

**2021 Nationwide Permits
Regional Conditions
Walla Walla District Regulatory Division (State of Idaho)**

March 15, 2021

The following Nationwide Permit (NWP) regional conditions are required in the state of Idaho and apply to all 2021 NWPs¹. Regional conditions are established by individual Corps Districts to ensure projects result in no more than minimal adverse impacts to the aquatic environment and to address local resources concerns. This document also includes regional additions to the NWP General Conditions, notification procedures pertaining to certain NWP's, and regional additions to the definitions.

REGIONAL CONDITIONS

A. Watersheds Requiring Pre-Construction Notification, Specific to Anadromous Fish

This Regional Condition applies to all 2021 NWPs.

- Pre-construction notification (PCN) will be required for the above listed nationwide permits in the geographic area as shown on Figure 1: *Watersheds Requiring Pre-Construction Notification*, dated January 6, 2021.

B. Vegetation Preservation and Replanting

- To avoid impacts to aquatic habitat and to reduce sedimentation and erosion, permittee shall avoid and minimize the removal of vegetation in waters of the U.S. to the maximum extent practicable. Areas subject to temporary vegetation removal in waters of the U.S. during construction shall be replanted with appropriate native² species by the end of the first growing season, unless conditioned otherwise. Permittee shall avoid introducing or spreading noxious or invasive plants³.
- Replanted vegetation that does not survive the first growing season shall be replanted before the end of the next growing season. Re-plantings shall continue to occur until desired vegetation densities are achieved. Re-vegetation densities should be based on reference conditions.

¹ For the list of 2017 Nationwide Permits please see: <https://www.nww.usace.army.mil/Business-With-Us/Regulatory-Division/Nationwide-Permits/>

² Idaho Department of Transportation, Native Plants for Idaho Roadside Restoration and Revegetation Programs: https://itd.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/RP171Roadside_Revegetation.pdf

³ U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service Plant Database of introduced, invasive, and noxious plants for Idaho: <https://plants.usda.gov/java/noxious?rptType=State&statefips=16>.

C. De-watering & Re-watering (as applicable)

- Cofferdams shall be constructed of non-erosive material such as concrete jersey barriers, bulk bags, water bladders, sheet pile, and other similar non-erosive devices. Cofferdams may not be constructed by using mechanized equipment to push streambed material through flowing water.
- Diversion channels constructed to bypass flow around the construction site shall be lined with plastic, large rock, pipe or otherwise protected from erosion prior to releasing flows into or through the diversion channel.
- Water removed from within the coffered area shall be pumped to a sediment basin or otherwise treated to remove suspended sediments prior to its return to the waterway.
- To prevent unwanted passage of state or federally-protected fish, if present, from the coffered area, Water pipe intakes shall be screened with openings measuring < 3/32 inch to prevent entrainment of fish trapped in the coffered area.
- Should fish be present within the coffered areas contact your local Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) office prior to performing fish removal or salvage. Fish shall be collected by electrofishing, seining or dip net, or otherwise removed and returned to the waterway upstream of the project area. If electrofishing is used, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) guidelines for electrofishing should be followed⁴, unless conditioned otherwise.
- Stream channels that have been dewatered during project construction shall be re-watered slowly to avoid lateral and vertical erosion of the de-watered channel, prevent damage to recently reclaimed work areas and/or damage to permitted work.
- Temporary stockpiles in waters of the United States shall be removed in their entirety so as not to form a berm or levee parallel to the stream that could confine flows or restrict overbank flow to the floodplain.

D. In-Water Structures and Complexes

- PCN notification in accordance with General Condition 32 is required for all non-federal applicants with activities involving gabion baskets placed below the ordinary high water mark.
- Stream meanders, riffle and pool complexes, pool stream structures, rock/log barbs, rock J-hooks, drop structures, sills, engineered log jams or similar structures/features when used shall be site specifically designed by an appropriate professional with experience in hydrology or fluvial geomorphology.

⁴ Guidelines for Electrofishing Waters Containing Salmonids Listed Under the Endangered Species Act (June 2000)
https://archive.fisheries.noaa.gov/wcr/publications/reference_documents/esa_refs/section4d/electro2000.pdf

E. Temporary Sidecasting

- Materials from exploratory trenching and installation of utility lines may be temporarily side cast into a de-watered coffered area for up to 30 days but not within flowing waters. Material from exploratory trenching and installation of utility lines in wetlands may be temporarily side cast for up to 30 days.

F. Suitability of Sediments for Open Water Disposal and us as Fill

- Sampling for determination of suitability of sediments for open water disposal or for use as fill, must comply with the Sediment Evaluation Framework for the Pacific Northwest (SEF)⁵.

G. Avoidance and Minimization

- In addition to information required under General Condition 32(b), the applicant shall include information about previous discharges of fill material into waters of the United States within the project area. This is only for non-federal applicants where a PCN is required.
- Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands, to meet set back requirements are not authorized under NWP.

