Jacobson@usace.army.mil>; Winn, Ryan H CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA) <Ryan.H.Winn@usace.army.mil>
Subject: RGP-01_POA-2006-214

[External Email]

Good Afternoon!

To better serve the City of Nome and its citizens, the city must consider upcoming development needs and if projects could meet the provided Nationwide Permit (NWP) thresholds below. If upcoming projects would not meet the NWPs, the Nome Regional General Permit (RGP) may need to be re-issued. USACE regulatory seeks to protect the nation's aquatic resources while allowing reasonable development, through fair and balanced permit decisions. This includes the consideration of case-specific or location specific RGPs. Below is a collection of information regarding the Nome RGP and other options to consider for future projects. If we can determine Nome's upcoming needs, we can better serve the city and the public in this region of Alaska.

In the past 15 years, RGP-01_City of Nome (POA-2006-214) has been used a handful of times. We verified a few large projects that were perfect for the RGP. The remainder of them were minimal and could be authorized by other means. Four of these projects (2013-00549, 2013-00634, 2017-00472, and 2020-00418) would have likely required Individual permits (IP). The remaining 8 projects below

with impacts showing, could have received a NWP, which is the same General Permit process as the Nome RGP. The projects identified in the tables as 2012-00805 thru 00810, could have also been verified under NWP procedures, based on the best available information. With the exception of the two labeled as "Unknown". I recently received an email that there are two projects currently being reviewed (or have likely now been verified) under RGP-01 with approx. 1 acres of impacts, for residential development. That brings the total to 6 projects in a span of 15 years that have utilized the RGP where an Individual review (120 day process vs 30 to 60 day process), was required. The data is below.

After looking at ORM information, I pulled the following Nationwide Permit information and their associated thresholds. The activities outlined in the RGP may be captured under the following:
NWP 3 – covers maintenance activities and does not have a threshold limit.
NWP 14 – covers road projects with .5 acre threshold
NWP 23 – covers FHWA funded (CATEX) road projects and does not have a threshold limit
NWP 29 – residential construction .5 acre threshold
NWP 39 – commercial development .5 acre threshold
NWP 57 – Utility lines (Electric) .5 acre threshold
NWP 58 – Utility lines (Water) .5 acre threshold (electric and water lines typically don't exceed the .5 acre threshold for permanent impacts)

2007-2012 Data

DA Number	Action Type	Init Prop Fill Area	Prop Fill Area	Auth Fill Area
POA-2010-00070	RGP	1.1	1.1	1.1
POA-2010-00052	RGP	0.52	52	0.52
POA-2011-00538	RGP	0.25	0.25	0.25

2012-2017 Data

DA Number	Action Type	Init Prop Fill Area	Prop Fill Area	Auth Fill Area
POA-2012-00805	RGP	-	-	Road
POA-2012-00806	RGP	-	-	Road
POA-2012-00807	RGP	-	-	Utility Line
POA-2012-00808	RGP	-	-	Unknown
POA-2012-00809	RGP	-	-	Unknown
POA-2012-00810	RGP	-	-	RSDNTL
POA-2013-00549	RGP	19.59	19.59	19.59
POA-2013-00634	RGP	36.44	36.44	36.44

2017-2022 Data

DA Number	Action Type	Init Prop Fill Area	Prop Fill Area	Auth Fill Area
POA-2017-00472	RGP	1.15	1.15	1.15
POA-2017-00539	RGP	0.44	0.44	0.44
POA-2018-00261	RGP	0.229959	0.229959	0.229959
POA-2018-00272	RGP	0.2	0.2	0.2
POA-2019-00301	RGP	0.034435	0.034435	0.034435
POA-2019-00319	RGP	0.16	0.16	0.16
POA-2020-00418	RGP	2.7	2.7	2.7
POA-2021-00294	RGP	0.06	0.06	0.06

Respectfully,

Swade Hammond
Senior Project Manager
Regulatory Division
Alaska District, North Section
Phone: 907-753-5556

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Alaska District

Nationwide Permit 03: 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.

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (86 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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

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

Notification: For activities authorized by paragraph (b) of this NWP, the permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity (see general condition 32). The pre-construction notification must include information regarding the original design capacities and configurations of the outfalls, intakes, small impoundments, and canals. (Authorities: Section 10 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.

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (86 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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Nationwide Permit 39: Commercial and Institutional Developments

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction or expansion of commercial and institutional building foundations and building pads and attendant features that are necessary for the use and maintenance of the structures. Attendant features may include, but are not limited to, roads, parking lots, garages, yards, utility lines, storm water management facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, and recreation facilities such as playgrounds and playing fields. Examples of commercial developments include retail stores, industrial facilities, restaurants, business parks, and shopping centers. Examples of institutional developments include schools, fire stations, government office buildings, judicial buildings, public works buildings, libraries, hospitals, and places of worship. The construction of new golf courses and new ski areas is not authorized by this NWP.

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

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

(Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

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

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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Nationwide Permit 29: Residential Developments

Discharges of dredged or fill material into non-tidal waters of the United States for the construction or expansion of a single residence, a multiple unit residential development, or a residential subdivision. This NWP authorizes the construction of building foundations and building pads and attendant features that are necessary for the use of the residence or residential development. Attendant features may include but are not limited to roads, parking lots, garages, yards, utility lines, storm water management facilities, septic fields, and recreation facilities such as playgrounds, playing fields, and golf courses (provided the golf course is an integral part of the residential development).

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

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

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

(Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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Nationwide Permit 58: Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances

Activities required for the construction, maintenance, repair, and removal of utility lines for water and other substances, excluding oil, natural gas, products derived from oil or natural gas, and electricity. Oil or natural gas pipeline activities or electric utility line and telecommunications activities may be authorized by NWPs 12 or 57, respectively. This NWP also authorizes associated utility line facilities in waters of the United States, provided the activity does not result in the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States for each single and complete project.

