

# Working in Waterways

## Protecting Colorado's Waters

August 13, 2020



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment

# Agenda

9:00 – 10:00am Working in Waterways Overview

10:00 – 11:30am USACE Permitting

11:30 – 12:00pm Q & A Session

12:00 – 1:00pm Lunch Break

1:00 – 1:30pm Boulder County Requirements

1:30 – 3:30pm CDPS Permitting

3:30 – 4:00pm Q & A Session



# Working in Waterways

## Increase of Projects In and Around Waterways

- Flood Repairs
- Stream Management
- Stream Restoration
- Capital Improvement Projects
- Roadway and Bridge Projects





# Difficulties of Projects

- Live Water
  - Aquatic Habit
  - Fluctuating Water Levels





# Difficulties of Projects

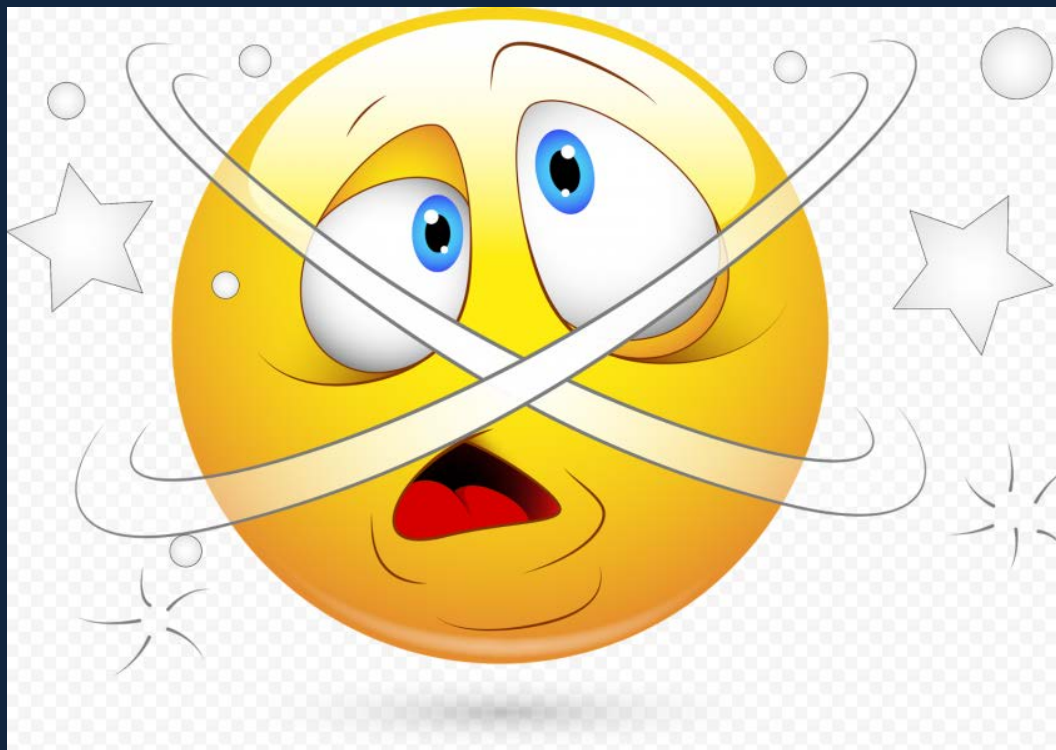
- Tight Work Areas



# Difficulties of Projects

- Multiple Permits & Regulatory Agencies
  - Federal (404, Fish & Wildlife)
  - State (Construction Stormwater, Dewatering)
  - Local (MS4)







# This Training is Here to Help!

- Better Understand Complications
- Raise Awareness
- Create Change
- Provide Pathway to Compliance

\*\*COMPLIANCE IS ACHIEVABLE\*\*



# Let's Start at the Beginning

- Compliance Starts in the Design Process
  - Compatible with Watershed
  - Complies with Water Quality Requirements
  - Constructible & Functional
- Collaboration is Key to Success!
  - Owner & Operator are now Co-Permittees



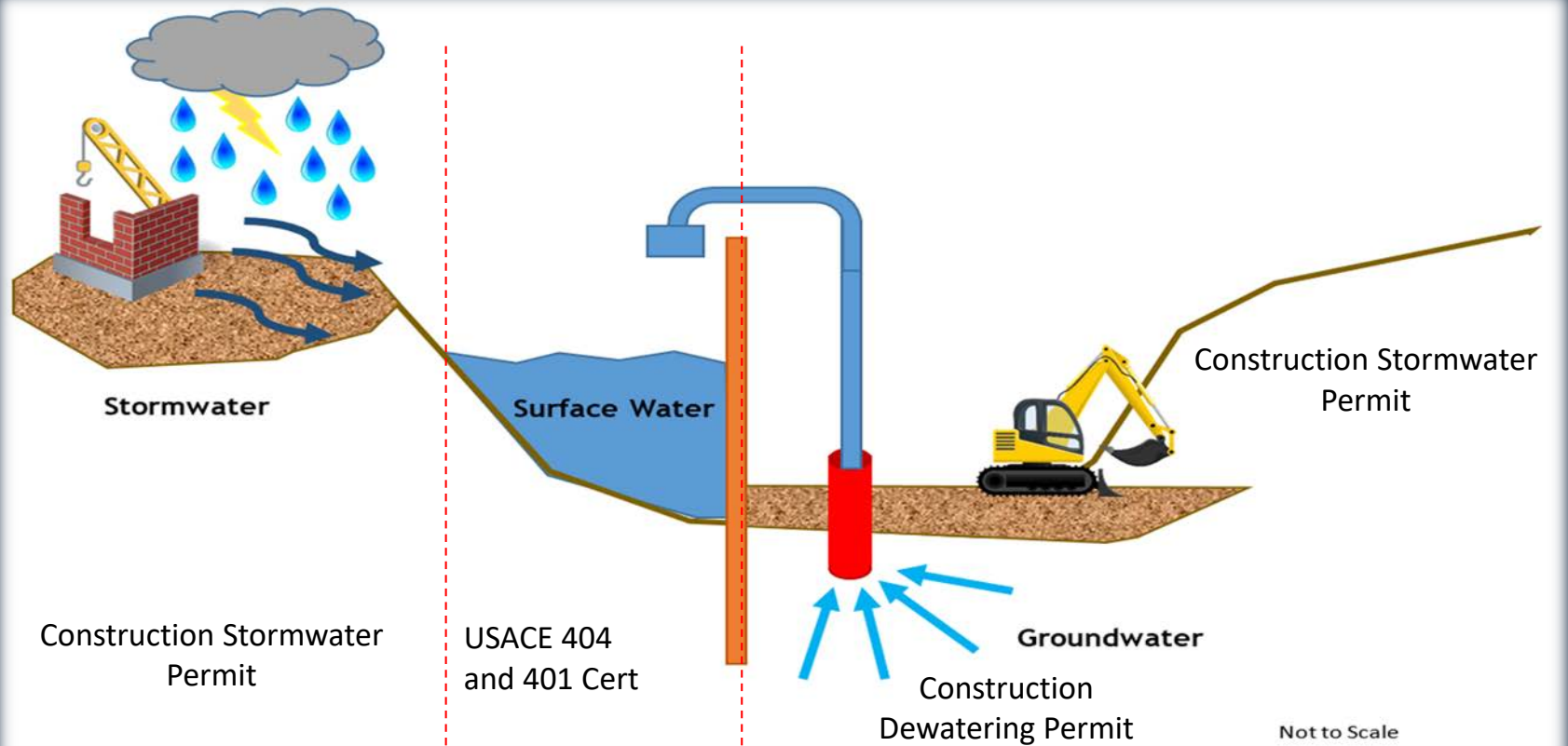
# Water Control Plan

- What Permits are Required?
- Identify Resources to Protect
- Stormwater Management Plan
  - Phasing/Sequencing of Work
  - Control Measures
  - Diversions
  - Stream Crossings
  - Stabilization Methods
- Dewatering Plans
- GESC





# How Do Permits Relate in Field?







Construction Stormwater  
Permit

404 Permit

404 Permit

Construction Stormwater  
Permit

Construction Dewatering  
Permit



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# Understanding Permits

1. Waters of the State - CDPS Permits
2. Waters of the US - USACE Permits
3. Control Measures - CDPS and USACE Permits
4. Pollutants - CDPS and USACE Permits





# Waters of the State

State Waters – *Any and all* surface and subsurface waters which are *contained in* or *flow in or through* the State, but does *not* include:

- waters in sewage systems,
- waters in the treatment works of disposal systems,
- waters in potable water distribution systems, and
- all water withdrawn for use until use and treatment have been completed.



# Waters of the State



# USACE Regulatory Branch

## Mission Statement:

To protect the Nation's aquatic resources and navigation, while allowing reasonable development through fair and balanced permitting decisions

## Points of Contact:

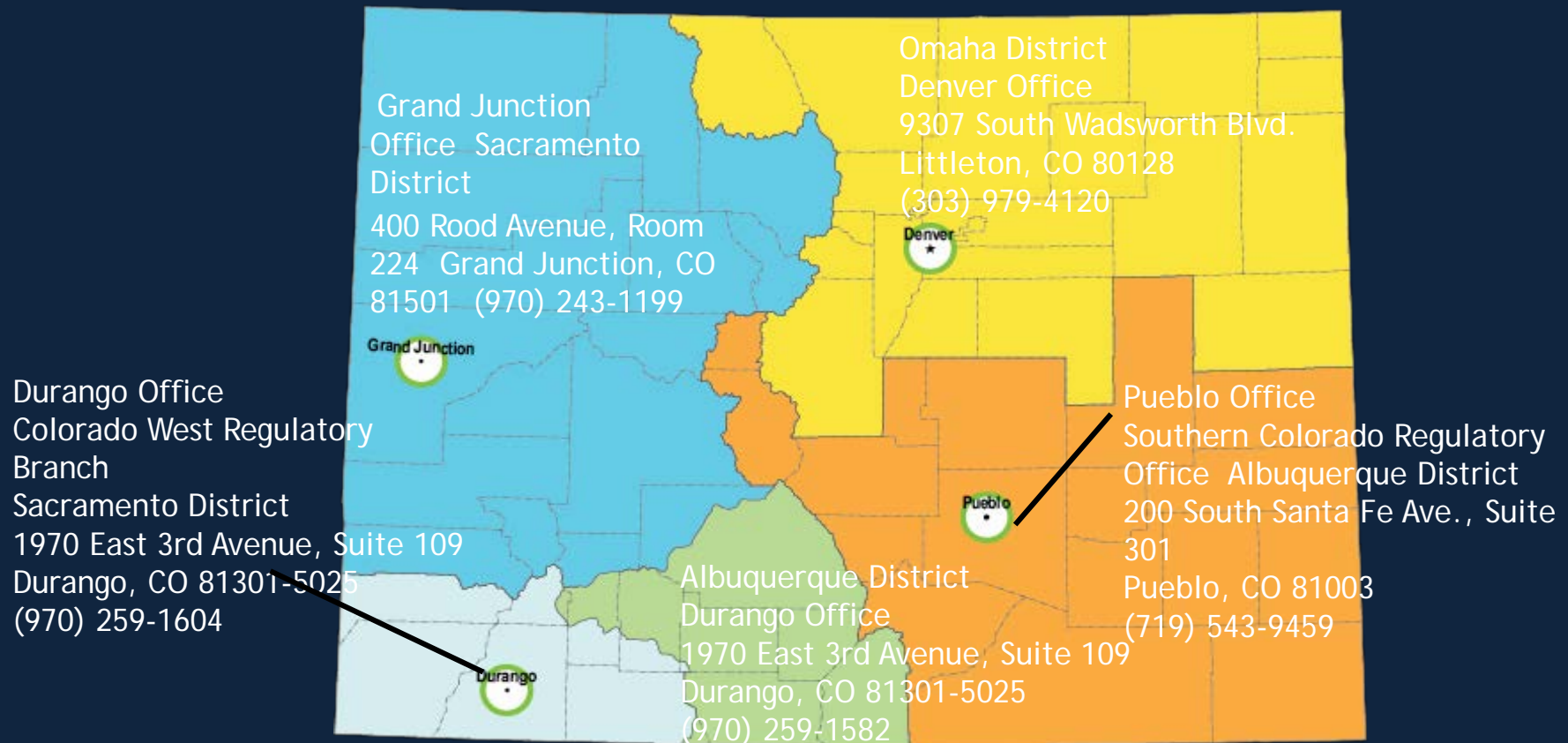
**Nick Franke**, USACE Regulatory Project Manager

