

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY WILMINGTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS 69 DARLINGTON AVENUE WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28403-1343

CESAWRG (1145b)

07 March 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Supplemental Decision Documents for the 2017 Nationwide Permits, which were Published in the 06 January 2017, issue of the *Federal Register*.

- 1. In the 06 January 2017, issue of the *Federal Register* (82 FR 1860), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) announced the reissuance of 50 existing Nationwide Permits (NWPs) and the issuance of two new NWPs. In this *Federal Register* notice, the Corps also announced the reissuance of 31 existing NWP general conditions and one new NWP general condition. The NWPs and the general conditions go into effect on 19 March 2017.
- 2. For each of the reissued and new NWPs, HQUSACE issued a decision document that contains an Environmental Assessment (EA), Statement of Findings, public interest review, and if the NWP authorizes discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, a Clean Water Act section 404(b)(1) Guidelines analysis. The division engineer has the authority to assert discretionary authority by modifying, suspending, or revoking NWP authorizations for a specific geographic area, class of activity, or class of waters, whenever he or she determines there are sufficient concerns for the environment under the Clean Water Act section 404(b)(1) Guidelines or for any other factor of the public interest, or if he or she determines that the NWP would result in more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects (see 33 CFR 330.4(e)(1)). In accordance with 33 CFR 330.5(c)(1)(iii), division engineers prepare supplemental decision documents for the NWPs. The supplemental decision documents address locally important factors relating to the environment, the public interest, and when applicable, compliance with the 404(b)(1) Guidelines, to ensure that the NWPs authorize only those activities that result in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects. Division engineers may also suspend or revoke one or more NWPs in a specific geographic area.
- 3. Each supplemental decision document for a NWP also discusses, as appropriate, regional conditions that are necessary to ensure that activities authorized by that NWP will result in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects.

4. Based on the considerations discussed in each of the supplemental decision documents, and in accordance with 33 CFR 330.4(e)(1) and 330.5(c), I have determined that each NWP that will be available for use in the Wilmington District, will only authorize those activities that result in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects.

Encls

KEVIN P! LANDERS SR.

COL, EN Commanding