



## PUBLIC NOTICE

**US Army Corps  
Of Engineers**  
Omaha District

**Application No:** 199620007, GP 96-07  
**Applicant:** General Public  
**Waterway:** Waters of the US in Colorado  
**Issue Date:** April 1, 2001  
**Expiration Date:** April 22, 2001

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**Reply to:**

**Denver Regulatory Office  
9307 South Platte Canyon Road  
Littleton, CO 80128-6901  
FAX: (303) 979-4120**

**21-Day Notice**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE OF PENDING RE-ISSUE OF  
SECTION 404 REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT 96-07  
(Sacramento District # GP-56)**

**FLOOD RELATED ACTIVITIES  
STATE OF COLORADO**

Interested parties are hereby notified that District Engineers for the Albuquerque, Omaha and Sacramento Districts of the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) propose to re-issue General Permit (GP) 96-07 (Sacramento District # (GP-56). GP 96-07 was issued on May 14, 1996 authorizing certain flood-related fill or excavation activities, other work associated with flood protection, and repair work for flood-damaged areas performed in waters of the US within the state of Colorado. Waters of the United States include, but are not limited to, rivers, lakes, ponds, creeks, gulches and wetland areas. This GP may apply to localized or widespread flood events and includes, but is not limited to the following activities:

- repair and reconstruction of existing roads
- temporary levee construction and repair
- bridge embankment repair
- protection and/or repair of utility structures
- bank protection/stabilization
- protection and restoration of intake structures.

The re-issue of this General Permit is being processed under the provisions of 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), whereby District Engineers are authorized to use an alternative procedure for evaluating permit applications for categories of activities that are substantially similar and will cause only minimal individual or cumulative impacts.

Fill and excavation impacts authorized by this GP will be limited to the minimum necessary for the project and to a maximum of: (1) one acre of impacts to jurisdictional areas without wetlands; (2) 1/3 acre of impacts to wetlands; and (3) up to one acre of wetlands impacts if, with consultation with other Federal and state agencies, the Corps of Engineers determines that the adverse environmental impacts are minimal. The total of all impacts to waters of the United States will not exceed one (1) acre for each flood-related activity.

Each permit application will be evaluated and, in some cases, may be authorized by nationwide permits or other regional general permits or may be exempt from regulation under Section 404(f)(1) of the Clean Water Act. For any activity that a District Engineer determines to have more than minimal environmental effects, individually or cumulatively, or that may be contrary to the public interest, an individual permit may be required. Before any project will be considered and before authorization is granted under this GP, it must be in compliance with the following Application Procedures and Permit Conditions.

### **Application Procedures**

All parties proposing work under this GP are required to contact their local Corps Regulatory Office so that a determination can be made that the proposed work is necessitated by flood conditions and meets the criteria contained in Federal regulation 33 CFR 325.2(e)(2). The Colorado Regulatory offices, boundaries, and addresses are listed in the re-issued GP. The following information is required in order to process a permit application.

- a. Your name, address, and telephone number and the name, address and telephone number of the owner of the affected land.
- b. A written description of the proposed work including:
  - the purpose and need
  - type, composition, and quantity of material to be excavated or placed (including temporary material used for cofferdams, etc.)
  - length, width, and depth of fill area and/or excavation area
  - a discussion of the direct and indirect adverse environmental effects of the activity
  - location of disposal site for excavated material
  - type of equipment to be used
  - identification/delineation of wetlands
  - the receiving site for excess water (drainage projects)
  - any other pertinent, supporting data.
- c. A location map indicating the location of the proposed work and a legal description (section, township, range and county, and latitude and longitude).
- d. A set of 8.5 by 11-inch drawings showing the details of the proposed work (plan and cross sectional views showing elevations and dimensions).
- e. If applicable, a compensatory mitigation plan for proposed wetland fill or drainage activities.
- f. A written statement that you agree to abide by the terms and conditions of this permits
- g. A written statement certifying that the authorized work has been completed in accordance with this permit must be submitted to the Corps following completion of the project. Photographs, taken from the same locations before the work is begun and after the work is completed, must be included.

The information submitted must clearly describe the project so that the Corps can determine whether or not the work complies with the terms, conditions, and limitations of this GP. The project may not proceed until notification approval has been received from the Corps that the proposed work meets the GP criteria. Any Corps authorization granted pursuant to this GP does not supersede the Food Security Act regulations and requirements

for applicable projects.