**Brooke Davis**, USACE Senior Regulatory Project Manager/Denver  
Regulatory Office Enforcement Coordinator





# USACE Regions



# Waters of the US

The definition is somewhat complicated...

- Traditional navigable waters
- Wetlands adjacent to traditional navigable waters
- Non-navigable tributaries of traditional navigable waters that are relatively permanent where the tributaries typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically three months)
- Wetlands that directly abut such tributaries



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# Waters of the US

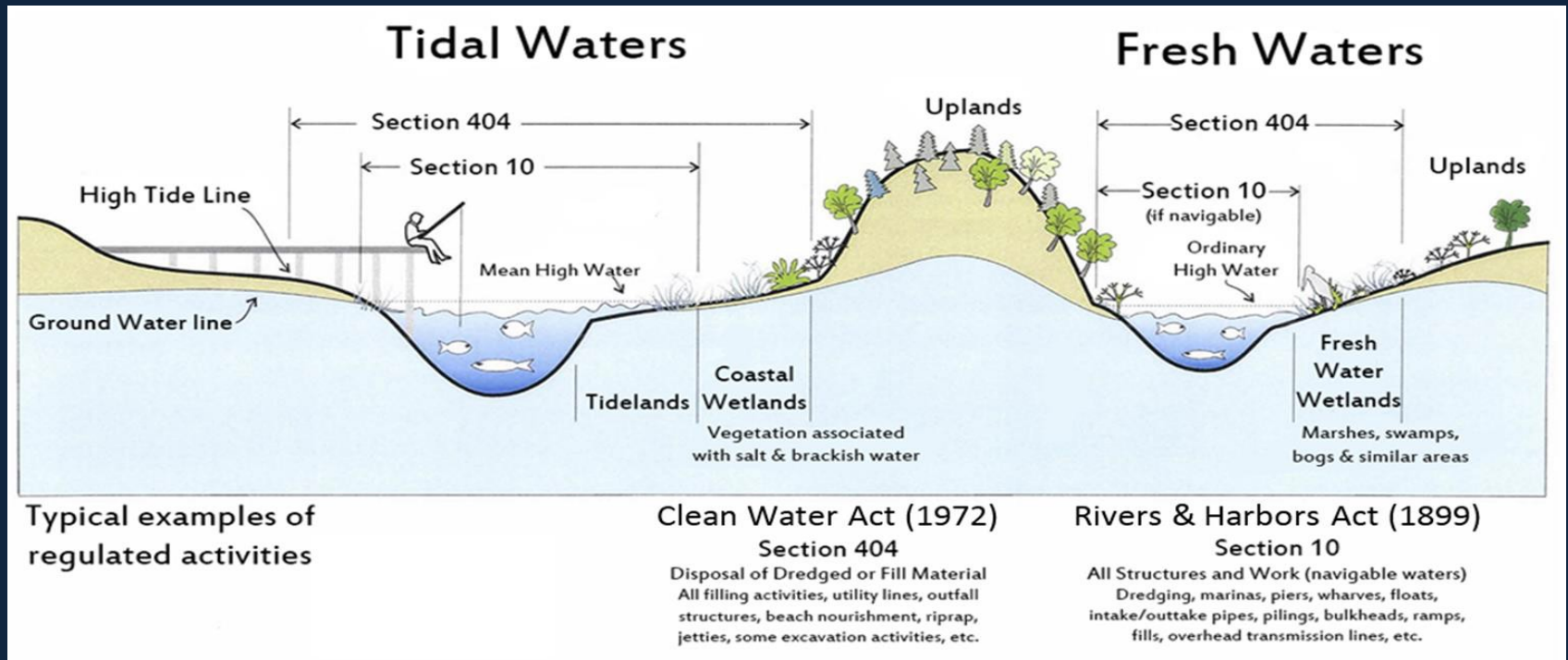
## In General

- Case by case determinations
- Most of the named streams are considered Waters of the US
- Wetlands that are adjacent to Waters of the US
- Agriculture ditches - some may NOT be considered Waters of the US



# Waters of the US

## Jurisdictional Cross Section





# Waters of the US

## Non-Tidal Limits of Geographic Jurisdiction

### Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM)

Line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics  
Applies to jurisdictional rivers, lakes, streams, etc.



### Wetlands

Determined by using the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and Regional Supplements. Wetland indicators are vegetation, soils, and hydrology.



Hydric soils

Vegetation



Hydrology

# Ordinary High Water Mark



Feature	Description	Interpretations
Drift/wrack	Debris deposited as streamflow recedes (typically during/after flood events); commonly forms linear features or piles and often collects on the upstream side of inundated vegetation or other flow barriers	May indicate the spatial extent of a recent flow event; a concentration of drift features may suggest relatively frequent inundation.
Erosion/scour	The removal of sediment or rock due to mechanical forces (e.g., water or wind)	Typically occurs within the active channel (i.e., below the OHWM) but can also result from extreme flood events or non-fluvial processes.
Bank undercutting	Erosion of channel banks beneath the ground surface such that a "roof" of sediment, roots, etc., remains	Typically occurs within the active channel (i.e., below the OHWM); more commonly in entrenched streams.
Root exposure	Exposure of previously buried roots due to erosion; common along active channel banks, particularly on the outside of bends (meanders)	Suggests the presence of active erosional processes; can also result from infrequent flood events.
Point bars	Depositional features found on the inside of stream bends (meanders).	Suggests relatively frequent inundation; the tops of point bars typically occur below the OHWM.
Water staining	Staining or discoloring of natural (e.g., bedrock) or man-made (e.g., bridges) objects due to the frequent presence of water.	In bedrock or colluvial channels or confined reaches where primary indicators cannot develop, water stains are sometimes the best or only indicator of ordinary flow conditions. However, they may indicate the most frequently experienced flow level (e.g., mean flow) rather than the ordinary extent of high flows, or they may indicate the spatial extent of a recent flood.
Litter removal	The removal of leaves, needles, and other organic ground cover due to flowing water	May indicate the extent of recent flows (depending on the time of year) or may be useful for verifying streamflow in small or hard-to-detect streams.
Silt deposits	Deposition of fine sediments	Generally depositional features rather than erosional ones. Silt deposits found on a floodplain often stand in contrast to the relatively coarse substrate of the active channel.
Shelving	The presence multiple "benches" and breaks in slope along the margins of the active channel.	Suggests downcutting of the active channel. The lowest bench may represent an emerging floodplain.
Headcut/knickpoint	An abrupt vertical drop in the stream bed that typically migrates upstream	Sometimes indicates the upper, longitudinal extent of a headwater stream and the OHWM (i.e., the point of stream initiation).
Macro-invertebrates	Invertebrates (animals lacking vertebral columns) that are visible to the naked eye (e.g., aquatic insect larvae, clams, crayfish, aquatic worms, etc.)	Certain aquatic species and aquatic life stages of macroinvertebrates have been found to be strongly tied to streamflow permanence (i.e., ephemeral vs. intermittent vs. perennial) in the Pacific Northwest (Mazzacano and Black 2008, Nadeau 2011, Blackburn and Mazzacano 2012).





Can you find the  
Ordinary High-  
Water Mark?



