

Nationwide Permits: A Brief Outline

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1. A prospective permittee submits a [Joint Aquatic Resource Permits Application](#) or letter, project drawings, and where necessary, the information specified in the previous section titled [Pre-Construction Notification: Content Requirements](#), to the following address:

Seattle District,  
Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch, CENWS-OD-RG  
Post Office Box 3755  
Seattle, WA 98124-3755

2. The Corps determines if it is a PCN and if the application is complete. If it is not, the Corps works with the applicant to obtain the necessary information to make the PCN and/or application complete.
3. The Corps determines whether the activity meets the Federal criteria and any applicable regional conditions for authorization under a NWP within 45 days of a complete application. The applicant shall not proceed to construction until one of the following occur:
  - a. Until notified in writing by the Corps that the activity may proceed under the NWP with any special conditions imposed by the Corps; or
  - b. If notified in writing by the Corps that an individual permit is required; or
  - c. Unless 45 days have passed from the Corps receipt of a complete application and the applicant has not received notice from the Corps. Subsequently, the permittee's right to proceed under the NWP may be

modified, suspended, or revoked only in accordance with the procedure set forth in [33 CFR 330.5\(d\)\(2\)](#). In order to begin construction after the 45 day time period, the project must first be in compliance with the NWP's National Regional Condition 11 titled "Endangered Species". This condition states that no activity is authorized under any NWP until the requirements under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) have been satisfied. You must be notified in writing by the Corps that your project satisfies the requirements under the ESA before you can begin construction.

4. The Corps retains the discretionary authority to suspend, modify, or revoke authorizations under a NWP.
5. When the Corps has completed the review process, they will issue what is called a verification. You will need to coordinate with the Washington State Department of Ecology to see if you need to obtain a 401 Water Quality Certification and/or certification of compliance with Coastal Zone Management. For Tribal lands, you will need to coordinate with the Environmental Protection Agency, Puyallup Tribe or Chehalis Tribe.
6. After you have obtained the appropriate approvals, you may then proceed to construction.
7. Every permittee who receives a NWP verification from the Corps receives a "Certification of Compliance". This certification states that the work and any required mitigation has been completed in accordance with the Nationwide Permit. The applicant is required to sign this certification and return it to the Corps.

Point of Contact: Regulatory Reception or  
Contact a Specific Staff Member

Phone: (206)  
764-3495

Email:  
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