



PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps
of Engineers
New York District
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
New York, N.Y. 10278-0090
ATTN: Regulatory Branch

In replying refer to:

Public Notice Number: NAN-2019-00051

Issue Date: March 22, 2019

Expiration Date: April 21, 2019

ISSUANCE OF NEW GENERAL PERMIT FOR COASTAL AREAS TO REPLACE THE EXPIRING NYDGP-15

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announces a proposal by the New York District Corps of Engineers to issue a Regional General Permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). This general permit currently authorizes the installation of structures and dredging in navigable waters and the discharge of dredged or fill material, including discharges associated with excavation activities, into waters of the United States to facilitate the remediation of sites that are damaged from major storms that result in a Federal and/or State disaster declaration. It only applies to those areas that lie within the jurisdiction of the New York District (see attached map) in the specific towns or counties in New York State that are identified in the disaster declaration.

The Corps of Engineers is authorized to issue general permits when such issuance is found not to be contrary to the general public interest. Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 323.2(h), provides definitions of general permits and authority to issue them on a regional basis for categories of activities when: 1) those activities are substantially similar in nature and cause only minimal individual and cumulative environmental impacts; or 2) the general permit would result in avoiding unnecessary duplication of regulatory control exercised by another Federal, State or local agency, provided that it has been determined that the environmental consequences of the action are individually and cumulatively minimal.

Attached to this public notice is a copy of the existing Regional General Permit (NYDGP-15), which is due to expire on April 18, 2019. The New York District has evaluated the performance of NYDGP-15 to date and has made a provisional determination that the proposed activities comply with the requirements for issuance of a new general permit. There have been no substantial individual and/or cumulative adverse environmental impacts associated with the authorization of at least 500 activities under the previous existing regional general permit which encompassed the entirety of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Regions 1-9. Therefore, the New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is proposing to issue the attached regional general permit, this time within a smaller geographic area of New York. The proposed regional general permit would be applicable to the following counties (NYSDEC Regions 1 and 2): Suffolk, Nassau, Queens, Kings, New York, Richmond, and Bronx. The proposed regional general permit would also be applicable for properties abutting the Hudson River up to River Mile 100 within the following counties (NYSDEC Region 3): Westchester, Rockland, Ulster, Orange, Putnam, and Dutchess. The New York District intends to cover the remaining freshwater areas of New York State under a New York State Programmatic General Permit (NYSPGP-1) currently being developed to authorize emergency response and post-storm recovery activities. The proposed regional general permit, if issued, would be valid for five years.

The decision whether to issue the proposed regional general permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important

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resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

ALL COMMENTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF THE COASTAL REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT MUST BE PREPARED IN WRITING AND MAILED TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS TO REACH THIS OFFICE BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THIS NOTICE, otherwise, it will be presumed that there are no objections to the activity:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New York District
Attn: Amanda Regan
26 Federal Plaza
Room 1937
New York, NY 10278-0090

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be fully considered during the public interest review for the issuance of the regional general permit. Comments provided will become part of the public record for issuance of the regional general permit. All written comments, including contact information, will be made a part of the administrative record, available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act. The Administrative Record, or portions thereof, may also be posted on a Corps of Engineers internet web site. Due to resource limitations, this office will normally not acknowledge the receipt of comments or respond to individual letters of comment.

Any person may request, in writing, before this public notice expires, that a public hearing be held to collect information necessary to consider the issuance of the regional general permit. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons why a public hearing should be held. It should be noted that information submitted by mail is considered just as carefully in the permit decision process and bears the same weight as that furnished at a public hearing.

Our preliminary determination is that the activity for which authorization is sought herein is not likely to adversely affect any Federally endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat due to the nature of the remedial activities that would be authorized by the regional general permit and the special conditions to which the work would be subject. However, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531), the District Engineer is consulting with the appropriate

Federal agencies to determine whether additional conservation measures are required to assure that there is no potential to adversely affect any identified species.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act (Public Law 104-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service (NOAA/FS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Consultation with NOAA/FS regarding EFH impacts and conservation recommendations is being conducted to determine individual, cumulative, direct and indirect impacts of the proposed remedial activities upon EFH, and will be concluded prior to the final decision on the issuance of the general permit. It is our preliminary determination, however, that the activities proposed to be authorized by the re-issued regional general permit, with the proposed special conditions, would have no more than minimal individual, cumulative, direct and indirect impacts upon EFH.

Our preliminary determination is that the activities for which authorization is sought herein may affect resources that are eligible for, or included in the National Register of Historic Places. To assure that the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations are satisfied, individual activities proposed to be authorized under the regional general permit would be reviewed by this office as necessary, in consultation with appropriate parties including the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Office, on a case-by-case basis to resolve any effects to historic properties.

In order for us to better serve you, please complete our Customer Service Survey located at <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/CustomerSurvey.aspx>.

For more information on New York District Corps of Engineers programs, visit our website at <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil>.



Stephan A. Ryba
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

1. Regional General Permit NYDGP-15

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT

PERMITTEE:

PERMIT NUMBER: Regional General Permit NYDGP-15

PERMIT EFFECTIVE DATE: 18 APR 2014 **PERMIT EXPIRATION DATE:** 18 APR 2019

ISSUING OFFICE: US Army Corps of Engineers, New York District

NOTE: The term "you" and its derivatives, as used in this permit, means the permittee or any future transferee. The term "this office" refers to the appropriate district or division office of the Corps of Engineers having jurisdiction over the permitted activity or the appropriate official of that office acting under the authority of the commanding officer.

You are authorized to perform work in accordance with the terms and conditions specified below.

REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT WORK DESCRIPTION:

Install structures and dredge in navigable waters, and discharge dredged or fill material, including discharges associated with excavation activities, into waters of the United States to facilitate the remediation of sites that are damaged from major storms that result in a Federal and/or State disaster declaration. The work is subject to the specific terms, general and special conditions, and requirements contained in this Regional General Permit and the attached enclosure which are hereby made part of this permit.

