# ADOT's 404 Regional General Permit For Routine Transportation Activities

Presentation by Julia Manfredi, ADOT Water Resources, and Kathleen Tucker, USACE May 4, 2016



## Why A Regional General Permit?

- Permit specific to typical ADOT activities
- Reduce paperwork and processing times
- Reduce delays to conduct work



## Where Does the Permit Apply?

- Non-tribal lands in AZ only
- ADOT right-of-way and easements (including TCEs)
- Local public agency projects with federal funding,
   bid and administered by ADOT





## When is the RGP Not Appropriate?

- When a Nationwide Permit is more appropriate for the activity
- When the RGP thresholds are exceeded, requiring an individual permit instead
- When the project is being evaluated under an Environmental Impact Statement for NEPA



### **Authorized Activities**

- Structure maintenance
- Geotechnical activities
- Sediment and debris and removal
- Erosion repair
- Emergency activities
- Re-establishing design flow
- Bed stabilization
- Bank stabilization
- Routine linear transportation projects



AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES	NON NOTIFICATION	CONCURRENCE NOTIFICATION	FULL PRE- CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION
Maintain Structure - Existing structures/facilities/fill repair or replacement  Geotechnical Activities - Maximum 4 bore hole 3 feet in diameter  Sediment/Debris Removal - no greater than 200 linear feet from structure  Erosion Repair - Removed accumulated sediment for erosion repair - place within 100 linear feet of structure  Emergency Activity - Increases the allowable time to 3 years to commence or be under contract to commence emergency maintenance activities or repair of uplands damaged by discrete events	different levels of notific determine which level to impacts associated with p	do not have acreage thresh cation. Refer to the levels he following activities wo berennial, special aquatic s ational Historic Preservation	of notification below to uld fall within based on sites, Endangered Species



AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES	NON NOTIFICATION	CONCURRENCE NOTIFICATION	FULL PRE- CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION
*Re-Establish Design Flow Carrying Capacities:	Less than 0.10 acre disturbance to each Waters	acre disturbance to each Waters and if removal occurs less than annually due to public safety	> 0.50 acre up to 1 acre disturbance to each Waters and if removal occurs less than annually due to public safety.
*Bed Stabilization - Limited stream bed stabilization in existing, constructed drainage channels	less than 0.10 acre disturbance to each Waters	between 0.10 and 0.50 acre disturbance to each Waters	> 0.50 acre up to 1 acre disturbance to each Waters
*Bank Stabilization – Bank Stabilization of existing stabilized slopes - Permeable Bank Stabilization Methods	Equal to and less than 1,000 linear feet total impact and up to an average of 2 cubic yards of material per running foot below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM)	greater than 1,000 up to 2,000 linear feet total impact and up to 2 cubic yards of material per running foot below the OHWM	greater than 2,000 linear feet up to 3,000 linear feet total impact or greater than 2 cubic yards of material per running foot below the OHWM
*Bank Stabilization – Bank Stabilization of existing stabilized slopes - Impermeable Bank Stabilization Methods	Equal to and less than 600 linear feet total impact and up to an average of 2 cubic yards of material per running foot below the OHWM	greater than 600 and up to 1200 linear feet total impact and up to 2 cubic yards of material per running foot below the OHWM	greater than 1200 linear feet up to 2400 linear feet total impact or greater than 2 cubic yards of material per running foot below the OHWM
*Routine Linear Transportation Projects	less than 0.10 acre permanent impact to each Waters	between 0.10 acre and 0.50 acre permanent impact to each Waters	between 0.50 acre and 1 acre permanent impact to each Waters

<sup>\*</sup>These activities may require notifications due to impacts associated with ESA, NHPA or impacts to perennial waters or special aquatic sites



### **Notification Thresholds**

- Non-notification
- ConcurrenceNotification
- Pre-ConstructionNotification



Depends on activity and/or impact threshold. Impact thresholds are greater than what is typical under the Nationwide Permits.



