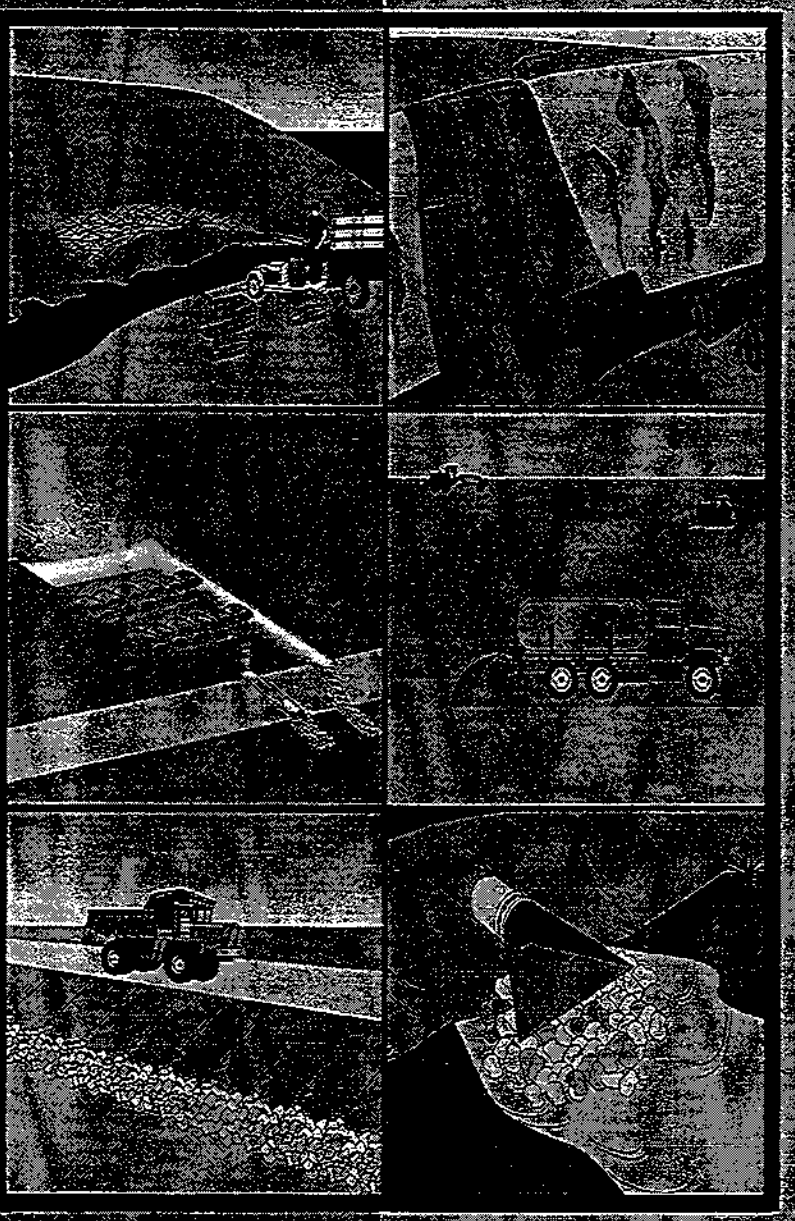
4Q Guidance for Construction SWPPP

Erosion



INFORMATION ON EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROLS FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY
CONTROL BOARD

SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

The State's General Permit

Construction-related erosion and sedimentation can cause problems for downgradient property owners, create nuisance problems on adjacent streets, clog streams and storm drains, and lead to premature silting up of reservoirs. The cumulative toll on the environment can be devastating. Uncontrolled erosion is costly, violates state and federal pollution laws, exposes developers, contractors, and landowners to legal liablilities, and provides ammunition to those who argue that the development process itself is out of control. As more and more development in the San Francisco Bay Area takes place on steep hillsides, the threat from erosion is increasing.

In 1990, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published regulations requiring that discharges of storm water runoff associated with construction activities causing soil disturbance of five or more acres must be covered by a federal National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. In California, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) is responsible for issuing such permits and has adopted a statewide General Permit to address discharges of storm water runoff associated with construction activities. The nine Regional Boards oversee implementation of the General Permit statewide.

