

US Army Corps Of Engineers Wilmington District

PUBLIC NOTICE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL (REGIONAL) PERMITS

May 26, 2020

The DISTRICT ENGINEER, WILMINGTON DISTRICT, 69 Darlington Avenue, Wilmington North Carolina 28403, hereby announces the issuance of Regional General Permits (RGPs) 198200031 (RGP 31) and RGP 2019-02350 (RGP 50) pursuant to Section 10 of the River and Harbor Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

RGP 31 authorizes the discharge of dredged or fill material in waters of the United States (U.S.), including wetlands, associated with best-fit widening projects, or phases of "phased" best-fit widening projects, that (1) have undergone interagency review and completed the interagency Merger Process, and (2) would cause only minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects. These projects are conducted by the various divisions of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), including the NCDOT Divisions of Highways, Rail, Bicycle/Pedestrian, etc.

RGP 50 authorizes the discharge of dredged or fill material in waters of the U.S., including wetlands, associated with maintenance, repair, and construction projects conducted by the various divisions of NCDOT, including the NCDOT Divisions of Highways, Rail, Bicycle/Pedestrian, etc.

Title 33, Code of the Federal Regulations (CFR), Paragraph 325, authorizes issuances of RGPs for activities which are substantially similar in nature and cause only minimal individual and cumulative environmental impacts. These RGPs can be viewed on our website at <u>http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Permit-Program/Permits/Regional-General-Permits/</u>.

These RGPs have been extensively reviewed through a public notice process, and no substantive objections to the issuance of these RGPs were received. State and Federal agencies have reviewed the issuance of these RGPs and had no unresolved concerns.

Neither of these RGPs were found to be controversial or to have significant effects on the quality of the human environment. Additionally, neither of these RGPs were found to be major Federal actions which would significantly affect the human environment; as such, detailed statements under Section 102(2) (c) of the National Environment Policy Act of 1969 were not prepared.

The decision to issue these RGPs was based on evaluations of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activities and their intended use on the public interest.

These RGPs will not be contrary to the general public interest provided those availing themselves of the authorities to comply with the general and special conditions incorporated in the permits.

Questions may be addressed to Lori Beckwith, Regulatory Project Manager, at <u>loretta.a.beckwith@usace.army.mil</u>, or 828-271-7980, ext. 4223.