Utility lines: This NWP authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States and structures or work in navigable waters for crossings of those waters associated with the construction, maintenance, or repair of utility lines for water and other substances, including outfall and intake structures. There must be no change in pre-construction contours of waters of the United States. A “utility line” is defined as any pipe or pipeline for the transportation of any gaseous, liquid, liquescent, or slurry substance, for any purpose that is not oil, natural gas, or petrochemicals. Examples of activities authorized by this NWP include utility lines that convey water, sewage, stormwater, wastewater, brine, irrigation water, and industrial products that are not petrochemicals. The term “utility line” does not include activities that drain a water of the United States, such as drainage tile or french drains, but it does apply to pipes conveying drainage from another area.

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

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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

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

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

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

This NWP authorizes, to the extent that Department of the Army authorization is required, temporary structures, fills, and work necessary for the remediation of inadvertent returns of drilling fluids to waters of the United States through sub-soil fissures or fractures that might occur during horizontal directional drilling activities conducted for the purpose of installing or replacing utility lines. These remediation

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

This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work, including the use of temporary mats, necessary to conduct the utility line activity. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain normal downstream flows and minimize flooding to the maximum extent practicable, when temporary structures, work, and discharges of dredged or fill material, including cofferdams, are necessary for construction activities, access fills, or dewatering of construction sites. Temporary fills must consist of materials, and be placed in a manner, that will not be eroded by expected high flows. After construction, temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to 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: (1) A section 10 permit is required; or (2) the discharge will result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of waters of the United States. (See general condition 32.)

(Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Note 1: Where the utility line is constructed, installed, or maintained 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: Access roads used for both construction and maintenance may be authorized, provided they meet the terms and conditions of this NWP. Access roads

used solely for construction of the utility line must be removed upon completion of the work, in accordance with the requirements for temporary fills.

Note 4: Pipes or pipelines used to transport gaseous, liquid, liquescent, or slurry substances over navigable waters of the United States are considered to be bridges, not utility lines, and may require a permit from the U.S. Coast Guard pursuant to the General Bridge Act of 1946. However, any discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States associated with such pipelines will require a section 404 permit (see NWP 15).

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

Note 6: For activities that require pre-construction notification, the PCN must include any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity, including other separate and distant crossings that require Department of the Army authorization but do not require pre-construction notification (see paragraph (b)(4) of general condition 32). The district engineer will evaluate the PCN in accordance with Section D, “District Engineer's Decision.” The district engineer may require mitigation to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects (see general condition 23).

Summary of the 2021 Nationwide Permits[1]

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
NWP 1 – Aids to Navigation	10	none	PCN not required	no	navigable waters of the U.S.	none	
NWP 2 – Structures in Artificial Canals	10	none	PCN not required	no	navigable waters of the U.S.	none	
NWP 3 – Maintenance	10/404						
(a) Repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of previously authorized, currently serviceable structures or fills		authorizes only minor deviations for maintenance	PCN not required	no	all waters of the U.S.	none	Does not authorize: maintenance dredging for the primary purpose of navigation; beach restoration; or new stream channelization or stream relocation projects. Limits stream channel modification to the minimum necessary for the maintenance activity.
(b) Discharges associated with removal of accumulated sediments and debris in the vicinity of existing structures, including intake and outfall structures and associated canals		200 feet from structure; minimum necessary to restore capacity intake or outfall or associated canal	all activities	yes	all waters of the U.S.	none	
(c) Temporary structures, fills, and work necessary to conduct maintenance activity			PCN not required	no	all waters of the U.S.	none	Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations
NWP 4 – Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities	10/404	none	PCN not required	no	all waters of the U.S.	none	Does not authorize impoundments or artificial reefs. Does not authorize covered oyster trays or clam racks.
NWP 5 – Scientific Measurement Devices	10/404	25 cubic yards for weirs and flumes	PCN not required	no	all waters of the U.S.	none	Devices and any associated structures or fills be removed upon completion of the use and restored to pre-construction elevations to maximum extent practicable.
NWP 6 – Survey Activities	10/404	1/10-acre	PCN not required	no	all waters of the U.S.	none	Does not authorize fills for roads. Does not authorize permanent structures. Does not authorize fill associated with recovery of historic properties. Backfilling of exploratory trenches must not drain a water of the U.S.

[1] This table is intended to provide **general** information on the 2021 nationwide permits published in the *Federal Register* on January 13, 2021 (86 FR 2744) and December 27, 2021 (86 FR 73522).

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
NWP 7 – Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures	10/404	none	all activities	yes	all waters of the U.S.	none	Activity must comply with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program.
NWP 8 – Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf	10	none	all activities	no	navigable waters of the U.S.	none	Limited to facilities in areas leased by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management of the Department of the Interior.
NWP 9 – Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas	10	none	PCN not required	no	navigable waters of the U.S.	none	Applies to structures, buoys, and other devices placed in anchorage or fleeting areas established for those purposes
NWP 10 – Mooring Buoys	10	none	PCN not required	no	navigable waters of the U.S.	none	Non-commercial, single boat mooring buoys
NWP 11 – Temporary Recreational Structures	10	none	PCN not required	no	navigable waters of the U.S.	none	Structures must be removed within 30 days after use discontinued.
NWP 12 – Oil or Natural Gas Pipeline Activities	10/404	1/2 acre	• a section 10 permit is required • discharges that result in the loss of >1/10 acre • new oil or natural gas pipeline greater than 250 miles in length	yes, if PCN required	see text of NWP	Limit to oil or natural gas pipeline activities. Remove PCN requirements for: (a) activities that involve mechanized land clearing in a forested wetland for the utility line right-of-way; (b) utility lines in waters of the United States, excluding overhead lines, that exceed 500 feet; (c) utility lines placed within a jurisdictional area (i.e., water of the United States), that run parallel to or along a stream bed that is within that jurisdictional area; (d) permanent access roads constructed above grade in waters of the United States for a distance of more than 500 feet; or (e) permanent access roads are constructed in waters of the United States with impervious materials. Add PCN requirement for new oil or natural gas pipelines more than 250 miles in length.	Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations.
oil or natural gas pipelines					all waters of the U.S., including navigable waters	Removed Note requiring district engineer to send copy of PCN and NWP verification letter to Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse.	Must restore area to pre-construction contours.
oil or natural gas pipeline substations					non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters		

