

Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

DRAFT User's Guide to Permitting and
Compliance Volume 5—Storm Water and
Biosolids

State of Idaho
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Acronyms, Abbreviations, and Symbols

1 Introduction

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ's) Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) Program developed permitting and compliance guides to help the regulated community and other public users understand the IPDES permitting and compliance process. This *Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System User's Guide to Permitting and Compliance Volume 5 – Storm Water and Biosolids* (User's Guide Volume 5) provides assistance to entities seeking coverage under one of Idaho's IPDES Storm Water General or Individual Permits, or Biosolids permits to comply with DEQ administrative rules, Idaho Code, and the Clean Water Act (CWA) which govern the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States in Idaho.

General permits are authorized under IDAPA 58.01.25.130 and are a permitting instrument that may be used within a geographic area such as sewer districts or authorities; city, county, or state political boundaries; state highway systems; standard metropolitan statistical areas; urbanized areas designated by the U.S. Census Bureau or any other appropriate division or combination of boundaries. General permits are useful to reduce the overall regulatory burden on the state and regulated community when discharges:

- Involve the same or substantially similar types of operations.
- Discharge the same types of wastes or engage in the same type of sludge use or disposal practices.
- Require the same effluent limitations, operating conditions, or standards for sewage sludge use or disposal.
- Require the same or similar monitoring.

Biosolids and sewage sludge are authorized under 40 CFR 503 which applies to any person who prepares sewage sludge, applies it to the land, or fires it in a sewage sludge incinerator, and to the owner or operator of a surface disposal site. The standard identifies and establishes:

- General requirements
- Pollutant limits
- Management practices
- Operational standards, for the final use or disposal of sewage sludge generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment works

In addition, the standards include:

- Pathogen and alternative vector attraction reduction requirements for sewage sludge applied to the land or placed on a surface disposal site
- The frequency of monitoring and recordkeeping requirements when sewage sludge is applied to the land, placed on a surface disposal site, or fired in a sewage sludge incinerator
- Reporting requirements for Class I sludge management facilities, publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) with a design flow rate equal to or greater than one million gallons per day and serve 10,000 people or more

1.1 Purpose and Scope

This guide serves as a reference for successfully navigating the IPDES permitting and compliance process for storm water and biosolids facilities. Additionally, this guide is designed to help the regulated community (applicants and permittees) and other users:

- Understand IPDES storm water individual and biosolids application processes and NOI requirements.
- Comply with all processes, protocols, and requirements of IPDES storm water and biosolids permits.

1.2 Relationship to Existing Rules and Guidance

User's Guide Volume 5 supports implementation of the CWA, federal regulations, and Idaho Code, administrative rules, and guidance. The guide complies with Idaho's "Water Quality Standards" (IDAPA 58.01.02), "Wastewater Rules" (IDAPA 58.01.16), "Recycled Water Rules" (IDAPA 58.01.17), and "Rules Regulating the IPDES Program" (IDAPA 58.01.25).

Volume 5 supplements the *Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System User's Guide to Permitting and Compliance Volume 1—General Information* (User's Guide Volume 1) (UGV1) (DEQ 2017a) and addresses specific topics and circumstances relating to storm water and biosolids permits and not described in Volume 1 or other IPDES guidance.

While this guide provides direction, DEQ may adjust permit-specific conditions to address sector or geographic location specific concerns and conditions. The guide does not replace or change any requirements under state or federal rules and regulations, but it does identify and reference relevant regulations, policy, and other guidance documents. The CWA, federal code, and Idaho Code and administrative rules supporting the IPDES Program is provided in the User's Guide Volume 1, section 2 (DEQ 2017a).

1.2.1 Clean Water Act Background

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, commonly known as the Clean Water Act (CWA) is the primary US law addressing pollutants in receiving waters (e.g., streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs). The CWA was originally enacted in 1948 and was revised by amendments in 1972 (P.L. 92-500), 1977 (P.L. 95-217), 1981 (P.L. 97-117), and 1987 (P.L. 100-4). The CWA requires controls on discharges to meet the statutory goal of eliminating the discharge of pollutants under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program.

1.2.2 Rules Regulating the IPDES Program

IDAPA 58.01.25 establishes procedures and requirements for issuing and maintaining permits for facilities or activities required by Idaho Code and the CWA to obtain authorization to discharge pollutants to waters of the United States. In these rules and guidance, permits are referred to as *IPDES permits* or *permits*.