PERMITTED WORK LOCATIONS:

Navigable waters and waters of the United States that lie within the jurisdiction of the New York District in New York State, including the Fort Drum Military Reservation (see attached maps).

GENERAL PERMIT CONDITIONS:

1. The time limit for completing the work authorized ends one (1) year from the date of the Federal and/or State disaster declaration or the date of a verification letter from the New York District, whichever is later. If you find that you need more time to complete the authorized activity, submit your request for a time extension to this office for consideration at least one (1) month before the one-year date is reached.
2. You must maintain the work activity authorized by this permit in good condition and in conformance with the terms and conditions of this permit. You are not relieved of this requirement if you abandon the permitted activity, although you may make a good faith transfer to a third party in compliance with General Condition 4 below. Should you wish to cease to maintain the authorized activity or should you desire to abandon it without a good faith transfer, you must obtain a modification of this permit from this office, which may require restoration of the area.
3. If you discover any previously unknown historic or archeological remains while accomplishing the activity authorized by this permit, you must immediately notify this office of

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what you have found. We will initiate the Federal and state coordination required to determine if the remains warrant a recovery effort or if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

4. If you sell the property associated with this permit, you must obtain the signature of the new owner in the space provided below and forward a copy of the permit to this office to validate the transfer of this authorization.

5. If a conditioned water quality certification has been issued by New York State for your project work, you must comply with the conditions specified in the certification as special conditions to this permit.

6. You must allow representatives from this office to inspect the authorized activity at any time deemed necessary to ensure that it is being or has been accomplished in accordance with the terms and conditions of this permit.

SPECIFIC TERMS AND REQUIREMENTS AND SPECIAL PERMIT CONDITIONS:

Please refer to the attached enclosure for definitions, specific terms, requirements, and Special Conditions numbered 1 through 41, which are all hereby made part of this Regional General Permit.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS:

1. Congressional Authorities: You have been authorized to undertake the activity described above pursuant to:

(X) Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S. Code 403).

(X) Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S. Code 1344).

() Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1413)

2. Limits of this authorization:

a. This permit does not obviate the need to obtain other Federal, state, or local authorizations required by law.

b. This permit does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges.

c. This permit does not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

d. This permit does not authorize interference with any existing or proposed Federal project.

3. Limits of Federal Liability: In issuing this permit, the Federal Government does not assume any liability for the following:

a. Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of other permitted or unpermitted activities or from natural causes.

b. Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of current or future activities undertaken by or on behalf of the United States in the public interest.

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c. Damages to persons, property, or to other permitted or unpermitted activities or structures caused by the activity authorized by this permit.

d. Design or construction deficiencies associated with the permitted work.

e. Damage claims associated with any future modification, suspension, or revocation of this permit.

4. **Reliance on Applicant's Data:** The determination of this office that issuance of this permit is not contrary to the public interest was made in reliance on the information you provided.

5. **Reevaluation of Permit Decision:** This office may reevaluate its decision on this permit at any time the circumstances warrant. Circumstances that could require a reevaluation include, but are not limited to, the following:

a. You fail to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit.

b. The information provided by you in support of your permit application proves to have been false, incomplete, or inaccurate (See 4 above).

c. Significant new information surfaces which this office did not consider in reaching the original public interest decision.

Such a reevaluation may result in a determination that it is appropriate to use the suspension, modification, and revocation procedures contained in 33 CFR 325.7 or enforcement procedures such as those contained in 33 CFR 326.4 and 326.5. The referenced enforcement procedures provide for the issuance of an administrative order requiring you to comply with the terms and conditions of your permit and for the initiation of legal action where appropriate. You will be required to pay for any corrective measures ordered by this office, and if you fail to comply with such directive, this office may in certain situations (such as those specified in 33 CFR 209.170) accomplish the corrective measures by contract or otherwise and bill you for the cost.

6. **Extensions:** General Condition 1 establishes a time limit for the completion of the activity authorized by this permit. Unless there are circumstances requiring either a prompt completion of the authorized activity or a reevaluation of the public interest decision, the Corps will normally give favorable consideration to a request for an extension of this time limit.

This permit becomes effective when the Federal official, designated to act for the Secretary of the Army, has signed below.



12 July 2016
(DATE)

David A. Caldwell
Colonel, U.S. Army
Commander

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS NEW YORK DISTRICT
REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT NYDGP-15
AUTHORIZING REMEDIAL ACTIVITIES
UNDERTAKEN IN RESPONSE TO MAJOR STORMS**

**ENCLOSURE TO
REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT NUMBER NYDGP-15**

EFFECTIVE DATE: 18 APR 2014 EXPIRATION DATE: 18 APR 2019

AUTHORITIES: This general permit is issued pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES: This general permit authorizes the installation of structures and dredging in navigable waters and the discharge of dredged or fill material, including discharges associated with excavation activities, into waters of the United States to facilitate the remediation of sites that are damaged from major storms that result in a Federal and/or State disaster declaration. This general permit may be used in conjunction with the Nationwide Permit Program.

The specific activities that this general permit authorizes include:

a. The dredging or excavation of sediments and debris deposited from the major storm, including the discharge of fill associated with the excavation through the use of land clearing equipment, from waters of the United States where such an activity would prevent loss of property, or where such activity is necessary to reduce flooding and/or erosion. This general permit DOES NOT authorize any channelization, channel widening, deepening or straightening activity that contributes to stream instability.

b. The installation of structures in navigable waters and/or discharge of fill material into waters of the United States to facilitate the repair or replacement of collapsed roads or other structures or fills which failed as a result of the storm event (i.e. rip-rap, culverts, abutments, etc.).

c. The discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States for the restoration and protection of stream bed and banks damaged as a result of the storm event. Stream restoration activities may include but are not limited to: bank stabilization, minor realignment, the installation of current deflectors, the enhancement, restoration or creation of riffle and pool stream structures, the placement of in-stream habitat structures, the modification of the stream bed and/or banks to restore or establish stream meanders, and the installation of structures to improve fish passage and spawning habitats.

d. The discharge of fill material into waters of the United States to facilitate the construction of temporary access roads and/or staging areas at work sites provided no practicable upland alternatives exist.

e. The installation of structures in navigable waters and/or discharge of fill material into waters of the United States to be used as cofferdams to temporarily dewater a work site.

