

Special Public Notice

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Public Notice Date: October 23, 2017

<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>: Revisions to Regional General Permit 6 (RGP-6), Structures in Inland Marine Waters of Washington State and Optional Quarterly Pre-Application Meetings for Complex RGP-6 Applications

Revisions to Regional General Permit 6 (RGP-6), Structures in Inland Marine Waters of Washington State

<u>BACKGROUND</u>: In response to questions received from the public, revisions were made to clarify and correct certain items in RGP-6 as listed below:

Special Condition 7.2 Pile Driving, items "i" and "j" were mislabeled and were changed to "g" and "h" respectively.

Special Condition 7.2 Pile Driving, item "g" (formerly "i") had a note stating the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will determine during a 30-day comment period if hydro-acoustic monitoring will be required. The USFWS stated that if all RGP-6 requirements are met, hydro-acoustic monitoring will not be required. Therefore, this note was removed.

Appendix B, Compensatory Mitigation Calculator, Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) definition under Table 1 had an inadvertent omission. In addition to drift algae and *Ulva* spp, *Zostera japonica* should have also been listed as a species which is not included in vegetation coverage to calculate the amount of required mitigation.

The revised definition is:

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) is defined as rooted vascular plants and attached macroalgae. Drift algae, *Ulva* spp, and *Z. japonica* are not included when determining cover percentage. However, *Ulva* spp would be included if it occurs in documented herring spawning areas.

Please review the revised text of RGP-6 located on our webpage at:

http://www.nws.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory/Permit-Guidebook/RGP/

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Optional Quarterly Pre-Application Meetings for Complex RGP-6 Applications

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, Regulatory Branch (Corps) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will hold optional, quarterly, pre-application meetings to discuss complex or unusual projects or mitigation proposals for structures in inland marine waters associated with RGP-6. Applicants must sign-up for a meeting slot at least <u>one week</u> in advance of a pre-application meeting and provide a brief project description, drawings (if available), and the specific question(s) you would like addressed.

When and where is the first pre-application meeting date?

November 14, 2017, from 10:30am - 2:30pm at the Corps' Seattle District office at:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, Federal Center South 4735 East Marginal Way S. Seattle, WA 98134

How do I sign up for a pre-application meeting slot?

Contact Mr. Daniel Krenz at daniel.a.krenz@usace.army.mil or (206) 316-3153 to request a meeting slot. Email or mail a hard copy of your project description, drawings (if available), and the specific project questions you would like addressed no later than <u>one week</u> prior to the pre-application meeting. The Corps will notify applicants of their specific time slot.

How can I be notified of future pre-application meeting dates?

Contact Mr. Daniel Krenz at daniel.a.krenz@usace.army.mil or (206) 316-3153 to be put on a distribution list to receive future meeting announcements. The location will rotate between Seattle (Corps) and Lacey (NMFS) for future meetings.