

Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield  
Stormwater Guidance For Construction Site Runoff Control

1. The following Erosion and Sedimentation Control Standards shall apply to any land disturbance activity on Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield which is not exempted from the O.C.G.A. 12-7-1 Georgia Erosion & Sedimentation Control Act, 1975 (amended 2003), and all waters entering the storm drain systems generated on any developed lands, reference; Federal Clean Water Act, and GA Water Quality Control-Chapter 391-3-6.03, and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) Permit Part 4. 4.2.4.3

2. General Provision

a. Plans for those land disturbing activities which are not excluded from this guidance shall contain provisions for application of soil erosion and sedimentation control measures and practices. The provisions shall be incorporated into the erosion and sedimentation control plans.

b. Soil erosion and sedimentation control measures and practices shall conform to the minimum requirements of 4.b. of this guidance. The application of measures and practices shall apply to all features of the site, including street and utility installations, utility rights of way, drainage facilities and other temporary and permanent improvements. Measures shall be installed to prevent or control erosion and sedimentation pollution during all stages of any land disturbing activity.

c. For construction projects, the design professional must inspect the initial sediment storage requirements and perimeter control best management practices (BMPs) which the design professional designed per the approved Erosion & Sedimentation Pollution Control Plan (E&SPCP) within seven (7) days after the installation. The design professional shall determine if these BMPs have been installed and are being maintained as designed. The design professional shall report the results of the inspection to the primary permittee within seven (7) days and the permittee must correct all deficiencies within two (2) business days of receipt of the inspection report from the design professional unless weather related site conditions are such that additional time is required.

3. Submission- Notice of Intent (NOI)

a. Any activity subject to a construction NPDES stormwater discharge permit shall comply with all provisions of such permit. Proof of compliance with said permit may be required in a form acceptable to the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) Environmental Division prior to the allowing of discharges to the MS4.

b. The “operator” and/or “owner” of any construction activity that is required to have a NPDES Permit to Discharge Stormwater Associated with Construction Activity shall submit a copy of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to the DPW Environmental Division Stormwater Program Manager, for review and coordination, to ensure Natural Resources Conservation Service or the

Soils District has “technical oversight” of the E&SPCP, prior to any submittals of the NOI as required to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD).

c. The copy of the NOI may be delivered either in person, email, or by mailing to:

DPW Environmental Division  
Stormwater Program Manager  
1550 Veterans Parkway, Bldg. 1137  
Fort Stewart, Georgia 31314-4940  
[Russell.moncrief@us.army.mil](mailto:Russell.moncrief@us.army.mil)

d. An “operator” and/or “owner” performing any land disturbance on FS/HAAF must have documentation of the State Erosion & Sedimentation certified personnel prior to commencement of any land disturbing activity and readily available at the project site.

e. An “operator” and/or “owner” is in violation of the NPDES Permitting and this erosion and sedimentation control standards if the “operator” and/or “owner” operates a facility that is discharging stormwater associated with a construction activity without having submitted a copy of the NOI to the DPW Environmental Division.

#### 4. Minimum Requirements

No discharges shall cause violations of Georgia's in-stream water quality standards as provided by the Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-6-.03 and the NPDES MS4 Permit Part 4.2.4 Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control; 4.2.4.3:

a. Any entity or sub-contractor shall meet all requirements of the current State General Construction Permits and Erosion & Sedimentation Controls;

b. Any entity, designer or contractor operator shall provide a plan that demonstrates use of BMPs, including sound conservation and engineering practices to prevent and minimize erosion and resultant sedimentation, which are consistent with, and no less stringent than, those practices contained in the Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia published by the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission as of January 1 of the year in which the land disturbing activity was permitted to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of Georgia. In addition the General Construction Permitting requires the E&SPCP Checklists be submitted with the E&SPCP and Notice of Intent or items are depicted on the actual E&SPCP to ensure no pollutants will be discharged from construction sites, into the surrounding MS4 collection systems or Waters of the State; **Construction Site Operators are required to control waste at the construction site, such as discarded building materials, concrete truck washout, chemicals, litter, and sanitary waste that may cause adverse water quality impacts,** E&SPCP Checklist items #17-*handling of waste materials (inclusive of chemicals, litter, sanitary or hazardous materials)*, #23-concrete washout procedures, #24 remediation of all petroleum spills and leaks, #25-control procedures to prevent pollutants in stormwater which will occur after construction operations have been completed, and #26-a description of practices which will be used to reduce the pollutants in stormwater discharges, must be noted on the E&SPC Plans.