LOCATION OF AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES: Waters of the United States located within the jurisdiction of the New York District (see attached maps) in the specific towns or counties in New York State that are identified in the disaster declaration.

Activities authorized under this general permit do not require further authorization under the provisions contained in Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 320 through 330, which is the Department of Defense regulation entitled "Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army: Regulatory Programs of the Corps of Engineers; Final Rule", published in the Federal Register on November 13, 1986, provided that they are carried out in accordance with the general and special conditions that follow and unless the District Engineer determines, on a case-by-case basis, that additional processing is in the public interest or the work does not comply with the terms and conditions of this permit. Also, see General Permit Notification Requirements.

DEFINITIONS:

The following definitions will apply:

High Tide Line: The line of intersection of the land with the water's surface at the maximum height reached by a rising tide. The high tide line may be determined, in the absence of actual data, by a line of oil or scum along shore objects, a more or less continuous deposit of fine shell or debris on the foreshore or berm, other physical markings or characteristics, vegetation lines, tidal gages, or other suitable means that delineate the general height reached by a rising tide. The line encompasses spring high tides and other high tides that occur with periodic frequency but does not include storm surges in which there is a departure from the normal or predicted reach of the tide due to the piling up of water against a coast by strong winds such as those accompanying a hurricane or other intense storm. In the absence of adjacent non-tidal waters, the high tide line identifies the shoreward limit of tidal waters of the United States.

Navigable Waters: Those waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide and/or are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be

susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce. A determination of navigability, once made, applies laterally over the entire surface of the waterbody, and is not extinguished by later actions or events which impede or destroy navigable capacity. Geographic and jurisdictional limits of navigable rivers, lakes, oceanic and tidal waters are defined in Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 329.11 and 329.12.

Ordinary High Water Mark: The line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water as indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas. In the absence of adjacent wetlands, the ordinary high water mark identifies the shoreward limit of waters of the United States.

Single and Complete Project: The total project at a specific site that is proposed or accomplished by an applicant, developer or other entity. The Corps of Engineers would review impacts associated with all activities which constitute a single and complete project in a cumulative manner.

Waters of the United States: All waters which are currently used, or were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide; all interstate waters including interstate wetlands; all other waters such as lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, sloughs, prairie potholes, playa lakes, or natural ponds, the use, degradation or destruction of which could affect interstate or foreign commerce...(see 33 C.F.R. Part 328.3 for complete definition).

Wetlands: Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas (33 C.F.R. 328.3(b)). Areas that meet this definition are considered wetlands, regardless of their size.

GENERAL PERMIT NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Many activities may proceed without the need to obtain written verification of the applicability of this general permit from the New York District Corps of Engineers prior to the commencement of work. Special Conditions 4, 5, 6, 7, 15, 17, 19, 27 and 41 in the next section identify which activities require written verification of the applicability of this general permit from the New York District prior to the commencement of work. The notification procedures are as follows:

Activities that do NOT require prior notification:

If your activity does NOT require prior confirmation from the New York District, and you meet all of the terms and conditions of this permit, you may proceed with your work. Within 30 days of the completion of the work authorized by this permit, you are required to complete and submit the attached compliance certification form to the New York District office.

Activities that DO require prior notification:

For projects that DO require notification to the Corps of Engineers prior to the commencement of work, the following information must be submitted:

1. A complete New York State Joint Application Form. Please write "EMERGENCY" on the top of the form to ensure immediate response. The New York State Joint Application Form can be obtained by contacting our offices or from our website. As listed in the instructions section of the form, the following additional information must be provided with your application:

A. Location map identifying project site, and disposal area (if applicable).

B. A brief description of the single and complete project.

C. Project plans depicting proposed work in reference to the ordinary high water mark, high tide line or mean high water mark of the waterway as appropriate and/or wetland limits. Include the length of proposed access roads or length of road repair in feet, the square footage of staging areas, the cubic yardage of sediment to be excavated, the dimensions of the area to be excavated, the type of cofferdam, the dimensions of the area to be dewatered, the length of stream bank to be stabilized and the cubic yardage of fill to be used, the existing and proposed sizes of structures, and any other appropriate project specifications.

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SUBJECT: ENCLOSURE TO REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT NUMBER NYDGP-15

2. Information concerning the presence or absence of Federally listed threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat, in the project area, and information concerning the presence or absence of historic properties in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in the project area.

Please submit the required information to the appropriate New York District address as follows:

A. For projects located in New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Regions 1 through 3:

New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: Regulatory Branch, Room 1937
26 Federal Plaza
New York, New York 10278-0090

B. For projects located in NYSDEC Regions 4 and 5, and the Fort Drum Military Reservation:

New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Upstate Regulatory Field Office
1 Buffington Street
Bldg. 10, 3rd Floor North
Watervliet, New York 12189-4000

Upon receipt of the required information, a site inspection may be scheduled by the New York District. A New York District Project Manager will have the ability to verify the applicability of this general permit on-site. Work shall not commence in waters of the United States until the applicant receives written verification from this office that the work may proceed under the terms and conditions of this general permit.

GENERAL PERMIT SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

Special Conditions Applicable to All Activities:

1. Within thirty (30) days of the completion of any work authorized by this permit, you are required to complete and submit the attached compliance certification form to the New York District office.
2. For work in navigable waters, the permittee understands and agrees that, if future operations by the United States require the removal, relocation, or other alteration, of the structure or work herein authorized, or if, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Army or his authorized

representative, said structure or work shall cause unreasonable obstruction to the free navigation of the navigable waters, the permittee will be required, upon due notice from the Corps of Engineers, to remove, relocate, or alter the structural work or obstructions caused thereby, without expense to the United States. No claim shall be made against the United States on account of any such removal or alteration.