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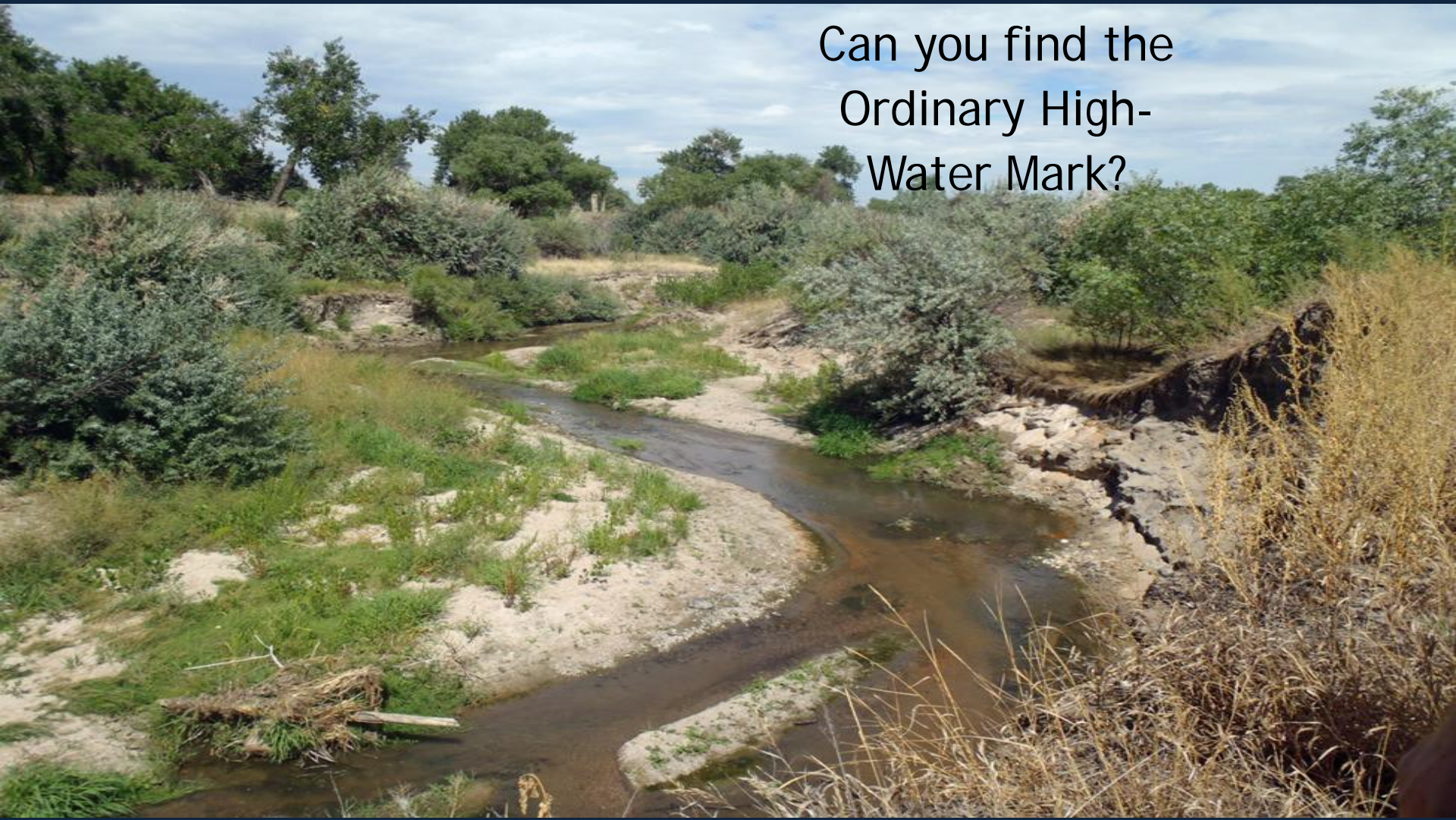
Can you find the  
Ordinary High-  
Water Mark?



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Can you find the  
Ordinary High-  
Water Mark?



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Can you find the  
Ordinary High-  
Water Mark?

04/21/2009



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Can you find the  
Ordinary High-  
Water Mark?



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# WOTUS in the News

- 2015 Rule repealed
- Currently enforcing definitions decided in *Rapanos v. US*.
- 2019 "Trump Rule" set to take effect mid-April



# Waters of the US

## What does this mean for work in waterways?

- When rules change it does not nullify previous determinations
- Still issuing 404 permits
- Jurisdictional issues may come up
- Best way to know -> “Approved Jurisdictional Determination”
- **NO STATUTORY TIMEFRAME FOR APPROVAL OF JDs**



# Key Authorities of USACE

Section 10 - Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899  
USACE authorizes:  
structures and work in  
navigable waters of the U.S.



Section 404 - Clean Water Act  
USACE authorizes:  
the discharge of dredged or fill  
material  
into waters of the U.S.





# Types of Corps Permits

- Individual/Standard (IP/SP)
- General
  - Nationwide (NWP)
  - Regional (RGP)
  - Programmatic (PGP)
- Letter of Permission (LOP)



# When is a 404 Permit Needed?



- Clean Water Act passed by U. S. Congress in 1972
- Administered by EPA and Corps
- Requires a permit from the Corps of Engineers to place fill material into a jurisdictional wetland or waterway
- Any person, firm, or agency who will place fill material in waters of the United States, must first obtain Section 404 Authorization from the Corps of Engineers

Authorizes the discharge of dredged and fill material into waters of the US



# When is a 404 Permit Needed?

Geography - Is this area regulated?

Activity - Is this action regulated by the Corps?

*A permit is needed if an activity is regulated (not exempt) within certain waters.*

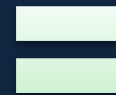


Section 404 of the CWA

Geographic  
Jurisdiction  
Waters of the  
U.S.



Activity  
Jurisdiction  
Discharge of  
dredged or fill  
material



Section 404  
Permit  
Needed





# Non-Regulated Activities

No Authorization Required

Excavation only:

- Pure excavation is not regulated
- Only “incidental fallback” is allowed
- Use backhoe or front-end loader, no dozers
- The excavated material will be placed in uplands

Any work performed outside of waters of the U.S.  
404(f) exemptions



**If EVER in doubt, call the USACE and discuss - YOU DON'T WANT A VIOLATION!!!**



# Important Definitions

**Dredged** - material that is excavated or dredged from Waters of the United States

**Fill** - material placed in Waters of the US where the material either

- replaces any portion of a Water of the US with dry land; or

- changes the bottom elevation of any portion of a Water of the US.

**Discharge** - any addition of dredged or fill material into Waters of the US.



# General Permits (Nationwide or Regional)



- Activity specific
- Minimal impacts (typically <0.5-acre, 300 or 500 lf)
- May or may not require a Pre-Construction Notification (PCN)
- 60 days from a "Complete Application"
- All Nationwide Permits are re-issued every 5 years

98% of authorizations in FY2019 were GPs  
91% were verified in 60 days or less





# Nationwide Permits

- Why do we have these types of permits?
- How do they work?
- What type of restrictions do Nationwide permits have?
- How many Nationwide permits are there?

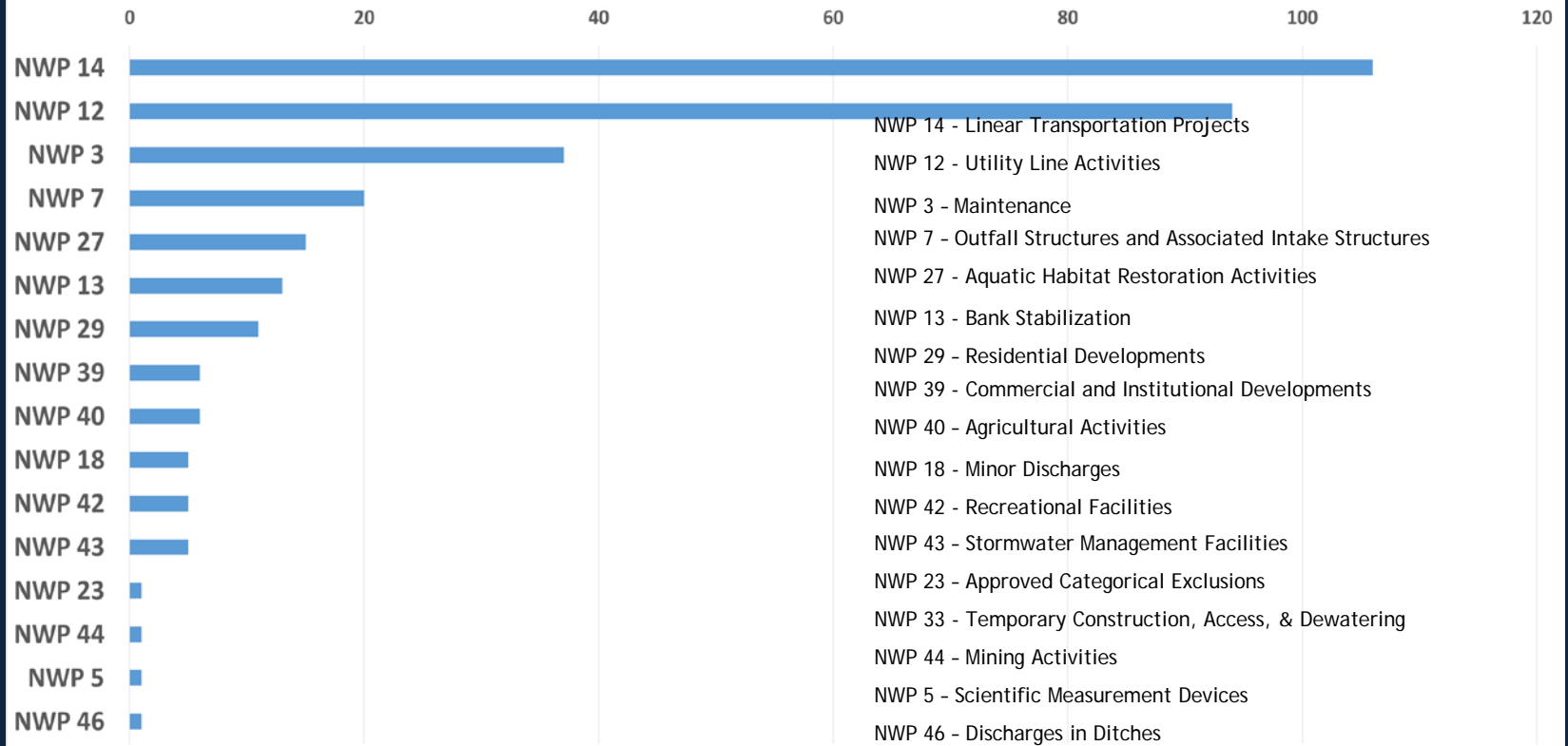


# Frequently Used NWPs

- NWP 3 - Maintenance
- NWP 12 - Utility Line Activities
- NWP 13 - Bank Stabilization
- NWP 14 - Linear Transportation Projects
- NWP 18 - Minor Discharges
- NWP 27 - Aquatic Habitat Restoration Activities
- NWP 33 - Temporary Construction, Access, & Dewatering
- NWP 39 - Commercial and Institutional Developments
- NWP 42 - Recreational Facilities
- NWP 45 - Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events



## Distribution of NWP Issued in 2019





# NWP Selected General Conditions



GC 2 - Aquatic Life Movement

GC 9 - Management of Water Flows

GC 12 - Soil Erosion and Sediment Control

GC 18 - Endangered Species

GC 20 - Historic Properties

GC 23 - Mitigation

GC 31 - Pre-construction Notification (PCN)



# Regional Conditions of NWP

## What regional conditions apply?

RC #5 - Important Spawning Areas

RC #6 - Fens

RC #7 - Springs

RC #8 - Suitable Fill

4 other RCs apply to specific NWPs/activities;

## Check with USACE if you have questions!

CO's Regional Conditions include protections for specific types of aquatic resources:

- Aquatic nuisance species prevention
- Critical Resource Waterways
- Gold Medal (important spawning areas)



# Regional General Permits

- Why do we have these types of permits?
- How do they work?
- What type of restrictions do they have?
- 4 RGPs in Denver right now





# Regional General Permits

<https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Program/Colorado/Regional-General-Permits/>

## Denver Regional General Permits

Permit #	Activity	Applicant	Expires
RGP 12-DEN	Aquatic Habitat Improvement for Stream Channels in Colorado	General Public	10/21/2021
RGP 96-DEN	Natural Disaster Mitigation and Flood-Related Activities in Colorado	General Public	7/31/2021
RGP-7-DEN	Channel Maintenance and Construction on Tributaries to the South Platte River	Urban Drainage and Flood Control District	1/6/2022
RGP-37-DEN	Stream Stabilization Projects in Colorado	General Public	10/2/2022



# Individual 404 Permits

- More than minimal impacts
- Full public interest review
- 22 different factors
- Agency coordination
  - USACE
  - EPA
  - WQCD
- Fish & Wildlife
- 401 Water Quality Certification from WQCD
- 120 days from a "Complete Application"
- Separate Special and General Conditions for Individual Permit
- Requires an Alternatives Analysis (NEPA)



# Section 401 Water Quality Cert

Projects authorized by General Permits in the State of Colorado have been certified by statute. Pursuant to section 25-8-302(1)(f) Colorado Revised Statute, General or Nationwide permits under Section 404 of the Federal Act are certified without the addition of BMPs or other conditions, and no further action on such permits by the applicant or the Colorado Water Quality Control Division is required. (From Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment - Water Quality Control Commission, Regulation No. 82, 5 CCR 1002-82).

