



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Fort Worth District

# **General Recommendations for Department of the Army Permit Submittals**

June 11, 2001



The following recommendations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Fort Worth District, specify information that should be submitted with project proposals for review of permitting requirements under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899:

1. The purpose of, and need for, the project.
2. A delineation and description of wetlands and other waters of the United States in the area that would be affected by the proposed work, and a description of the project's likely impact on the aquatic environment. Delineations of wetlands must be conducted using the "Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual", USACE Waterways Experiment Station Wetlands Research Program Technical Report Y-87-1, dated January 1987 (on-line edition available at <http://www.wes.army.mil/el/wetlands/wlpubs.html>), including all supplemental guidance (currently includes guidance dated October 7, 1991, and March 6, 1992). The supplemental guidance is included in the on-line version and may also be obtained from your USACE district office. In addition, include the width and depth of the water body and the waterward distance of any structures from the existing shoreline.
3. A vicinity map (e.g., county map, USGS topographic map, etc.) showing the location of all temporary and permanent elements of the project, including the route of the entire highway or road, borrow pit(s), disposal site(s), staging area(s), etc. This map, or an additional map, should show the project area in relation to nearby highways and other roads, and other pertinent features. A ground survey is not required to obtain this information. (All maps and drawings must be submitted on 8½ by 11 inch sheets.)
4. Plan, profile, and cross-section views of all work (fills, excavations, structures, etc.), both permanent and temporary, in, or adjacent to, waters of the United States, including wetlands, and a description of the proposed activities and structures, such as the dimensions and/or locations of highways and roads (both temporary and permanent), coffer dams, equipment ramps, borrow pits, disposal areas, staging areas, haul roads, and other project related areas within the USACE permit area(s). The permit area(s) includes all waters of the United States affected by activities associated with the project, as well as any additional area of non-waters of the United States in the immediate vicinity of, directly associated with, and/or affected by, activities in waters of the United States. The USACE permit area(s) includes borrow pits, disposal areas, staging areas, etc. in many cases. A description of the proposed work should include such information as the height, width, and length of structures and fills, widths of cleared rights-of-way, location of all affected areas of waters of the United States, and the size and spacing of culverts, bridges and other crossings of waters of the United States. (All maps and drawings must be submitted on 8½ by 11 inch sheets.)
5. The volume of material proposed to be discharged into and/or excavated from waters of the United States and the proposed type and source of the material.
6. A written discussion of the alternatives considered and the rationale for selecting the proposed alternative as the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative. Practicable alternatives that do not involve a discharge into a special aquatic site, such as wetlands, are presumed to have less adverse impact on the aquatic ecosystem, unless clearly demonstrated otherwise. The package should also include documentation that the amount of area impacted is the minimum necessary to accomplish the project.

7. An assessment of the adverse and beneficial effects, both permanent and temporary, of the proposed work and documentation that the work would result in no more than a minimal adverse impact on the aquatic environment.
8. A compensatory mitigation plan for unavoidable adverse impacts to the aquatic environment. This plan should include a description of proposed appropriate and practicable actions that would restore, enhance, protect, and/or replace the functions and values of the aquatic ecosystem unavoidably lost in the project area because of the proposed work.
9. A discussion documenting whether any species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act might be affected by, or found in the vicinity of, the USACE permit area for the proposed project. Direct coordination with the FWS concerning the potential impact of the entire project on endangered and threatened species is strongly encouraged.
10. A discussion documenting whether any cultural resources, particularly those historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), would be affected by, or are in the vicinity of, the USACE permit area for the proposed project.
11. Documentation that any permanent above-grade fills in waters of the United States within the 100-year floodplain comply with FEMA, or FEMA-approved local, floodplain development requirements.
12. The applicant should include any other relevant information, including information on hydrology and hydraulics.