1.2.3 Idaho Water Quality Standards

Water quality standards (WQS) are comprised of the water quality goals for a water body, the criteria necessary to achieve those goals, and an antidegradation requirement. The federal rules regulating water quality standards (40 CFR 131) describe state requirements and procedures for developing standards and EPA procedures for reviewing and, where appropriate, promulgating standards. IDAPA 58.01.02 was developed according to these federal requirements. Water quality-based effluent limits (WQBELs) in IPDES permits are a mechanism to achieve and maintain water quality standards in Idaho's receiving waters.

As part of complying with Idaho's WQS, an antidegradation review is necessary for general permits. IPDES general permits will describe in the fact sheet how the general permit meets the requirements of the antidegradation policy¹ and implementation². More information on the process for conducting an antidegradation review may be found in DEQ's antidegradation guidance (DEQ XXXX).

1.3 Legislative and Regulatory Citations

The following conventions are used to cite legislation and regulations:

- Idaho Code—Title of the code follow by the code citation: “Approval of State NPDES Program” (Idaho Code §39-175C). After initial use, the code is referred to by the citation (e.g., Idaho Code §39-175C).
- Idaho Administrative Rules—Title of the rule is followed by the rule citation: “Rules Regulating the Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program.” (IDAPA 58.01.25). After initial use, the rule is referred to by the rule citation (e.g., IDAPA 58.01.25).
- Code of Federal Regulations—Initial and subsequent references to CFRs use the regulation citation (e.g., 40 CFR 136).
- US Code—Initial and subsequent references to US code use the code citation (e.g., 16 U.S.C. §1531 et seq. or 33 U.S.C. §§1251–1387).
- Clean Water Act—Title of the act is followed by the act citation: Clean Water Act section 402 (e.g., CWA §402). After initial use, the act is referred to by the act citation (e.g., CWA §402).

Most regulatory citations in this guide are from IDAPA 58.01.25 and 40 CFR. Other rules and regulations are explicitly referenced in full citation when initially used. Applicable IDAPA and CFR references are included as endnotes after the appendices.

1.4 Time Computation³

References to days represent calendar days, unless otherwise specified (e.g., business days). In computing any period of time scheduled to begin after or before the occurrence of an activity or event, the date of the activity or event is not included. The last day of the period is included, unless it is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, in which case the period runs until the end of the next day (which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday). When a party or interested person is served by mail, 3 days are added to the prescribed time.

1.5 Hyperlinks

Websites referenced in this guide appear in blue italics and are hyperlinked. These sites provide supplementary information that can be accessed in printed and electronic versions. These website addresses are current; however, the hyperlinks may change or become outdated after publication.

2 Notice of Intent

An applicant seeking discharge coverage under an IPDES permit must submit an application (individual permit) or Notice of Intent (NOI) (general permit) to obtain coverage for discharges of pollutants to waters of the United States. The required content of an application or NOI can be found in the specific general permit. All NOIs must include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Legal name and address of the owner or operator
- Facility or activity name and physical address
- Facility or discharge type
- Receiving water body

Idaho rules require that when a facility or activity is owned by one person but operated by another, the operator is obligated to obtain a permit⁴. This guidance will refer to the operator's responsibilities to acquire coverage under an IPDES permit; however, if the operator and owner are the same, the requirements will apply to the owner.

2.1 Owner and Operator Information

Information identifying the legal entity owning the facility or activity is required on all applications:

- Owner's name (company, corporation, municipality, etc.)
- Certifying signatory person's name and title
- Mailing address
- Phone number
- Email address
- Federally issued EIN

Similarly, information regarding the operator must be provided:

- Operator's name (company, corporation, municipality, etc.)
- Whether the operator is also the owner of the facility or activity
- Mailing address
- Phone number
- Email address
- Operator's EIN

2.2 Facility or Activity Location and Description

The facility's or activity's physical location and description must be identified and submitted as part of the electronic NOI information, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Facility or activity location (latitude and longitude at the entrance, if applicable)
- Outfall locations (latitude and longitude)
- Township, range, and section
- County
- Whether it lies on Indian lands
- Site-specific requirements identified in the permit (e.g., SIC codes)
- Type of discharge
- Expected nature of the discharge
- Potential for toxic and conventional pollutants in the discharges
- Expected volume of the discharges (if known)
- Other means of identifying discharges covered by the permit
- Estimated number of discharges to be covered by the permit
- Facility or activity status as federal, state, private, public or other

A map of the area extending one-quarter mile outside the facility's or activity's property boundary should be supplied with the application. This map should indicate the following:

- Area surrounding all unit processes (topographic if available) extending one-quarter mile past the property boundary
- Influent and effluent pipes and structures
- Springs or other surface water bodies
- Drinking water wells within 1 mile of the property. Either indicate the direction and distance to the well, or include a map with a larger extent.
- Areas where sludge, manure or other solid biologically degradable waste is produced, stored, treated or disposed
- Areas assigned to receive, store, treat, or dispose of hazardous waste

2.3 Approval to Discharge

Each IPDES permit specifies the deadlines for submitting an application or NOI for coverage and the process for authorizing a discharge. There are four ways an applicant may be authorized to discharge⁵. These include:

1. Upon DEQ's receipt of the NOI
2. After waiting a prescribed amount of time
3. On a specific date identified in the permit
4. Upon the applicant's receipt of a notification from DEQ

In some circumstances where submitting an NOI may be inappropriate, DEQ may not require the submittal of an NOI. However, DEQ will consider the type, expected nature, potential for toxic and conventional pollutants, expected volume, and the estimated number of dischargers before making this determination. In these instances, DEQ may consider other means for identifying the dischargers covered by the permit.

If an owner or operator of a facility eligible for coverage does not wish to be covered under a general permit, a request to be excluded should be submitted to DEQ⁶. This request must include a supporting rationale and be submitted within 90 days after issuance of the general permit. If DEQ grants the request, an individual permit will be issued following the process and procedures for issuing an individual permit and the applicability of the general permit is automatically terminated on the effective date of the individual permit.

DEQ may also require the owner or operator of a facility to apply for an individual IPDES permit by notifying the owner or operator in writing⁷. This notice will include a rationale for the decision, a statement identifying the time for the application to be filed, and a statement that the general permit coverage will automatically terminate upon the effective date of the individual permit. The owner or operator may appeal DEQ's decision⁸.

3 Public Participation

The process for providing public participation on an IPDES permit (either individual or general permit) is identified in the IPDES rules⁹ and outlined in the Public Participation in the Permitting Process Guidance (DEQ 2016a). An overview of this process is outlined below. Public participation is encouraged and permits along with fact sheets will be published for public comment after drafting. In instances where DEQ knows the entities proposed for coverage under a general permit, they will be included in the public participation process at the time the general permit is drafted. Some general permits are open to applicants to seek coverage after the general permit has been issued. In those instances, the NOI or parts of the NOI may be submitted for public comment depending on the nature of the general permit. Each chapter specific to a general permit will detail the specific public participation processes for that permit.

As discussed in UGV1 Section 5 under Stakeholder Coordination, DEQ will work with current and prospective permittees and keep them informed during the general permit development process, including developing the NOI requirements. Before formal public notice of a draft IPDES general permit, DEQ will post the notice of a forthcoming draft general permit on DEQ's website. After completing a draft general permit and associated NOI requirements, DEQ will issue a public notification, which initiates a minimum 30-day public review and comment period. This public notice is provided by a combination of mailings or any other method that reasonably gives notice to the persons potentially affected, including press releases or use of any other forum or media to elicit public participation from the following:

- Applicants
- Any other agency that has issued or is required to issue a permit for the same facility or activity
- Affected federal and state agencies with jurisdiction over fish, shellfish, wildlife, and other natural resources (including downstream states or Canada), State Historical Preservation Office, and any affected Indian tribe
- Any state agency responsible for plan development under CWA, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Marine Fisheries Service
- Any user identified in the permit application of a privately owned treatment works
- Any person who requested to be on a mailing list

- Any local government having jurisdiction over the area where the facility is proposed to be located
- Each state agency having any authority under state law with respect to the construction or operation of the facility

If any written recommendations from a state or Indian tribe whose waters may be affected by issuing an IPDES permit are not included, DEQ will notify the affected state or tribe and EPA of its decision not to include the recommendations and provide the rationale.

Requests for extending a public comment period must be provided to DEQ in writing before the last day of the comment period. The draft permit and fact sheet describing the terms of the permit will be available during the public comment period. DEQ may schedule a public meeting on the draft permit if there is significant public interest, an interested party requests in writing a public meeting within the first 14 days of the public comment period, or for another good reason.

In some general permits, entities covered under the permit are identified when the permit is published for public comment. In other instances, entities seeking coverage are not identified but may be subject to public participation procedures when coverage is requested. Each chapter in this guide will discuss the approval process and potential for public participation.