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
foundations for above-ground oil or natural gas pipelines					all waters of the U.S.		
access roads					non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters		Access roads must be constructed to minimize adverse effects to waters of the U.S.
NWP 13 – Bank Stabilization	10/404	• 500 feet along the bank (unless waived by DE – waivers for bulkheads limited to 1,000 linear feet along the shore) • 1 cubic yard per running foot (unless waived by DE)	• >500 linear feet in length • >1 cubic yard per running foot, as measured along the treated bank, below OHWM or HTL • discharges into special aquatic sites	yes, if PCN required	all waters of the U.S.	Added Note stating that in coastal waters and the Great Lakes, living shorelines authorized by NWP 54 may be an appropriate form of bank stabilization.	Activity cannot impair surface water flow into or out of waters of the U.S. Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations. Native plant species appropriate for site conditions, including salinity, must be used for bioengineering or vegetative bank stabilization.
NWP 14 – Linear Transportation Projects	10/404	• 1/2 acre in non-tidal waters • 1/3 acre in tidal waters	• >1/10 acre • discharges into special aquatic sites	yes, if PCN required	all waters of the U.S.	Added “driveways” to list of examples of linear transportation projects.	Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations. Does not authorize storage buildings, parking lots, train stations, aircraft hangars, or other non-linear transportation features.
NWP 15 – U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges	404	none	PCN not required	no	navigable waters of the U.S.	none	Causeways and approach fills for bridges are not authorized by this NWP; those activities require separate section 404 authorization. Bridge structures can be authorized by Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbors Act or other applicable laws.
NWP 16 – Return Water From Upland Contained Disposal Areas	404	none	PCN not required	no	all waters of the U.S.	none	Water quality issues addressed through Clean Water Act section 401 certification process
NWP 17 – Hydropower Projects	404	none	all activities	yes	all waters of the U.S., except navigable (i.e., section 10) waters	Increased total generating capacity from 5,000 kW to 10,000 kW.	Applies to activities licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or activities exempt from licensing requirements.
NWP 18 – Minor Discharges	10/404	• 25 cubic yards discharged below plane of OHWM/HTL • 1/10 acre of waters of the U.S.	• >10 cubic yards discharged below plane of OHWM/HTL • discharges into special aquatic sites	yes, if PCN required	all waters of the U.S.	none	Does not authorize discharges for stream diversions.

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
NWP 19 – Minor Dredging	10/404	25 cubic yards below plane of OHWM/ MHWM	PCN not required	no	navigable waters of the U.S.	none	Does not authorize dredging or degradation through siltation of coral reefs, submerged aquatic vegetation beds, anadromous fish spawning areas, or wetlands. Does not authorize the connection of canals to navigable waters.
NWP 20 – Response Operations for Oil or Hazardous Substances	10/404	none	PCN not required	no	all waters of the U.S.	none	Authorizes activities subject to the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan. Authorizes activities required for cleanup of oil releases in waters of the U.S. Authorizes use of temporary structures and fills for spill response training exercises.
NWP 21 – Surface Coal Mining Activities	10/404	• 1/2 acre • No valley fills	All activities	yes	non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters	Removed the 300 linear foot limit for losses of stream bed. Remove waiver provision. Remove reference to integrated permit processing procedures. Remove requirement for written verification.	Activities must be authorized, or currently being processed by states with approved programs under Title V of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.
NWP 22 – Removal of Vessels	10/404	none	• if vessel listed or eligible for National Register of Historic Places • activities in special aquatic sites	yes, if PCN required	all waters of the U.S.	Note 1 revised to clarify EPA requirements for intentional ocean disposal of vessels under the Marine, Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.	Does not authorize maintenance dredging, shoal removal, or river bank snagging. Disposal of removed vessel in waters of the U.S. may require separate authorizations from EPA and Corps.
NWP 23 – Approved Categorical Exclusions	10/404	none	PCN not required, except for certain activities identified in RGL 05-07	yes, if PCN required	all waters of the U.S.	none	Categorical exclusions must be approved by the Office of the Chief of Engineers. See RGL 05-07 for list of agencies and their activities that are currently eligible for NWP 23.
NWP 24 – Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Program	10	none	PCN not required	no	navigable waters of the U.S.	Added Florida to list of states that have been approved to administer the Section 404 permit program.	Does not authorize activities in navigable waters that require only a section 10 permit.
NWP 25 – Structural Discharges	404	none	PCN not required	no	waters of the U.S.	none	Structure may require a section 10 permit if located in navigable waters of the U.S. Does not authorize structures that support buildings or similar structures.

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
NWP 27 – Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Enhancement, and Establishment Activities	10/404	none	all activities, except for those that require reporting (e.g., activities under a binding agreement between the landowner and an agency)	yes, if PCN required	all waters of the U.S.	Added "releasing sediment from reservoirs to restore or sustain downstream habitat" and "coral restoration or relocation" to the list of examples of activities authorized by this NWP. No PCN required for activities conducted in accordance with the terms and conditions of a binding coral restoration or relocation agreement between the project proponent and the NMFS or any of its designated state cooperating agencies.	Does not authorize stream channelization. Does not authorize relocation or conversion of tidal waters. Does not authorize conversion of natural wetlands or streams, except for relocation activities. Compensatory mitigation is not required for NWP 27 activities.
NWP 28 – Modifications of Existing Marinas	10	activities limited to authorized marina area	PCN not required	no	navigable waters of the U.S.	none	Does not authorize dredging, additional slips, dock spaces, or expansion in waters of the U.S.
NWP 29 – Residential Developments	10/404	• 1/2 acre	all activities	yes	non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters	Removed the 300 linear foot limit for losses of stream bed. Remove waiver provision.	For residential subdivisions, the aggregate total loss of waters of the U.S. cannot exceed 1/2-acre.
NWP 30 – Moist Soil Management for Wildlife	404	none	PCN not required	no	non-tidal waters of the U.S.	none	Authorizes only on-going activities. Does not authorize construction of new dikes, roads, water control structures, etc. Does not authorize conversion of wetlands to uplands. Does not authorize impoundments. Does not authorize activities that result in net loss of aquatic functions and services.
NWP 31 – Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities	10/404	maintenance baseline approved by district engineer	all activities	yes	all waters of the U.S.	none	PCN must indicate location of sites for disposal of dredged or excavated material and baseline information. Authorizes the removal of vegetation from levees associated with a flood control project, if Corps permits are required for those activities.
NWP 32 – Completed Enforcement Actions	10/404	• 5 acres of non-tidal waters • 1 acre of tidal waters • also see text of NWP	PCN not required	no	all waters of the U.S.	none	
NWP 33 – Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering	10/404	none	all activities in navigable (i.e., section 10) waters	yes	all waters of the U.S.	none	Associated primary activity must be authorized by Corps or U.S. Coast Guard, or be exempt from permit requirements. PCN must include restoration plan.

