

# Construction General Permit Guide: Roadmap to Compliance

Construction sites must comply with Federal, State, and Regional requirements that protect the health of our communities by preventing water pollution. The State of California regulates some construction activities through the [Construction General Permit \(CGP\)](#), which the San Diego Water Board enforces. **All sources of pollution are prohibited from leaving your site; only rainwater is allowed in the streets and storm drains.** The County of San Diego has created this guide, containing steps and web links, to support construction sites in complying with the State of California's CGP.



## STEP 1 DETERMINE IF YOUR CONSTRUCTION SITE MUST COMPLY WITH THE CGP:

### ▶ You are required to comply with the CGP if:

- The project will [disturb](#) 1 or more acres (disturbance includes grading, clearing, demolition, excavation, or stockpiling AND storage/laydown areas if within ¼ mile of the project location). For traditional projects, see [Section II.A](#). For linear underground and overhead projects (LUPs), see [Section II.C](#) and [Section I.B of Attachment E.2](#).

*Example: 0.8-acre disturbed parcel area + 0.3-acre offsite storage yard is more than one acre.*

- Land disturbance does not include [routine maintenance](#), such as pavement resurfacing or replacing a roof of an existing building.
- The project will disturb **under 1 acre**, but is part of a larger [common plan of development or sale](#) that is collectively 1 or more acres.



Projects between 1-5 acres may qualify for a [Small Construction Rainfall Erosivity waiver \(Section III.D\)](#).

- ▶ **If it is determined your project is not subject to the CGP, stop here. If your project is between 0.75 to 0.99 acres, it may be subject to the CGP. Contact the [San Diego Water Board](#) to confirm prior to beginning work.**



## STEP 2 PREPARE AND SUBMIT YOUR CGP APPLICATION:

### ▶ If your project must comply with the CGP:

- The [Legally Responsible Person \(LRP\)](#) is required to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) application, [permit fees](#), and all necessary documents via [smarts.waterboards.ca.gov](https://smarts.waterboards.ca.gov) (SMARTS) for approval before construction can begin. The State Water Board will issue a unique identification number known as the [WDID](#) number once approved.
- Have a certified Qualified Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Developer (QSD) prepare the [SWPPP](#) and [Risk Level Determination](#).
- Submit additional information (e.g. post-construction calculations and plans) as applicable. See [Attachment D.2](#) for traditional projects and [Attachment E.2](#) for LUPs.

Use the following lookup tool to add qualified professionals to your team: <https://www.owp.csus.edu/qsd-lookup.php>



Public Lookup

*Only one of name, certificate number, or zip code is required for search.*

Certificate

Last Name

Certificate Number

Zip Code  Miles

CGP 2022 Trained



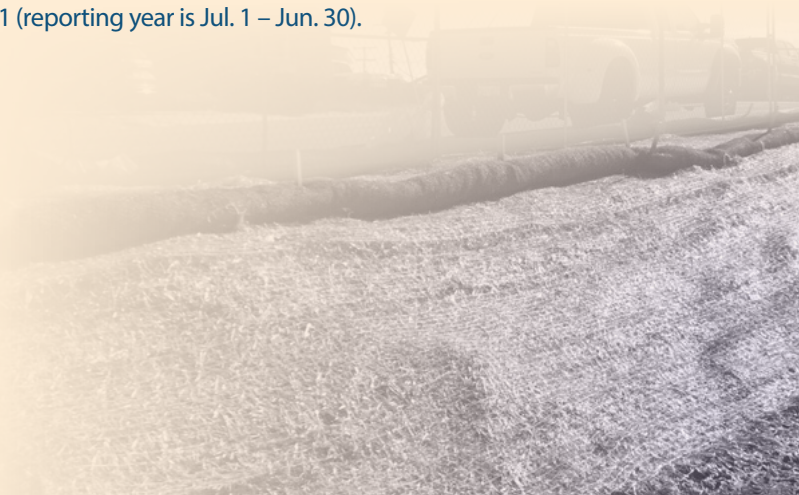
## STEP 3 IMPLEMENT CGP REQUIREMENTS:

### ▶ The SWPPP is your roadmap to meeting CGP requirements. Implement the SWPPP by completing the following:

- Post visible signage for the project's WDID number. Keep the SWPPP and inspection reports accessible onsite and current (electronic copies are acceptable).
- Properly implement all Best Management Practices (BMPs) as outlined in your SWPPP and as required by your stormwater compliance inspector such as erosion control, sediment control, and waste management ([Attachment D](#) for traditional projects and [Attachment E](#) for LUPs).
  - All field sampling results must be submitted to SMARTS no later than 10 days after the conclusion of a precipitation event, and all analytical laboratory results must be submitted to SMARTS within 10 days after they are received.
- If the project will take longer than originally expected or the site area changes from what was submitted in SMARTS to obtain CGP coverage, submit a [Change of Information \(COI\)](#) via SMARTS **at least 14 days** before the change will take place.
- If project ownership changes, submit a [Notice of Termination \(NOT\)](#) before the sale/transfer (Step 4). The new owner will need to submit a new NOI application (Step 2). Once the application is approved by the San Diego Water Board, a new WDID number will be issued, and construction activities may begin.
- The LRP must certify and submit the Annual Report by Sep. 1 (reporting year is Jul. 1 – Jun. 30).
  - The annual report requires self-reporting of non-storm water discharges, implemented BMPs, BMP deficiencies, and monitoring data.
  - The LRP may add their QSD, QSP, and/or contractors as Data Submitters in SMARTS to assist with preparing the NOI application and annual reports (Step 2).

#### Key BMPs include:

- erosion and sediment controls
- stockpile management
- entrance/exit stabilization



## STEP 4 FILE A NOTICE OF TERMINATION (NOT):

### ▶ Upon project completion, you must:

- Permanently stabilize unpaved areas with at least 70% plant cover or use [alternative site stabilization methods](#).
- Remove all temporary BMPs, such as perimeter controls and inlet protection.
- File a NOT in SMARTS. Include the final site map, project photos, and the QSP-prepared final NOT inspection report.  
***Continue to implement the SWPPP, comply with CGP requirements, and pay annual fees until the NOT is accepted in SMARTS.***

**Note: the CGP is periodically updated, and recent amendments may change requirements.**

For additional information and resources, please contact the San Diego Water Board at (619) 516-1990 or go to: [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/stormwater/construction.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/construction.html)

! Get a digital copy of this flyer and access the document's hyperlinks (underlined text) here: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dpw/watersheds/DevelopmentandConstruction/CGP/>