4 Storm Water Construction General Permit

This chapter helps the reader understand topics about permitting construction operations under the storm water Construction General Permit (CGP). The State of Idaho intends to utilize a general permit approach to permitting storm water discharges from construction operations, consistent with EPA.

4.1 Obtaining Permit Coverage

To obtain permit coverage, a permittee must meet the eligibility requirements in the permit, allow only the authorized types of discharge, and submit a NOI. DEQ's E-Permitting System CGP module should be used for NOI submittal.

4.1.1 Fees

The fees for NOI submittal are described in Table 1 below. Application fees are assessed at the time of application. Annual fees are determined based on the twelve (12) months of coverage between October 1 and September 30 of the following calendar year¹⁰.

Table 1. Construction Storm Water Permit Fees

Construction Project Size	Application Fee	Annual Fee
1-10 acres	\$200	\$0
10-50 acres	\$400	\$75

50-100 acres	\$750	\$100
100-500 acres	\$1,000	\$400
>500 acres	\$1,250	\$400

If the operator believes the construction activity will qualify for a low erosivity waiver (LEW) the application can be submitted through DEQ's E-Permitting system. An application fee for a LEW is \$125 and there is no annual fee.

4.1.2 Eligibility

The CGP uses the term “Operator” to describe the entities who need permit coverage for their construction activity. An operator fits at least one of the requirements below:

- Has operational control over construction plans and specifications, including the ability to make modifications to those plans and specifications, or
- Has day-to-day operational control of those activities at a project that are necessary to ensure compliance with the permit conditions

In order to qualify for the CGP, the construction site must:

- Be located in Idaho where DEQ is the permitting authority and not on Indian Reservations where EPA will remain the permitting authority,
- Disturb at least one acre of land, or be part of a common plan of development or sale that will ultimately disturb one or more acre of land. An example of a common plan disturbing at least an acre would be a home builder constructing a house on a quarter acre lot, which is part of a neighborhood plan adjacent to more lots totaling at least one acre, and
- Protect historic properties.

If cationic treatment chemicals will be used on the construction site, DEQ must approve their use prior to submitting the NOI. Cationic treatment chemicals require appropriate controls and implementation procedures to ensure that their use will not cause an exceedance of water quality standards.

4.1.2.1 Historic Properties Requirements

Operators must determine whether their project has the potential to impact historic properties. To determine whether a project may impact historic properties, the following should be considered:

- Will the project storm water controls require subsurface earth disturbance?
- Have prior cultural surveys or other evaluations determined the existence of historic properties?
- If there are historic properties, will the proposed subsurface earth disturbing storm water controls have an effect on them?
- Consult with appropriate historic preservation authorities.

Historic preservation authorities will need the project name, a description of the project, contact information for the operator, a map showing the project boundaries, and location of storm water

controls that may impact historic properties. Copies of correspondence with historic preservation authorities should be included in the storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP).

4.1.3 Types of Discharges Authorized

Both storm water discharges and some non-storm water discharges can be authorized under the CGP. Storm water discharges including, but not limited to, the following can be authorized under the CGP:

- Storm water runoff
- Snowmelt runoff
- Surface runoff and drainage associated with construction activity, or designated by DEQ or EPA as needing a permit
- Storm water discharges from construction support activities like concrete or asphalt batch plants, equipment staging yards, etc.

Non-storm water discharges that are not routed to areas of exposed soil on the construction site can also be authorized. These non-storm water discharges can include:

- Water from emergency fire-fighting activities
- Fire hydrant or potable water line flushing
- Landscape irrigation
- Water used to wash vehicles, equipment building exteriors, or pavement (provided there is no discharge of soap, solvents, detergents, or hazardous substances)
- Water used to control dust, condensate from air conditioning or compressors, foundation or footing drains
- Construction dewatering

Discharges of authorized storm water commingled with a discharge authorized by a different IPDES permit or that does not require IPDES authorization is also authorized.

4.1.4 Prohibited Discharges

The CGP specifically prohibits certain types of discharge. These prohibitions include:

- Wastewater from concrete washouts
- Wastewater from washout and cleanout of stucco, paint, form release oils, curing compounds, and other construction materials
- Fuels, oils, or other pollutants used in vehicle and equipment operation and maintenance
- Soaps, solvents, or detergents used in vehicle and equipment washing or building washdown
- Toxic or hazardous substances from a spill or other release

4.1.5 Notice of Intent (NOI)

To apply for coverage under the CGP, operators must submit an NOI to DEQ. The NOI should be submitted in a timely manner prior to beginning construction activities. However, if the construction activity is in response to a public emergency and the work requires immediate authorization to avoid imminent endangerment to human health, public safety, or the environment, or to reestablish essential public services, discharge may begin so long as a

complete and accurate NOI is submitted within 30 calendar days after commencing construction. Prior to submitting the NOI, operators must develop a SWPPP, described in Section 4.6. The NOI should be completed and submitted using DEQ's E-Permitting System.

