



US Army Corps of Engineers®
Chicago District

**CHICAGO DISTRICT
2017 REGIONAL PERMIT PROGRAM
REVISED JANUARY 10, 2020**

10. BANK STABILIZATION

RP10 authorizes bank stabilization activities in all waters of the U.S., except Lake Michigan, and is subject to the General Conditions of the Regional Permit Program beginning on page 6 of this document. In addition, the following requirements must be addressed in writing and submitted with the notification:

1. Projects that involve the use of vegetative and biotechnical practices will be processed under Category I and are not subject to length restrictions.

Biotechnical practices are defined as bank stabilization practices incorporating organic materials to produce functional structures, provide wildlife habitat, and provide areas for revegetation.

Examples of biotechnical practices include, but are not limited to: a) adequately sized riprap or A-Jack structures keyed into the toe of the slope with native plantings on the banks above; b) vegetated geogrids; c) coconut fiber (coir) logs; d) live, woody vegetative cuttings, fascines or stumps; e) brush layering; and f) soil lifts.

2. Projects that involve the use of structural bank stabilization practices will be processed under Category I, and must not exceed a total length of 500 feet. Structural and vegetative/biotechnical practices may be combined, but in no case will structural practices exceed 500 feet in total length. New structural practices are not authorized in HAQAR under this Regional Permit, except to prevent loss of existing structures.

Structural practices are defined as including, but are not limited to: riprap, gabions, lunker boxes, steel sheet piling, limestone slabs, or fabric-formed concrete. Riprap materials may not be placed at a steeper slope than 2:1 (2 horizontal to 1 vertical) for dumped riprap, and 1.5:1 for hand placed riprap. Broken concrete for use as riprap must have all reinforcing rods cut flush with the surface of the concrete. Lumber to be used as a stabilization method must be free of all chemical treatment.

3. Projects that involve replacement of currently functional bank stabilization structures or practices will be processed under Category I, provided that the new practice includes only minor deviations in the structure's configuration or footprint such as those due to changes in materials, construction techniques, or current construction codes or safety standards which are necessary to implement the repair.

The following items apply to all authorizations under RP10:

- a. Bank stabilization must conform to the existing shoreline and may not be used to reclaim land lost to erosion.
- b. No more than one (1) cubic yard per running foot of material may be used as backfill behind structures. Backfill material may not consist of unsuitable material. Material discharged must be free from toxic pollutants in toxic amounts (see Section 307 of the Clean Water Act). Unsuitable materials include but are not limited to: trash, debris, asphalt, and creosote treated wood.
- c. Temporary construction activities, including access roads and cofferdams, are not authorized under this Regional Permit.
- d. Work to be performed below the toe of the slope is not authorized under this Regional Permit, except in those instances where additional materials are required to maintain the structural integrity of the proposed design.
- e. This RP may not be used to fill in boat slips.
- f. Projects along the shoreline of Lake Michigan, or within a ravine system tributary to Lake Michigan, may not be processed under this RP.