c. Stripping of vegetation, re-grading and other development activities shall be conducted in a manner so as to minimize erosion;

d. Cut-fill operations must be kept to a minimum;

e. Development plans must conform to topography and soil type so as to create the lowest practical erosion potential;

f. Whenever feasible, natural vegetation shall be retained, protected and supplemented;

g. The disturbed area and the duration of exposure to erosive elements shall be kept to a practicable minimum;

h. Disturbed soil shall be stabilized as quickly as practicable;

i. Temporary vegetation or mulching shall be implemented as soon as practicable to protect all exposed areas not under active construction during development;

j. Permanent vegetation and structural erosion control practices shall be installed as soon as practicable;

k. To the extent necessary, sediment in run-off water must be trapped by the use of debris basins, sediment basins, silt traps, or similar measures until the disturbed area is stabilized. As used in this paragraph, a disturbed area is stabilized when it is brought to a condition of continuous compliance with the requirements of O.C.G.A. 12-7-1 et.seq;

l. Adequate provisions must be provided to minimize damage from surface water to the cut face of excavations or the sloping of fills;

m. Cuts (including ditches, trenches, swales, and etc.) and fills may not endanger adjoining property;

n. Fills may not encroach upon natural watercourses or constructed channels in a manner so as to adversely affect other facilities;

o. Grading equipment must cross flowing streams by means of bridges or culverts. When such methods are not feasible, the applicant shall include a provision in the erosion and sedimentation control plan showing how the crossings will be accomplished, provided that such crossings are kept to a minimum;

p. Land-disturbing activity plans for erosion and sedimentation control shall include provisions for treatment or control of any source of sediments and adequate sedimentation control facilities to retain sediments on-site;

q. There is established a 25 foot buffer along the banks of all state waters, as measured horizontally from the point where vegetation has been wrested by normal stream flow or wave

action, except where the GA EPD determines to allow a variance that is at least as protective of natural resources and the environment, where otherwise allowed by the Director pursuant to O.C.G.A. 12-28, or where a drainage structure or a roadway drainage structure must be constructed, provided that adequate erosion control measures are incorporated in the project plans and specifications, and are implemented; provided, however, the buffers of at least 25 feet established pursuant to part 6 of Article 5, Chapter 5 of Title 12, the Georgia Water Quality Control Act, shall remain in force unless a variance is granted by the Director as provided in this paragraph.

The following requirements shall apply to any such buffer:

(1) No land-disturbing activities shall be conducted within a buffer and a buffer shall remain in its natural, undisturbed state of vegetation until all land-disturbing activities on the construction site are completed. Once the final stabilization of the site is achieved, a buffer may be thinned or trimmed of vegetation as long as a protective vegetative cover remains to protect water quality and aquatic habitat and a natural canopy is left in sufficient quantity to keep shade on the stream bed;

(2) The buffer shall not apply to the following land-disturbing activities, provided that they occur at an angle, as measured from the point of crossing, within 25 degrees of perpendicular to the stream; cause a width of disturbance of not more than 50 feet within the buffer; and adequate erosion control measures are incorporated into the project plans and specifications and are implemented to prevent scouring of the banks:

- (a) Stream crossings for water lines;
- (b) Stream crossings for sewer lines;
- (c) Stream crossings for fences

(3) The buffer shall not apply to the following land-disturbing activities for aerial utility lines at stream crossings, provided that:

- (a) The new utility line right-of-way width does not exceed 200 linear feet,
- (b) Utility lines are routed and constructed so as to minimize the number of stream crossings and disturbances to the buffer,
- (c) Only trees and tree debris are removed from within the buffer resulting in only minor soil erosion (i.e., disturbance to underlying vegetation is minimized), and
- (d) Functional native riparian vegetation is re-established in any bare or disturbed areas within the buffer.

(4) The buffer shall not apply to the following land-disturbing activities for Stream crossings for roadway drainage culverts and bridges (for example) provided that:

- (1) The GA EPD Approved Guidelines by Georgia Department of Transportation are utilized;
  - (a) Installation or maintenance of drainage structures classified as a culvert; cause a width of disturbance of not more than 50 feet within the buffer measured from the end of the culvert wing walls;
  - (b) Installation or maintenance of bridges; cause a width of disturbance of not more than 100 feet within the buffer measured from each end of the bridge.