401 WQCs pertain to the quality of the actual water within a WOTUS





# Section 401 Water Quality Cert

- Individual Permits are not valid until individual 401 certifications are received from the CDPH&E
- IPs contain conditions relating to water quality
  - Prevent oils/petroleum products from entering
  - Spill prevention and cleanup
  - Minimizing turbidity
  - Erosion protection
  - etc.



# Applying for a 404 Permit



The application must include a statement describing how impacts to waters of the United States are to be avoided and minimized

The application must also include either:

- a) statement describing how impacts to waters of the United States are to be compensated for
- b) statement explaining why compensatory mitigation should not be required



# Applying for a 404 Permit

## Statutory Timeframes:

- 60 days for General Permits
- 120 days for Individual Permits

Clock starts when application is federally COMPLETE!





# Applying for a 404 Permit

## Methods for Compensating (33 CFR 332)

- On-site or off-site permittee-responsible
- Mitigation banks
- In-lieu fee mitigation



# Wetlands Mitigation

## Methods

- Enhancement
- Establishment (creation)
- Preservation
- Restoration
- Re-establishment
- Rehabilitation

## Mitigation Plan Components

- Objectives
- Site selection
- Site protection instrument
- Baseline information
- Determination of credits
- Mitigation work plan
- Maintenance plan
- Performance standards
- Monitoring requirements
- Long-term management plan
- Adaptive management plan
- Financial assurances



# Wetlands Mitigation Monitoring

Requirements for monitoring mitigation  
Annual Reporting  
For 3-5 years, can be longer if not meeting criteria





# USACE Compliance Oversight

- 10% Compliance Inspections
- Permits
- Mitigation Banks and Sites
- Random/unannounced inspections
- Certain projects may be targeted
- Stealth mode - You may have had inspection and you didn't even know
- Inspections are very different than WQCD inspection
- Investigation of complaints



# USACE Inspection Process



- Permit gives USACE permission to enter site at any time
- Take project file (plans/designs) to site
- Has project been constructed as planned?
- No report
- If findings of non-compliance the permittee is notified
- Permittee should respond with corrective actions
- Unresolved non-compliance actions are subject to administrative penalties



# USACE Enforcement

## Permit Compliance

- Not in compliance with the terms and conditions of the issued permit(s)

VS

## Unauthorized Activities

- Performed without the required permit(s)





# USACE Enforcement

Project that was determined in Non-compliance with General Condition 12. Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls of the Nationwide Permits



## ■ Permit Compliance

- Section 404(s) - “Any person...in violation of any [permit] condition or limitation...” is subject to non-compliance actions
- Gives us the authority to require compliance with Corps-issued permits via orders and penalties
- Typically, the EPA is not involved



# USACE Enforcement

## GC 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.



# USACE Enforcement

Project that was determined to be in  
Non-Compliance with General  
Condition 2 - Aquatic Life Movements



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# USACE Enforcement

## GC 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.



# What is a Violation?

## Unauthorized Activities

- Section 404(a) - "The Secretary may issue permits...for the discharge of dredged or fill material into the navigable waters..."
- If the activity cannot be covered under a General Permit (non-compliance) or is not exempt
- Must have required elements



# Elements of a Violation

## 1. Discharge of Dredged or Fill Material (Pollutant)...

- Replacing any portion of a water of the U.S. with dry land; or
- Changing the bottom elevation of any portion of a water of the U.S.

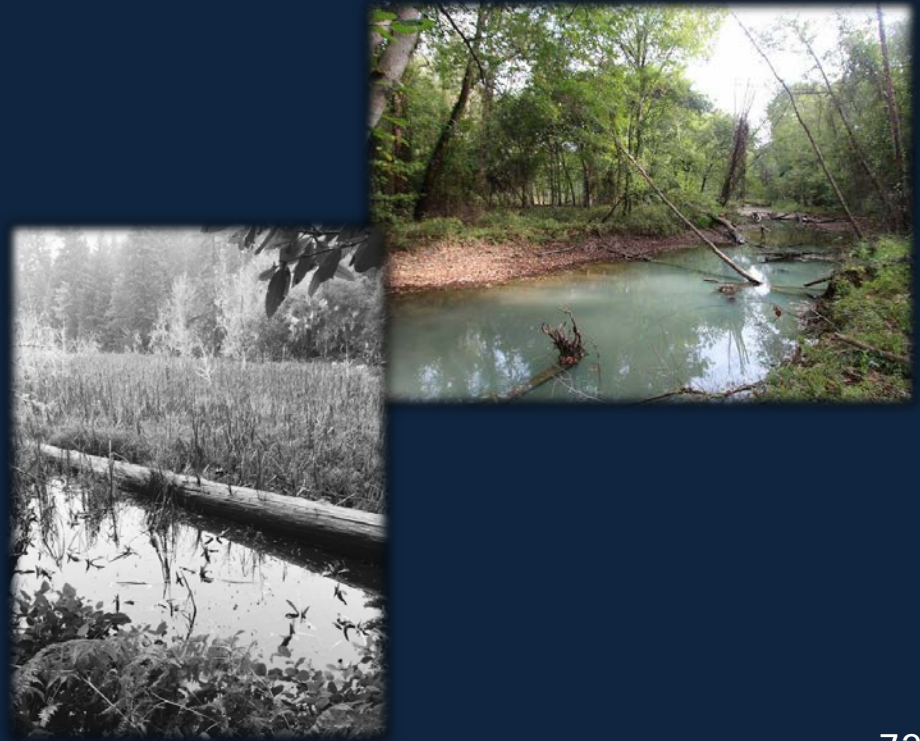




# Elements of a Violation

## 2. Into Waters of the U.S...

You all should know what this is by now... I am not going to bore you...



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# Elements of a Violation

## 3. From a Point Source...

- Any discernible, confined, and discrete
- conveyance (such as a pipe, ditch, or conduit)
- Including bulldozers, back-hoes, dump trucks, other equipment, etc.



# Elements of a Violation

## 4. By Any Person...

“Person” includes both:

Party who actually performed the work,

**AND**

Party with responsibility for or control over the performance of the work





# Elements of a Violation

## 5. Without Authorization or Exemption



2002

2018



75

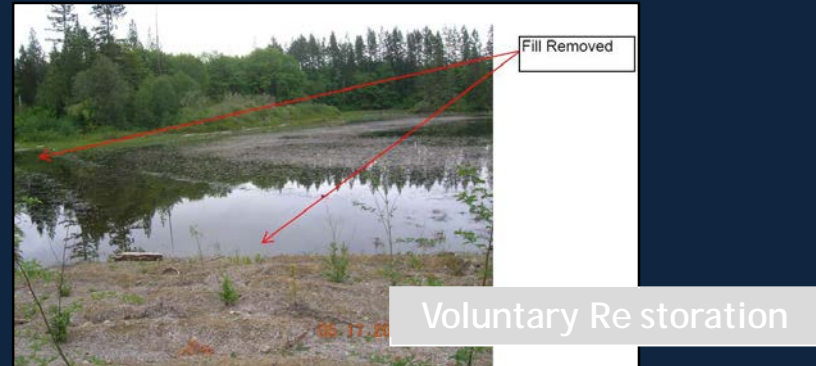


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# Enforcement Resolution

## Resolution Options

- Voluntary restoration
- After-the-fact permit application
- Refer to EPA
- Penalties
- Litigation
- Nationwide Permit 32 for Enforcement Actions



# US Army Corps of Engineers

More Information:

<http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Program/Colorado/>

Omaha District covers part of the State of Colorado; depending upon where each project is located, appropriate contact office will vary







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## Water Quality Control Division



# Water Quality Control Division

- ☐ Division Overview
- ☐ WQCD Permits for Waterway Projects
- ☐ WQCD Inspection Process
- ☐ Alternative Compliance Model
- ☐ Enforcement



# Quick WQCD Overview

- Delegated by the EPA to Implement CWA
- Regulate Discharges to Waters of the State
- Colorado Discharge Permitting System
- Made up of Multiple Units
  - Permits
  - Compliance and Enforcement
  - Environmental Data Unit





# WQCD Permits for Work in Water



- 401 Certifications
- Construction Stormwater
- Dewatering
  - Construction
  - Remediation



# 401 Certification

- WQCD reviews and issues certifications
  - Required for any federal license or permit which may result in any fill or discharge into Waters of the United States
- 
- ➔ NWPs DO NOT require certification by WQCD
  - ➔ Individual 404 Permit applicants MUST also apply for 401 certification through the WQCD



# Required Submittals

- Certification Request Form
- Signed Copy of the 404 Permit Application
- Project Site Plan
- List or Description of BMPs





# 401 Certification Process

- Preliminary Review of Proposed Project
- Public Notice (30 Days)
- Review of Public Comments
- Final Water Quality Certification



## WQCD Contact

Scott Garncarz

Scott.Garncarz@state.co.us

303.692.2374



# Construction Stormwater Permit

CDPS General Permit ID COR400000

Authorizes the discharge of stormwater that has come in contact with construction activities to Waters of the State

Required for Construction Activities:

- Disturbing 1 acre or more
- Part of a larger common plan of development disturbing 1 acre or more

**\*\*Permit Modification to be Issued Shortly\*\***



# Basic Permit Requirements

- Permit certification 10 days prior to start
- Implement Control Measures to Meet Effluent Limitations
- Maintenance and Corrective Actions
- Stabilization Requirements
- Stormwater Management Plan
- Conduct Routine Site Inspections
- 24-Hour Noncompliance Reporting





# Effluent Limitations

- Incorporates guidelines issued by the EPA
- Does NOT impose numeric effluent limits
- Does NOT require submission of effluent monitoring data
- Practice-based effluent limitations for stormwater discharges



# Control Measure Requirements



- Minimize discharge of pollutants
- Install prior to pollutant contributing activities
- In accordance with Good Engineering, Hydrologic and Pollution Control Practices
- Installed to specification in plan



