



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Vicksburg District

4155 Clay Street  
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435  
www.mvk.usace.army.mil



# General Permit

FILE NO.: GENERAL PERMIT 50  
EFFECTIVE DATE: February 14, 2020  
EXPIRATION DATE: February 14, 2025

**FOR: MAINTENANCE DREDGING OF NAVIGATION CHANNELS, ACCESS CHANNELS, PORT BASINS AND TERMINAL AREAS OF COMMERCIAL AND MUNICIPAL PORTS ALONG THE RED RIVER**

**WHERE: PORTIONS OF THE RED RIVER AND ADJACENT PORT AND TERMINAL AREAS WITHIN THE REGULATORY JURISDICTION OF THE VICKSBURG DISTRICT IN LOUISIANA**

**BY WHOM: DISTRICT ENGINEER, VICKSBURG DISTRICT, ON BEHALF OF EXISTING COMMERCIAL AND MUNICIPAL PORTS AND HARBORS**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Vicksburg District, is hereby issuing a Department of the Army General Permit (General Permit 50) for maintenance dredging of sediment accumulations within the main navigation channel, around existing docks, under existing barge fleeting and mooring areas, and within associated access channels and port basins; and the discharge of the dredged material. Dredged material may be discharged in an upland contained area (non-jurisdictional area), or discharged as a hydraulic suspension into "swift water" of the main channel of the river. A map indicating the portion of the Red River located within the Vicksburg District in Louisiana is attached (enclosure 1).

This action is being taken pursuant to Federal regulations printed in the Federal Register on November 13, 1986, concerning permits for activities in waters of the United States (U.S.). These regulations state the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) responsibility for regulating structures or work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 U.S.C. 403) and discharges of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the United States under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

General Permits may be issued for a category or categories of activities when:

(1) those activities are substantially similar in nature and cause only minimal individual and cumulative environmental impacts; or (2) the General Permit would result in avoiding unnecessary duplication of the regulatory control exercised by another Federal, State, or local agency, provided it has been determined that the environmental consequences of the action are individually and cumulatively minimal. The final decision regarding a determination that the proposed activities comply with the requirements for issuance of General Permits was made using information that is available for inspection at the offices of the Vicksburg District's Regulatory Branch at 4155 Clay Street, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

This General Permit contains certain limitations intended to protect the environment and natural and cultural resources. Construction, dredging, or fill operations which include regulated work and/or discharges of dredged or fill material into Section 10/404 or Section 404 regulated waters of the United States (collectively hereafter referred to as: WOTUS) which are not specifically authorized by this General Permit are prohibited unless specifically approved by the District Engineer via separate authorization. Conformance with conditions contained in the General Permit does not necessarily guarantee authorization under this General Permit. In cases where the District Engineer considers it necessary, an application for an individual permit will be required.

In compliance with requirements of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, the Vicksburg District has obtained water quality certification (WQC) for General Permit 50 from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. A copy of the Louisiana water quality certification is attached (enclosure 2).

Authorization to conduct work under this General Permit will not negate the responsibility of the applicant to obtain other State or local authorizations or permits required by law for the proposed activity.

**REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION UNDER THE GENERAL PERMIT – APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:** IN ORDER TO BE AUTHORIZED BY THIS GENERAL PERMIT, PARTIES PROPOSING THE WORK ARE BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, IN WRITING, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN 8 ½ x 11 INCH FORMAT AT LEAST 60 DAYS PRIOR TO THE PLANNED START DATE OF THE WORK:

a. State the number of the General Permit under which the work will be conducted. (General Permit 50) (GP-50)

b. Name, mailing address, email address, and telephone number of the party (person/agency) applying for authorization and for the agent (if applicable).

c. Statement that the work will be conducted in compliance with the terms and conditions of GP-50 and will not adversely impact adjoining properties.

d. Map showing the location of the project area to be dredged and the location of the dredged material discharge site(s). The map should include accurate coordinates (latitude/longitude), River Mile, Section, Township, Range and Parish, and should indicate the location of any locks within 5 miles of the dredging and/or discharge site(s).

e. Drawings and/or aerial photographs labeled to illustrate the configuration of the port, primary navigation channel(s) and/or secondary access channel(s), fleeting area(s), terminal(s) and mooring stations, etc. When the dredged material is to be discharged on land, the drawings shall also identify the location and design dimensions for the dredged material discharge site(s).

f. Plan view illustration(s) of the work area(s) to include the results of a hydrographic survey depicting the "pre-dredge" bottom contours in the area(s) to be dredged, and those areas immediately adjacent to the area(s) to be dredged. The area(s) to be dredged shall be clearly delineated and labeled on this plan view illustration. Additionally, the dredged material discharge site(s) shall be clearly delineated and labeled on the illustration(s). Profile maps identifying representative cross-sections of the areas to be dredged and the maximum planned dredging depth, including any proposed advanced maintenance (over-depth) dredging shall be required.

g. A brief description of the proposed activity, including an estimate of the area to be dredged and the cubic yards of material to be dredged. The description shall also state the type(s) of dredging equipment to be used (e.g. "clam shell" excavation, hydraulic cutterhead, etc.), and the method of dredged material discharge. If dredged material will be discharged at an upland site, the application must describe any containment measures and explain if there will be "return water" discharged back into WOTUS. NOTE: The discharge of return water (effluent) from a confined discharge site will not be authorized by General Permit 50; a separate Department of the Army permit will be required for return water from an upland contained area (See Nationwide Permit No. 16).

h. Estimated starting and completion dates of the project.

i. Federal permittees should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Federal permittee must provide appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements.

