

PUBLIC NOTICE



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Memphis District**

**Nationwide Permit Reauthorization
Issue Date: **June 13, 2016**
Expiration Date: August 1, 2016**

INITIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

NATIONWIDE PERMIT REISSUANCE REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

On June 1, 2016, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers published in the Federal Register its proposal to reissue the 50 existing nationwide permits (NWP) and issue two new NWP.

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

National Issues Concerning the Proposed NWP: The Federal Register notice is the public's opportunity to comment on the proposed NWP, general conditions, and definitions. Comments on national issues relating to these NWP should be submitted to docket number COE-2015-0017 at www.regulations.gov, or by email to NWP2017@usace.army.mil or by mail to Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Directorate of Civil Works, ATTN: CECW-CO-R, 441 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20314-1000. Instructions for submitting comments are provided in the June 1, 2016 Federal Register notice. Comments on the proposed NWP are due by August 1, 2016.

Enclosure A is an index of the proposed NWP and conditions. Enclosed is a copy of the proposed NWP and conditions. They are also available through Corps Home Page at <http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/RegulatoryProgramandPermits/NationwidePermits.aspx>, at www.regulations.gov in docket number COE-2015-0017, or at the Federal Register at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-06-01/pdf/2016-12083.pdf>.

Regional Issues Concerning the Proposed NWP, Including Regional Conditioning: Division engineers are authorized to add regional conditions specific to the needs and/or requirements of a particular region or state. Regional conditions are important mechanisms to ensure that the adverse environmental effects of activities authorized by the NWP are no more than minimal, both individually and cumulatively. Division engineers may also suspend or revoke specific NWP in certain geographic areas (e.g., states or watersheds) or high-value aquatic systems where the adverse environmental effects caused by activities authorized by those NWP may be more than minimal. An enclosure for this public notice (Enclosure B) lists the

proposed regional conditions currently under consideration by the Mississippi Valley Division for the State of Illinois. The Rock Island District is seeking comments on the proposed regional conditions and seeking comments on the need for additional regional conditions to help ensure that the adverse environmental effects of activities authorized by the proposed NWP are no more than minimal, individually and cumulatively. Unless otherwise noted, all proposed regional conditions listed on this enclosure are applicable for activities in the State of Illinois. Comments on regional issues relating to the proposed NWP and proposed regional conditions should be sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, Clock Tower Building, P.O. Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004. Comments relating to regional conditions are due by Monday July 25, 2016. Similar public notices proposing regional conditions in other regions or States are being published concurrently by other division or district offices.

After the final NWP are issued, the final regional conditions will be issued after they are approved by the Division Commander. After the final NWP are issued, States and Tribes will make their Clean Water Act Section 401 (401) water quality certification and States will make their Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) consistency determination decisions. The 401/CZMA decisions must be made within 90 days of the Federal Register notice announcing the issuance of the NWP. The final NWP will go into effect on March 19, 2017.

Draft decision documents for each of the proposed NWP, which include environmental documentation prepared for the purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act, have been written by Corps Headquarters. The decision documents will address compliance of the NWP with the requirements for issuance under the Corps general permit authority. These documents, as well as the proposed NWP, are available for viewing at www.regulations.gov, docket number COE-2015-0017. Final decision documents will be prepared for the NWP that are issued. In addition, the final national NWP decision documents will be supplemented by division engineers to address their decisions concerning regional conditions for the NWP.