Operators of proposed new construction sites should submit their NOI at least 14 days prior to commencing construction activities. New operators at an existing permitted facility should also submit their NOI 14 days prior to the transfer to the new operator. Operators of existing construction sites will need to submit NOIs when a new permit is issued if they want permit coverage to continue in the new permit. The timing of the NOI submittal in this case will be described in the permit. Each of the operators will be authorized when DEQ notifies them that it has received a complete NOI. Operators of emergency related projects must submit their NOI within 30 days after commencing construction, and will be provisionally authorized to discharge by the CGP, until DEQ notifies them that a complete NOI has been received.

4.1.5.1 Low Erosivity Waiver

Rather than complying with the full requirements of the CGP, operators may have the option to request a Low Erosivity Waiver (LEW). Operators on projects whose Rainfall Erosivity Factor (R factor) is less than 5 may request a LEW. The LEW application requires similar information as an NOI, such as the operator contact information and the project location. In addition, the R factor must be reported along with how it was calculated. The LEW certification requires that the project disturb less than 5 total acres, that the R factor is under 5, and that final stabilization of the project area be achieved as described in the CGP. The R factor can be calculated using EPA's Rainfall Erosivity Factor Calculator, <https://lew.epa.gov/>, or the Construction Rainfall Erosivity Waiver Fact Sheet <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-10/documents/fact3-1.pdf>.

4.2 Technology Based Effluent Limits

EPA promulgated effluent limit guidelines (ELG) and new source performance standards (NSPS) to control discharges from construction sites in 2009 (40 CFR 450). In 2014, EPA finalized amendments to these rules removing the numeric turbidity limit and monitoring requirement. The ELG and NSPS have non-numeric limits to prevent the mobilization and discharge of sediment and sediment bound pollutants and minimize the exposure of storm water to construction materials, debris and other sources of pollutants on construction sites.

4.2.1 Storm Water Controls

Storm water controls minimize the discharge of pollutants in storm water from construction activities. Storm water controls are devices or designs that collect storm water and direct them in a manner to reduce contact with construction related pollutants. Storm water controls should be built, designed, and maintained with consideration to the quantity, velocity, and total flow of storm water, the expected frequency of local storm events, and the soil types and soil particles expected to be present on site. Storm water controls can include erosion control and sediment control, described below.

4.2.2 Erosion Control

Erosion control reduces storm water mobilization of sediment. Erosion control often takes the form of covers over sediment preventing rain fall from mobilizing sediment, but also includes minimizing the area disturbed, and directing storm water away from disturbed areas.

Erosion controls required in the CGP include:

- Stabilizing exposed portions of the site,
- Directing storm water to vegetated areas and away from disturbed portions of the site,
- Minimizing the disturbance of steep slopes, and
- Preserving the native topsoil.

Refer to DEQ's Best Management Practices (BMP) Handbook ([LINK to come](#)) for more information regarding the installation and maintenance of erosion control.

Erosion controls typically require some time after installation before becoming completely effective. It is important that the time delay between installation and effectiveness be accounted for when planning to install erosion controls prior to storm events.

4.2.3 Sediment Control

Sediment control reduces the amount of sediment being transported by water. Sediment control takes the form of barriers or settling basins that allow sediment to settle out of storm water.

Sediment controls required by the CGP include:

- Installing sediment controls along perimeter areas that will receive pollutant discharges, minimizing sediment track-out,
- Minimizing dust,
- Protecting storm drain inlets,
- Installing sediment basins or other impoundments, and using treatment chemicals.

Refer to DEQ's Idaho Catalog of Storm Water Best Management Practices ([LINK to come](#)) for more information regarding the installation and maintenance of sediment controls.

In general, barrier type sediment controls require maintenance when sediment builds up against the uphill side of the barrier. The maintenance typically involves removing the sediment build up and potentially repairing or replacing damaged sections of the barrier. Similarly, sediment basins or other storm water impoundments require routine maintenance as well to remove sediment build up and ensure proper functioning.

