

ENVIRONMENTAL BULLETIN

A routine publication providing environmental-related guidance to NDOT District Staff and Contractors



Fall 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

Stormwater Inspection Process - Guidance ..	1
Restricted Use Areas – A Brief Overview	6
Silt Traps – A Best Management Practice	7
New Wildflower Brochure	8
NDOT Erosion and Sediment Control Training Course Guidance	8
Roadside Development and Compliance (RDC) Unit Contacts:	9

Stormwater Inspection Process - Guidance

1. Is the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Notice posted near the site?

- SWPPP Notice must include the following:
 - Stormwater Notice of Intent (NOI)
 - This can be printed off from OnBase or SWPPPTrack.
 - Contact name and phone number of the representative responsible for the SWPPP.
 - Refer to the “SWPPP Availability” section of the SWPPP for additional information to include in the SWPPP Notice
- Add the SWPPP notice as a BMP in SWPPPTrack DOT App. This is located in the “Documentation” category in the BMP inventory list in SWPPPTrack.



2. ARE SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL BMPs INSTALLED AT ALL DISCHARGE LOCATIONS WHERE ACTIVE CONSTRUCTION IS OCCURRING?

- BMPs such as silt checks (wattles) are a good choice in areas where they may need to be removed and re-installed due to changing work activities.
- Document these BMPs within the SWPPTTrack DOT App.



Sediment Control BMPs must be installed prior to grading events.



Stockpile BMPs such as Silt Checks near critical locations such as culvert and bridge sites. This allows for easy access by contractors on site.

Continued on Page 3

3. ARE DISTURBED AREAS BEING STABILIZED WHEN WORK STOPS?

- If there are disturbed areas that will remain “inactive” for more than 14 days, those sites are required to be stabilized with at least a temporary BMP. This may include:
 - Temporary Mulch
 - Slope Tracking
 - Temporary Seeding
 - Cover Crop Seeding (Only effective when vegetation is growing)
 - Combine with temporary mulch if germination is not expected within 10 days.
- If permanent erosion controls can be installed that may be the best option.
- Document these BMPs within the SWPPTrack DOT App.



4. ARE GOOD HOUSEKEEPING BMPs BEING IMPLEMENTED?

- Consider the following:
 - Dust Control
 - Sediment Track-Out onto Roadways
 - Trash Management
 - Hazardous Materials Management (See Special Provision)
 - Concrete Washout Locations
 - Spill Management



5. ARE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS BEING ADDRESSED IN A TIMELY MANNER?

- Corrective actions must be completed within 7 days of an inspection or by the adjusted due date.
- Utilize the Special Provision (Section 115 Environmental Quality Compliance) to enforce timely completion of work.
- Document corrective work in the SWPPPTrack DOT App.



6. IS THE PROJECT “GRADING LOG” UPDATED IN SWPPPTRACK?

- The Stormwater Permit requires the documentation of when major grading events start and stop. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure disturbed areas are stabilized in a timely manner and to minimize the amount of exposed soil thereby reducing the erosion risk.
- You can record these events using the “Grading Log” tab in the SWPPPTrack Web Portal. See location in screenshot below.

WPPPTTrack DOT Main System Page Gabe Robertson (Logout) | 09/12/2024 11:06:47

Home Project View/Edit

Control Proj Name Training Project #40 Rvw Status Manager Project Construction
 Project # Let Date Fr Establishment Disabled/Deactivated
 Contract ID Let Date To Hold Project Type Not Started

Open CAS Activation Status Yes MS4 Projects
 Winter Conditions Treatment BMPs
 Override Projects Has Coordinates

Clear Search Criteria Search

Grid View Map

Projects that match your search criteria: 1 Color Legend: ■ = Review Not Started ■ = Review Incomplete ■ = Review Complete

Winter Conditions Apply?	Project Number	Control Number	CID	Project Name	NPDES Authorization Number	NPDES Rqrd?	Wetlands?	MS4?	TBMP	District	Manager	Let Date	Awarded Date	Project Status	Review Status
No	90040			Training Project #40	TRAILING	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	9				Construction	D T W S H