# Clean Water Diversions

- Allowable Non-Stormwater Discharge
- Divert water around work area
- Create dry in-channel work area
- Channel in non-erosive condition
- Sediment control measures installed at edge of diversion
- Matches specification in plan

**\*\*Proper DESIGN is KEY to SUCCESS\*\***



# Clean Water Diversion

Short-Duration Stream Diversion (April - Oct.)		
Project Duration	3 months	Meets 'Interim Duration' Criteria
Project Time of Year	April - October	
Drainage Basin Area (A)	448 Acres	
	0.7 Sq. Miles	
Safety Factor (S)	1.5	
Sizing Coefficient (K)	0.5	
Equation TDM-1: $Q = S * K * A$		
Design Flow Rate (Q)	0.525 cfs	

SOURCE: URBAN DRAINAGE SHORT DURATION CALCULATION BOX

Peak-Flow Statistics Flow Report	100 Percent Foothills Region Peak Flow 2016 5099	
Statistic	Value	Unit
2 Year Peak Flood	29.9	ft <sup>3</sup> /s
5 Year Peak Flood	96.4	ft <sup>3</sup> /s
10 Year Peak Flood	171	ft <sup>3</sup> /s
25 Year Peak Flood	303	ft <sup>3</sup> /s
50 Year Peak Flood	431	ft <sup>3</sup> /s
100 Year Peak Flood	595	ft <sup>3</sup> /s
200 Year Peak Flood	791	ft <sup>3</sup> /s
500 Year Peak Flood	1110	ft <sup>3</sup> /s

SOURCE: USGS STREAMSTATS

ASSUMING A WATERSHED IMPERVIOUSNESS OF ~30% - A MIX OF UNDEVELOPED AREAS AND RESIDENTIAL LOTS

APPROXIMATE 2-YEAR PEAK FLOW RATE OF 75 CFS FOR A TRIBUTARY AREA OF ~0.7 SQUARE MILES

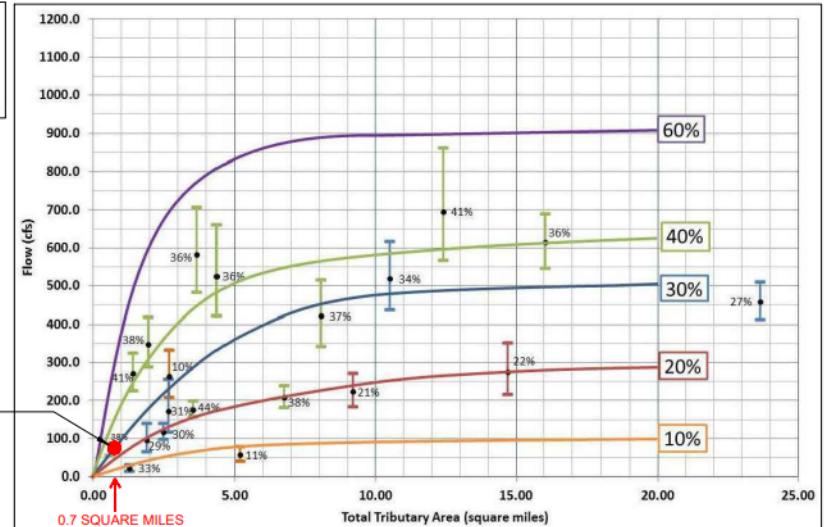


Figure TDM-2. Temporary Diversion Facility Sizing Nomograph for Long Duration Projects (Duration in excess of three months) Based on 2-year Peak Flows - Denver Metropolitan and Adjacent Areas, Updated April 2012

SOURCE: URBAN STORM DRAINAGE CRITERIA MANUAL VOLUME 3





# Clean Water Diversion



In-Channel Work Area

Great use of un-disturbed natural stream bank.

No additional sediment controls required.

Natural Non-Erosive Channel Bed



# Clean Water Diversion

Sediment Control  
Measures to Protect Up-  
Gradient Disturbed Areas

Check Dam



Properly Installed and  
Maintained Plastic Liner



# Clean Water Diversion

Properly Installed and  
Maintained Plastic Liner

Bermed Edge of Diversion  
Doubles as Sediment  
Control Measures to  
Protect Up-Gradient  
Disturbed Areas





# Clean Water Diversion

Piped Diversion  
(48" thick walled  
fusible plastic)



Dry Work Area

Protected Outfall

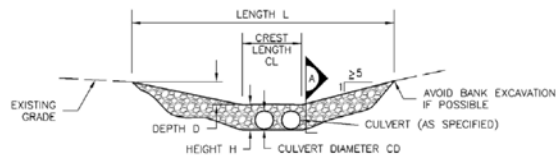




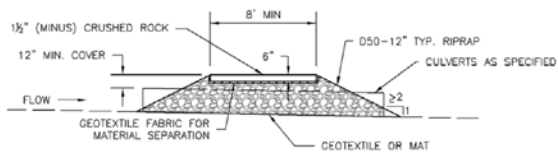
# Temporary Stream Crossing

## Temporary Stream Crossing (TSC)

SM-10



CULVERT CROSSING SECTION



SECTION A



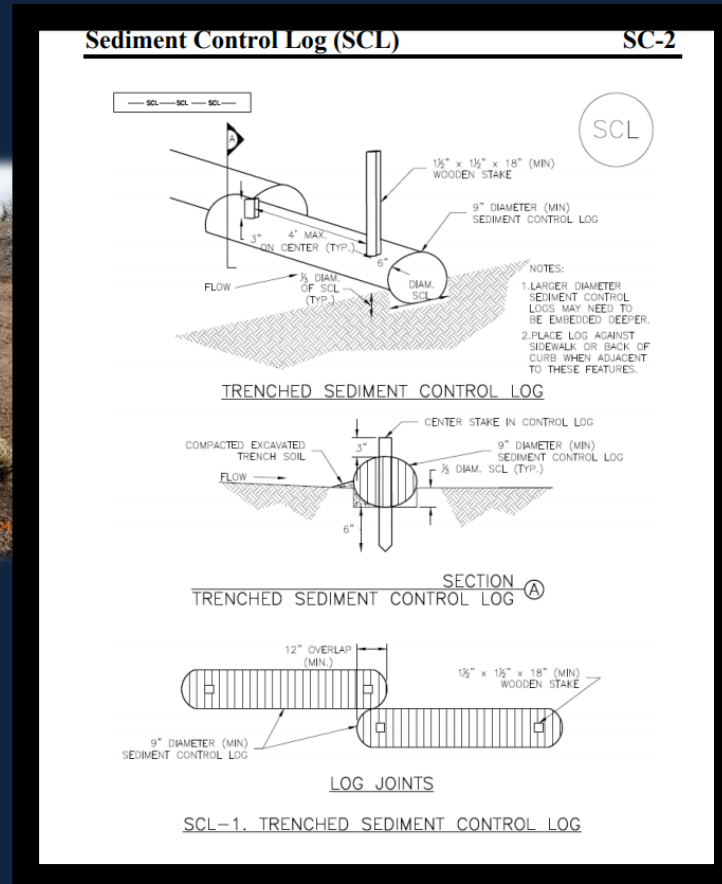
# Temporary Stream Crossing



Adequately Sized  
for Flow AND  
Traffic



# Importance of Specifications





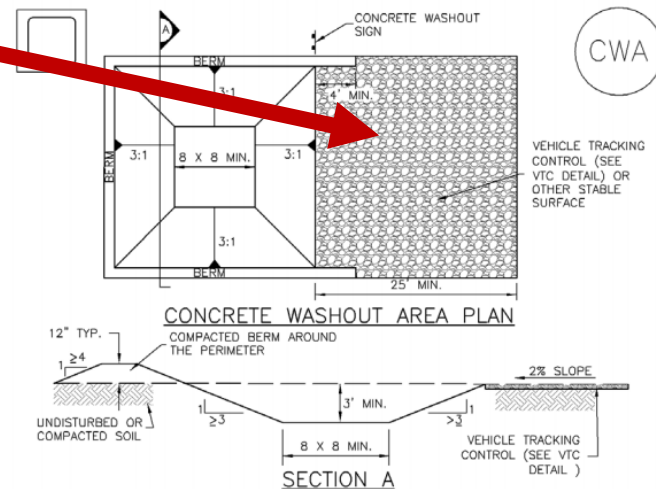
# Importance of Specifications

VTC does not  
Match  
Specification



## Concrete Washout Area (CWA)

MM-1



CWA-1. CONCRETE WASHOUT AREA

# Stabilization Requirements

## Temporary Stabilization

- Implement within 14 calendar days
- Alternative schedule
  - Function of specific area requires it to remain disturbed
  - Terrain and climate prevent stabilization
  - Must Document in SWMP

## Final Stabilization

- Designed and installed as permanent feature
- Remove ALL temporary control measures
- All vegetated areas achieve 70% pre-existing



# Temporary Stabilization Methods



Mulching/  
Tackifier



Tracking

Blanketing/  
Terracing



Surface  
Roughening





# Final Stabilization Methods



# Final Stabilization Methods





# Stormwater Management Plan

## LIVING DOCUMENT

- Kept up-to-date to match CURRENT site conditions
- Must maintain a record of changes

## Retained on Site

- Notify division if kept offsite

## Available upon Request

- Division requests 2<sup>nd</sup> copy during inspection





# Stormwater Management Plan

1. Qualified Stormwater Manager
2. Spill Prevention and Response Plan
3. Materials Handling
4. Potential Sources of Pollution
5. Implementation of CMs
6. Site Description
7. Site Map
8. Final Stabilization
9. Inspection Reports

All Sections **MUST**  
be addressed in  
Plan!!

Specifications for ALL Control  
Measures



# 24 Hour Reporting

Permittees are required to orally notify the division within 24 HOURS of the following circumstances on noncompliance:

- Endanger health or the environment regardless of the cause
- Unanticipated Bypass
- Upset

Written notification is required within 5 days

To Report Noncompliance Call  
303.692.3500



# Should I Call?





# Should I Call?



# Dewatering General Permits

## Limitations on Coverage

### Construction Dewatering

- Source water has come in contact with construction activities
- Cannot have pollutants in the discharge at a concentration greater than the water quality standard for the receiving water

### Remediation

Source water contains a potential level of contamination that may cause high concentrations of pollutants.

Examples:

- Hazardous waste sites, VCUP, Superfund
- LUST, OPS Cleanup
- Dry cleaners, abandoned industrial activities

**\*\*DEWATERING PERMITS RENEWED - EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2020\*\***



## ADMINISTRATIVELY EXTENDED GENERAL PERMITS\*



### COG070000

#### *Construction dewatering*

Currently permitted construction dewatering activities under COG070000 will be completed under COG070000.



### COG315000

#### *Remediation activities discharging to surface water*

Currently permitted short-term (<2 year) remediation activities under COG315000 will be completed under COG315000.