Enclosure A

Index of Proposed Nationwide Permits, Conditions, and Definitions

Nationwide Permits

1. Aids to Navigation
2. Structures in Artificial Canals
3. Maintenance
4. Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities
5. Scientific Measurement Devices
6. Survey Activities
7. Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures
8. Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf
9. Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas
10. Mooring Buoys
11. Temporary Recreational Structures
12. Utility Line Activities
13. Bank Stabilization
14. Linear Transportation Projects
15. U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges
16. Return Water From Upland Contained Disposal Areas

17. Hydropower Projects
18. Minor Discharges
19. Minor Dredging
20. Response Operations for Oil or Hazardous Substances
21. Surface Coal Mining Activities
22. Removal of Vessels
23. Approved Categorical Exclusions
24. Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs
25. Structural Discharges
26. [Reserved]
27. Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities
28. Modifications of Existing Marinas
29. Residential Developments
30. Moist Soil Management for Wildlife
31. Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities
32. Completed Enforcement Actions
33. Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering
34. Cranberry Production Activities
35. Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins
36. Boat Ramps
37. Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation
38. Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste
39. Commercial and Institutional Developments
40. Agricultural Activities
41. Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches
42. Recreational Facilities
43. Stormwater Management Facilities
44. Mining Activities
45. Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events
46. Discharges in Ditches
47. [Reserved]
48. Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities
49. Coal Remining Activities
50. Underground Coal Mining Activities
51. Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities
52. Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects
 - A. Removal of Low-Head Dams
 - B. Living Shorelines

Nationwide Permit General Conditions

1. Navigation
2. Aquatic Life Movements
3. Spawning Areas
4. Migratory Bird Breeding Areas
5. Shellfish Beds
6. Suitable Material
7. Water Supply Intakes
8. Adverse Effects from Impoundments
9. Management of Water Flows
10. Fills Within 100-Year Floodplains

11. Equipment
12. Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls
13. Removal of Temporary Fills
14. Proper Maintenance
15. Single and Complete Project
16. Wild and Scenic Rivers
17. Tribal Rights
18. Endangered Species
19. Migratory Bird and Bald and Golden Eagle Permits
20. Historic Properties
21. Discovery of Previously Unknown Remains and Artifacts
22. Designated Critical Resource Waters
23. Mitigation
24. Safety of Impoundment Structures
25. Water Quality
26. Coastal Zone Management
27. Regional and Case-by-Case Conditions
28. Use of Multiple Nationwide Permits
29. Transfer of Nationwide Permit Verifications
30. Compliance Certification
31. Activities Affecting Structures or Works Built by the United States
32. Pre-Construction Notification

District Engineer's Decision

Further Information

Definitions

Best management practices (BMPs)
Compensatory mitigation
Currently serviceable
Direct effects
Discharge
Enhancement
Ephemeral stream
Establishment (creation)
High Tide Line
Historic property
Independent utility
Indirect effects
Intermittent stream
Loss of waters of the United States
Non-tidal wetland
Open water
Ordinary high water mark
Perennial stream
Practicable
Pre-construction notification
Preservation
Re-establishment

Rehabilitation
Restoration
Riffle and pool complex
Riparian areas
Shellfish seeding
Single and complete linear project
Single and complete non-linear project
Stormwater management
Stormwater management facilities
Stream bed
Stream channelization
Structure
Tidal wetland
Vegetated shallows
Waterbody

Enclosure B

Illinois Regional Conditions for Nationwide Permits

1. Stormwater management facilities shall not be located within a stream, except for NWP 21, 44, 49, or 50.
2. For newly constructed channels through areas that are unvegetated, a riparian buffer strip planted in native grasses, trees and/or shrubs a minimum of 25 feet wide from the top of bank on ephemeral streams must be planted along both sides of the new channel. The buffer width will be a minimum of 50 feet wide from the top of bank on intermittent and perennial streams. A survival rate of 80 percent of desirable species with aerial coverage of at least 50 percent shall be achieved within 3 years of establishment of the buffer strip.
3. For a single family residence authorized under Nationwide Permit No. 29, the permanent loss of waters of the United States (including jurisdictional wetlands) must not exceed 1/4 acre.
4. For NWP 46, the discharge of dredged or fill material into ditches and canals that would sever the jurisdiction of an upstream water of the United States from a downstream water of the United States is not allowed.
5. For NWP 52, no project will be authorized within Lake Michigan. An individual permit will be required.