3. Each individual project involving the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including the discharge of fill associated with excavation activities, shall adhere to the requirements set forth in the attached Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) on March 28, 2014. For projects that do not meet these requirements, the use of this RGP is contingent upon obtaining an individual WQC or case-specific waiver from the NYSDEC prior to the commencement of work.

4. Each individual project proposed within the coastal zone of New York State shall receive a Coastal Zone Consistency Concurrence from the New York State Department of State (NYSDOS) prior to the commencement of work. Notification is required to this office for activities located within the following Special Management Areas: The Long Island Sound Regional Coastal Management Program; Local Waterfront Revitalization Programs; Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitats; Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance; and Harbor Management Plans.

Information on the New York State Coastal Management Program, including consistency review and a map of the coastal zone and the Special Management Areas listed above can be found at the following website: www.nyswaterfronts.com/consistency.asp

5. This general permit does not apply to activities which may jeopardize the continued existence of species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, or result in the likelihood of the destruction or adverse modification of a habitat which is determined by the Secretary of the Interior or Commerce, as appropriate, to be a critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

Notification to this office is required for activities that may affect Federally listed threatened or endangered species, or species proposed for such designation, or their critical habitat. The New York District will consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fisheries Service (NOAA-FS) as appropriate

to assure that the requirements of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act are satisfied. Applicants shall not commence work at these sites until the notification process has been completed and the applicant receives written verification from the New York District that the work may proceed.

Information on the location of threatened or endangered species and their critical habitat can be obtained directly from the offices of the USFWS and NOAA-FS or at their websites as follows:

USFWS: www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm

NOAA-FS: www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/esa

6. Notification to this office is required for any activity located in the Upper Delaware National Wild and Scenic River (Delaware River from Hancock to Port Jervis, New York; the segment from the confluence of the East and West Branches below Hancock, New York, to the existing railroad bridge immediately downstream of Cherry Island in the vicinity of Sparrow Bush, New York) or in any tributary that discharges directly into it. The New York District will coordinate with the National Park Service as appropriate to assure that the requirements of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act are satisfied. Applicants shall not commence work at these sites until the notification process has been completed and the applicant receives written verification that the work may proceed.

7. Notification to this office is required for activities that may affect historic properties in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The New York District will coordinate with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and other consulting parties as appropriate to assure that the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act are satisfied. Applicants shall not commence work at these sites until the notification process has been completed and the applicant receives written verification that the work may proceed.

8. This general permit may not be used where the material to be dredged or excavated contains toxic pollutants in toxic amounts (see Section 307 of the Clean Water Act).

9. Construction Best Management Practices (BMP's): The following BMP's must be implemented to the maximum degree practicable, to minimize erosion, migration of sediments, and adverse environmental impacts:

a. Mulch, hay bales, silt fences, filter fabric barriers or other means must be properly employed, including the downslope edge of any disturbed areas, to minimize erosion and migration of sediments during

construction. These erosion controls are to be put in place before any disturbance of the ground occurs and are to be maintained in effective operating order until all disturbed ground is at final grade and is suitably stabilized. All synthetic temporary erosion controls must be removed immediately after the site is suitably stabilized.

b. Turbidity controls in the form of silt curtains or similar type cloth material shall be properly installed at the project area and shall remain in place during all excavation, dredging and restoration operations.

c. In-stream work shall be isolated from flowing water by use of sandbags, cofferdam, or piping or pumping around the work area. Waters accumulated in the isolated work area shall be discharged to an upland settling basin, field or wooded area to provide for settling and filtering of solids and sediments before water is returned to the stream. Return waters must be as clear as the water upstream from the work area.

d. To the maximum extent practicable, construction access shall be by means that avoid or minimize impacts to aquatic sites (e.g. upland access, floating barges, mats, etc.).

e. Except as approved under Special Conditions 22 and 28 of this permit, all excess dredged or excavated material shall be disposed of in uplands out of any floodplain, be properly contained and permanently stabilized to prevent erosion. All impacted land surfaces shall also be permanently stabilized to prevent erosion.

f. No interruption of water flow shall occur during construction in order to sustain aquatic life downstream.

g. Avoid in-stream work during predicted periods of high flow.

10. Disturbance of vegetation on stream banks shall be kept to the minimum necessary to perform the permitted work. All stream banks disturbed as a result of any activity authorized by this general permit shall be seeded and mulched immediately upon completion of the bank work, unless otherwise protected from erosion.

11. This permit does not authorize the permanent loss of mudflats, vegetated shallows, or submerged aquatic vegetation, including seagrass beds.

12. All authorized work shall proceed to completion as one continuous operation.

13. Pressure treated wood used for the construction of in-water structures must not be treated with creosote, must be treated with a preservative and treatment process currently approved by the American Wood Preservers Association and must be aged in the open air for at least three months prior to in-water use. Wood with surface deposits shall be washed for at least five (5) minutes under running water prior to use and the washing shall occur greater than 100 feet from a wetland or waterbody. Any wood debris such as sawdust or wash water must not enter any waterbody, including wetlands.

14. The District Engineer reserves the right to include any additional special conditions or require an individual permit as may be necessary to safeguard the public interest or protect important public resources on a case-by-case basis.

Special Conditions Applicable ONLY to Dredging or Excavation Activities:

15. Debris and sediment dredging or excavation in waters of the United States shall be limited to the amount that was deposited as a direct result of the discrete storm event. In tidal waters notification to this office is required for dredging over 500 cubic yards of material. The New York District will consult with federal resource agencies, as needed, to determine whether additional measures are necessary to protect aquatic habitats.

16. The excavation or dredging of debris and sediment within 100 feet upstream and/or downstream from a structure (i.e. bridge, culvert, or facility) may proceed without prior confirmation from this office provided no other excavation or dredging beyond that range would occur as part of the single and complete project.

17. Projects involving the dredging or excavation of debris and sediment beyond 100 feet upstream and downstream of a structure may be authorized by this permit on a case-by-case basis provided the permittee notifies this office and receives written verification prior to commencing the work.