[Inspections](#)
[Open Corrective Actions](#)
[Corrective Action Log](#)
[Precip History](#)
[Grading Log](#)
[SWPPP Amendments](#)
[Notes](#)
[Inspection Schedule Adjustments](#)
[Inspection Summaries](#)
[Species Surveys](#)
[Enviro Commitment Log](#)

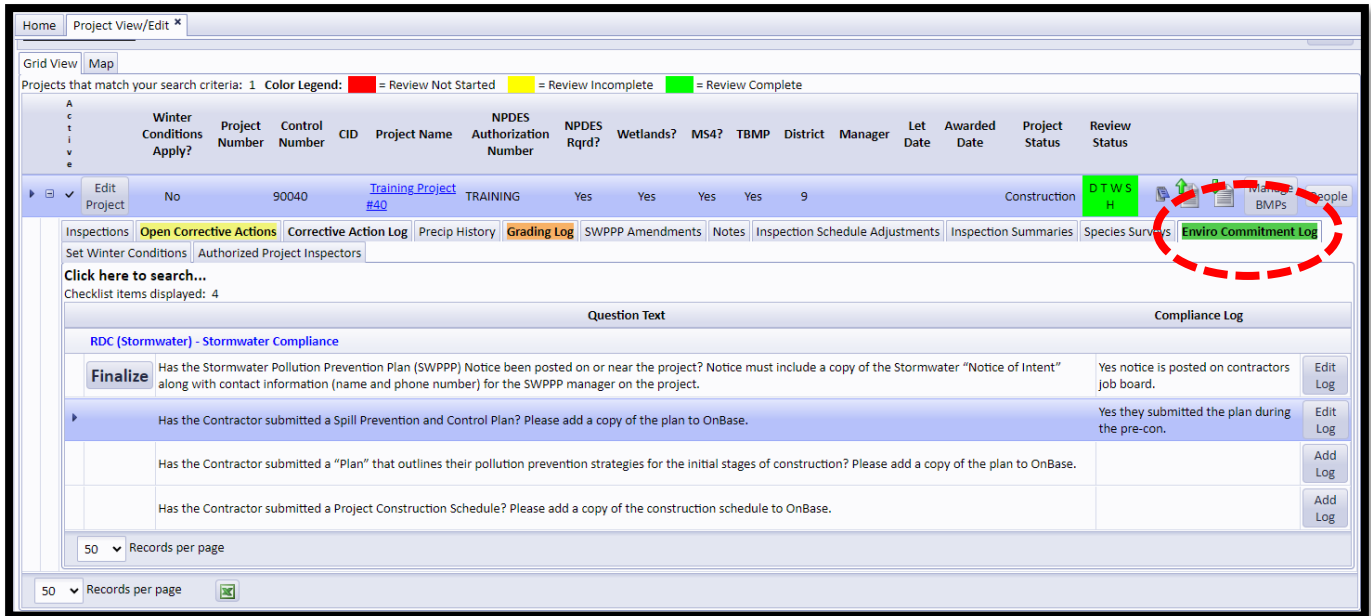
Double-Click a row to edit it

Date Grading Activity Initiated	Station Start	Station End	LT/RT/Median	Description of Grading Activity	Date Grading Activity Ceased	Stabilization Notes	Logged By	Log Entry Time	Log Last Updated
03/11/24	346	678	Left	Rough Grading	03/13/24	Cover crop was installed	Robertson, Gabe	03/13/2024 11:30 am	09/12/2024 11:03 am
03/05/24	654	890	Right	Finish Grading	03/12/24	Finish grading completed and blankets installed.	Robertson, Gabe	03/12/2024 11:19 am	09/12/2024 11:06 am
09/02/24	200+50	201	Left	Rough Grading		Grading started around culvert	Robertson, Gabe	09/12/2024 11:04 am	09/12/2024 11:04 am
09/02/24	100	800	Right	Rough Grading		Shoulder grading	Robertson, Gabe	09/12/2024 11:05 am	09/12/2024 11:05 am

CLICK HERE to add a new grading log entry. 25 Records per page

7. IS THE PROJECT “ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT LOG” UPDATED IN SWPPPTRACK?

- The Environmental Commitment Log is also located in the SWPPPTrack Web Portal and can be edited at any time. See location in screenshot below.
- The purpose of this log is to document project compliance with specific environmental commitments included in the project contract (Green Sheet).