For non-Federal permittees, if any ESA-listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or be in the vicinity of the activity, or if the activity is located in designated critical habitat, the application must include the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species that might be affected by the proposed activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed activity.

j. Federal permittees should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Federal permittees must provide appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements.

For non-Federal permittees, if the activity might have the potential to cause effects to a historic property listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places, the application must state which historic property might have the potential to be affected by the proposed activity or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property.

k. For activities affecting structures or works built by the United States: If a GP 50 activity also requires permission from the Corps pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will alter or temporarily or permanently occupy or use a USACE Federally authorized Civil Works project, the application must include a statement (and any associate documents) confirming that the project applicant has submitted a written request for Section 408 permission to the Vicksburg District office having jurisdiction over that USACE project.

Upon receipt of this information, the District Engineer shall: request additional information (if needed) to determine if the proposed activities could be authorized under General Permit 50; evaluate the proposal; and advise the inquiring party, in writing, whether the work could be authorized under the General Permit or will require an individual permit (if it exceeds the authoritative capacity of the General Permit) and/or additional separate authorizations.

Special Conditions:

a. The permit shall authorize maintenance dredging for the removal of sediment within the authorized channel depths. Advanced maintenance dredging could be authorized after case-specific review.

b. A post-dredge hydrographic survey shall be required. The hydrographic survey should depict the depth and bottom configuration of the site after completion of dredging activities, and provide revised estimates of the area dredged and the cubic yards of material dredged. This information shall be submitted with the completed and signed certification of compliance.

c. The permit shall be limited to maintenance dredging activities required for navigation access to, and operation of, existing commercial and municipal ports and terminals along the Red River in Louisiana within the Vicksburg District, USACE.

d. Material dredged by hydraulic dredging shall be discharged into the "swift water" of the main channel of the river, or in an upland contained area. Material excavated by clam-shell or other excavation equipment shall be discharged into upland areas, unless the dredged material is first processed as a slurry with river water to a consistency similar to hydraulic dredged material and then discharged into the "swift water" of the main channel of the river.

e. Material shall not be discharged into Corps maintained navigation channels if the Corps determines such discharge will require later removal of the material by the Federal Government to maintain the navigation channel.

f. Dredge and discharge operations shall be conducted in such a manner as to avoid interference with navigation to the maximum extent practicable. Dredging equipment, including discharge lines, shall be marked and lighted in accordance with U.S. Coast Guard regulations. Additionally, the permittee shall be required to provide notice to the U.S. Coast Guard in sufficient advance of initiating work to allow required posting of a "Notice to Mariners."

g. No activity that has the potential to cause effects to properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places, or a site that has previously been unevaluated, shall be authorized by this General Permit until the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act have been satisfied. Additional fill material shall not be taken from a known historical or archaeological site within or outside of regulated areas. If the permittee, during prosecution of work authorized herein, inadvertently discovers or accidentally destroys a cultural resource such as a cemetery, shipwreck, mound, historic structure, or archaeological site, within the area subject to Department of the Army jurisdiction, they shall cease work in the immediate area and notify the District Engineer within 24 hours. The District Engineer, in consultation with the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer and the Federally recognized Tribe, will comply with the procedures set forth in 33 CFR 325, Appendix C, paragraph 11 (Historic Properties Discovered During Construction).

h. All construction activities shall be performed in a manner that will minimize increased suspended sediment concentrations (and associated turbidity) of the water in the work area and otherwise avoid adverse effects on water quality and aquatic life especially during fish spawning seasons.

i. The discharge shall not be located so as to adversely affect a public water supply intake or a national fish hatchery intake.

j. The discharge shall not occur in areas of concentrated shellfish production.

k. No activity shall be authorized under this General Permit which is likely to directly or indirectly jeopardize the continued existence of a Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, as identified under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), or which will directly or indirectly destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of such species. No activity shall be authorized under this General Permit which "may affect" a listed species or critical habitat, unless Section 7 consultation addressing the effects of the proposed activity has been completed.

l. The activity shall not result in the relocation or blockage of a natural stream or river channel or adversely impact or drain wetlands.

m. No sewage, oil, refuse, or other pollutants shall be discharged into the watercourse.

n. An activity that requires section 408 permission from the Corps pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will alter or temporarily or permanently occupy or use a USACE federally authorized Civil Works project (a "USACE project") is not authorized by GP 50 until the appropriate Corps office issues the section 408 permission to alter, occupy, or use the USACE project, and the district engineer issues a written GP 50 authorization.