## **Permit Conditions**

1. The time limit for applying for flood related repair activities is one (1) year following the flood event.
2. The time limit for completing the work authorized by this GP is six (6) months from the permit issuance date. If additional time will be needed to complete the authorized activity, a written request for a time extension must be submitted to the Corps at least four (4) weeks before the permit expires. The request should include justification for an extension.
3. No activity is authorized under this permit which is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, as identified under the Endangered Species Act, or which is likely to destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of such species. When appropriate, the Corps will consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on specific requests to perform work under this GP when a project may affect a threatened or endangered species.
4. An activity which may affect historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places is not authorized by this general permit until the Corps has complied with the provisions of Title 33, code of Federal Regulations, Part 325, appendix C. The applicant must notify the Corps if the activity may affect any historic properties listed, determined to be eligible for listing, or which the applicant has reason to believe may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and will not begin the activity until notified by the Corps that the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act have been satisfied and that the activity is authorized. In the event that subsurface archaeological resources are encountered during ground disturbing activities, the work will be halted until such resources can be evaluated in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer.
5. Channel restoration work will be limited to restoring the area to pre-flood contours and conditions unless a determination has been made, and the Corps agrees, that a realignment of the channel or changes in grades are necessary for restoration. Straightening of a channel is prohibited.
6. Temporary levees, temporary access roads, and other temporary fills must involve the least damaging alternative and have minimum impact to waters of the United States. Appropriate measures must be taken to maintain near normal downstream flows to minimize additional flooding. Construction of permanent levees or access roads is not authorized by this GP.
7. All fill must be of suitable materials and placed in such a manner that the material will not be eroded by expected high flows (in most cases instream material is not suitable fill, as it will erode during high flows). If the use of streambed material is authorized for bank stabilization and erosion control, it must be stabilized with vegetation or appropriate rock protection. The following materials are prohibited or restricted as fill material under this permit:
  - Vehicle bodies, farm machinery and metal junk, including appliances, containers and barrels (including plastic barrels) are prohibited
  - Asphalt will not be used for bank stabilization or erosion control, and old or used asphalt will not be used as a fill material
  - Biodegradable building materials, including wood debris, sheet rock, roofing materials, and chemically treated materials subject to leaching when placed in an aquatic environment are prohibited;
  - Trees and treetops are prohibited unless properly anchored;
  - Tires are prohibited
  - The use of clean brick and broken concrete will be allowed on a case-by-case basis (broken concrete should be free of exposed rebar and old asphalt).

8. Proposed wetland fill or drainage activities authorized by this permit may require mitigation. Mitigation plans will be developed by the applicant, approved by the Corps, and coordinated with the applicable resource agencies on a case-by-case basis. In urgent situations, approval of mitigation plans by the Corps may be subsequent to approval of the requested work, since sufficient time may not be available to approve mitigation before the work must take place.
9. All fill material will be obtained from a non-wetland source.
10. All temporary fills in waters of the United States, including sandbags, must be completely removed and the area restored to pre-project conditions within 30 days of the end of the flood event.
11. All areas disturbed by construction, which will not be ripped, will be seeded/planted for protection against subsequent erosion and to minimize adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources (this includes both herbaceous and woody species that are indigenous to the area).
12. The clearing of vegetation, including trees located in or immediately adjacent to waters of the United States, will be limited to that which is absolutely necessary for construction of the project.
13. Equipment for handling and conveying materials during construction will be operated to prevent dumping or spilling the materials into the water except as approved herein. Construction equipment will not be operated in flowing water to the maximum extent practicable.
14. All dredged or excavated materials, with the exception of that authorized herein, will be placed on an upland site above the ordinary high water line in a confined area, not classified as a wetland, to prevent the return of such materials to the waterway.
15. Concrete trucks will be washed at a site and in such a manner that washwater cannot enter a waterway or wetland.
16. During construction, petroleum products, chemicals, or other deleterious materials will not be allowed to enter or be deposited, in waters of the United States. Precautions will be taken to prevent entry of these materials into waters of the United States.
17. All work in the waterway will be performed in such a manner so as to minimize increases in suspended solids and turbidity which may degrade water quality and damage aquatic life outside the immediate area of operation.
18. All earthwork operations on the bank will be carried out in such a manner that sediment runoff and soil erosion to the waterbody are controlled.
19. If and when the District Engineer has been notified that a dredging or filling activity is adversely affecting fish or wildlife resources or the harvest thereof and the District Engineer subsequently directs remedial measures, the permittee will comply with such directions to suspend or modify the activity to the extent necessary to mitigate or eliminate the adverse effect as required.
20. If the Corps is notified that work being performed does not comply with or fall within the scope of this General Permit, the responsible party will take immediate steps, as directed by the Corps, to bring the work into compliance with this permit.
21. The District Engineer may require that additional special conditions be included in any authorization issued under this General Permit to avoid, minimize or compensate for adverse environmental impacts.
22. Any activity authorized under this permit may not occur in a component of the National Wild and Scenic River system, or in a river officially designated by Congress as a "study river" for possible inclusion in the system, while the river is in an official study status.