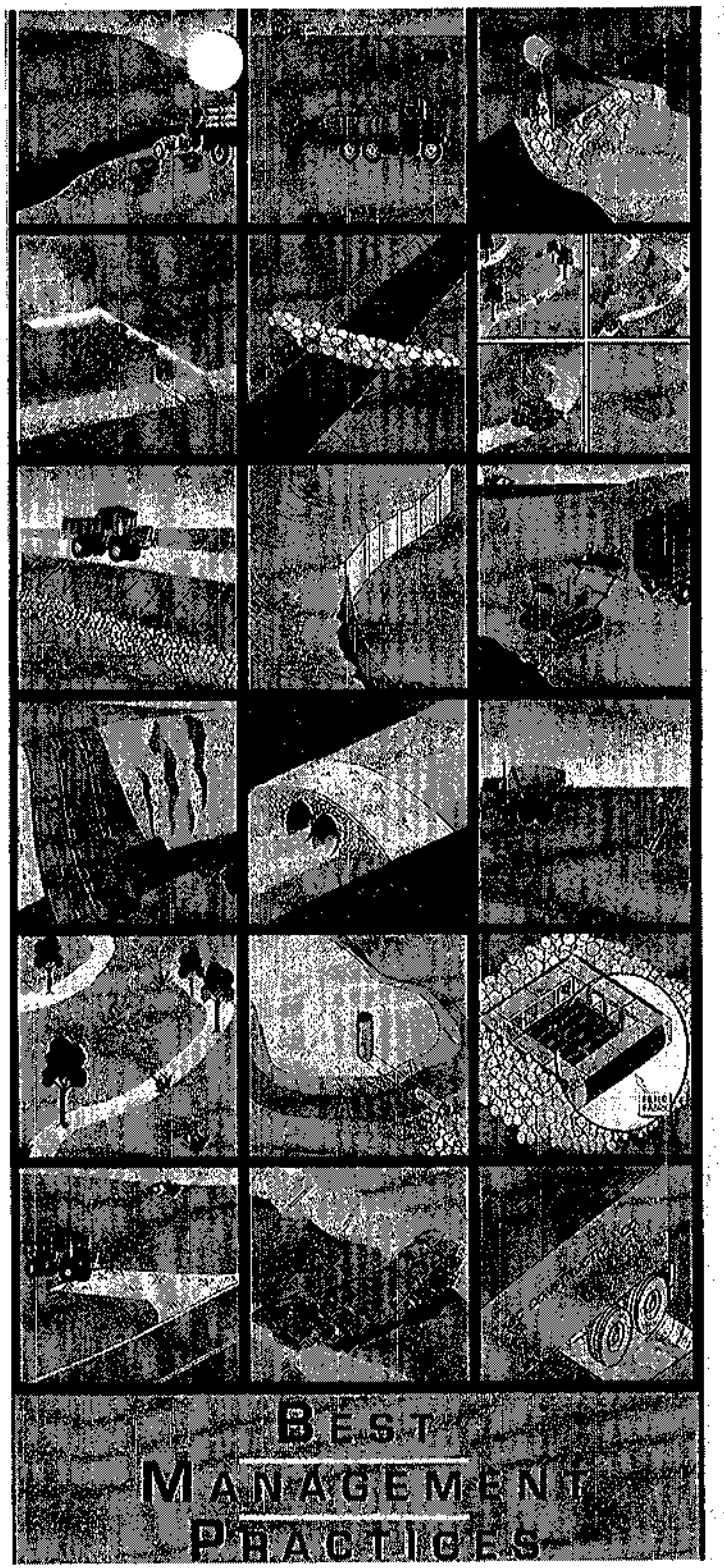
What does the General Permit require?

The General Permit requires all owners of land where storm water discharges associated with construction activity (i.e. clearing, grading, and excavation) results in a land disturbance of five or more acres to:

1. Submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with the General Permit and the appropriate filing fee to the State Board. A package containing an NOI and the General Permit can be obtained from the Regional Board at (510) 286-0968;
2. Eliminate or minimize non-storm water discharges from the construction site to storm drains and other water bodies. Non-storm water discharges to be eliminated or minimized are primarily silt comprised of earthen materials from erosion and sediment runoff. In addition to non-storm water discharges, runoff from storage and maintenance areas, building materials, and spillage of waste chemicals and materials should be eliminated or minimized.
3. Develop, implement, and update a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for the site. The Regional Board has prepared "Directions for Preparing a SWPPP," which is available from the Regional Board at (510) 286-0968 (copy attached).
4. Develop a site monitoring program and perform inspections of the measures implemented as part of the SWPPP. If implemented measures do not adequately minimize non-storm water discharges, those measures must be modified;
5. Annually certify, based on inspections, that the site is in compliance with the General Permit.

