



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
St. Paul District

Public Notice

15 August 2024

Authority:
Section 404 Clean Water Act

CITY OF SUPERIOR SPECIAL AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN IV REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT

MVP-1996-06788 – Superior SAMP IV RGP

This notice announces the reissuance and availability of the City of Superior, WI Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) IV Regional General Permit (RGP). The Superior SAMP IV RGP is now available to authorize certain Section 404-regulated activities in wetlands identified as eligible for the RGP in the Superior SAMP (version IV) for single and complete residential, commercial, industrial, institutional, and public development projects. The RGP authorizes regulated activities that have been determined to result in no more than minimal individual or cumulative adverse environmental effects. The applicable terms and conditions are described in the Superior SAMP IV RGP attached to this notice.

BACKGROUND and SUMMARY OF CHANGES: The Corps originally issued the Superior SAMP RGPs in 1996 to assist in better balancing the community's needs for economic growth and development while preserving wetlands that provide higher functions and services. Since then, the SAMP has been refined several times and the Corps has reevaluated and reissued the SAMP RGPs every five years. This reissuance of the RGP is based on the updated SAMP IV. Under the SAMP IV, 609.7 acres of wetlands are eligible for the RGP, and 3,618.5 acres remain ineligible within the municipal boundaries of the City of Superior, WI.

On 25 April 2024, the St. Paul District Corps of Engineers Regulatory Division (Corps) issued a Public Notice (PN) announcing the proposed reissuance of the Superior SAMP RGPs and provided a copy of the draft RGPs. Based on comments received in response to the PN and the Corps' internal environmental analysis, the Corps has modified the RGP to align with anticipated need and to further minimize adverse environmental effects.

In summary, the reissued SAMP IV RGP reduces the maximum area of adverse wetland impacts for a single and complete project down from 10 acres to 5 acres. The SAMP IV RGP also removes the segregation of permissible cumulative thresholds for wetland impacts based on the type of development (i.e., residential, commercial/industrial, institutional, public). The cumulative threshold for eligible wetland impacts that can be authorized under the Superior SAMP IV GP over the next 5 years has been reduced by half, regardless of project type. The SAMP IV RGP combines the previous four SAMP III RGPs (Residential, Commercial/Industrial, Institutional, and Public Developments) into one comprehensive RGP. Additionally, the SAMP IV RGP includes new general conditions to ensure that environmental damages are minimized to the extent practicable. Lastly, the SAMP IV RGP requires written verification from the Corps prior to commencement of regulated activities to ensure that every project is compliant with associated laws and regulations and would result in no more than minimal individual and/or cumulative adverse environmental effects.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information by contacting Ryan Winn by email at ryan.h.winn@usace.army.mil.

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