18. Dredging or excavation of storm deposited material (i.e. gravel, silt, etc.) for a maximum length of 200 linear feet at a single location may proceed without prior confirmation from this office provided no other dredging or excavation beyond that range would occur as part of a single and complete project.

19. Projects involving the dredging or excavation of storm deposited material in excess of 200 linear feet at a single location may be authorized

by this permit on a case-by-case basis provided the permittee notifies this office and receives written verification prior to commencing the work.

20. The final configuration of the stream channel shall match the geomorphology (i.e. channel dimension, plan and profile) of stable stream channel upstream and downstream of the work site. This shall include the establishment of a low flow channel as appropriate and the bottom elevation shall not be lower than the adjoining upstream and downstream sections.

21. Whenever practicable, bank grading and in-water removal of debris and sediment shall be carried out by land based equipment rather than from the streambed or flowing water. Work shall proceed from the downstream end to the upstream end of the project reach.

22. All debris and sediment dredged or excavated from waters of the United States and not used as bank stabilization shall be deposited in uplands, outside of any floodplain, and be contained from re-entering any waters of the United States, including wetlands. Under no circumstances shall dredged or excavated materials be side-cast or temporarily stored within waters of the United States, including wetlands.

23. This permit does not authorize the removal of stream gravel for the express purpose of sale as part of a gravel mining operation.

24. This permit does not authorize dredging or excavation in wetlands as defined above, or in mudflats or vegetated shallows (as defined at 40 CFR Parts 230.42 and 230.43, respectively), including submerged aquatic vegetation.

Special Conditions Applicable ONLY to Repair and Replacement Activities and to the Restoration and Protection of Stream Bed and Banks:

25. For repair and replacement activities, minor deviations in the structure's configuration or filled area including those due to changes in materials, construction techniques, or current construction codes or safety standards which are necessary to make repair, rehabilitation or replacement are permitted, provided the adverse environmental effects resulting from the work are minimal.

26. Culverts to be repaired or replaced must be installed to maintain low flow conditions, allow for fish passage in fish bearing streams, and shall not restrict normal stream flow. The width of the culvert to be repaired or replaced shall be equal to or wider than the bankfull width of the stream and be able to accommodate expected high flows. The culvert shall be

installed to match the grade of the existing streambed with at least 20% of the vertical rise of the entire culvert embedded below the streambed or be a bottomless culvert, when practicable.

27. The stream restoration shall be conducted in accordance with the following:

a. No material is placed in excess of the minimum needed for erosion protection;

b. Notification is required for bank stabilization activities in excess of 500 linear feet; or for the installation of bulkheads or retaining walls where none previously existed, regardless of length;

c. Notification is required for activities resulting in more than an average of one cubic yard per running foot of fill material placed along the bank below the plane of the high tide line, mean high water mark or ordinary high water mark as appropriate;

d. The repair, rehabilitation or reconstruction of existing bulkheads or retaining walls shall be in place or landward of the existing structure where practicable. Notification is required for any structure proposed to be placed waterward of the existing bulkhead or retaining wall, which shall not extend 18 inches waterward of the existing structure, and shall include justification as to why in place or landward repair, rehabilitation or reconstruction is not practicable.

e. Notification is required for projects involving the realignment of more than 100 linear feet of stream channel when associated with culvert and bridge repair or replacement activities, and notification is required for any length of stream channel realignment when it is not associated with these structures.

f. The work shall not result in the loss of wetlands.

g. No material is of the type, or is placed in any location, or in any manner, to impair surface water flow into or out of any wetland area.

h. No material is placed in a manner that will be eroded by normal or expected high flows (properly anchored trees and treetops may be used in low energy areas).

i. The activity is part of a single and complete project.

28. On-site material may be used as fill material for bank stabilization provided that the material is placed, and is appropriately stabilized in such a manner that it is not eroded by normal or expected high flows.

29. Fluvial geomorphology restoration techniques and/or bioengineering techniques for stream bank stabilization should be considered in project design when feasible and practicable. Bioengineering methods include: planting native vegetation such as grey dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*), silky dogwood (*Cornus amomum*), arrowwood viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*), or other appropriate species to provide habitat for fish and wildlife; the

installation of coir (coconut fiber) logs, willow wattles, dogwood fascines; and use of erosion control fabric.

30. All modified/restored stream channels shall be designed with a parabolic shaped bottom, or be otherwise designed to concentrate flows during low water periods. The channel shall not be wider and the bottom elevation shall not be lower than the adjoining natural upstream and downstream sections.

31. This permit cannot be used to reclaim historic lands lost, over an extended period, to normal erosion processes.

Special Conditions Applicable ONLY to Temporary Access or Dewatering Activities:

32. This general permit only authorizes the temporary access to, or dewatering of, those areas where sediment and debris removal would occur, where repair and replacement activities would occur, or where the restoration and protection of stream bed and banks would occur.

33. All temporary fills or structures placed in waters of the United States, including wetlands, shall be removed in their entirety immediately upon completion of the work and the affected areas shall be restored to pre-construction contours, and re-vegetated with native species to restore natural cover and stabilize soils. All material removed shall be disposed of at an upland site, outside of any floodplain, and shall be adequately contained to preclude re-entry into these waters.

34. Mats or geotextile fabric shall be placed under any temporary fill and shall be removed following construction.

35. Discharges of fill material into wetlands to construct temporary access roads are authorized if no practicable available upland areas exist for access to the waterway and the impacted area is the minimum necessary to accomplish its purpose.

36. Staging areas in waterways shall be constructed within the confines of a water control structure and shall consist of clean non-erodible material such as broken concrete, stone, timber, steel or other inert materials. The staging area shall not be installed until the water control structure is in place and the area has been completely dewatered, and shall be removed prior to removal of the water control structure. Staging areas shall not be located in wetlands.

