



Corps authority and jurisdiction

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in coordination with tribes, state and federal agencies, is responsible for protecting our nation's aquatic environment, including wetlands. We do this under the authorities of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.

Permits may also be required from other agencies before work begins, such as the Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) under Oregon's Removal /Fill Law. Information about the Corps' Regulatory Program, including details about applying for a permit, information about U.S. waters and wetlands and links to the laws protecting them is at: www.nwp.usace.army.mil/missions/regulatory



How to reach us:

Web:
www.nwp.usace.army.mil/missions/regulatory

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**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
Portland District



BUILDING STRONG®

A Corps permit is required for:

- Structures and/or work affecting navigable waters of the U.S.
- Any discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S.

Permit application requirements

- Applicant name, address and telephone number
- Project location
- Project description, purpose, plans and drawings
- Waters and wetlands impacted by the project
- Plans to offset environmental impacts

Learn more

Contact a regulatory expert directly to discuss your project. Find a list of project managers at www.nwp.usace.army.mil/missions/regulatory.

Areas where permits are required:

Waters within the Corps' jurisdiction (Waters of the U.S.)

- Traditional navigable waters
- Interstate waters
- Intrastate waters that support commerce (past, present or future)
- Impoundments of waters (i.e. dams, reservoirs)
- Tributaries of the waters listed above
- Territorial seas and Outer Continental Shelf
- Wetlands adjacent to waters of the U.S.

Wetlands

Wetland identification is complex; however, wetlands are generally characterized by:

- **Soils** saturated or flooded during some parts of most years.
- **Vegetation** that is adapted for moist soil conditions such as bulrush, cattails, rushes, sedges, willows, etc.
- **Hydrology** that has a presence of surface water or saturation during some part of the growing season.

Examples of wetlands include swamps, marshes, bogs, vernal pools, interdunal swales, wet prairies and similar areas.

Types of permits

- Standard Permits - these include Individual Permits and Letters of Permission for large or complex actions. A public notice and comment period are required for these permits.
- General Permits - these include Nationwide Permits and Regional General Permits for small or routine actions that are similar in nature and typically have only minor environmental impacts.

Emergency and expedited reviews

The Corps defines an emergency as a situation where action must be taken quickly to avoid severe injuries or immediate, unforeseen loss of life or property. In these situations, the District Engineer can authorize emergency reviews of permit applications.

An emergency review can be completed expeditiously, but still requires coordination with tribes, state and federal agencies. Additionally, reasonable efforts will be made to receive comments from interest groups and others who may be affected by the action.