#### Non-Notification

- Official PJD not needed. Provide documentation to file.
- No permit wait time at the Corps.
- No work in perennial waters or wetlands.
- Non-notification not allowed where the project has the potential to affect threatened or endangered species or historic properties. Use Concurrence Notification instead.



## Tracking Requirements for Nonnotification

Construction and maintenance projects working under non-notification must be tracked. Information in the construction project file must include:

Activity description

Start and end dates of the work in Waters

**Project coordinates** 

Restoration/revegetation activities/date installed

Before and after photos

Discussion of any problems and corrections



#### **Concurrence Notification**

Abbreviated PJD submittal needed, can be submitted at the same time as the Concurrence Notification Form.

Include PJD form, USGS quadrangle, map showing OHWM and upstream and downstream coordinates

Permit wait time at the Corps = 14 days
 Presume concurrence if no response from the Corps after 14 days.



#### **Concurrence Notification**

- Allows impact to perennial waters (up to 0.1 acre), but not wetlands
- ▶ If the activity may affect threatened or endangered species, or historic properties, Corps will not permit the project until USFWS, SHPO/THPO documentation is received.



## RGP 96 Concurrence Notification Form

Concurrence Notification Form For ADOT Regional General Permit 96			
1.Date Submitted (by	2.Date Approved (by		
ADOT):	Corps):		
3.Corps File Number:	4. ADOT Project		
	Number (Tracs or MWO):		
5. Applicant Info.	<ol><li>Agent Info. (if different from Applicant)</li></ol>		
a. Name:	a. Name:		
b. Address:	b. Address:		
c. Email:	c. Email:		
d. Phone Number:	d. Phone Number:		
7. Project Name:	8. Project Location:		
9. Name of Waterbody:	10. Center		
	Latitude/Longitude in		
	DD NAD83:		
11. Type of Waterbody	12. Is the project within		
(perennial, ephemeral,	1 mile of an		
wetland, etc):	Outstanding, Impaired,		
	or Not-Attaining		
	Water?		
13. Directions to the	14. Township, Range,		
Site:	Section:		



### **Full Pre-Construction Notification**

- ▶ Full PJD needed. Per previous ADOT guidance.
- Permit wait time at the Corps is per MOA.
  - 15 days for Corps to let ADOT know if application is complete
  - 45 days to issue verification when application is complete





### **Full Pre-Construction Notification**

- Allows impacts to perennial waters (over 0.1 acre)
   and wetlands (up to 0.025 acre)
- ▶ If the activity may affect threatened or endangered species, or historic properties, Corps will not permit the project until USFWS, SHPO/THPO documentation is received.



### **Notification Submittals**

Concurrence:

Concurrence form, "abbreviated" PJD (submitted concurrently), documentation for compliance with ESA and Section 106

Additional description needed for bank stabilization projects

▶ PCN – same as before under Nationwide Permits Submit PJD separately ahead of the PCN



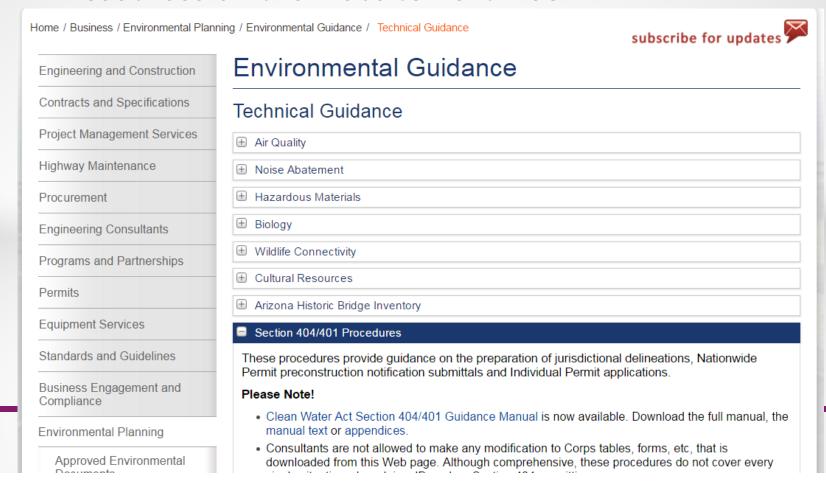
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# **Environmental Planning Technical Guidance Webpage**

Look for all updated information and RGP resources on the website next week.



