



US Army Corps
of Engineers

Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Public Notice

Public Notice Number: 200375024

Date: May 15, 2003

Comments Due: Not Applicable

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT NUMBER 057 PROJECTS BENEFICIAL TO THE RECOVERY OF THE UPPER COLORADO ENDANGERED FISH SPECIES

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The District Engineer, U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District has reissued **Regional General Permit (RGP) number 057** for projects that are beneficial to the recovery of the Colorado River endangered fish species (**Recovery Program for the Endangered Fishes of the Upper Colorado**). This permit is issued under the authorities of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C. 1344) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403). A copy of the RGP is enclosed.

Issuance of this RGP was based upon an evaluation of the potential individual and cumulative impacts of the regulated activities. Comments in response to a public notice were considered in this evaluation. The Sacramento District concluded that issuance of the RGP complies with the Environmental Protection Agency Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines for evaluating discharges of dredged and fill material in waters of the United States, and is not contrary to the public interest.

The activities authorized by this RGP are similar in nature in their impact upon water quality and the aquatic environment, will have only minimal adverse effects when performed separately, and will have only minimal cumulative adverse effects on water quality and the aquatic environment.

Please give special attention to the notification and approval procedures, terms, conditions and restrictions of the RGP. Anyone proposing to perform work authorized under this RGP must obtain approval prior to beginning work.

Michael J. Conrad
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

Enclosure: GP-057

REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT NUMBER 057
PROJECTS BENEFICIAL TO THE RECOVERY OF
THE UPPER COLORADO ENDANGERED FISH SPECIES

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 15, 2003

EXPIRATION DATE: May 15, 2008

In accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) the District Engineer, U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, hereby authorizes certain discharges of dredged and fill material associated with projects beneficial to the recovery of the Upper Colorado Endangered Fish Species. This Regional General Permit is applicable to anyone with a project that is beneficial to the "Recovery Program for the Endangered Fishes of the Upper Colorado," as determined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

LOCATION: This Regional General Permit (RGP) is applicable to waterways and adjacent wetlands in the states of Colorado and Utah within the boundaries of Sacramento District, Corps of Engineers. This area encompasses all waterways and adjacent wetlands currently occupied or susceptible to occupation by the Upper Colorado Endangered Fish species in the states of Colorado and Utah. In accordance with the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. et. seq.) and after discussion with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District identifies the following waters as critical or occupied habitat for the Colorado pikeminnow (*Ptychocheilus lucius*), razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*), humpback chub (*Gila cypha*) or bonytail chub (*Gila elegans*) [Refer to the attached map]:

1. The **YAMPA RIVER** from the Green River confluence to the Town of Hayden, Colorado at the confluence of Dry Creek.
2. The **GREEN RIVER** from Browns's Park to the confluence with the Colorado River.
3. The **DUCHESNE RIVER** from river mile 15.0 to the confluence with the Green River.
4. The **PRICE RIVER** from river mile 37.8 to the confluence with the Green River.
5. The **SAN RAFAEL RIVER** from Utah state highway 24 bridge to the confluence with the Green River.
6. The **COLORADO RIVER** from Lake Powell to the Colorado state highway 13 bridge at the City of Rifle, Colorado.
7. The **GUNNISON RIVER** from the confluence with the Colorado River to the Hartland dam near the City of Delta, Colorado.
8. The **WHITE RIVER** from the confluence with the Green River to the Colorado state highway 13 bridge near the Town of Meeker, Colorado.
9. The **SAN JUAN RIVER** from Lake Powell to the New Mexico state line.

10. The **LITTLE SNAKE RIVER** from the confluence with the Yampa River to the Wyoming state line.

NOTIFICATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES: Anyone proposing to perform work authorized by this permit must provide the following information to the Corps of Engineers prior to commencing work in waters of the United States:

1. The name, address, and telephone number of the applicant responsible for the work and the owner of the affected property, if other than the applicant.
2. A written description of the proposed work including the purpose and need; composition and volume of dredged and fill material; dimensions of fills or structures; disposal site for material, types and numbers of equipment to be used; a wetland delineation in accordance with Corps of Engineers methodology, if wetlands are involved; direct and indirect adverse environmental effects of the activity; and any other pertinent or supporting data.
3. A written legal description of the project location including: section, township and range. If known, include the UTM coordinates or latitude and longitude of the project site.
4. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of adjacent property owners.
5. A complete set of drawings with dimensions of the proposed project which includes the following:
 - a. The project location, including the fill sites and disposal site locations. A photocopied excerpt from a USGS quadrangle, county road map or equivalent is acceptable.
 - b. A plan or top view of the project site clearly depicting structures and fill sites.
 - c. Typical cross-section or end views of all structures and fill.