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
NWP 34 – Cranberry Production Activities	404	10 acres, but activity cannot result in net loss of wetland acreage	all activities	yes	section 404 waters only	none	Does not authorize discharges in waters of the U.S. for attendant features, such as warehouses, processing facilities, or parking areas.
NWP 35 – Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins	10	dredging to previously authorized depths or controlling depths, whichever are less	PCN not required	no	navigable waters of the U.S.	none	
NWP 36 – Boat Ramps	10/404	• 50 cubic yards, unless waived by DE • 20 foot width, unless waived by DE	• >50 cubic yards • >20 feet wide	yes, if PCN required	all waters of the U.S., except special aquatic sites	Added “repair” and “replacement” of boat ramps.	Section 10 permit required if dredging navigable water is necessary for access to boat ramp. No placement of material in special aquatic sites.
NWP 37 – Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation	10/404	none	all activities	yes	all waters of the U.S.	none	Prospective permittee should wait 45 calendar days before proceeding with the activity if the DE has not yet issued a verification letter, but may proceed immediately if there is an unacceptable hazard to life or significant loss of property or economic hardship will occur.
NWP 38 – Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste	10/404	none	all activities	yes	all waters of the U.S.	none	Does not authorize the establishment of new disposal sites or the expansion of existing disposal sites.
NWP 39 – Commercial and Institutional Developments	10/404	• 1/2 acre	all activities	yes	non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters	Removed the 300 linear foot limit for losses of stream bed. Remove waiver provision.	Does not authorize construction of new golf courses or new ski areas. Authorizes the construction of oil or gas wells. For wind energy generating structures, solar towers, or overhead transmission lines, district engineer coordinates PCN and NWP verification with Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse.
NWP 40 – Agricultural Activities	404	• 1/2 acre	all activities	yes	non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters	Removed the 300 linear foot limit for losses of stream bed. Remove waiver provision.	NWP can be used for agricultural activities, regardless of whether applicant is USDA participant. Does not authorize aquaculture ponds.
NWP 41 – Reshaping Existing Drainage and Irrigation Ditches	404	none	PCN not required	no	non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters	Added irrigation ditches.	Reshaping drainage ditch cannot increase capacity of ditch or drain additional waters of the U.S. Does not authorize relocation of drainage ditches constructed in waters of the U.S.
NWP 42 – Recreational Facilities	404	• 1/2 acre	all activities	yes	non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters	Removed the 300 linear foot limit for losses of stream bed. Remove waiver provision.	Authorizes variety of recreational facilities, except for hotels, restaurants, racetracks, stadiums, arenas, or similar facilities (these may be authorized by NWP 39).

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
NWP 43 – Stormwater Management Facilities	404	• 1/2 acre	all activities involving expansion or construction of SWM facilities	yes, if PCN required	non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters	Removed the 300 linear foot limit for losses of stream bed. Remove waiver provision.	Does not authorize construction of new stormwater management facilities in perennial streams. Maintenance does not require PCN if limited to restoring original design capacities. Also authorizes low impact development integrated management features and pollutant reduction green infrastructure features.
NWP 44 – Mining Activities	10/404	• 1/2 acre	all activities	yes	non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters	Removed the 300 linear foot limit for losses of stream bed. Remove waiver provision. Limit mining in non-tidal navigable waters of the United States (i.e., section 10 waters) to 1/2-acre.	PCN must include final reclamation plan if reclamation is required by other statutes.
NWP 45 – Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events	10/404	Restore uplands to pre-event ordinary high water mark	all activities	yes	all waters of the U.S.	none	PCN must be submitted to district engineer within one year of date of damage; work must start or be under contract within two years of date of damage.
NWP 46 – Discharges in Ditches	404	• 1 acre	all activities	yes	certain types of non-tidal ditches constructed in uplands and determined to be waters of the U.S.	none	NWP does not authorize discharges into ditches constructed in streams or other waters of the U.S., or in streams that have been relocated in uplands.
NWP 48 –Commercial Shellfish Mariculture Activities	10/404	none	New and existing activities that directly affect greater than 1/2-acre of submerged aquatic vegetation	yes	navigable waters of the U.S.	Changed “aquaculture” to “mariculture.” Remove the prohibition against new commercial shellfish mariculture activities directly affecting more than 1/2-acre of submerged aquatic vegetation. Remove definition of “new commercial shellfish aquaculture operation” as operating in an area where such activities have not occurred during the past 100 years. Add PCN requirement for activities directly affecting greater than 1/2-acre of submerged aquatic vegetation. Prohibit cultivation of a nonindigenous species unless that species has been previously cultivated in the waterbody.	Does not authorize nonindigenous species not previously cultivated in the waterbody, aquatic nuisance species, or attendant features such as docks or staging areas. Does not authorize the deposition of shell material back into waters of the U.S. as waste. Project area is the area in which the operator is authorized to conduct commercial shellfish mariculture activities, as identified through a lease or permit issued by an appropriate state or local government agency, a treaty, or any easement, lease, deed, contract, or other legally binding agreement that establishes an enforceable property interest for the operator.