General Conditions:

a. Approvals under GP-50 shall be valid for one year from the date of authorization. Additional dredging activities at the same location within one year from the date of authorization shall require a separate evaluation.

b. The applicant must notify the U.S. Coast Guard of the proposed project concurrently with notification to this office.

c. If the property associated with the authorization under GP-50 is sold, the permittee shall notify this office to ensure that the authorization is transferred to the new owner.

d. Representatives from this office shall be allowed to inspect the authorized activity at any time deemed necessary to ensure that it is being, or has been, accomplished in accordance with the terms and conditions of the permit.

e. This permit does not obviate the need to obtain other Federal, State, or local authorizations required by law.

f. This permit does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges.

g. This permit does not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

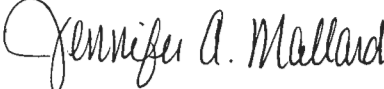
h. This permit does not authorize interference with or damages to any existing or proposed Federal project.

i. In issuing this permit, the Federal Government does not assume any liability for the following:

- (1) Damages to the permitted project, or uses thereof, as a result of other permitted or unpermitted activities or from natural causes.
- (2) Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of current or future activities undertaken by, or on behalf of, the United States in the public interest.
- (3) Damages to persons, property, or to other permitted or unpermitted activities or structures caused by the activity authorized by this permit.
- (4) Design or construction deficiencies associated with the permitted work.
- (5) Damage claims associated with any future modification, suspension, or revocation of this permit.

j. In issuing individual authorization under this General Permit, the Government shall rely on the information and data which the permittee provides in connection with his permit application. If, subsequent to the authorization, such information and data prove to be false, incomplete, or inaccurate, this authorization may be modified, suspended, or revoked, in whole or in part, and/or the Government may, in addition, institute appropriate legal proceedings.

k. The General Permit is valid for five years from the date of issuance. At the end of that time, the cumulative environmental effects of the completed work will be reviewed and reissuance of the permit may be considered. However, if unforeseen adverse environmental effects result from the issuance of this General Permit, it may be modified or terminated at any time.

  
Jennifer A. Mallard  
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures



Enclosure 1

- River Mile Marker
- Interstate Highways
- Major Cities
- ▭ State Boundaries
- Red River mi marker 7 - 238



JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR



CHUCK CARR BROWN, PH.D.  
SECRETARY

# State of Louisiana

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

SEP 23 2019

Mr. Spencer Dixon  
US Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District  
Attention: Regulatory Branch  
4155 Clay Street  
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435

AI No.: 218115  
Activity No.: CER20190001

RE: Maintenance Dredging of Navigation Channels, Access Channels, Port Basins, and Terminal Areas of Commercial and Municipal Ports along the Red River  
Water Quality Certification WQC 190729-03  
Corps of Engineers Permit MVK-2019-358 (General Permit 50)  
Avoyelles, Bossier, Caddo, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, Natchitoches, Rapides, Red River, and Winn Parishes

Dear Mr. Dixon:

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Water Permits Division (LDEQ), has reviewed the application to authorize maintenance dredging for the removal of sediment accumulations within the main navigational channel of the Red River, around existing docks, under existing barge fleetings and mooring areas, and within associated access channels and port basins; and subsequent discharge of the dredged material. Dredged material may be: discharged in an upland contained area (non-jurisdictional area); or, discharged as a hydraulic suspension into "swift water" of the main channel of the Red River from River Mile 238 to River Mile 7 within the regulatory jurisdiction of the Vicksburg District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The information provided in the public notice dated July 26, 2019, has been reviewed in terms of compliance with State Water Quality Standards, the approved Water Quality Management Plan and applicable state water laws, rules and regulations. LDEQ determined that the requirements for a Water Quality Certification have been met. LDEQ concludes that the discharge of dredged material as provided for in the proposed conditions of MVK-2019-358 (General 50) will not violate water quality standards as provided for in LAC 33:IX.Chapter 11. Therefore, LDEQ hereby issues U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District – MVK-2016-204 (General Permit 50) Water Quality Certification, WQC 190729-03.

Should you have any questions concerning any part of this certification, please contact Elizabeth Hill at (225) 219-3225 or by email at [elizabeth.hill@la.gov](mailto:elizabeth.hill@la.gov). Please reference Agency Interest (AI) number 218115 and Water Quality Certification 190729-03 on all future correspondence to this Department to ensure all correspondence regarding this project is properly filed into the Department's Electronic Document Management System.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Williams".

Scott Williams  
Administrator  
Water Permits Division

c: IO-W

RECEIVED SEP 26 2019