H. Erosion Control

- Erosion control blanket or fabric used in or adjacent to waters of the U.S. shall be comprised of biodegradable material, to ensure decomposition and reduced risk to fish, wildlife and public safety, unless conditioned otherwise. If the applicant proposes to use materials other than as indicated above they must demonstrate how the use of such materials will not cause harm to fish, wildlife and public safety.

I. Reporting Requirement for Federal Permittees

- Federal Agencies with projects that require compensatory mitigation for loss of waters of the U.S. and who propose to purchase credits from an approved wetland and/or stream mitigation bank must provide proof of purchase within 30 days of when the credits were purchased. Purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank must be IAW the Mitigation Banking Instrument of Record.

⁵ Northwest Regional Sediment Evaluation Team (RSET) 2016. Sediment Evaluation Framework for the Pacific Northwest. Prepared by the RSET Agencies, July 2016, 160 pp plus appendices. <http://nwd.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Navigation/RSET/SEF>

REGIONAL ADDITIONS TO THE GENERAL CONDITIONS

General Condition 4. Migratory Bird Breeding Areas. Regional Addition: For additional information please contact the US Fish and Wildlife Service at the following field office locations: State Office (Boise) at (208) 387-5243; Northern Idaho Field Office (Spokane) at (509) 891-6839; or the Eastern Idaho Field Office (Chubbuck) at (208) 237-6975.
<https://www.fws.gov/idaho/promo.cfm?id=177175802>

General Condition 6. Suitable Material. Regional Addition: Erosion control blanket or fabric used in or adjacent to waters of the U.S. shall be comprised of biodegradable material, to ensure decomposition and reduced risk to fish, wildlife and public safety, unless conditioned otherwise. If the applicant proposes to use materials other than as indicated above they must demonstrate how the use of such materials will not cause harm to fish, wildlife and public safety.

General Condition 9. Management of Water Flows. Regional Addition: To obtain information on State of Idaho definition of high water refer to Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDAPA 37.03.07. Rule 62.03.04.a). For culverts or bridges located in a community qualifying for the national flood insurance program, the minimum size culvert shall accommodate the 100-year flood design flow frequency (IDAPA 37.03.07. Rule 62.03.04.c).

General Condition 12. Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls. Regional Addition: For additional information refer to the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Catalog of Stormwater Best Management Practices for Idaho Cities and Counties, available online at: <https://www.deq.idaho.gov/public-information/laws-guidance-and-orders/guidance/>.

General Condition 18. Endangered Species. Regional Addition: For additional information on ESA listed species in north Idaho please contact the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Northern Idaho Field Office (Spokane) at (509) 893-8009, for all other counties in Idaho contact the USFWS State Office (Boise) at (208) 378-5388.

General Condition 20. Historic Properties. Regional Addition: Property is generally considered "historic" if it is at least 50 years old, and is not limited to buildings. For additional information on the potential for cultural resources in proximity to the project site, contact the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office at (208) 334-3847 located in Boise, Idaho.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES BY THE CORPS FOR CERTAIN NATIONWIDE PERMITS

Waivers: For nationwide permits with a waiver provision, District coordination with Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) and Environmental Protection Agency (tribal lands) will be conducted prior to the District Engineer making a waiver determination to ensure the proposed activity is in compliance with Section 401 Water Quality Standards.

Select Waters and Wetlands: The Corps will coordinate with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) for activities in the following waters and wetlands that require notification and are authorized by NWP:

- Waters: Anadromous waters as shown on Figure 1: *Watersheds Requiring Pre-Construction Notification*, dated January 6, 2021; Henry's Fork of the Snake River and its tributaries; South Fork Snake River and its tributaries; Big Lost River and its tributaries upstream of the US 93 crossing; Beaver, Camas, and Medicine Lodge Creeks; Snake River; Blackfoot River above Blackfoot Reservoir; Portneuf River; Bear River; Boise River including South Fork, North Fork and Middle Fork; Payette River including South Fork, North Fork and Middle Fork; Coeur d'Alene River, including the North Fork; St. Joe River; Priest River; Kootenai River; Big Wood River; and Silver Creek and its tributaries.
- Wetlands identified in Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Wetland Conservation Strategy as Class I, Class II and Reference Habitat Sites⁶.
- Wetlands identified in the Idaho Wetland Conservation Prioritization Plan-2012⁷.

⁶ Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) Wetland Conservation Strategies have been developed for the Henrys Fork Basin, Northern Idaho, Big Wood River, Southeast Idaho, East-Central Idaho and Spokane River Basin, Middle and Western Snake River and tributaries, and the Upper Snake River-Portneuf Drainage, Weiser River Basin, and West Central Mountain Valleys and adjacent wetlands. Closed basins of Beaver-Camas Creeks, Medicine Lodge Creek, Palouse River and lower Clearwater River sub-basins, Middle Fork and South Fork Clearwater Basins and Camas Prairie in northern Idaho. Refer to the internet site at: <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/content/page/wetlands-publications-idaho-natural-heritage-program#reports>

⁷ Murphy, C., J. Miller and A. Schmidt. 2012. <https://idfg.idaho.gov/species/bibliography/project/wetlands>

Figure 1



Watersheds Requiring Pre-Construction Notification