4.2.4 Pollution Prevention

Pollution prevention with respect to the CGP covers all of the other potential pollutants that may be discharged from a construction site. Pollution prevention includes:

- Proper equipment and vehicle maintenance,
- Washing and fueling,
- Proper storage, handling, and disposal of building products, materials and wastes.

DEQ's Idaho Catalog of Storm Water Best Management Practices provides descriptions of the various types of BMPs that can be used to reduce the discharge of these construction related pollutants. To prevent the discharge of ancillary construction pollutants, store materials in covered containers to prevent contact with storm water. Liquids should be stored in a leak proof container or be surrounded by secondary containment to contain any potential spills or leaks.

4.3 Water Quality Based Effluent Limits

Discharges from construction sites must meet all applicable Idaho water quality standards. The construction general permit assumes that compliance with the conditions in the permit will result in compliance with applicable water quality standards. If it is determined that discharges are not meeting applicable water quality standards, the permittee must take corrective actions and document them as described in the permit.

4.4 Site Inspection

Permittees are required to conduct site inspections to determine the effectiveness of the chosen BMPs and to determine if and when maintenance is required for the BMPs. Inspection frequency may vary, but in general is required at least every other week and within 24 hours of a storm event of 0.25 inches of precipitation or greater, or the occurrence of runoff from snowmelt sufficient to cause a discharge. Inspections should be more frequent if storm water discharges to an impaired receiving water (e.g., sediment or nutrient).

4.4.1 Inspection Responsibilities

Permittee inspections should, at a minimum:

- Check whether all storm water controls are properly installed, not damaged, and are operating as intended to minimize pollutant discharges.
- Check for the presence of conditions that could lead to spills, leaks, or other accumulations of pollutants on the site.
- Identify any locations where new or modified storm water controls are necessary to meet the permit requirements.
- Check for signs of visible erosion and sedimentation that have occurred and are attributable to your discharge at points of discharge, and, if applicable, the banks of any waters of the U.S. flowing within or immediately adjacent to the site.
- Identify any incidents of noncompliance observed.
- If a discharge is occurring during the site inspection:
 - Identify all discharge points at the site.
 - Observe and document the visual quality of the discharge and take note of the characteristics of the storm water discharge, including color, odor, floating, settled or suspended solids, foam, oil sheen, and other indicators of storm water pollutants.
- Complete any necessary maintenance based on the results of the inspection.

4.4.2 Inspection Frequency

Permittees can reduce inspection frequency for portions of construction sites that have been stabilized. The reduced frequency only applies for these areas until construction activity resumes. Inspection frequency can also be reduced in arid, semi-arid or drought-stricken areas. Inspections may be suspended if frozen conditions are likely to continue at the project for at least three months, if discharges are unlikely, if land disturbance activities have been suspended, and all disturbed areas of the site have been stabilized. If construction activity is continuing during frozen conditions, the areas where construction activity is continuing must be inspected. Permittees should document reductions in inspection frequency in the project SWPPP, including the beginning and end dates of the reduced inspection frequency.

4.4.3 Inspection Areas

The permittee should observe the following areas during an inspection, so long as it is safe to observe them:

- All areas that have been cleared, graded, or excavated and have not yet completed stabilization.
- All storm water controls installed at the site.
- Material, waste, borrow, and equipment storage and maintenance areas covered by the permit.
- All areas where storm water typically flows within the site, including drainage ways designed to divert, convey, or treat storm water.
- All points of discharge from the site.
- All locations where stabilization measures have been implemented.

4.4.4 Inspection Reports

Permittees should complete inspection reports within 24 hours after any inspection.

Documentation of inspections should include the following:

- The date of the inspection.
- The names and titles of the personnel conducting the inspection.
- A summary of inspection findings.
- Any applicable rain gauge data or weather station readings that triggered the inspection.
- If it was determined that part of the site was unsafe to inspect, document the reason why and the locations that were unsafe.

Permittees should sign the inspections reports and keep copies on-site or at an easily accessible location, so they can be readily available for regulatory agency officials during a compliance inspection.

4.5 Corrective Actions

Permittees are required to take corrective actions when:

- Storm water controls need repair or replacement.

- Storm water controls necessary to comply with the permit were never installed or were installed incorrectly.
- Discharge exceeds applicable water quality.
- A prohibited discharge occurs.