Restricted Use Areas – A Brief Overview

Restricted Use Areas are frequently utilized on NDOT projects near culvert and bridge locations to help ensure that waters of the state, critical habitat, and/or other sensitive resources are protected during construction.

General Guidelines

- Restricted Use Area locations are shown within the 'J-Sheets' of a project plan set. The area typically includes the edge of pavement to the ROW Line.
- Construction activities in these areas are limited to those required to build the project as specified in the contract.
- Restricted Use Areas may NOT be used for:
 - Equipment storage and maintenance, with the exception of cranes
 - Stockpile of construction and excavated materials, unless they are protected with adequate BMPs and kept back from waters of the state
 - Portable toilets
 - Mixing or storage of any Hazardous Materials
 - Concrete Washout

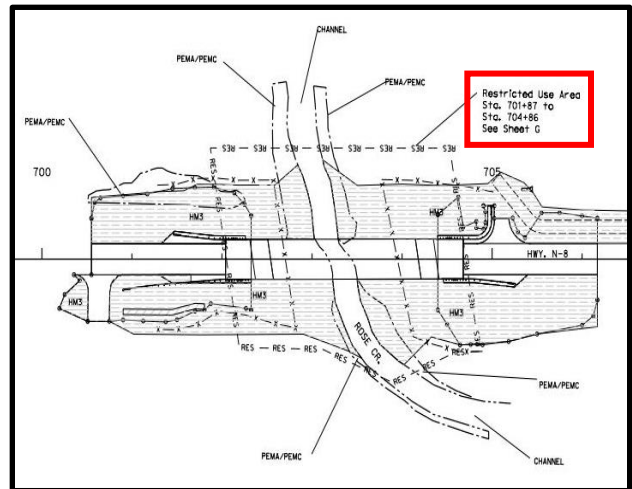


Figure 1: Restricted Use Areas are designated in 'J-sheets' of a plan set.

- An easy way to ensure contractors' equipment and materials are outside of the 'Restricted Use Area' is to stake the limits with wooden lath.
- Incorporate looking at these areas during your "Scheduled Construction" and "Post-Storm Event" inspections to ensure compliance throughout the life of a project.
- Create corrective actions in SWPPPTrack to document any work that needs to be completed. This will establish a due date for completion and allow you to leverage Special Provision 115 - Environmental Quality Compliance if Restricted Use Areas are not being properly utilized.



Figure 2: Ensure that construction debris and materials are properly disposed and that these are not accumulating within a Restricted Use Area.

Silt Traps – A Best Management Practice

Silt traps are frequently utilized on NDOT projects as a temporary best management practice (BMP). A silt trap is a shallow excavation constructed in a drainage path (i.e. ditches) to dissipate energy, induce sediment deposition and provide temporary storage. Silt trap specifications can be found in Section 815 of the spec book.

General Guidelines

- The primary purpose of a silt trap is to interrupt and reduce the energy of flow paths in a ditch. As flow paths are shortened and energy reduced, runoff velocities and the sediment carrying capacity is reduced and infiltration rates are increased, which reduces the volume of runoff.
- Silt traps need regular inspection after rain events, particularly after significant events to ensure they are still functional and do not need cleaned out.
- Silt traps should be used in conjunction with other BMPs, such as silt fence, silt checks, earth checks, and slash mulch checks to ensure sediment does not leave the site.
- Silt traps should be removed when it is deemed of no further use by filling the area with soil and shaping to blend with adjacent natural ground.
- Silt traps are paid by the (Each) at initial installation. Maintenance of silt traps is to be paid by equipment rental (Hour).



Figure 3: Silt traps are used in conjunction with other BMPs to help reduce sediment load and slow flow paths.

Inspecting Silt Traps

Below are key criteria to look for when inspecting silt traps...

