

***Q: What is the purpose of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan?***

***Q: Who needs to sign the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan for certification to discharge under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction General Permit?***

***Q: Does a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan need to be readily available for viewing and for how long?***

***Q: What documents of the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan need to be readily available for viewing and why?***

***Q: Where does a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan need to be located to ensure it is readily available?***

***Q: What needs to be posted?***

***Q: How long does a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and all related documents and updates need to be retained?***



IDAHO TRANSPORTATION  
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE IDAHO POLLUTANT DISCHARGE  
ELIMINATION SYSTEM PROGRAM (IPDES) CONSTRUCTION GENERAL PER-  
MIT AND STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLANS MAY BE FOUND  
AT THE

FOLLOWING INTERNET LINKS:

<https://ww2.deq.idaho.gov/water/ipdes>

[https://www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/  
wastewater/storm-water/](https://www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/wastewater/storm-water/)

[https://www2.deqidaho.gov/admin/leia/api/document/  
download/16510](https://www2.deqidaho.gov/admin/leia/api/document/download/16510)

2023 EDITION

**STORM WATER POLLUTION  
PREVENTION PLAN QUESTIONS  
& ANSWERS THAT RELATE TO  
ENSURING COMPLIANCE.**  
**A REFERENCE FOR OPERATORS,  
GENERAL CONTRACTORS &  
SUBCONTRACTORS.**



Provided by the Idaho Transportation Department  
District 3



# ***STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN QUESTIONS & ANSWERS THAT RELATE TO ENSURING COMPLIANCE.***

## ***Q: What is the purpose of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan?***

A: A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is a plan to protect the quality of the nation's surface water resources from storm water discharges associated with construction actions/activities that disturb one or more acres and have the potential to discharge to waters of the United States. The intent is to ensure that construction actions/activities do not adversely impact surface water resources such as:

- Drinking Water
- Recreational Opportunities (e.g. Swimming and Fishing)
- Habitat for Fish and Wildlife

The Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program (IPDES) Construction General Permit (CGP) provides all Operators including owners, contractors, and subcontractors the assurance to discharge to the nation's surface waters under regulated compliance. Regulated compliance requires having an approved SWPPP that designates and implements appropriate erosion, sediment, and pollution prevention and control practices that are collectively referred to as Best Management Practices (BMPs). Referenced BMPs in the SWPPP are used to mitigate for storm water runoff, dust abatement, sediment tracking, spill prevention, and other pollutant discharge impacts associated with construction actions/activities. Successful implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updates to the SWPPP can eliminate and minimize discharge impacts associated with construction actions/activities.

## ***Q: Who needs to sign the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan for certification to discharge under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction General Permit?***

- A: All Operators including, but not limited to; owners, contractors, and subcontractors who have operational control over the following:
- The construction plans and specifications, including the ability to make modifications or changes to those plans and specifications.
  - Day-to-day activities at a project site, including those activities which are necessary to ensure compliance of the SWPPP and other permit conditions.
  - A portion of a larger project.

## ***Q: Does a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan need to be readily available for viewing and for how long?***

A: YES—The CGP requires that the SWPPP be made readily available for viewing from the commencement of construction actions/activities to the date of final stabilization.

## ***Q: What documents of the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan need to be readily available for viewing and why?***

- A: The entire SWPPP including all narrative and plan documents. This includes, but is not limited, to the following:
- A vicinity map showing all waters of the United States within one mile of the construction site or sites.
  - The civil plan sheets indicating the topographical data, locations (i.e. stationing), types, lengths, and amounts of BMPs used.
  - The erosion and sediment control standard drawings.
  - The Spill and Discharge Prevention, Control, and Counter Measure Plan.
  - The special contract provisions.
  - Copies of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) Notice of Intent submittal form and IPDES acknowledgement of completed Notice of Intent.
  - All related change orders associated with the SWPPP.
  - All updates or modifications to any items listed above.

The SWPPP must be updated for public view whenever a change occurs that may cause an effect on the discharge of pollutants to surface waters or municipal storm sewer systems. Changes include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A change in design of the project.
- A change in construction method.
- A change in operation method.
- A change in maintenance procedure or other similar change.

A SWPPP must also be updated and made available to the public when inspections by authorized personnel such as site staff or other local, state, tribal, or federal officials are completed to determine that the BMPs are effective or ineffective in eliminating or minimizing pollutant discharges from the construction site. This would include all inspection entries and all related construction diary entries which document a SWPPP inspection. If an inspection reveals inadequacies related to the SWPPP, the site or sites where the erosion,

sediment, or pollution prevention BMPs have been identified as inadequate must have corrective actions through additional BMPs implemented. Corrective actions must be completed before the next storm event whenever practicable or be completed within seven calendar days. If implementation before the next storm event is impracticable, the reasoning shall be documented in the SWPPP and changes completed as soon as practicable thereafter. Any related updates to the SWPPP as a result of inspection findings must be made available for public viewing.

The SWPPP is an open ended living document. As the scope of the project evolves and construction actions/activities or affecting weather conditions change the SWPPP shall be updated to fit the needs of the project. Operators are required to make changes as well as updates to the SWPPP and implement appropriate BMPs to accomplish protection of the nation's surface water resources from storm water discharges associated with construction actions/activities.

## ***Q: Where does a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan need to be located to ensure it is readily available?***

A: At the main construction trailer or in a designated mailbox on site.

## ***Q: What needs to be posted?***

A: A notification about the IPDES Permit and SWPPP location must be posted conspicuously near the main entrances of the construction site where it can be found by the public and authorized inspecting authorities. This notification shall contain the following information:

- Copies of the IPDES Notice of Intent submittal form and IPDES acknowledgement of completed Notice of Intent.
- The current location of the SWPPP and all related documents, updates, and the time periods it can be viewed by the public.
- The telephone number of the Water Pollution Control Manager or other appropriate authority to schedule times to review the SWPPP and all related and updated documents.

## ***Q: How long does a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and all related documents and updates need to be retained?***

A: A minimum 3-years after the final Notice of Termination has been filed by the last Operator.