Corrective actions such as cleaning up contaminated surfaces should be taken immediately. If the problem does not require new or replacement controls or significant repairs, it should be corrected before the end of the day following the observation of the problem. If the problem requires a new or replacement control or significant repair, it should be completed within seven days of observing the problem. If repairs or replacement cannot be completed within the time frames specified in the permit, documentation of why it will take longer should be kept in the SWPPP, and the corrective action should be completed as soon as possible.

4.6 Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)

A SWPPP is a document detailing the construction project, the choice of BMPs and maintenance of BMPs, the steps taken to reduce discharge of pollutants in storm water discharge, and identifying the people responsible for said decisions. SWPPPs are living documents that should be continuously updated as construction progresses and appropriate BMPs change, as storm events occur, as corrective actions occur, and as site personnel change.

4.6.1 Contents of SWPPP

A SWPPP should contain a list of all operators engaged in construction on the site, and the associated areas which they are responsible for. It should contain the personnel that are part of the storm water team, as well as their responsibilities. The nature of the construction project should be described, including;

- The size of the property
- The total area expected to be disturbed by the construction activities including the maximum area expected to be disturbed at any one time
- A description of all construction support activities covered by the permit
- The project schedule including any temporary cessation of work expected and when temporary or final stabilization should be achieved
- A list and description of pollutant generating activities on the site, including their respective inventories of expected pollutants
- A site map or series of maps showing
 - The boundaries of the property
 - Locations where construction activities will occur
 - Locations of all waters of the U.S. within the site or within 1 mile of the discharge points from the site
 - Type of preconstruction cover on the site
 - Drainage patterns of storm water and authorized non-storm water
 - Locations of potential pollutant generating activities
 - Locations of storm water controls
- Business days and hours for the project, and
- If the project is in response to a public emergency, a description of the emergency

The SWPPP should also include the BMPs that are intended to be used on the site, and when and how to use them. The BMPs described in the SWPPP should cover the erosion control, sediment control, and pollution prevention required by the permit.

The SWPPP should describe the process for inspections, maintenance, and corrective actions. It should include if and when inspection frequency will be reduced, any inspection checklists to be used, and documentation of training for staff implementing the SWPPP.

After the project receives CGP coverage, the SWPPP should include a copy of the NOI that was submitted, the acknowledgement letter from DEQ that assigned the IPDES ID, and a copy of the CGP.

4.6.2 SWPPP Modifications

The SWPPP is intended to be a living document that is updated as a construction site changes. Conditions that could result in updates to a SWPPP include but are not limited to:

- When new operators begin work on the construction site
- When changes are made to the construction plans, storm water controls, or other on-site activities are not reflected accurately in the SWPPP
- When operational control has been transferred for some areas of the site
- If a regulatory body inspection indicates areas of the SWPPP that need to be updated
- If regulatory requirements change
- If a change to chemical treatment systems is made

When changes are made to a SWPPP include the date when the changes occurred and the name of the person who authorized the change. Changes to the SWPPP should be authorized by the person who obtained the permit coverage, or one of their authorized signatories. A list of the authorized signatories should be included in the SWPPP for reference.

4.6.3 SWPPP Availability

SWPPPs should be kept on-site or be readily available on-site. If a regulatory authority requests to review the SWPPP, permittees should make one available for review. If the SWPPP cannot be kept on-site due to safety concerns, then the location of the SWPPP should be noted near the entrances to the site.

4.7 Idaho Specific Requirements

The 2017 CGP was written as a nation-wide construction general permit. As such it is written to be applicable to most states in the U.S. However, there are Idaho specific requirements.

4.7.1 Antidegradation

To protect water bodies with high quality water, Idaho provides antidegradation protection on a water body by water body basis. Operators requesting coverage under the CGP should indicate the receiving water body for their project and, if possible, the category of the water body in the most recently approved Integrated Report (CWA Section 305(b)). The Idaho 305(b) Integrated

Report is found on DEQ's website at <http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/surface-water/monitoring-assessment/integrated-report/>.

DEQ uses the information from the Integrated Report to determine the level of protection that needs to be applied to the receiving water. Water bodies deemed to have high quality water are provided a second tier of protection (referred to as Tier II) over and above the base level. Basic protections ensure that water quality standards are not violated. Tier II protection ensures that water quality is not degraded, or if it is, that there is a social and economic rationale provided for the degradation.