- The initial excavated material from the construction of the silt trap shall be incorporated into the grade or placed as directed by the Engineer.
- A silt trap shall be approximately 1 foot deep and of varying with and length. The shape should be rectangular with the longer dimension parallel to the flow of water.
- Silt traps shall be cleaned when at 50% capacity by removal and disposal of the silt to maintain functionality. Sediment removed from the silt trap shall be deposited in an upland location.

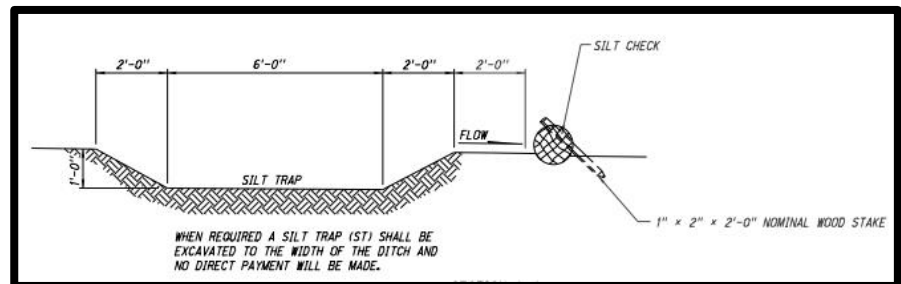


Figure 4: Special Plans for silt checks include details for silt traps. Special Plans are located in the 'U-Sheets' of a project plan set.

New Wildflower Brochure

The Roadside Development and Compliance (RDC) Unit has recently updated NDOT's wildflower brochure (pictured right) to more accurately correspond with the regional seed mixtures used on projects. Species highlighted in the brochure are commonly found in the ROW across the state. In addition, the brochure can be accessed digitally at NDOT's website [here](#).



NDOT Erosion and Sediment Control Training Course Guidance

NDOT Erosion and Sediment Control **INSPECTOR CERTIFICATION**

The NDOT Erosion and Sediment Control Inspector Certification is currently being offered in an online format only. To obtain your new inspector certification please complete both the "Inspector Re-Certification" and "Installer Certification" courses described below.

Participants who successfully complete these courses are awarded a five-year inspector certification and can conduct construction stormwater site inspections on NDOT projects.

NDOT Erosion and Sediment Control **INSPECTOR RE-CERTIFICATION** Course

Inspector re-certification can be obtained online by accessing the UNL-LTAP training website. This online course provides previously certified and new inspectors (new inspectors must also complete the installer course) a convenient way to re-certify for five years. The course is designed for NDOT construction site operations, supervisors, and managers who will be conducting or assisting with construction stormwater site inspections. Learning objectives include: stormwater permit requirements; erosion and BMPs; good housekeeping and pollution prevention BMPs; inspection and maintenance procedures; and SWPPP management.

Course Link: <https://www.ltap.unl.edu/assnfe/searchcourses.asp?csKeyword=erosion>

NDOT Erosion and Sediment Control **INSTALLER CERTIFICATION** Course

This online course is designed for NDOT construction site operators, supervisors, and technicians who will be installing or maintaining erosion and sediment control best management practices (BMPs) on NDOT construction sites.

Learning objectives include: an overview of NDOT's construction stormwater program, NDOT erosion control plan reading, the process of accelerated soil erosion, the distinction between erosion control and sediment control, installation and maintenance requirements for erosion and sediment control BMPs and good housekeeping BMPs.

Participants who successfully complete this course are awarded a five-year installer certification and can install and/or maintain erosion and sediment control BMPs on NDOT projects.

Course Link: <https://www.ltap.unl.edu/assnfe/searchcourses.asp?csKeyword=erosion>

Roadside Development and Compliance (RDC) Unit Contacts:

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402-479-3917

Blayne Renner – Stormwater Permitting

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Tony Ringenberg – Borrow and Waste Sites

402-479-4410

Carson Jones – Erosion Control Design (Districts 1,4,7,8)

402-479-3642

Brian Anderson – Erosion Control Design (Districts 2,3,5,6)

402-479-4538

Brian White – Erosion Control Design

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402-479-4656

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402-479-4312

Reach out to us for environmental compliance assistance.