37. Mechanized land clearing shall be limited to the minimum necessary to construct the access road or staging area.

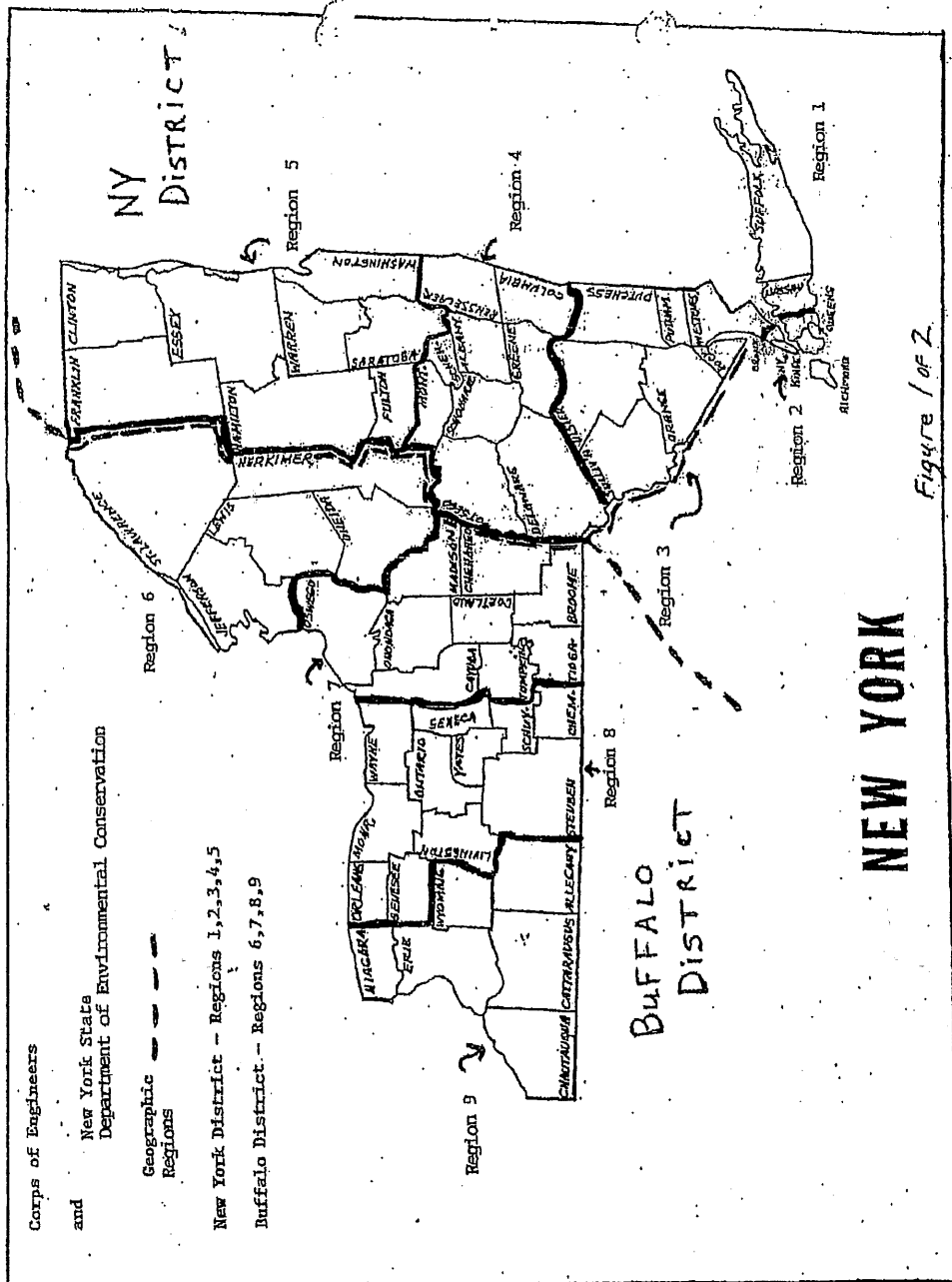
38. Forested wetlands cleared to facilitate access road construction shall be re-planted with the same or similar native woody species immediately upon completion of the work.

39. The use of cofferdams or other water control structures and ancillary features shall be limited to the immediate work areas and shall be placed in such a manner that minimizes adverse impacts to fish and other aquatic wildlife, water quality, to stream flow and flooding, to navigation, and to access and use of navigable waters by the public.

40. Cofferdams shall consist of an impermeable core with a non-erodible exterior. If fine grained material (such as clay) is used as a core, a layer of filter fabric or heavy plastic shall be placed securely over the surface of the core.

41. In non-tidal navigable and/or perennial waters, the temporary water control structures shall extend no further than one-half the width of the channel at any one crossing site. Notification to the New York District is required for any temporary water control structures proposed in tidal waters, and if additional width is needed to accomplish the work in non-tidal navigable and/or perennial waters.