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
NWP 49 – Coal Remining Activities	10/404	Limited to sites that were previously mined for coal, but new mining may be conducted in adjacent areas if the newly mined area is less than 40 percent of the area being remined plus any unmined area needed for reclamation.	all activities	yes	non-tidal waters of the U.S.	Removed reference to integrated permit processing procedures.	Permittee must demonstrate net increase in aquatic resource functions through reclamation. Activities must be authorized by the Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining, or by states with approved programs under Title IV and V of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. Corps will review the SMCRA determination regarding the amount of previously unmined area necessary for the reclamation and make an independent determination of the amount needed.
NWP 50 – Underground Coal Mining Activities	10/404	• 1/2 acre	all activities	yes	non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters	Removed the 300 linear foot limit for losses of stream bed. Remove waiver provision. Remove requirement for written verification. Remove reference to integrated permit processing procedures. Remove Note stating that coal preparation and processing outside the mine site may be authorized by NWP 21.	Activities must be authorized by the Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining, or by states with approved programs under Title V of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. If reclamation required, a copy of the plan must be submitted with PCN. Does not authorize coal preparation and processing activities outside of the mine site.
NWP 51 – Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities	10/404	• 1/2 acre	• discharges that result in the loss of >1/10 acre	yes	non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters	Removed the 300 linear foot limit for losses of stream bed. Remove waiver provision.	Authorizes construction, expansion or modification of land-based renewable energy production facilities, including attendant features. If only activity requiring DA authorization is utility line, then NWP C shall be used. Utility lines transferring energy to a distribution system, regional grid, or other facility are generally considered to be separate single and complete linear projects. For wind energy generating structures, solar towers, or overhead transmission lines, district engineer coordinates PCN and NWP verification with Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse.

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
NWP 52 – Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects	10/404	• 1/2 acre • No more than 10 generation units • Floating solar panels in section 10 waters limited to 1/2-acre in size	all activities	yes	all waters of the U.S. except in coral reefs	Removed the 300 linear foot limit for losses of stream bed. Remove waiver provision.	Authorizes construction, expansion, modification, or removal of water-based renewable energy generation pilot projects and their attendant features. Limited to "pilot projects." Placement of a transmission line on bed of a navigable water of U.S. from generation unit to land-based collection facility is considered a structure under section 10 and is not considered a loss of waters of the U.S. Prohibits activities in coral reefs. Structures in anchorage areas must comply with U.S. Coast Guard requirements. Does not authorize structures in established danger zones, restricted areas, etc. Upon completion of pilot project, associated structures and/or fills must be removed unless authorized by separate DA permit. Utility lines transferring energy to a distribution system, regional grid, or other facility are generally considered to be separate and complete linear projects. An activity located on an existing, maintained Corps project requires separate approval under 33 USC 408. For wind energy generating structures, solar towers, or overhead transmission lines, district engineer coordinates PCN and NWP verification with Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse.
NWP 53 – Removal of Low-Head Dams	10/404	none	all activities	yes	all waters of the U.S.	Modified definition of "low-head dam."	Authorizes the removal of low-head dams for stream restoration and public safety. "Low-head dam" defined as a dam built to pass upstream flows over the entire width of the dam crest on a continual and uncontrolled basis. As a general rule, compensatory mitigation is not required for these activities because they result in net increases in stream ecological functions and services. NWP does not authorize regulated activities for restoration of stream in vicinity of former impoundment (these activities may be authorized by NWP 27), or bank stabilization activities (these activities may be authorized by NWP 13).

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
NWP 54 – Living Shorelines	10/404	• 30 feet channelward of mean low water in tidal waters or mean high water line in Great Lakes (unless waived by DE) • 500 feet along the bank (unless waived by DE)	all new activities; PCN not required for repair and maintenance of existing living shorelines	yes	all waters of the U.S.	Added text stating that native plants appropriate for the elevation should be used for living shorelines.	Authorizes construction and maintenance of living shorelines for shore erosion control. Living shorelines consist of natural and man-made materials. May include stone or reef structures to protect the shoreline from low to moderate energy waves. Living shorelines must have a substantial biological component, either tidal or lacustrine fringe wetlands or oyster or mussel reef structures. Does not authorize beach nourishment or land reclamation activities. Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including the construction of fill structures such as sills or breakwaters, must be the minimum necessary for the establishment and maintenance of the living shoreline.
NWP 55 – Seaweed Mariculture Activities	10	none	all activities	yes	navigable waters of the U.S., including federal waters on the outer continental shelf	new NWP	Prohibits the cultivation of an aquatic nuisance species as defined in the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 or the cultivation of a nonindigenous species unless that species has been previously cultivated in the waterbody. Structures in an anchorage area established by the U.S. Coast Guard must comply with the requirements in 33 CFR 322.5(l)(2). Structures may not be placed in established danger zones or restricted areas designated in 33 CFR part 334, Federal navigation channels, shipping safety fairways or traffic separation schemes established by the U.S. Coast Guard (see 33 CFR 322.5(l)(1)), or EPA or Corps designated open water dredged material disposal areas.

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
NWP 56 – Finfish Mariculture Activities	10	none	all activities	yes	navigable waters of the U.S., including federal waters on the outer continental shelf	new NWP	Prohibits the cultivation of an aquatic nuisance species as defined in the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 or the cultivation of a nonindigenous species unless that species has been previously cultivated in the waterbody. Structures in an anchorage area established by the U.S. Coast Guard must comply with the requirements in 33 CFR 322.5(l)(2). Structures may not be placed in established danger zones or restricted areas designated in 33 CFR part 334, Federal navigation channels, shipping safety fairways or traffic separation schemes established by the U.S. Coast Guard (see 33 CFR 322.5(l)(1)), or EPA or Corps designated open water dredged material disposal areas.
NWP 57 – Electric Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities	10/404	• 1/2-acre	• a section 10 permit is required • discharges that result in the loss of >1/10 acre	yes, if PCN required	all waters of the U.S.	new NWP	Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations.
electric utility lines and telecommunications lines					all waters of the U.S., including navigable waters		Must restore area to pre-construction contours.
electric utility line and telecommunications substations					non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters		
foundations for overhead electric utility line or telecommunication line towers, poles, and anchors					all waters of the U.S.		
access roads					non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters		Access roads must be constructed to minimize adverse effects to waters of the U.S.
NWP 58 – Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances	10/404	• 1/2-acre	• a section 10 permit is required • discharges that result in the loss of >1/10 acre	yes, if PCN required	all waters of the U.S.	new NWP	Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations.
utility lines					all waters of the U.S., including navigable waters		Must restore area to pre-construction contours.
utility line substations					non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters		
foundations for above-ground utility lines					all waters of the U.S.		