Currently permitted long-term (>2 year) remediation activities under COG315000 will have renewed coverage under COG318000.



### COG316000

#### *Remediation activities discharging to groundwater*

Currently permitted short-term (<2 year) remediation activities under COG316000 will be completed under COG316000.

Currently permitted long-term (>2 year) remediation activities under COG316000 will have renewed coverage under COG318000.



### COG603000

#### *Subterranean dewatering or well development*

All currently permitted activities under COG603000 will have renewed coverage under COG608000, COG603000, or COG318000 as applicable.

## NEW GENERAL PERMITS\*



### COG080000

#### *Short-term construction dewatering*

New coverage for construction dewatering activities will be permitted under COG080000.



### COG317000

#### *Short-term remediation activities discharging to surface water and/or groundwater*

New coverage for short-term (<2 year) remediation activities will be permitted under COG317000.



### COG318000

#### *Long-term remediation activities discharging to surface water and/or groundwater*

New and renewed coverage for long-term (>2 year) remediation activities will be permitted under COG318000.



### COG603000

#### *Subterranean dewatering*

New and renewed coverage for long-term (>2 year) subterranean dewatering activities will be permitted under COG603000.



### COG608000

#### *Well development*

New and renewed coverage for well development and pumping test activities will be permitted under COG608000.

\*Coverage will be provided or renewed as applicable per the terms and conditions of the general permits.





# Dewatering Activities Covered

Discharge of source water including:

- Discharge of groundwater
- Discharge of surface water (mixed with groundwater)
- Stormwater mixed with groundwater or surface water



**\*\*The discharge of stormwater alone does NOT require a separate dewatering permit\*\***

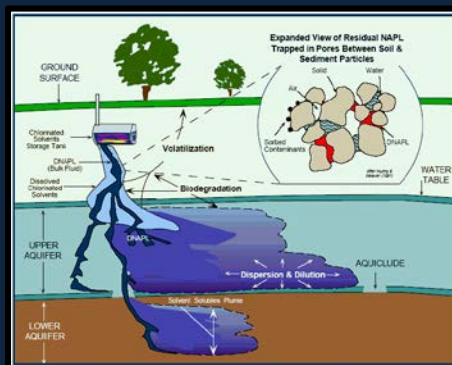


# Determining Permit Coverage

Division's review of application identifies sources of potential contamination



Leaking  
Underground  
Storage Tanks



Voluntary Cleanup Programs (VCUPs)  
Corrective Action Sites  
Historical Landfills  
Superfund Sites  
National Priorities List (NPL) Sites  
Naturally Occurring Contaminants  
(Metals)



# Construction Dewatering Permit

Required when groundwater, surface water and/or stormwater mixed with surface or groundwater comes into contact with construction activities

## Permit Requirements

- Permitted outfalls
- Pollution control measures
- Flow limitations
- Discharge log
- Sampling requirements
- Additional site-specific limitations





# Construction Dewatering





# Components of a Dewatering System

- Intake Area
- Treatment Process
- Discharge Point



# Components of a Dewatering System

The Intake Area is the *First Area of Treatment*

- Clean hole
- Clean aggregate gravel pack
- Clean slotted pipe
- Pump goes in center of pipe aggregate placed around pump





# Example of Intake Areas



Multiple Engineered Well-Points  
to Draw Down Water Table

# Example of Intake Areas



Adequately Sized for the  
Volume of Water



# Example of Intake Areas

More Difficult to Treat  
Water that Looks Like  
This





# Components of a Dewatering System

The Treatment Process Removes Pollutants introduced by construction

- No Treatment
- Filtering
- Settling



# Examples of Treatment





# Examples of Treatment





# Examples of Treatment



# Examples of Treatment



Remediation Baker Tanks

4-Pod Sand Filters



# Components of a Dewatering System

## Outfall-Discharge Area

- Cannot cause Erosion
- Sampling Point
- Make Accessible





# Examples of Outfalls



Hard (impossible) to  
Access for Sampling



# Examples of Outfalls



Protected Outfall





# Examples of Outfalls



TURTLE!

Easily Accessible Sample Point





# Types of Outfalls

- Defined – known location
- Undefined – location to be determined



# Permit Certification



Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

## CERTIFICATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER CDPS GENERAL PERMIT COG070000 CONSTRUCTION DEWATERING OPERATIONS

Certification Number: **COG07XXXX**

This Certification to Discharge specifically authorizes:

**XYZ Construction**

to discharge from the facility identified as

**Cherry Creek Utility Repair**  
to: **Cherry Creek**

Facility Located at:

348 Speer Blvd Denver, CO 80203, Denver County  
Center Point Latitude 39.72540 Longitude -104.98423

Defined Discharge Outfall(s) to Surface Water	Outfall(s) Lat Long	Discharge Outfall(s) Description*	Receiving Stream
Outfall Number 001-A	39.72540, -104.98423	Discharge to storm sewer inlet south of 13 <sup>th</sup> Ave. at Speer Blvd.  Sampling shall occur after the implementation of any best management practice or treatment and prior to discharge into the storm sewer inlet.	<b>Cherry Creek</b>

\*All discharges must comply with the lawful requirements of federal agencies municipalities, counties, drainage districts and other local agencies regarding any discharges to storm drain systems, conveyances, or other water courses under their jurisdiction.



# Effluent Limitations & Monitoring

Permit Limitations and Monitoring Requirements apply to 001-A as outlined in the Permit Part I.B and Part I.C

Parameter	Units	Discharge Limitations Maximum Concentrations			Monitoring Frequency	Sample Type
		30-Day Average	7-Day Average	Daily Max.		
APPLICABLE TO ALL DISCHARGES AS LISTED IN GENERAL PERMIT						
pH, (Min-Max)	s.u.	NA	NA	6.5 -8.5	Weekly	In-situ
Total Suspended Solids	mg/l	30	45	NA	Weekly	Grab
Flow	gpm	NA	NA	600	Weekly	Instantaneous or Continuous
Oil and Grease Visual		NA	NA	NA	Weekly	Visual
Oil and Grease	mg/l	NA	NA	10	Weekly	Grab





# Effluent Limitations & Monitoring

## Limitations

- Flow
- pH
- Oil and Grease
- Total Suspended Solids



## Receiving Stream Limitation

- Total Dissolved Solids
- Total Phosphorus
- 303d List Impaired Streams

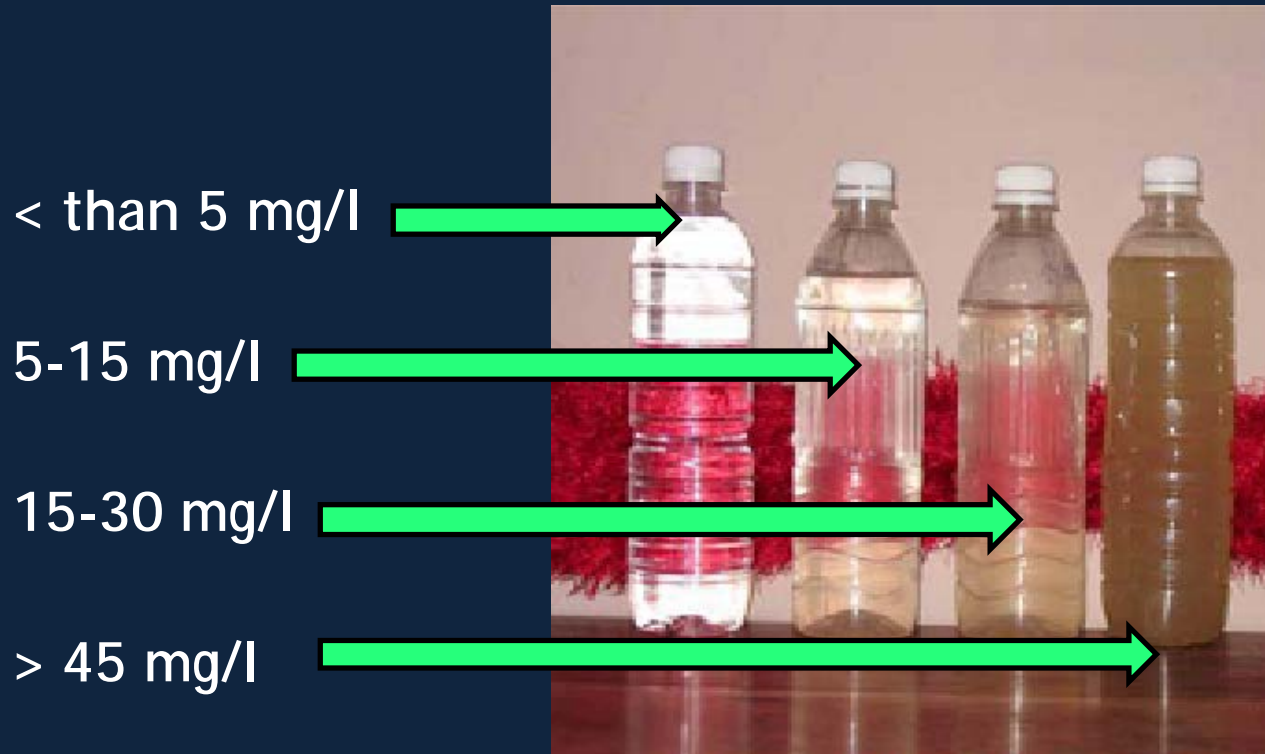
## Site Specific Limitations

- BTEX
- E. Coli and Total Coliform



# Total Suspended Solids

An example of visual observation of effluent as compared to a typical bottled drinking water on left



# Construction Dewatering Compliance

## Permit Requirements:

- Pollution Control Practices
- Discharge Log
- Record Keeping
- Sampling
- Discharge Monitoring Reports





# Discharge Log Requirements

- Dates and Times when a Discharge Commences and Ends
- Records for Monitoring
- For undefined outfall:
  - Receiving Water
  - Lat/Long of outfall
  - General description of location
  - Map showing discharge locations
- Description of Pollutant Control Practices
- Method used to measure flow
- Log must be updated within 72 hours of any activity requiring documentation



# Examples of Pollution Control Practices

- Location
- Well point
- Gravel Packs
- Riser piper/slotted
- Pump
- Hose - no leaks
- Discharge end
- Sampling point
- Dewatering bag/ no bag



# Description of Pollutant Control Practices

- Drawing, sketch, and/or written description of the installation and implementation specifications
- Identify Pollutant control filter maximum flow rate (for filter devices, settling devices, gravel packs, etc)
- Identify the residence time for settling devices
- For Other Techniques & Methods Implemented
  - Document the technique used and its intended purpose
  - The maximum flow rate for operation that will maintain compliance
- If No Treatment is identified to be necessary, include a statement justifying that no treatment will be provided