The drawings should be prepared on 8 1/2-inch by 11 1/2-inch bond paper, and include all pertinent dimensions such as height, width, length, and depth. A bar scale should be included with each drawing.

6. If the project is located on Tribal lands, you must obtain "water quality certification" under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. For assistance concerning water quality certification on Tribal Lands, contact Mr. Richard Claggett, (EPR-EP), Unit Chief, Wetlands and Watersheds Unit, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII, 999 18th Street, Suite 300, Denver, Colorado 80202-2466.

7. If the project causes water turbidity in adjacent surface waters to increase by 10 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU), or causes Total Suspended Solids concentrations in an adjacent surface water to exceed 35 milligrams/liter (mg/l) or 90 mg/l for a Class 3A-Cold Water Fishery or a Class 3B-Warm Water Fishery, respectively, the Utah Division of Water Quality shall be contacted. The contact address is: Utah Division of Water Quality, 288 North 1460 West, Post Office Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870, telephone number (801) 538-6146.

Your written notification requesting approval under this RGP must include a completed Application for a Department of the Army permit (ENG FORM 4345), or equivalent. Please contact the following Corps of Engineers office to insure that your application, supporting information and drawings are submitted to the correct regulatory field office:

**Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
Colorado/Gunnison Basin Regulatory Office
402 Rood Avenue, Room 142
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501-2563
Telephone (970) 243-1199, Fax (970) 241-2358**

Within 30 days of receiving a complete written notification, the Corps of Engineers under normal circumstances, will review your proposal and inform you in writing, if the project may proceed under the authorization given in this RGP. Projects located within the State of Utah must be coordinated with the Utah Division of Water Resources prior to authorization under the RGP. You may not proceed with your project until notified by the Corps of Engineers. If you proceed without approval by the Corps of Engineers, you may be subject to penalties under the law.

SCOPE OF WORK: The Corps of Engineers regulates the discharge of dredged and fill material in waters of the United States under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and various work in navigable waters of the United States under Section 10 of the River and Harbor Act. The Corps of Engineers has the authority to issue regional general permits for activities that are substantially similar in nature and cause only minimal individual and cumulative environmental impacts. This RGP covers the discharges of dredged and fill material associated projects in waters of the United States within Colorado and Utah which have minimal environmental effects and are beneficial to the recovery of the Upper Colorado Endangered Fish Species. This includes, but is not limited to fills and structures associated with the following projects, contingent upon the concurrence of the owner or proprietor of the affected project site:

1. Breaching or removal of levees, dikes, berms, riprap or other fills that are barriers to fish movement.
2. Construction of levees, dikes, berms, and placement of riprap to inhibit fish movement or protect habitat.
3. Excavation of channels from flood plain depressions, ponds, abandoned gravel pits, lakes or wetlands to the active channel of a stream to facilitate fish movement.
4. Development of controlled floodplain backwater facilities for experimental manipulation, including inlet and outlet works and instream elevation control structures.
5. Construction or placement of fish screens, fish harvest kettles, pump station facilities, scientific measurement devices and fill barriers.
6. Isolation of backwater areas to facilitate eradication or prevention of non-native fish species escapement.

7. Excavation of sediments to improve storage capacity, drainage, or fish collection.
8. Construction of road access and boat launch and retrieval facilities.
9. Construction of fish passageways or ladders, hatcheries, other propagation facilities and refugia ponds.
10. Maintenance and/or rehabilitation of fills and structures appurtenant or functionally related to the above-mentioned activities.

Any project authorized by this RGP may not cause the loss of more than 0.5 acre of wetlands. Changes in wetland type due to project implementation will be given favorable consideration in determining wetland impact acreage. The impact acreage limitation includes loss of wetlands due to the discharge of dredged or fill material, plus any wetlands that are adversely affected by flooding or draining as a result of the project. The Corps of Engineers may authorize impact to more than 0.5 acre of wetland impact if the project complies with the other terms and conditions of the permit and the adverse environmental impacts are minimal. Authorization of impacts to wetlands in excess of 0.5 acre will only be considered after coordination with other Federal and state agencies. The Corps of Engineers evaluation may determine that wetland mitigation is required for any project, and may add special conditions to ensure that environmental impacts are minimal.