Nationwide Permit	Statutory Authority	Limits	Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Threshold	Delineation Required?	Applicable Waters	Changes	Other Information
access roads					non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters		Access roads must be constructed to minimize adverse effects to waters of the U.S.
NWP 59 – Water Reclamation and Reuse Facilities	404	1/2-acre	all activities	Y	non-tidal waters of the U.S., except non-tidal wetlands adjacent to tidal waters	new NWP	

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Nationwide Permit 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 Letter(s).

(Authorities: Sections 10 and 404).

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

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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F. 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.

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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.

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).

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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.

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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 authorized by nationwide permit. The request may be a permit application, letter, or similar document that includes information about the proposed work and its anticipated environmental effects. Pre-construction notification may be required by the terms and conditions of a nationwide permit, or by regional conditions. A

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

Preservation:

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

Re-establishment:

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

Rehabilitation:

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

Restoration:

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

Riffle and pool complex:

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

associated with riffles. A slower stream velocity, a streaming flow, a smooth surface, and a finer substrate characterize pools.

Riparian areas:

Riparian areas are lands 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 jurisdictional 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.

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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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 “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)).

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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Nationwide Permit 57: Electric Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities

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

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

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

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

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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

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

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

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

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of drilling fluids to waters of the United States during horizontal directional drilling activities conducted for the purpose of installing or replacing electric utility lines or telecommunication lines.

This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work, including the use of temporary mats, necessary to conduct the electric utility line activity. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain normal downstream flows and minimize flooding to the maximum extent practicable, when temporary structures, work, and discharges of dredged or fill material, including cofferdams, are necessary for construction activities, access fills, or dewatering of construction sites. Temporary fills must consist of materials, and be placed in a manner, that will not be eroded by expected high flows. After construction, temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to 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: (1) A section 10 permit is required; or (2) the discharge will result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of waters of the United States. (See general condition 32.)

(Authorities: Sections 10 and 404)

Note 1: Where the electric utility line is constructed, installed, or maintained 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 electric utility line to protect navigation.

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

Note 3: Electric utility lines or telecommunication lines consisting of aerial electric power transmission lines crossing navigable waters of the United States (which are

defined at 33 CFR part 329) must comply with the applicable minimum clearances specified in 33 CFR 322.5(i).

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 electric utility line or telecommunication line must be removed upon completion of the work, in accordance with the requirements for temporary fills.

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

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

Note 7: For activities that require pre-construction notification, the PCN must include any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity, including other separate and distant crossings that require Department of the Army authorization but do not require pre-construction notification (see paragraph (b)(4) of general condition 32). The district engineer will evaluate the PCN in accordance with Section D, “District Engineer's Decision.” The district engineer may require mitigation to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects (see general condition 23).

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F. 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.

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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.

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).

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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.

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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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 authorized by nationwide permit. The request may be a permit application, letter, or similar document that includes information about the proposed work and its anticipated environmental effects. Pre-construction notification may be required by the terms and conditions of a nationwide permit, or by regional conditions. A

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

Preservation:

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

Re-establishment:

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

Rehabilitation:

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

Restoration:

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

Riffle and pool complex:

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

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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

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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 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.

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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 “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)).

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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Nationwide Permit 14: Linear Transportation Projects

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

This NWP also authorizes temporary structures, fills, and work, including the use of temporary mats, necessary to construct the linear transportation project. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain normal downstream flows and minimize flooding to the maximum extent practicable, when temporary structures, work, and discharges of dredged or fill material, including cofferdams, are necessary for construction activities, access fills, or dewatering of construction sites. Temporary fills must consist of materials, and be placed in a manner, that will not be eroded by expected high flows. Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to 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 of dredged or fill material in a special aquatic site, including wetlands. (See general condition 32.) (Authorities: Sections 10 and 404).

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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

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

Note 3: For NWP 14 activities that require pre-construction notification, the PCN must include any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity, including other separate and distant crossings that require Department of the Army authorization but do not require pre-construction notification (see paragraph (b)(4) of general condition 32). The district engineer will evaluate the PCN in accordance with Section D, “District Engineer's Decision.” The district engineer may require mitigation to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects (see general condition 23).

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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C. General Conditions

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

1. Navigation.

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

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

(c) The permittee understands and agrees that, if future operations by the United States require the removal, relocation, or other alteration, of the structure or work herein authorized, or if, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Army or his or her 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.

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

5. Shellfish Beds.

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

6. Suitable Material.

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

7. Water Supply Intakes.

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

8. Adverse Effects From Impoundments.

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

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (86 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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 Structures and Fills.

Temporary structures must be removed, to the maximum extent practicable, after 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.

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (86 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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. Permittees 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/*.

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (86 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

17. Tribal Rights.

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

18. Endangered Species.

(a) No activity is authorized under any NWP which is likely to directly or indirectly jeopardize the continued existence of a threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, as identified under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), or which will directly or indirectly destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat or critical habitat proposed for such designation. No activity is authorized under any NWP which "may affect" a listed species or critical habitat, unless ESA section 7 consultation addressing the consequences of the proposed activity on listed species or critical habitat has been completed. See 50 CFR 402.02 for the definition of "effects of the action" for the purposes of ESA section 7 consultation, as well as 50 CFR 402.17, which provides further explanation under ESA section 7 regarding "activities that are reasonably certain to occur" and "consequences caused by the proposed action."