4.7.2 Turbidity Monitoring

A permittee must conduct turbidity monitoring when a discharge of pollutants from an unstable portion of a construction site causes a visible plume in a water of the U.S. The turbidity monitoring must be done both upstream of the influence of the discharge and immediately downstream of the discharge. If turbidity monitoring indicates that the discharge is resulting in a downstream turbidity 50 NTU higher than background, then the permittee must take action to reduce the turbidity of the discharge. The permittee should halt construction activity when the turbidity is 50 NTU over background condition, and should not resume until it has returned to within 25 NTU of background for at least 10 consecutive days.

4.7.3 Reporting Discharges Containing Hazardous Materials or Petroleum Products

Report any discharge of hazardous material, deleterious material, or petroleum products which may impact ground or surface waters to the appropriate DEQ regional office. Contact 911 if it is an emergency prior to contacting the regional office.

4.8 Termination of Coverage

A notice of intent to terminate (NOIT) permit coverage is required in order to stop the permittee's obligation to comply with all pertinent CGP requirements. The NOIT should include the IPDES ID for the project, a basis for terminating coverage, operator contact information, the name of the site and address, and certification from the operator. The certification must indicate that the operator understands the requirements to terminate permit coverage and that the site meets the requirements. NOITs must be submitted through DEQ's E-Permitting System within 30 days of conditions allowing for termination to occur.

4.8.1 Conditions for Terminating Coverage

To terminate coverage, all construction activity for which the operator was responsible must be completed. Any areas that had been disturbed during construction must meet the final vegetative or non-vegetative stabilization. All construction materials must be removed, including waste and waste handling devices, and all construction equipment and vehicles. All storm water controls not intended for permanent use should be removed. Lastly, all potential pollutants and pollutant generating activities associated with construction should be removed.

Coverage under the CGP may also be terminated if coverage under an individual permit is obtained, or if another operator has assumed responsibility for all areas of the site which the original operator had responsibility.

4.9 Public Participation

The public participation process specified in IDAPA 58.01.25.109 will be followed when a new draft CGP is developed. Additional guidance on the process is outlined in the User's Guide Volume 1 (DEQ 2017a).

4.10 Permit Compliance and Inspection

The process for determining permittee compliance does not differ by permit sector (User's Guide Volume 1, section 9 [DEQ 2017a]). DEQ compliance monitoring is expected to be conducted on at least 10% of regulated construction sites annually. DEQ will follow up on tips and complaints about potentially unpermitted sites.

Key Terms

Citations for key terms used in this guide are provided below. To see the official definition for a term, users should go directly to the rule that is referenced.

Term	IDAPA, CFR, or CWA Citation
Discharge	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.27.
Effluent Limit Guideline (ELG)	IDAPA 58.01.25.003.02.y
Existing Source	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.36
General Permit	IDAPA 58.01.02.010.40
Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES)	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.42
Industrial Wastewater	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.46
Major Facility	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.51
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.56
New Discharger	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.57
New Source	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.58
Notice of Intent (NOI) to Obtain Coverage Under an IPDES General Permit	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.60
Outstanding Resource Water	IDAPA 58.01.02.10.72
Permit	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.63
Person	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.64
Pollutant	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.66
Pretreatment	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.68
Process Wastewater	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.71
Reuse	IDAPA 58.01.16.010.71
Sewage Sludge	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.84
Silvicultural Point Source	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.87
Storm Water	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.94
Technology-Based Effluent Limit (TBEL)	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.95
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	IDAPA 58.01.02.010.100
TMDL WLA	IDAPA 58.01.02.010.108
Variance	IDAPA 58.01.25.310
Wasteload Allocation (WLA)	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.104
Water Quality-Based Effluent Limit (WQBEL)	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.107
Waters of the United States	IDAPA 58.01.25.003.02.aa
Watershed	IDAPA 58.01.02.010.115
Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)	IDAPA 58.01.25.010.110

Endnotes: IDAPA and CFR References

¹ IDAPA 58.01.02.051 (Antidegradation Policy)

² IDAPA 58.01.02.051 (Antidegradation Implementation)

³ IDAPA 58.01.25.050 (Computation of Time)

⁴ IDAPA 58.01.25.102.02 (Operator's Duty to Obtain a Permit)

⁵ IDAPA 58.01.25.130.05 (Administration)

⁶ IDAPA 58.01.25.130.05.d

⁷ IDAPA 58.01.25.130.06 (Case-by-case Requirements for Individual Permits)

⁸ IDAPA 58.01.25.204 (Appeals Process)

⁹ IDAPA 58.01.25.109 (Public Notification and Comment)

¹⁰ IDAPA 58.01.25.110 (Fee Schedule for IPDES Permitted Facilities)