# Examples of Pollution Control Practices

- Filter Devices –  
Dewatering bags
- Energy dissipation  
devices



# Examples of Pollution Control Practices





# Examples of Pollution Control Practices

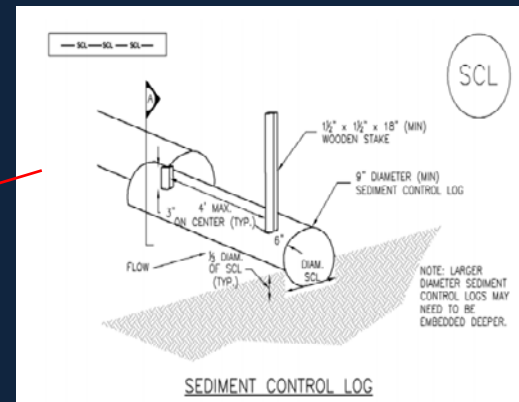
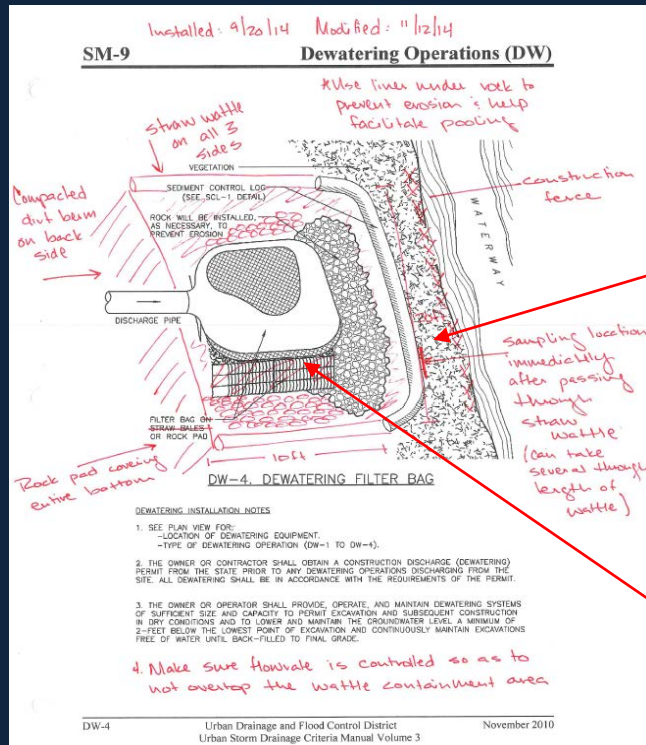




# Examples of Pollution Control Practices



# Control Measure Specifications



Permittivity	ASTM D 4491	sec <sup>1</sup>	1.2
Permeability	ASTM 4491	cm/sec	0.21
Water Flow Rate	ASTM 4491	l/min/m <sup>2</sup> (gal/min/ft <sup>2</sup> )	3866 (95)
Ultraviolet Resistance	ASTM D 4355	%	70
Color			Black



# Records for Monitoring

- Date, type, exact location, and time of sampling
- The individuals who performed the sampling
- Date(s) the analyses were performed
- Analytical techniques or methods used
- Results of such analyses
- Any other observations which may result in an impact on the quality or quantity of the discharge





# Discharge Monitoring Records

- Must be submitted monthly even if No Discharge to report
- Division is transitioning to *NetDMR*
  - Required by EPA
  - Paper DMRs are being phased out
- Submit by 28<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the monitoring period

[illegible][illegible]

# NetDMR

How to get started?

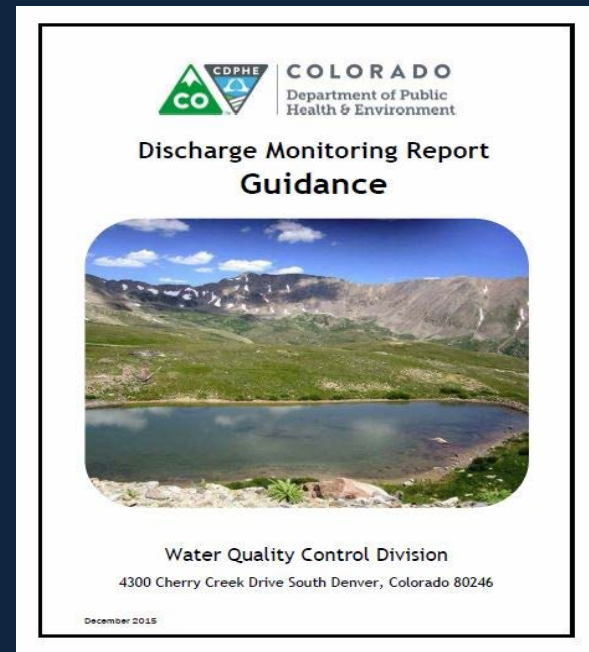
1. Visit

[www.coloradowaterpermits.com](http://www.coloradowaterpermits.com)

2. Scroll down to E-Reporting Rule

3. Follow the instructions

*Comprehensive DMR  
Guidance Document  
Available!*



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment

# Review DMRs for Accuracy!

Compare your DMRs against the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements in your permit/certification EARLY!

This includes:

- Contact Information
- Outfall numbers and descriptions
- List of parameters
- Numerical effluent limits
- Monitoring frequency



Contact the division immediately if you find any discrepancies

***\*\*Always follow the permit/certification requirements\*\****



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment



# Additional Permit Compliance Reminders

- All DMRs, including those submitted via NetDMR, must be received by the Division *no later than* the 28<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the end of the monitoring period.
- You are required *to retain* at least 1 copy of the DMR in your records for at least 3 years.
- A cover letter/attachment/comment *must accompany* your DMR when the DMR includes a violation of a permit condition, including failure to sample.
- If a permit violation occurs, *you must document the cause(s) of the violation and the actions the operator has taken and/or plans to take* to remedy the violation(s). This documentation should be submitted along with the DMR for the monitoring period.

All permit non-compliance MUST be documented and reported to the Division



# Low Risk Discharge Policy

- Uncontaminated groundwater to land
- Cannot cause a violation of groundwater standard
- Cannot leave site as Surface Runoff
  - Land application
  - Dust control



# Low Risk Guidance Policy



**\*\*Cannot cause a violation to a ground water standard\*\***

- Construction Dewatering
- Subterranean or Foundation Dewatering
- Foundation Dewatering
- Uncontaminated vault Dewatering
- Utility work





# Applying for a Permit

## Colorado Environmental Online Services (CEOS)

- Web based platform
- Apply for permits
- Pay permit fees
- Upload documents
- Modify information on file

Paper applications or forms will no longer be accepted



# Setting Up CEOS Account

- Online tutorial (25 minutes)

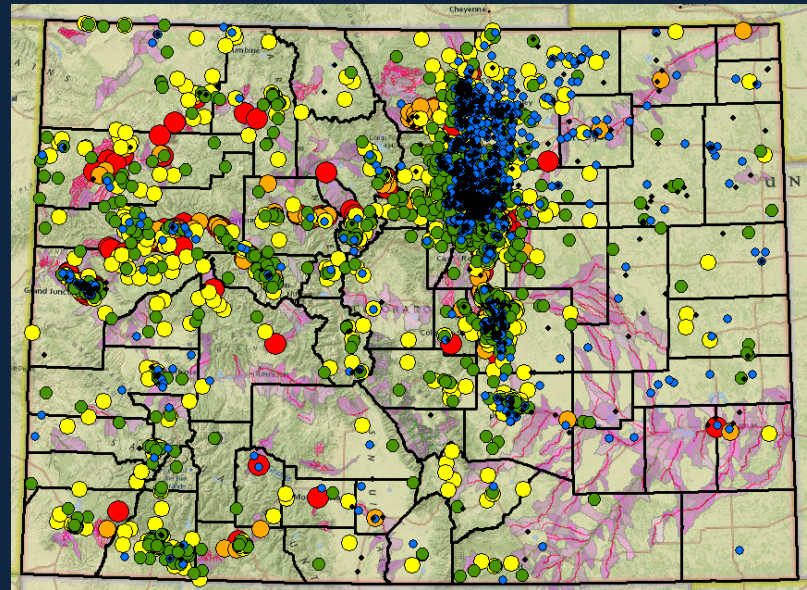
[https://ceos.colorado.gov/CO/CEOS/Public/Client/CO\\_CIMPLE/Doc/CEOS\\_Online\\_Tutorial.mp4](https://ceos.colorado.gov/CO/CEOS/Public/Client/CO_CIMPLE/Doc/CEOS_Online_Tutorial.mp4)

- Responsible Officer (Permittee)
- Verify Identity



# WQCD Inspection Process

- Inspection Notification
  - Letter, checklist, request for records
  - Update site contacts
- Field Inspection
  - Records review
  - Field inspection
- Preliminary Report
- Final Report
- Response\*\*
- Follow-up Inspection\*\*





# Records Review

## Stormwater Management Plan

- Narrative
- Inspection Records (6 months)
- Specifications
- Site Map



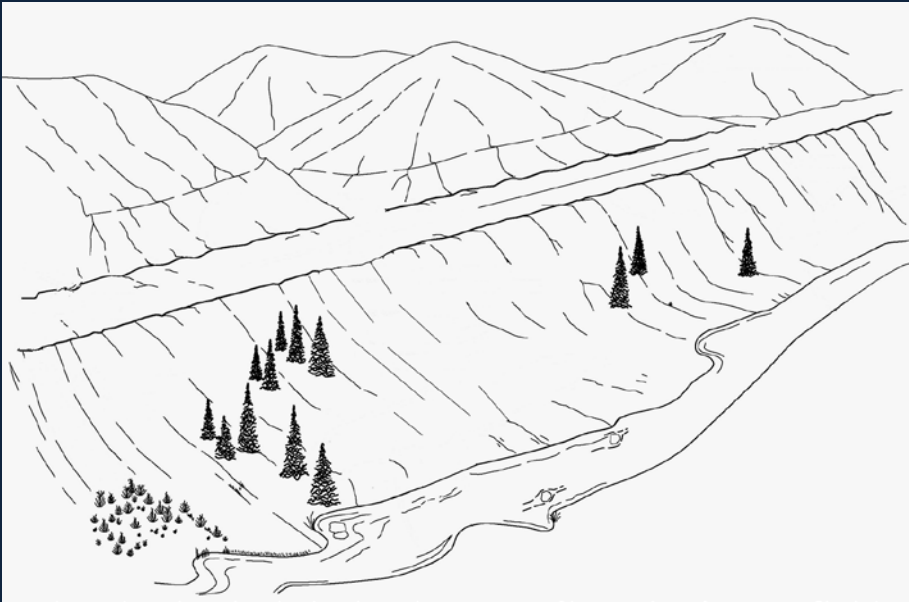
## Discharge Log

- Time and date when discharges start/end
- DMRs
- Analytical Results
- Description of Pollutant Control Practices



# Stormwater Field Inspection

## Evaluating the Construction Site



- Is there a pollutant source?
- Are there down gradient control measures?
- Are the control measures adequate?