(b) Federal agencies should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of the ESA (see 33 CFR 330.4(f)(1)). 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 species proposed for listing) or designated critical habitat (or critical habitat proposed such designation) might be affected or is in the vicinity of the activity, or if the activity is located in designated critical habitat or critical habitat proposed for such designation, 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 species proposed for listing) or designated critical habitat (or critical habitat proposed for such designation), the pre-construction

notification must include the name(s) of the endangered or threatened species (or species proposed for listing) that might be affected by the proposed activity or that utilize the designated critical habitat (or critical habitat proposed for such designation) 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. For activities where the non-Federal applicant has identified listed species (or species proposed for listing) or designated critical habitat (or critical habitat proposed for such designation) 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 species proposed for listing or designated critical habitat (or critical habitat proposed for such designation), or until ESA section 7 consultation or conference 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 or conference 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 that an action authorized by an NWP complies with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. The permittee is responsible for contacting the appropriate local office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine what measures, if any, are necessary or appropriate to reduce adverse effects 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) No activity is authorized under any NWP which may have the potential to cause effects to properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places 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 (see 33 CFR

330.4(g)(1)). 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 commensurate with potential impacts, which may include background research, consultation, oral history interviews, sample field investigation, and/or 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.

(d) Where the non-Federal applicant has identified historic properties on which the proposed NWP activity might have the potential to cause effects and has 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. 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.

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, 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, 52, 57 and 58 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 by permittees in the designated critical resource 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.

(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) Compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-for-one 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 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 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 riparian 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 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.

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(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)). 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)).

(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 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.

25. Water Quality.

(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.

(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 the water quality certification requirement has been satisfied by the issuance of a water quality certification or a waiver.

(c) The district engineer or certifying authority 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)). 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 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 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 CWA 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 authorized, subject to the following restrictions:

(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.

(b) If one or more of the NWPs used to authorize the 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.

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 review by, or 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 and/or review is not authorized by an NWP until the appropriate Corps office issues the section 408 permission or completes its review 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. 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) (i) 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.

(ii) For linear projects where one or more single and complete crossings require pre-construction notification, 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 (including those single and complete crossings authorized by an NWP but do not require PCNs). This information will be used by the district engineer to evaluate the cumulative adverse environmental effects of the proposed linear project, and does not change those non-PCN NWP activities into NWP PCNs.

(iii) 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 and intermittent 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 or 3/100-acre of stream bed 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 species proposed for listing) or designated critical habitat (or critical habitat proposed for such designation) might be affected or is in the vicinity of the activity, or if the activity is located in designated critical habitat (or critical habitat proposed for such designation), the PCN must include the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species (or species proposed for listing) that might be affected by the proposed activity or utilize the designated critical habitat (or critical habitat proposed for such designation) 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 NWP activity that requires permission from, or review by, 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, or review by, the Corps office having jurisdiction over that USACE project.

(c) *Form of Pre-Construction Notification:* The nationwide permit pre-construction notification form (Form ENG 6082) should be used for NWP PCNs. 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 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 (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.

(3) When agency coordination is required, the district engineer will immediately provide (*e.g.,* via email, 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 email 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 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 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.

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E. Further Information

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

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

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

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

5. NWPs do not authorize interference with any existing or proposed Federal project (see general condition 31).

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

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F. 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.

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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.

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).

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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.

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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 authorized by nationwide permit. The request may be a permit application, letter, or similar document that includes information about the proposed work and its anticipated environmental effects. Pre-construction notification may be required by the terms and conditions of a nationwide permit, or by regional conditions. A

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

Preservation:

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

Re-establishment:

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

Rehabilitation:

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

Restoration:

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

Riffle and pool complex:

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

associated with riffles. A slower stream velocity, a streaming flow, a smooth surface, and a finer substrate characterize pools.

Riparian areas:

Riparian areas are lands 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 jurisdictional 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.

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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 “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)).

Contents adapted from the Federal Register (86 FR 73522) published on Dec. 27, 21 and Federal Register (82 FR 2744) published on Jan. 13, 2021.

TO: The Mayor and Common Council

FROM: Glenn Steckman

RE: City Manager's Report

July 21, 2022

Cruise Ships Return:

This Saturday we will have the return of our first cruise ship, the Roald Amundsen, since the fall of 2019. 700 visitors will visit Nome for one day. The cruise ship will be carrying 350 people on its arrival in Nome at 6:00am. Alaska Airlines will deliver another 350 new passengers to board the cruise ship when it departs. Building Maintenance staff has been working to make sure last-minute touches are in place to welcome cruise ship visitors back to Nome.

XYZ Building Fire Alarm Bid:

You will be asked to approve the bid to replace and update the fire alarm system in the XYZ Building. The winning bid was by North Star Fire Protection, LLC for $67,996.35. Because of the continued supply disruptions, the winning bidder has July 1, 2023 to complete installation.

Anvil Mountain Park:

Building maintenance is replacing the old hard-plastic fence with a new wooden fence. Over the past three years the fence has been continuously vandalized. Teenagers were running against the rails to see if they could break the rails.

More Trash Cans:

The road crew is putting more trash cans out on city streets to help limit littering. These cans will be emptied regularly by city crews. We are hoping people will use these cans to discard their cigarette butts.

Visitor Center:

A new heating oil tank has finally been installed at the building. The old tank appeared to be leaking oil. However, the pipes that brought oil into the building looked to have the consistency of aluminum foil. We just found out late Friday the boiler inside the building is not operating properly. City staff is investigating.

The building has been power washed for new staining to be applied to exterior walls when the rains end.

Azavar Government Solutions:

City staff has reviewed and recommends purchasing this cloud-based software system to improve collections and reduce paperwork.

The Mini Convention Center:

With the improvements to the Mini has brought requests for improving Wi-Fi and having projectors and TVs on mobile stands. The first-year cost for improvements is estimated to be at least $8,000.00 and a continuing cost of $5,500.00 a year thereafter.

Additional stone is being placed around the building to fill up pot holes and to create better parking conditions on the property owned around the building by the city.

Heating Oil Tank at Mini:

The plan to replace the heating oil tank was being planned for the next fiscal year. It appears however that the tank may need to be replaced sooner. The cost to replace and install a500 gallon is estimated to be around $15,000. This would replace the larger 1000-gallon single walled tank.

City Banking:

With the increase in interest rates, the City should see a sharp increase in returns on city cash sitting in our checking accounts. Currently, staff is estimating an additional $60,000.00 in revenue for the next twelve months.

Emergency Calls:

As I indicated at the last council meeting, the city has three super users of our 911 system. These super users call multiple times a day or week asking for rides from the police and the community service officer. When they don't get their way, they then call for a "fake" medical emergency.