**THIS REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING
GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

1. Upon notification from the Corps of Engineers that work being performed does not comply with the scope of work or conditions of the permit, the responsible party shall take immediate steps, as directed by the Corps of Engineers, to bring the work into compliance with this RGP.
2. This permit does not authorize any damage to existing bank stabilization work which could cause accelerated erosion or unstable effects on stream channels.
3. If your project is located on Tribal Lands, Section 401 Water Quality certification provided by the Environmental Protection Agency, must accompany your permit application.
4. All instream work shall be performed during low water periods and the use of heavy equipment, especially in flowing water, shall be conducted in a manner to prevent pollution and release of contaminants, and to minimize turbidity and sedimentation.
5. Unless otherwise authorized by the Corps of Engineers, all dredged material in excess of incidental fallback shall be deposited in an upland disposal site, and sufficiently removed and isolated to prevent re-entry into waters of the United States.
6. The discharge of dredged and fill material in waterfowl breeding areas shall be avoided to the maximum extent practicable.
7. The discharge of dredged and fill material in waters of the United States shall be minimized or avoided to the maximum extent practicable unless the District Engineer has approved a compensatory mitigation plan for the specifically regulated activity.

8. Activities authorized under this RGP shall not jeopardize a listed species as identified under the Endangered Species Act, or **destroy or adversely modify** their critical habitat.
9. Activities which may affect historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places (Register) are not authorized by this RGP until the Corps of Engineers has complied with the provisions of Title 33, CFR, Part 325, Appendix C. The applicant must notify the Corps of Engineers if the activity may affect any historic properties listed, determined to be eligible, or which the prospective permittee has reason to believe may be eligible for listing on the Register. The proposed activities shall not commence until notified by the Corps of Engineers that the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act have been satisfied and that the activities are authorized. Information concerning the location and existence of historic resources can be obtained from the Colorado or Utah State Historic Preservation Officer, as appropriate.
10. Discharge material shall not consist of unsuitable material in any amount [e.g., trash, debris, bituminous concrete (asphalt), automotive bodies or parts, etc.], and must be free of toxic pollutants in toxic amounts.
11. A discharge shall not occur in proximity to a public water supply unless approval is given by the controlling water provider and all required mitigation measures are implemented to offset adverse effects.
12. Activities occurring 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, are not authorized by this RGP.
13. A discharge shall not impair or interfere with the ability of any group or individual to exercise the use of an appropriated or decreed water right. An activity may not impair reserved Tribal rights including, but not limited to reserved water rights and treaty fishing and hunting rights.
14. This RGP 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 privileges, does not authorize any injury to the property rights of others, and does not authorize interference with any existing or proposed federal project.
15. In issuing this RGP and giving approval to perform work under this RGP, 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 activities authorized by this RGP; design or construction deficiencies associated with the permitted work; or damage claims associated with any future modification, suspension, or revocation of this RGP.
16. You must allow representatives from the Corps of Engineers 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 RGP.
17. You must comply with all general conditions, special conditions and any required mitigation measures added by the Corps of Engineers.

18. Within 30 days after project completion, you must provide the Corps of Engineers with a signed statement confirming that the project was performed according to the general conditions of the RGP and any required special conditions or mitigative measures.

19. You must maintain the activities authorized by this RGP in good condition and in conformance with the terms and conditions of this RGP. 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 provided you obtain a transfer of this authorization from the Corps of Engineers to the new owner or proprietor.

20. The Corps of Engineers may re-evaluate its decision on any authorization given in accordance with this RGP at any time circumstances may warrant. Circumstances that could require a re-evaluation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Your failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the permit;
- b. The information provided by you in support of your application proves to be false, incomplete, or inaccurate; and
- c. Significant new information surfaces which the Corps of Engineers did not consider in reaching a decision on your project.

Such re-evaluation 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 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 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 the Corps of Engineers, and if you fail to comply with such a directive, the Corps of Engineers may in certain situations (as specified in 33 CFR 209.170) accomplish the corrective measures by contract or otherwise and bill you for the cost.

21. Upon receiving approval to perform work under this RGP, you will have **two (2) years** to complete the work. If additional time is required, you must seek an extension of time from the Corps of Engineers. Your request for an extension of time must be provided to the Corps at least **60 days** prior to your authorized permit expiration date.

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

Issued for and in behalf of Colonel Michael J. Conrad, Jr., District Engineer

Brooks Carter, Chief, Intermountain Regulatory Section Date