



US Army Corps of Engineers®  
Chicago District

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

**7. TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES**

RP7 authorizes temporary structures and discharges necessary for construction activities, access fills and dewatering of construction sites. Authorization under RP7 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. The temporary fill to waters of the U.S. must be limited to the minimum necessary to complete the activity. The acreage and purpose of each temporary fill must be specified.
- c. Fill must be composed of non-erodible materials and be constructed to withstand expected high flows.
- d. Low ground-pressure equipment is required for work in wetlands. However, after careful consideration, if the District accepts a proposal to use heavy equipment to accomplish the work, the placement of timber mats or other protective measures must be utilized to minimize soil disturbance. Lumber to be used for temporary construction activities must be free of all chemical treatment.
- e. All materials used for temporary construction activities must be moved to an upland area immediately following completion of the construction activity.
- f. The permittee is required to restore the construction area, including areas disturbed by timber mats or other protective measures as required by item (d), to pre-construction conditions, including grading to original contours and revegetating disturbed areas with appropriate native vegetation immediately upon completion of the project. A restoration plan must be submitted with the notification. A 1-foot contour topographic map of the project area may be required on a case-by-case basis.
- g. For projects that require installation and operation of a cofferdam, the cofferdam method and a detailed construction sequence must be specified in the project narrative and clearly labeled on the construction plans. The following requirements will be adhered to for any project requiring in-stream work and must be incorporated into the soil erosion and sediment control plans for the project:
  - 1) Work in the waterway should be timed to take place during low or no-flow conditions. Low flow conditions are at or below the normal water elevation.

- 2) The plan must be designed to allow for the conveyance of the 2-year peak flow past the work area without overtopping the cofferdam. The Corps has the discretion to reduce this requirement if documented by the applicant to be infeasible or unnecessary.
- 3) Water must be isolated from the in-stream work area using a cofferdam constructed of non-erodible materials (steel sheets, aqua barriers, rip rap and geotextile liner, etc.). Earthen cofferdams are not permissible.
- 4) The cofferdam must be constructed from the upland area and no equipment may enter the water at any time. If the installation of the cofferdam cannot be completed from shore and access is needed to reach the area to be coffered, other measures, such as the construction of a causeway, will be necessary to ensure that equipment does not enter the water. Once the cofferdam is in place and the isolated area is dewatered, equipment may enter the coffered area to perform the required work.
- 5) If bypass pumping is necessary, the intake hose must be placed on a stable surface or floated to prevent sediment from entering the hose. The bypass discharge must be released onto a non-erodible, energy dissipating surface prior to rejoining the stream flow and must not cause erosion. Filtering of bypass water is not necessary unless the bypass water has become sediment-laden as a result of the current construction activities.
- 6) During dewatering of the coffered work area, all sediment-laden water must be filtered to remove sediment. Possible options for sediment removal include baffle systems, anionic polymers systems, dewatering bags, or other appropriate methods. Water must have sediment removed prior to being re-introduced to the downstream waterway. A stabilized conveyance from the dewatering device to the waterway must be identified in the plan. Discharge water may not result in a visually identifiable degradation of water clarity.
- 7) The area from the toe to the top of the side slope must be temporarily stabilized during construction to reduce the potential for erosion. All areas disturbed due to construction activities must be restored to proposed conditions and fully stabilized prior to accepting flows.