The Plan shall include a description of the stream crossings with details of the buffer disturbance including area and length of buffer disturbance, estimated length of time of buffer disturbance, and justification.

Note any of the above requirements q. (1) thru (4) do not exempt the requirements for 404 wetland permitting.

#### 5. Exemptions from Permitted Land Disturbing Activities

Although, an NOI is not required, the erosion & sedimentation control best management practices must be incorporated and utilized for any land disturbance. In addition, as required by the State, a minimum Level 1A Erosion & Sedimentation Certified Trained Individual must be on the site during any land disturbance activity.

a. Infrastructure General Permit GAR100002, coverage under this permit is not required for discharges of stormwater associated with infrastructure construction projects; that result in land disturbance that **consist solely** of routine maintenance for the original purpose of the facility that is performed to maintain the original line and grade and hydraulic capacity, as applicable. The permittee shall, as a minimum, implement and maintain best management practices, including sound conservation and engineering practices to prevent and minimize erosion and resultant sedimentation, which are consistent with, and no less stringent than, those practices contained in the "Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia" (Manual) published by the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission as of January 1 of the year in which the land-disturbing activity is being conducted. In order to be eligible for this exemption the project must comply with the following conditions:

In order to be eligible for this exemption the project must comply with the following conditions:

- (1) No mass grading shall occur on the project,
- (2) The project shall be stabilized by the end of each day with temporary or permanent stabilization measures and
- (3) The project shall have duration of less than 120 calendar days.

(4) Final stabilization must be implemented at the end of the maintenance project.

b. Infrastructure General Permit GAR100002, coverage under this permit is not required for discharges of stormwater associated with railroad construction projects and emergency re-construction conducted pursuant to the Federal Railway Safety Act, the Interstate Commerce Commission Termination Act and which **consist solely** of routine maintenance for the original purpose of the facility that is performed to maintain the original line and grade and the hydraulic capacity, as applicable. The construction activity should, at a minimum, implement and maintain best management practices, including sound conservation and engineering practices to prevent and minimize erosion and resultant sedimentation consistent with the requirements of the Federal Railway Safety Act and applicable requirements of the Clean Water Act.

c. Construction work less than three-quarters ( $< 0.75$ ) of an acre conducted **outside of the 25 foot buffer** along the banks of all State waters requiring a buffer: Any entity or sub-contractor that is responsible, either directly or indirectly, for the construction, installation, or maintenance of smaller structures or minor land disturbing activities (such as home gardens, landscaping, repairs, maintenance work, fences, storage buildings, concrete and asphalt repair work, parking lot expansions, sidewalks, access roads, guard towers, and other related activities which result in minor soil erosion). Ensuring as a minimum, the EISA-Section 438 federal requirements for new development and redevelopment are adhered to for projects 5,000 square feet or greater, and the implementation Post-Construction best management practices, and maintenance of best management practices, including sound conservation and engineering practices to prevent and minimize erosion and resultant sedimentation, which are consistent with, and no less stringent than, those practices contained in the Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia published by the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission as of January 1 of the year in which the land disturbing activity is being conducted.

In order to be eligible for this exemption the project must comply with the following conditions:

(1) No mass grading shall occur on the project,

(2) The project shall be stabilized by the end of each day with temporary and/or permanent stabilization measures and

(3) The project shall have duration of less than 120 calendar days.

(4) Final stabilization must be implemented at the end of the project.

Note any of the above requirements or exemptions 5.a. thru 5.c. do not exempt the requirements for 404 wetland permitting, stream buffers, or EISA-Section 438.

## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BMP	Best Management Practice
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
DPW	Directorate of Public Works
E&SC	Erosion & Sedimentation Control Act, 1975 [amended 2000]
EISA-2007	Energy Independence & Security Act- 2007-Section438
FS/HAAF	Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield
GA	State of Georgia
GA EPD	Georgia Environmental Protection Division
GA WQC	Georgia Water Quality Control Act
GA SWMM/CSS	Georgia Stormwater Management Manual/Coastal Stormwater Supplement
Guidance	Construction Site Runoff Control and Post Construction Stormwater Management Guidance For New Development and Redevelopment
IDDE	Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination Plan
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Detection Elimination Systems Permit
NSWD	Non-Stormwater Discharge
SWMP	Stormwater Management Plan
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USEPA Tech Guidance	United States Environmental Protection Agency Technical Guidance for Implementation of EISA-2007 Section 438