# General Field Findings

Control Measures are:

- not implemented for pollutant source
- not installed to specification
- not maintained
- not in accordance with good engineering, hydrologic, and pollution control practices





# Stormwater Field Inspection



Pollutant Source: Disturbed Soils

Down Gradient Control Measures: Not Implemented

Finding: Control Measures were NOT IMPLEMENTED for pollutant source



# Stormwater Field Inspection

Pollutant Source: Disturbed Soils

Down Gradient Control

Measures: Yes - Clean Water  
Diversion

Are Control Measures Adequate:

No - Liner is Torn

Finding: Control Measures were  
**NOT MAINTAINED** for pollutant  
source





# Stormwater Field Inspection



Pollutant Source: Concrete Washout

Down Gradient Control Measures: Yes -  
Concrete Washout Area

Are Control Measures Adequate: No -  
Liner is Torn, Pit is Full

Finding: Control Measures were NOT  
MAINTAINED for pollutant source





# Stormwater Field Inspection



Pollutant Source: Disturbed Soils

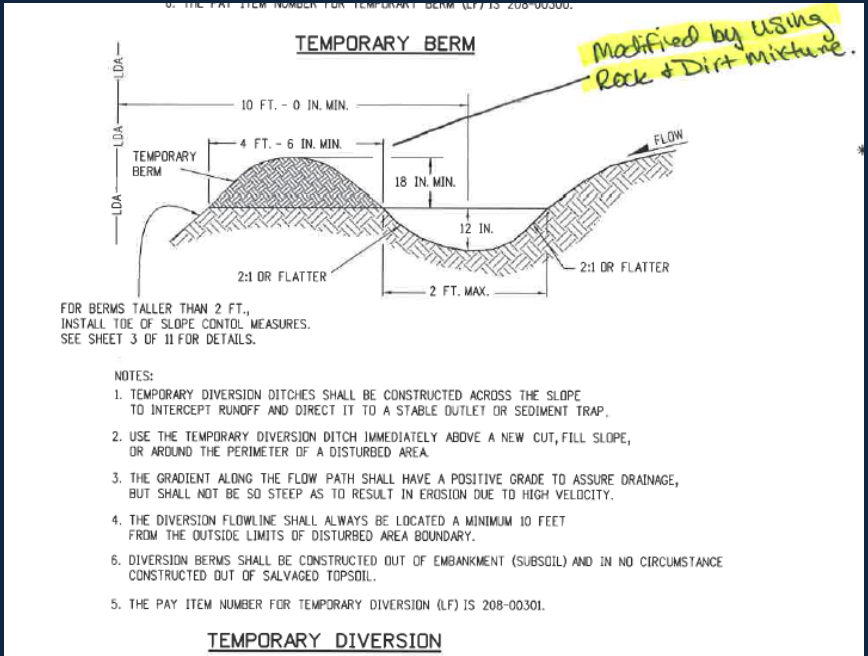
Down Gradient Control Measures: Yes –  
Diversion Channel, Check Dam

Are Control Measures Adequate: No –  
Channel is erosive, Check dam not  
installed adequately

Finding: Control Measures were NOT  
INSTALLED to specification



# Stormwater Field Inspection



# Stormwater Field Inspection



Pollutant Source: Disturbed Soils

Down Gradient Control Measures: Yes -  
Rock/Soil Barrier

Are Control Measures Adequate: No -  
Barrier itself can contribute pollutants

Finding: Control Measures were NOT  
INACCORDANCE WITH GOOD  
ENGINEERING, HYROLOGIC AND  
POLLUTION CONTROL PRACTICES





# Dewatering Field Inspection

## Discharge Point

- Correct location certified in permit
- Does not cause erosion

## Dewatering System

- Installed as described in Discharge Log
- In accordance with good engineering, hydrologic and pollution control practices
- Properly implemented, installed and maintained
- Discharge does not exceed effluent limitations



# Dewatering Field Inspection

## Finding:

Discharge Resulted in  
Erosion of Sediment



# Dewatering Field Inspection

## Finding:

Discharge Exceeded  
Effluent Limitations





# Dewatering Field Inspection



# Alternative Compliance Model

When a site meets the criteria for formal enforcement after initial Compliance Evaluation Inspection:

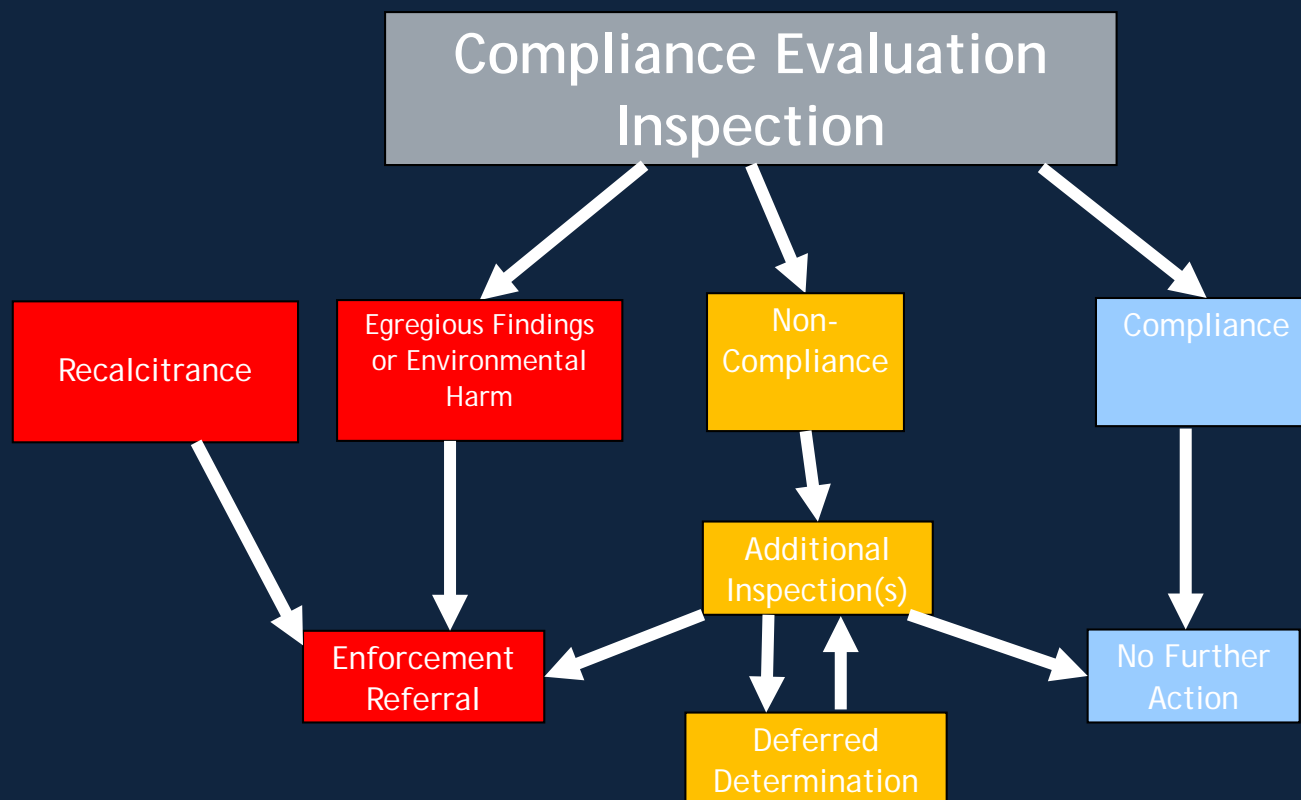
- Permittee given the opportunity to correct findings and bring site into compliance
- Division conducts follow-up inspection(s)

Outcome: Permittee's stormwater management program:

- Demonstrates Compliance
- Meets criteria for formal enforcement



# Alternative Compliance Model





# Formal Enforcement

Permittee fails to bring program into compliance the Inspection Audit (typically 1-4 Inspections) is Referred for Formal Enforcement

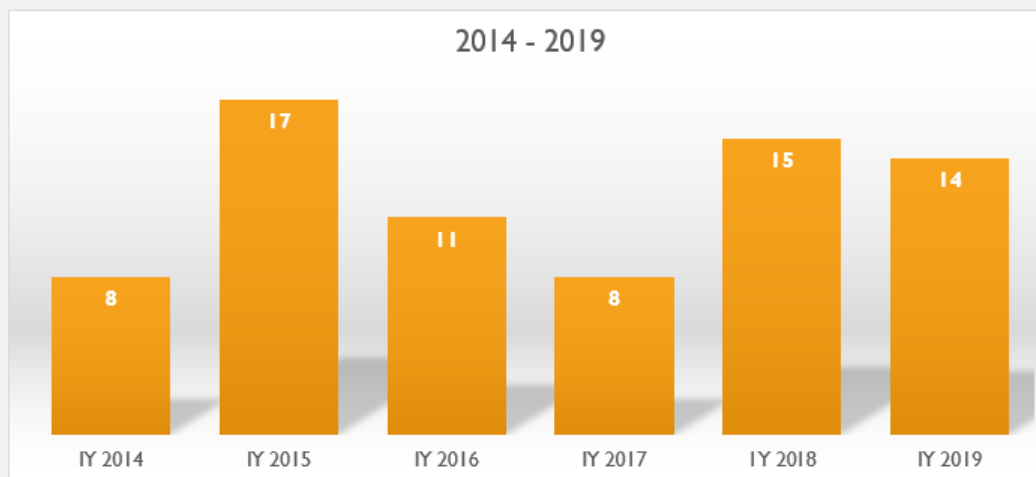
- Evaluate Findings Against Enforcement Response Guide
- Review Compliance Determinations & Permittee Response
- Issue Notice of Violation (NOV)
- Penalty Calculation and Settlements
- Fines \$10,000/day per violation



## NUMBER OF CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

### ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS ISSUED

2014 - 2019



## INSPECTION ENFORCEMENT IN THE NUMBERS

- Since 2009, approx. \$7.4 million collected in construction stormwater civil penalties.
- Highest penalty since 2009: \$284,929.00
- IY 2018
  - Highest penalty: \$249,060
  - Average penalty: \$164,530
- IY 2019
  - Highest penalty: \$130,000
  - Average penalty: \$85,346





# Questions?





# Thank You!

## Janel Servis and Aqua Terra



Similar private trainings will be  
available through Aqua Terra  
[janel@aquaterraenvironmentallic.com](mailto:janel@aquaterraenvironmentallic.com)

720-737-6041



# Contact Information

Elisabeth Miller

Elisabeth.Miller@state.co.us

303.692.3516

[www.colorado.gov/cdphe/wqcd](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/wqcd)