## **General Conditions and Administration**

- Similar to the conditions we typically see in 404 permits
- Detailed conditions for compliance with Section 106 and discovery of human remains (same as typical)
- Permits cannot be combined
- Comply with the 401 Water Quality Certification
- Provide a copy to field staff, contractors, subs, equipment operators. Have a copy on site.



#### **Resource Protection**

- Prior to submittal of a PCN under the RGP, use the AZ Game and Fish online environmental tool. Typical coordination with AZGFD applies.
- Follow ESA and MBTA, provide documentation to the Corps
- Flag work area
- Maintain downstream flows, do not divert flows outside of the OHWM, minimize flooding
- No materials harmful to fish or wildlife should be placed within the OHWM



#### **Site Restoration**

Invasive and noxious weeds removed as part of the project should be disposed of off-site and per state and federal laws and executive orders.

Corps will require compensatory mitigation, if

deemed appropriate





### **Restrictions on Discharge**

- Show staging and storage in the plans. Staging and storage should be 100 feet from waters. Less than 100 feet depends on Corps approval.
- Use best management practices (control measures) according to ADOT Erosion and Pollution Control Manual
- Perform work when channel is dry or flows are minimal



## **401 Water Quality Certification of RGP**

- Individual certification specific to RGP
- Authorizes only the activities in the RGP
- Broken down by non-notification and pre-project notification

If we notify the Corps (Concurrence or PCN), we notify ADEQ

Provide 14 days notice. Use 401 certification form.

- Certification shall be provided to contractors and a copy on site
- Typical 401 certification conditions



## RGP Use Near Impaired or Outstanding Waters

#### Non Notification

Projects that are conducted in Other Waters require no notification to ADEQ.

Projects located within 1600 meters ( $\approx 1$  mile) upstream or 800 meters ( $\approx \frac{1}{2}$  mile) downstream of an impaired water or non-attaining water will not require notification if the project temporarily impacts water quality for a period of six months or less, does not add to the impairment (i.e. the project does not contain contaminants for which the waterbody is impaired), does not have an established TMDL, will not require significant stream channel modification, does not require maintaining stream channel or perennial flow, or meet the non-notifying project size limits as set forth in the permit.

Projects located within 1600 meters ( $\approx 1$  mile) upstream or 800 meters ( $\approx \frac{1}{2}$  mile) downstream of an OAW will not require notification if the project temporarily impacts water quality for a period of six months or less, does not add to the impairment (i.e. the project does not contain contaminants for which the waterbody is impaired), does not require maintaining stream channel or perennial flow, or meet the non-notifying project size limits as set forth in the permit.



## RGP Use Near Impaired or Outstanding Waters

#### 2. Pre-Project Notification

Projects located within 1600 meters ( $\approx$  1 mile) upstream or 800 meters ( $\approx$  ½ mile) downstream of an impaired water or non-attaining water will require notification if the project temporarily impacts water quality for a period of six months or more, temporarily adds to the impairment (i.e. the project contains contaminants for which the waterbody is impaired), has an established TMDL, requires maintaining stream channel or perennial flow, or meet the notifying project size limits as set forth in the permit.

Projects located within 1600 meters ( $\approx 1$  mile) upstream or 800 meters ( $\approx \frac{1}{2}$  mile) downstream of an OAW will require notification if the project temporarily impacts water quality for a period of six months or more, temporarily adds to the impairment (i.e. the project contains contaminants for which the waterbody is impaired), requires maintaining stream channel or perennial flow, or meet the notifying project size limits as set forth in the permit.



### In Summary

The RGP

Adds a tiered approach to notification

Reduces paperwork

Authorizes minor impacts to wetlands, permanent impacts to ephemeral washes over 0.5 acre, and increases the linear footage threshold for bank protection

Reduces delays

Makes compliance easier



### **QUESTIONS?**

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