END



NYDGP-15 Enclosure
District Location Map

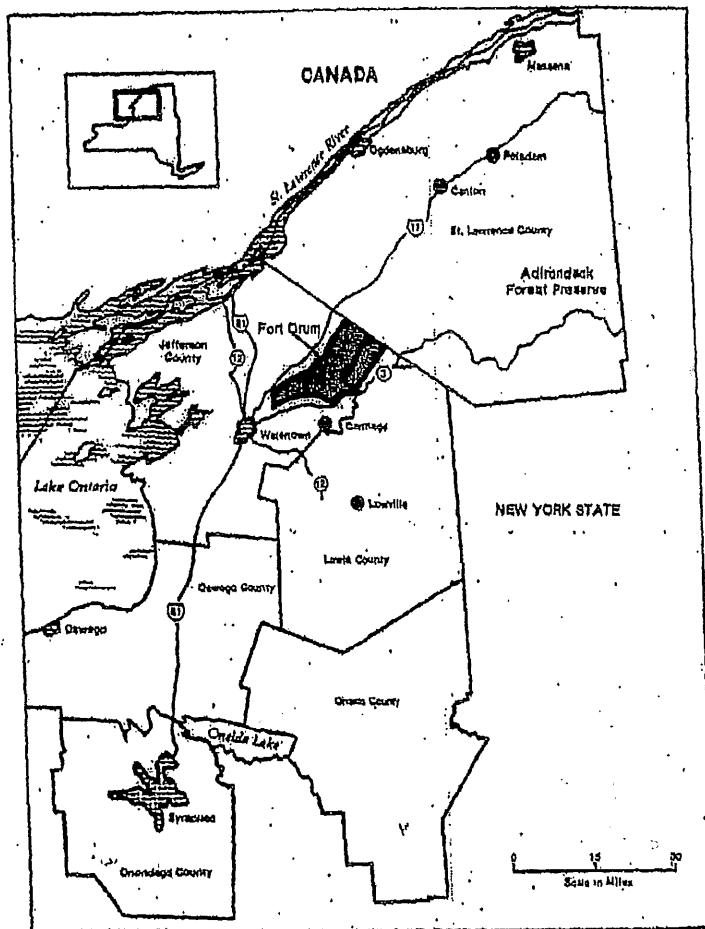


FIGURE 2 OF 2

THE EASTERN LAKE ONTARIO AND ST. LAWRENCE REGION

NYDGP-15 Enclosure
Fort Drum Location Map

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Permits, 4th Floor
625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-1750
Phone: (518) 402-9167 • Fax: (518) 402-9168
Website: www.dec.ny.gov



Joe Martens
Commissioner

March 28, 2014

Jodi McDonald
Chief, Regulatory Branch
NY District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
26 Federal Plaza, Room 1937
New York, NY 10278-0090

Re: Blanket Section 401 Water Quality Certificate
Regional General Permit # NYDGP-15 for
Federal and State Disaster Declarations
Expiration Date July 14, 2015

Dear Ms. McDonald,

This letter constitutes the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) for the reissuance of the US Army Corps of Engineers New York District General Permit 15 (NYDGP-15) until July 14, 2015. Any changes to this Regional General Permit will require a new Water Quality Certification from this Department.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has determined that the activities authorized by the above referenced Regional General Permit will not contravene effluent limitations or standards under section 301, 302, 303-306 or 307 of the Clean Water Act Amendments of 1977 (PL-95-217) provided they comply with all of the following NYSDEC General Conditions:

General Conditions

1. *Discharges and Disturbances*
 - This certification does not authorize discharges greater than 1/4 acre in size or more than 300 feet of stream disturbance.
2. *Maintenance of Water Levels*
 - This certification does not authorize any activity that results in a permanent water level alteration in waters of the United States, such as draining or impounding.
 - Cofferdams or diversions shall not be constructed in a manner that causes or exacerbates erosion of the bed or banks of a watercourse.
 - All dewatering structures must be permanently removed when construction is completed.

3. *Endangered or Threatened Species*

Applicants must certify that the proposed activity will not jeopardize the existence of an endangered species or threatened species listed in 6 NYCRR Part 182, or likely to destroy or adversely modify the habitat of such species. Information on New York State endangered or threatened species may be obtained from the NYS Department of Environmental regional offices, the New York Natural Heritage Program in Albany, New York or on the DEC website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/29338.html>.

If it is determined that there is a species of concern that may be impacted by the proposed activity, this blanket water quality certification is not applicable, and the applicant will need an individual water quality certification from the Department.

4. *Prohibition Period for In-stream Work*

Unless approved in writing by the Regional Natural Resources Supervisor or their designee, in-stream work is prohibited during the following time periods:

- in cold water trout fisheries: (waters classified under Article 15 of New York's Environmental Conservation Law with a "t" or "ts" designation), beginning October 1 and ending May 31
- in perennial warm water fisheries: (non-trout waters classified under Article 15 of New York's Environmental Conservation Law as "A, B or C"), beginning March 1 and ending July 15.

To determine which prohibition period is in effect for a particular water, contact the Regional Natural Resources Supervisor in the appropriate DEC regional office.

5. *Tidal Wetlands*

This authorization does not authorize any activities in tidal wetlands as defined in Article 25 of NYS ECL.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Kent P. Sanders
Deputy Chief Permit Administrator

Ecc: J.R. Jacobson
T. Post
J. Thiel
K. Gaidasz
C. Delorier, NY District USACOE
File



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW YORK DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10278-0090

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:
CENAN-OP-R

REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT (NYDGP-15) COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION AND REPORT FORM

Permittee/Authorized Agent: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Location (Please attach a location map and list town, county and waterway):

Brief Work Description (Please attach a copy of any plans):

Date Activity Completed: _____

* Please attach color photographs of the project site which illustrate the completed work.

Within 30 days of the completion of the activity authorized by this permit and any mitigation required by the permit, sign this certification and return it to the address listed at the top of this form.

Please note that your permitted activity is subject to a compliance inspection by a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representative. If you fail to comply with this permit you are subject to permit suspension, modification or revocation.

I hereby certify that the work authorized by the above referenced permit has been completed in accordance with the terms and conditions of said permit.

Signature of Permittee

Date

SUMMARY OF NYDGP-15 NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY CATEGORY	Projects meeting the requirements in Column 1 below and all conditions of NYDGP-15 may proceed without receiving prior written approval from the New York District however you must submit a completed compliance certification form to this office within 30 days of completing the work. All activities in Columns 2 and 3 below require, at minimum, notification prior to the commencement of work and the work shall not proceed until you receive written authorization from the New York District that the work may proceed.	Prior Notification to New York District Not Required	Prior Notification to New York District Required	NYDGP-15 Not Applicable
(a) All Activities				
i. Coastal Zone	Activities located outside of the Coastal Zone, or located within the Coastal Zone but outside of designated Special Management Areas.	Activities located within Special Management Areas in the Coastal Zone: The Long Island Sound Regional Coastal Management Program; Local Waterfront Revitalization Programs; Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitats; Scenic Areas of State Significance; and Harbor Management Plans.	Activities that may affect federal threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat.	Activities that may jeopardize the continued existence of federal threatened or endangered species, or result in the likelihood of the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat.
ii. Endangered Species	Activities that have no effect upon federal threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat (see attached list).		Activities that may affect federal threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat.	
iii. Wild and Scenic Rivers	Activities that are not located in the Upper Delaware National Wild and Scenic River or in any tributary that discharges directly into it.	Activities located in the Upper Delaware National Wild and Scenic River or in any tributary that discharges directly into it.		