23. An activity may not impair reserved tribal rights, including, but not limited to, reserved water rights and treaty fishing and hunting rights.
24. This permit does not obviate the need to obtain other federal, state, or local authorizations as required by law, does not grant any property rights or exclusive rights to others, and does not authorize interference with any existing or proposed federal project.
25. For any activity that the District Engineers determines to have more than minimal adverse environmental effects, individually or cumulatively, or may be contrary to the public interest, an individual permit may be required.
26. In issuing this permit and giving approval to perform work under this permit, the Federal Government does not assume any liability for 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; damages to persons, property, or to other permitted or unpermitted activities or structures caused by the activity authorized by this permit; design or construction deficiencies associated with the permitted work; or damage claims associated with any future modification, suspension, or revocation of this permit.
27. Corps representatives will be allowed 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.
28. The State of Colorado has certified the activities authorized by this permit under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The Environmental Protection Agency must individually certify the activities in Indian Country authorized by this permit. To obtain water quality certification in Indian Country, write to the Environmental Protection Agency, Eco-Systems Protection and Remediation Program, 999 18th Street, Suite 500, Denver, Colorado 80202. The certification from EPA, for a project in Indian Country, should accompany the application.
29. The Corps may reevaluate its decision on any authorization given in accordance with this permit at any time that circumstances may warrant. Circumstances that could require a reevaluation include, but are not limited to the following:
- failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the permit;
  - the information provided in support of the application proves to be false, incomplete, or inaccurate;
- and
- significant new information surfaces which the Corps did not consider in reaching a decision.

Such reevaluation may result in a determination that it is appropriate to use the suspension, modification, and revocation procedures contained in Title 33, CFR Parts 326.4 and 326.5. These enforcement procedures provide for the issuance of an administrative order requiring compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit and for the initiation of legal action where appropriate. The permittee may be required to pay for any corrective measures ordered by the Corps and failure to comply with such directives in certain situations may result in the Corps accomplishing the corrective measures by contract or otherwise and billing the permittee for the cost.

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The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, WQCD-GWPS-B2, 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, Denver, Colorado 80222-1530, reviews proposed projects for state certification in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. General Permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act are certified for use in Colorado without the imposition of any additional state conditions. The certification expresses the State's opinion that the operations undertaken by the applicant will not result in a violation of applicable water quality standards. For further information, please contact the Colorado Water Quality Control Division at (303) 692-3500.

The Omaha District will comply with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. We will evaluate input by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the public in response to this public notice.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts 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 resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against the 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, wetlands, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, the evaluation of the impact of the work on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 C.F.R. Part 230).

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting written 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 other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the 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.

Comments, both favorable and unfavorable, will be accepted, made a part of the record and will receive full consideration in subsequent actions on this application. Any agency or individual having an objection to the work should identify it as an objection with clear and specific reasons. All replies to the public notice should be sent to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Denver Regulatory Office, 9307 South Platte Canyon Road, Littleton, Colorado 80123-6901. For additional information please contact Mr. Scott Franklin at (303) 979-4120 or visit the Denver Regulatory Office web site at:

<http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/html/od-tl/tri-lakes.html>

The District Engineer will consider requests for holding a public hearing, for the purpose of gathering additional information. Before the expiration date of this notice, anyone may request, in writing, that a public hearing be held. Requests for a public hearing should state specifically the reasons for holding a public hearing, and what additional information would be obtained. Should the District Engineer decide that additional information is required and a public hearing should be held, interested parties will be notified of the date, time and location.

Comments received after the close of business on the expiration date of this public notice will not be considered.