The Common Council will have before it of Monday evening an ordinance to address this issue.

Property Abatements:

The current property abatement list is currently being updated by Cliff McHenry, the city's building inspector. This updated list will be presented to the Nome Planning Commission on August 2nd. Hopefully an initial list of 6-10 properties to begin being abated will be presented to the Council at your meeting on Monday 8/8.

Polar Pools:

At your work meeting on Monday 8/8, Mr. Bob Walker and city staff will be presenting the Polar Pools proposal for a significant upgrade of the pool. The proposal for $481,508.00 exceeds what is currently available in city funds at $341,000. While expensive these improvements should reduce operating costs in labor, electricity and chemicals and provide an increase measure of safety for our employees.

Unfunded School Debt:

Governor Dunleavey has signed a bill from the Alaska Legislature to reimburse the city for school constructions costs from 2017 on. While this reimbursement was discussed during budget sessions, the amount of reimbursement is $377,248.

Building/Remodel Permit Summary

Updated 1

NAME	ADDRESS	MONTH	PERMIT #	ISSUE DATE	BUILDING PERMIT		REMODEL PERMIT		TOTAL
					VALUE	FEE	VALUE	FEE	TOTAL
	JANUARY								
Patrick J Krier	314 W. 1st Ave.		Pre-MyGov 2022-02R	1/5/2022			$7,500.00	$174.25	$174.25
Brendan Gologergen-Tran	311 Lester Bench Rd.		Pre-MyGov 2022-01B	1/20/2022	$22,000.00	$349.25			$349.25
	FEBRUARY								
Kalla Peacock & Jason Evans	303 W. E St.		Pre-MyGov 2022-01R	2/11/2022			$12,000.00	$237.25	$237.25
		MARCH							
Kirstie Henry	704 W. 1st Ave.		MyGov 22-000002R	3/25/2022			$160,000.00	$1,329.74	$1,329.74
		APRIL							
Gary Kulka	216 W. 3rd Ave.		MyGov 22-000001R - 2019-52R-EXT	4/4/2022			$67,813.50	$596.28	$596.28
CARR Gottstein Foods	415 Bering St.		MyGov 22-000003R	4/5/2022			$170,000.00	$1,385.74	$1,385.74
Maureen Koezuna	100 East 4th Ave.		MyGov 22-000004B	4/6/2022	$20,000.00	$321.24			$321.24
		MAY							
Nathan Nagaruk	403 E. 6th Ave.		MyGov 22-000009R	5/3/2022			$10,000.00	$181.24	$181.24
Kawerak	504 Seppala Dr.		MyGov 22-000007R	5/4/2022			$19,472.00	$313.84	$313.84
Angela Hansen	120 W. 5th Ave.		MyGov 22-000010R	5/11/2022			$10,000.00	$181.24	$181.24
James Ventress	Lomen Ave. (B21A L11B)		MyGov 22-000023B	5/16/2022	$20,000.00	$321.24			$321.24
Mark Smith	405 N. E St.		MyGov 22-000015R	5/17/2022			$8,000.00	$153.24	$153.24
Tommy Stasenko	704 Gas Lamp Rd.		MyGov 22-000012R	5/18/2022			$80,000.00	$853.75	$853.75
Caroline Kauer	301 Division St.		MyGov 22-000027R	5/24/2022			$7,000.00	$139.25	$139.25
Frank Johnson (Bering Straits Development Co.)	110 W. Front St.		MyGov 22-000028R	5/25/2022			$20,000.00	$321.25	$321.25

Richard Spoor (Colorado Housing Partners)	804 E. 4th Ave.		MyGov 22-000026R	5/31/2022			$8,000.00	$222.50	$222.50
NAME	**ADDRESS**	**MONTH**	**PERMIT #**	**ISSUE DATE**	**BUILDING PERMIT**		**REMODEL PERMIT**		**TOTAL**
					VALUE	**FEE**	**VALUE**	**FEE**	**TOTAL**
		JUNE							
Barbara Amarok	402 E. M St.		MyGov 22-000043R	6/22/2022			$35,000.00	$491.88	$491.88
		JULY							
Amie & Matt Greer	W. 4th Ave. (B96 L7 north 1/2)		MyGov 22-000052B	7/6/2022	$190,000.00	$1,497.74			$1,497.74
Robert Murray	202 W. 2nd Ave.		MyGov 22-000054R	7/6/2022			$5,000.00	$111.24	$111.24
Arctic Broadcasting Assn.	410 W. 5th Ave.		MyGov 22-000034R	7/6/2022			$1,000.00	$38.75	$38.75
James Dory	516 Lomen Ave.		MyGov 22-00053R	7/11/2022			$33,920.00	$481.33	$481.33
Patrick Callahan	401 Round-The-Clock Drive		MyGov 22-000050R	7/11/2022			$17,000.00	$279.24	$279.24
Bryant Hammond	102 E. & 104 King Pl.		MyGov 22-000021R	7/12/2022			$3,000.00	$83.25	$83.25
Bradford Smith	704 W. 1st Ave.		MyGov 22-000060R	7/14/2022			$5,200.00	$114.04	$114.04
Isaiah Baker	1008 E. 5th Ave.		MyGov 22-000051R	7/15/2022			$5,000.00	$23.50	$23.50
NAME	**ADDRESS**	**MONTH**	**PERMIT #**	**ISSUE DATE**	**BUILDING PERMIT**		**REMODEL PERMIT**		**TOTAL**
					VALUE	**FEE**	**VALUE**	**FEE**	**TOTAL**

	AUGUST								
	SEPTEMBER								
NAME	**ADDRESS**	**MONTH**	**PERMIT #**	**ISSUE DATE**	**BUILDING PERMIT**		**REMODEL PERMIT**		**TOTAL**
					VALUE	**FEE**	**VALUE**	**FEE**	**TOTAL**
	OCTOBER								

NOVEMBER									
	DECEMBER								
TOTAL: 92					**$232,000.00**	**$2,168.23**	**$531,705.50**	**$5,522.78**	**$7,691.01**