ACTIVITY CATEGORY	Prior Notification to New York District Not Required	Prior Notification to New York District Required	NYDGP-15 Not Applicable
(a) All Activities, cont.			
iv. Historic Properties	Activities that have no effect upon historic properties in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.	Activities that may affect historic properties in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.	
v. Miscellaneous			Where material to be dredged or excavated contains toxic pollutants in toxic amounts; and any activity that would result in the permanent loss of mudflats, vegetated shallows, or submerged aquatic vegetation, including seagrass beds.
(b) Dredging or Excavation Activities	Dredging or excavation of less than 500 cubic yards of storm deposited debris and sediment in tidal waters.	Dredging or excavation of greater than 500 cubic yards of storm deposited debris and sediment in tidal waters.	Dredging or excavation of sediment or debris that was not deposited from the major storm, or is not necessary to prevent loss of property or reduce flooding and/or erosion.
	Dredging or excavation of debris and sediment within 100 feet upstream and/or downstream from a structure, with no further dredging or excavation beyond that range as part of the single and complete project.	Dredging or excavation of debris and sediment beyond 100 feet upstream and downstream of a structure.	Any channelization, channel widening, deepening or straightening activity that contributes to stream instability.

ACTIVITY CATEGORY	Prior Notification to New York District Not Required	Prior Notification to New York District Required	NYDGP-15 Not Applicable
(b) Dredging or Excavation Activities, cont.	Dredging or excavation of storm deposited material for a maximum length of 200 linear feet at a single location with no other dredging or excavation beyond that range as part of the single and complete project.	Dredging or excavation of storm deposited material in excess of 200 linear feet at a single location.	The removal of stream gravel for the express purpose of sale as part of a gravel mining operation.
(c) Repair and Replacement Activities	The repair or replacement of collapsed roads or other structures or fills which failed as a result of the storm event (i.e. rip-rap, culverts, etc.). Minor deviations in the structure's configuration or filled area that are necessary, including those due to changes in materials, construction techniques, or current construction codes or safety standards, provided the adverse environmental effects from the work are minimal. The in-place or landward repair, rehabilitation or reconstruction of bulkheads or retaining walls.	Any repair; rehabilitation or reconstruction of bulkheads or retaining walls waterward, but within 18 inches, of the existing bulkhead or retaining wall.	Dredging or excavation in wetlands, mudflats or vegetated shallows, including submerged aquatic vegetation. More than minor deviations in the structure's configuration or filled area, and repair and replacement activities with more than minimal adverse environmental effects from the work. Any repair; rehabilitation or reconstruction of bulkheads or retaining walls waterward, in excess of 18 inches, of the existing bulkhead or retaining wall.

ACTIVITY CATEGORY	Prior Notification to New York District Not Required	Prior Notification to New York District Required	NYDGP-15 Not Applicable
(d) Restoration of Stream Bed and Banks	Bank stabilization activities less than 500 linear feet that do not involve the installation of bulkheads or retaining walls where none previously existed.	Bank stabilization activities greater than 500 linear feet. The installation of bulkheads or retaining walls where none previously existed, regardless of length.	Any stream bed and bank restoration activity that would result in the loss of wetlands.
	Bank stabilization using less than one cubic yard of fill material per running foot placed below the plane of the high tide line, mean high water mark or ordinary high water mark as appropriate.	Bank stabilization using greater than one cubic yard of fill material per running foot placed below the plane of the high tide line, mean high water mark or ordinary high water mark as appropriate.	
	The realignment of up to 100 linear feet of stream channel associated with culvert and bridge repair or replacement activities.	The realignment of greater than 100 linear feet of stream channel associated with culvert and bridge repair or replacement activities. Any stream realignment activity that is not associated with culvert and bridge repair or replacement activities.	Any work in waters of the United States to reclaim historic lands lost, over an extended period of time, to normal erosion processes.
(e) Temporary Access and Dewatering Activities	Temporary access and dewatering structures and fills, with water control structures that are outside of tidal waters and do not extend any further than one-half the width of the channel at any one crossing site in non-tidal navigable and perennial waters.	Any use of water control structures in tidal waters, and any water control structure that extends further than one-half the width of the channel at any one crossing site in non-tidal navigable and perennial waters.	The use of temporary access and dewatering structures for work that is not otherwise authorized by NYDGP-15; and any staging area located in wetlands.

**Federal Threatened, Endangered and Proposed Species
within the New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Area
of Responsibility in New York State**

A. Species under the primary jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

Bog turtle (*Clemmys* [= *Glyptemys*] *muhlenbergii*)
Dwarf wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*)
Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*)
Karner blue butterfly (*Lycaeides elissa samuelis*)
Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)
Northern wild monkshood (*Aconitum noveboracense*)
Piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*)
Roseate tern (*Sterna dougallii dougallii*)
Rufa red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*)
Sandplain gerardia (*Agalinis acuta*)
Seabeach amaranth (*Amaranthus pumilus*)
Small whorled pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides*)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Information, Planning and Consultation system (IPaC) should be used to determine if listed or proposed threatened and endangered species may be present in your project action area, and to review guidance on consultation and determining whether your project may affect a threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat. The IPaC can be found on their website at: www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm

It is recommended that you check IPaC every 90 days to ensure that listed species presence/absence information is current.

B. Species under the primary jurisdiction of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service:

Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*)
Blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*)
Fin whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*)
Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)
Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricate*)
Humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*)
Kemp's ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*)
Leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)
Loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*)
North Atlantic right whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*)
Sei whale (*Balaenoptera borealis*)
Shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*)
Sperm whale (*Physeter catodon*)

The whales and turtles may be found in waters off of the south shore of Long Island, in Long Island Sound and in New York Harbor. Shortnose sturgeon occur within the Hudson River (from the Federal Troy Lock and Dam to Staten Island), and may also be present in the East River. Additional information concerning these species and consultation requirements can be found at:

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/esa>