

Los Alamos

NATIONAL LABORATORY

Los Alamos National Laboratory
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

Date: October 5, 2000

In Reply Refer To: ESH-18/WQ&H:00-0331

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Ms. Sandy Spon
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N.M. Environment Department
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Mr. Jim Wood
Regulatory Branch
Albuquerque District Corps of Engineers
4191 Jefferson Plaza NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

**SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION-CERRO GRANDE WILDFIRE
DREDGE AND FILL (404) PROJECTS-NATIONWIDE PERMIT NOT
REQUIRED OR PROJECT NOT IMPLEMENTED**

Dear Ms. Spon and Mr. Wood:

On June 8, 2000, a copy of the joint 404/401 application and supplemental information for the Los Alamos National Laboratory's *"Emergency Control Measures To Reduce The Potential For Flooding And Soil Erosion On LANL Property Due To The Cerro Grande Wildfire Project"* was provided to your offices. The Laboratory's Emergency Rehabilitation Team, in cooperation with the United States Forest Service's Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) Team, made recommendations to reduce the potential for flooding and erosion expected with the start of the summer monsoon season. The project was necessary to control sediment transport from storm events, to help reduce flooding, and to reduce further fire threats. On June 23, 2000, Andrew Rosenau, U. S. Corps of Engineers (COE), assigned Action No. 2000-00420 to this activity and authorized the work under Nationwide Permit (NWP) No. 37. Additionally, on the same day, the New Mexico Environment Department's Surface Water Quality Bureau (NMED-SWQB) conditionally certified the Laboratory's activities under NWP No. 37 pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

On August 2, 2000, Mr. Rosenau, COE, Ms. Sandy Spon, NMED-SWQB, and Mr. Mike Saladen, Laboratory, met to review and discuss all 404/401 dredge and fill activities at the Laboratory. The objective of the meeting was to review each dredge and fill activity and assign the most appropriate 404 permit. On August 7, 2000, a summary of the activities and recommended NWPs were provided to your offices for review and concurrence. Approximately eighty-two (82) dredge and fill projects were reviewed. Eighteen (18) of these project activities did not require 404 dredge and fill permits since the work was either located outside of the waterways or did not involve the placement of dredged or fill material below the ordinary high water (OHW) mark of the waterway. Eleven (11) of the 82 projects were never implemented and one (1) dredge and fill project (i. e. Landfill culvert improvement at Diamond Drive) was a COE/Los Alamos County Project (See Enclosure 1 for amended list of deleted projects). Based on Mr. Wood's September 6, 2000 letter, the COE concurs with the Laboratory's determination of "no permit required" and therefore no additional information on these projects will be provided.

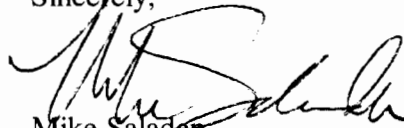


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Enclosure 2 is the amended master list of all dredge and fill activities categorized by nationwide permit. The master list includes deleted projects. Additionally, the master list includes eight (8) projects not previously submitted to NMED/SWQB or the COE. Seven (7) of these projects were Cerro Grande Wildfire rehabilitation projects (i.e. erosion control, reseeding, mulching, etc.). One (1) project involved culvert cleaning and cleaning out of an existing channel. All these projects are located in ephemeral reaches. The Laboratory recommends these projects be covered by NWP No. 37. Please note, additional information regarding the remaining Cerro Grande Wildfire dredge and fill projects will be provided upon completion of field verifications.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (505) 665-6085 or Marc Bailey at (505) 665-8135. Thanks for your support in this matter.

Sincerely,



Mike Saladen

NPDES Team Leader

Water Quality and Hydrology Group

MS/rm

Enclosures: a/s

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