



US Army Corps of Engineers®  
Chicago District

## CHICAGO DISTRICT 2017 REGIONAL PERMIT PROGRAM

### **5. AQUATIC HABITAT RESTORATION, ESTABLISHMENT, AND ENHANCEMENT**

RP5 authorizes the restoration, establishment and enhancement of wetlands and riparian areas, and the restoration and enhancement of rivers, creeks and streams, and open water areas on any public or private land. Wetland and stream restoration and enhancement activities include the removal of accumulated sediments; installation, removal and maintenance of small water control structures, dikes and berms; installation of current deflectors; enhancement, restoration, or creation of riffle and pool structures; placement of in-stream habitat structures; modifications of the stream bed and/or banks to restore or create stream meanders; backfilling of artificial channels and drainage ditches; removal of existing drainage structures; construction of open water areas; activities needed to reestablish vegetation, including plowing or discing for seed bed preparation; mechanized land-clearing to remove undesirable vegetation; and other related activities. This RP may be used to relocate aquatic habitat types on the project site provided there are net gains in aquatic resource functions and values.

Authorization under RP5 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:

- a. All projects will be processed under Category I.
- b. This permit does not authorize activities to relocate or channelize a linear waterway such as a river, stream, creek, etc.
- c. This permit cannot be used for the conversion of a stream or creek to another aquatic use, such as the creation of an impoundment for waterfowl habitat.
- d. This permit cannot be used to authorize the conversion of natural wetlands to another aquatic use, such as creation of waterfowl impoundments where a forested wetland previously existed, or the conversion of waterfowl impoundments and wildlife habitat areas.
- e. A management and monitoring plan will be required for the restoration, creation or enhancement of aquatic resources. The management and monitoring plan may be designed to be site specific, with the duration of the plan determined on a case-by-case basis.
- f. For a project site adjacent to a conservation area, forest preserve holdings, or village, city, municipal or county owned lands, the permittee must request a letter from the organization responsible for management of the area. The response letter must identify recommended measures to protect the area from impacts that may occur as a result of the development. A copy of the request and any response received from the organization must be submitted to the District with the notification.
- g. For projects receiving State or Federal grants or funding sources, the permittee must submit a copy of the document disclosing the expiration date for use of the funds and the expected calendar date for commencement of the project in order to meet funding deadlines.