

Public Notice

ISSUED: January 6, 2022

**REFER TO:** Nationwide Permit Reissuance

Section 404 – Clean Water Act and Section 10 – Rivers and Harbors Act

# PUBLIC NOTICE FOR FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE ANNOUNCING THE REISSUANCE OF THE NATIONWIDE PERMITS

On December 27, 2021, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) published a final rule in the *Federal Register* (86 FR 73522) announcing the reissuance of 40 existing nationwide permits (NWPs) and one new NWP. These 41 NWPs will go into effect on February 25, 2022, and they will expire on March 14, 2026:

- NWP 1 Aids to Navigation
- NWP 2 Structures in Artificial Canals
- NWP 3 Maintenance
- NWP 4 Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities
- NWP 5 Scientific Measurement Devices
- NWP 6 Survey Activities
- NWP 7 Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures
- NWP 8\* Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf
- NWP 9 Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas
- NWP 10 Mooring Buoys
- NWP 11 Temporary Recreational Structures
- NWP 13 Bank Stabilization
- NWP 14\* Linear Transportation Projects
- NWP 15\* U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges
- NWP 16 Return Water From Upland Contained Disposal Areas
- NWP 17 Hydropower Projects
- NWP 18 Minor Discharges
- NWP 19 Minor Dredging
- NWP 20 Response Operations for Oil or Hazardous Substances
- NWP 22 Removal of Vessels
- NWP 23\* Approved Categorical Exclusions
- NWP 24\* Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs
- NWP 25 Structural Discharges
- NWP 27 Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities
- NWP 28 Modifications of Existing Marinas
- NWP 30 Moist Soil Management for Wildlife

- NWP 31 Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities
- NWP 32 Completed Enforcement Actions
- NWP 33 Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering
- NWP 34\* Cranberry Production Activities
- NWP 35 Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins
- NWP 36 Boat Ramps
- NWP 37 Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation
- NWP 38 Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste
- NWP 41 Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches
- NWP 45 Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events
- NWP 46 Discharges in Ditches
- NWP 49\* Coal Remining Activities
- NWP 53 Removal of Low-Head Dams
- NWP 54 Living Shorelines
- NWP 59 Water Reclamation and Reuse Facilities

The new NWP 59 authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States for the construction, expansion, and maintenance of water reclamation and reuse facilities.

The Corps has also issued final decision documents for these new and reissued NWPs. These final decision documents are available at <a href="https://www.regulations.gov">www.regulations.gov</a> at docket number COE-2020-0002.

The 40 existing NWPs published in the December 27, 2021, final rule replace the 2017 versions of these NWPs. The 2017 versions of NWPs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 41, 45, 46, 49, 53, and 54 expire on February 24, 2022.

The NWP general conditions and definitions that were issued in the final rule that was published in the January 13, 2021, issue of the *Federal Register* (86 FR 2744) apply to the 40 reissued NWPs and the new NWP 59 that were published in the *Federal Register* on December 27, 2021.

With the publication of this *Federal Register* notice, Corps divisions will begin finalizing regional conditions for these NWPs published in the December 27, 2021 issue of the *Federal Register* (86 FR 73522). Division Engineers will prepare supplemental documentation to address decisions concerning the addition of regional conditions to the NWPs. Regional conditions will provide additional protection for the aquatic environment, and will help ensure that the NWPs authorize only those activities that have no more than minimal adverse environmental effects. Regional conditions will help ensure protection of high value waters within St. Paul District, covering Minnesota and Wisconsin.

<sup>\*</sup> NWPs proposed to be revoked by the St. Paul District, in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Corps divisions and districts will also begin determining which conditions for water quality certifications issued by states, tribes, and the EPA will become regional conditions of these NWPs. Water quality certification and Coastal Zone Management Act consistency regional conditions will be announced in a future public notice issued by the St. Paul District.

The December 27, 2021, *Federal Register* notice is available for viewing at <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/12/27/2021-27441/reissuance-and-modification-of-nationwide-permits">https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/12/27/2021-27441/reissuance-and-modification-of-nationwide-permits</a>

The January 13, 2021, *Federal Register* notice is available for viewing at: <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/01/13/2021-00102/reissuance-and-modification-of-nationwide-permits">https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/01/13/2021-00102/reissuance-and-modification-of-nationwide-permits</a>

As an alternative, interested parties can access the December 27, 2021, and January 13, 2021, final rules and related documents at: <a href="https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/Nationwide-Permits/">https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/Nationwide-Permits/</a>

## <u>Index of 2021 Nationwide Permits, Conditions, District Engineer's Decision, Further</u> Information, and Definitions

#### <u>December 2021 Nationwide Permits</u>

- 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
- 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
- 22. Removal of Vessels
- 23. Approved Categorical Exclusions \*
- 24. Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs \*
- 25. Structural Discharges
- 27. Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities
- 28. Modifications of Existing Marinas
- 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
- 41. Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches
- 45. Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events
- 46. Discharges in Ditches
- 49. Coal Remining Activities \*
- 53. Removal of Low-Head Dams
- 54. Living Shorelines
- 59. Water Reclamation and Reuse Facilities

<sup>\*</sup> NWPs proposed to be revoked by the St. Paul District, in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

#### January 2021 Nationwide Permits

- 12. Oil or Natural Gas Pipeline Activities \*
- 21. Surface Coal Mining Activities \*
- 29. Residential Developments
- 39. Commercial and Institutional Developments
- 40. Agricultural Activities
- 42. Recreational Facilities
- 43. Stormwater Management Facilities
- 44. Mining Activities
- 48. Commercial Shellfish Mariculture Activities \*
- 50. Underground Coal Mining Activities \*
- 51. Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities
- 52. Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects
- 55. Seaweed Mariculture Activities \*
- 56. Finfish Mariculture Activities \*
- 57. Electric Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities \*
- 58. Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances \*

### General Conditions for all 2021 NWPs

- 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 Birds and Bald and Golden Eagles
- 20. Historic Properties
- 21. Discovery of Previously Unknown Remains and Artifacts
- 22. Designated Critical Resource Waters
- 23. Mitigation
- 24. Safety of Impoundment Structures

<sup>\*</sup> NWPs revoked by the St. Paul District, in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

- 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

Ecological reference

Enhancement

Establishment (creation)

High Tide Line

Historic property

Independent utility

Indirect effects

Loss of waters of the United States

Navigable waters

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

Tribal lands Tribal rights Vegetated shallows Waterbody