What activities are not covered by the General Permit?

Construction activity <u>not</u> covered by the General Permit includes routine maintenance, maintaining original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, and original purpose of the facility. In addition, Storm water discharges in the Lake Tahoe Hydrologic Unit will be regulated by a separate permit(s) adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, and may not seek coverage under the State Water Board's general permit. Storm water discharges on Indian lands will be regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Why Control Erosion?

When raindrops strike bare soil, large amounts of topsoil are eroded and carried downstream in stormwater runoff.

Construction-related erosion can cause problems for downgradient property owners, clog storm drains, create nuisance problems on adjacent streets, and lead to the sedimentation and silting of streams, reservoirs and other water bodies.

Steep and bare slopes have the greatest potential for erosion and sedimentation. Any medium which adequately covers the soil and protects it from raindrop impact will virtually eliminate erosion, reducing it by 90 to 98%. Once erosion has occured, it is extremely difficult to remove the soil suspended in runoff.

By protecting soil from raindrop impact and consequently preventing erosion, the burden on less effective sediment controls is greatly reduced.

Uncontrolled erosion is costly, violates state and federal pollution laws, and exposes developers, contractors, and landowners to legal liabilities.

Fortunately, most erosion and sediment problems can be prevented or greatly reduced through proper planning and implementation of simple and low-cost control practices.

But unless control measures are properly planned, designed and installed, they will not work.

If you are the owner of land associated with construction activit[illegible]using soil disturbance of more than five acres, you are required to file for a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit from your local Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The General NPDES Permit requires all owners of land where construction activity occurs to:

1) Submit a Notice of Intent agreeing to comply with the General Permit and the appropriate filing fee to the State Water Resources Control Board.

2) Develop and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for the site **based on best managent practices.** *Directions for Preparing a SWPPP* is available from your local Regional Board.

3) Develop a site monitoring program and perform inspections of measures implemented as part of the SWPPP. If these measures do not adequately minimize pollutants in stormwater runoff, they must be modified.

4) Annualy certify, based on inspections, that the site is in compliance with he General Permit.

The *Erosion and Sediment Control Field Manual* provides the latest information on Best Management Practices and is intended to help you develop a program in compliance with Storm Water Discharge Requirements.

Order Form

The Field Manual

Erosion & Sediment Control for Construction Projects

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
- San Francisco Bay Region -

$25.00 Donation Required

(Checks payable to Friends of the San Francisco Estuary)

Mail completed Order Form with Full Payment to:

Friends of the San Francisco Estuary
c/o RWQCB
2101 Webster Street, Suite 500
Oakland, California
94612-3060

Number of Copies _____

Name _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Questions? Call 510-286-0924

CONTRA COSTA CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

Make a Clear Difference

Donald P. Freitas
Program Manager

ORDER FORM
FOR
CALIFORNIA STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE HANDBOOK(S)
AND
BAY AREA PREAMBLE TO THE CALIFORNIA STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE HANDBOOK(S) AND NEW DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Item		Cost	No. of Copies	Total Cost
Municipal Handbook	:	$12.50 ea	_____	$_____
Construction Handbook	:	$12.00 ea	_____	$_____
Industrial/Commercial Handbook:		$13.00 ea	_____	$_____
Bay Area Preamble	:	$10.00 ea	_____	$_____
			Handbook Subtotal	$_____
			Shipping Subtotal	$_____
			Total	$_____

SHIPPING COSTS:

Shipment **within** California can be prepaid by including the cost of $4.25 for UPS-shipping for 1 to 3 handbooks and preamble ($7.20 for 4 to 6 handbooks, etc.). Contact BPS for shipments outside California.

Make checks payable to **"BPS"** to cover costs of handbooks and postage and mail to:

Blue Print Service (BPS)
1700 Jefferson Street
Oakland, CA 94612
Phone: (510) 444-6771
Fax: (510) 444-1262

PLEASE: NO C.O.D.s and allow 4 -6 weeks for delivery.

PRINT OR TYPE:

Name _____ Date _____

Business _____ Phone No. (____) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

255 Glacier Drive, Martinez, CA 94553-4897 • Tel: (510) 313-2360 Fax: (510) 313-2301