

Regional Categorical Permission Alteration Description – 4. Borrow Areas

The Regional Categorical Permission may cover borrow areas excavated in the floodway. Such proposals would require a geotechnical investigation to determine if the proposed borrow activity would increase seepage beneath the levee or expose soils susceptible to erosion. Special geotechnical requirements may apply to borrow areas proposed near a bridge, pipeline, or cable crossing beneath the channel, riverbank, or water control structure (e.g., a weir).

A minimum distance of 300 feet is required between the borrow area and levee toe. Borrow sites authorized under this Regional Categorical Permission may not exceed 5 acres in size. A geotechnical investigation is required before any borrow activity can be initiated within the federal project easement.

If the borrow material will be used to build or modify a levee, it should be cleared and grubbed to the extent needed to obtain fill material free of inappropriate matter, including any type of vegetation. The proposed borrow area must not contain riparian habitat or woody vegetation. The borrow site must be revegetated with native species or returned to the previous use after material is removed.

Waterside borrow areas must be designed to fill slowly on a rising river and drain fully on a falling river. The borrow area must have three-to-one, horizontal-to-vertical ratio side slopes or flatter and a bottom that is sloped to drain away from the levee in a downstream direction. No ponding is permitted at the levee toe.

Excavation depth is determined by factors such as (1) depth to groundwater, (2) location of undesirable borrow material, (3) preservation of adequate thickness of impervious layer, and (4) environmental considerations. In locations where the seepage gradients are critical, the impervious layer thickness, determined by geotechnical analysis, should be left at the bottom of the borrow area.

Soils exhibiting hazardous or toxic characteristics, even if they are naturally occurring, must not be used for borrow material. Areas with known historic or cultural resources must not be used for borrow material.

Borrow areas should be located far enough from the channel to prevent migration of water into the borrow area.

Borrow-related materials and equipment must not be stored:

- On the levee or within the levee easements;
- In a manner potentially destabilizing to the riverbank;
- Within the active channel of the river during flood season; or
- So as to impede access to the levee.

Levee maintenance, operation, patrolling, and flood-fighting activities take precedence over borrow-related operations.

Regional Categorical Permission Alteration Checklist – 4. Borrow Areas

Note: The following checklist is intended for planning purposes only and includes information that USACE reviewers look for when considering a Section 408 request for borrow areas under the Regional Categorical Permission. To be reviewed under the Regional Categorical Permission, the proposed project must adhere to all requirements of the Regional Categorical Permission, including the full alteration description (see previous page). The plans and narrative project description should reflect this information.

<p>Geotechnical investigation included with application:</p> <p>Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report]</p> <p>Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Borrow area located at least 300 feet from the levee toe:</p> <p>Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report]</p> <p>Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Total area of borrow site(s) is a maximum of 5 acres:</p> <p>Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report]</p> <p>Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>No riparian habitat or woody vegetation in proposed borrow site:</p> <p>Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report]</p> <p>Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>After material is removed, borrow site will be:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Revegetated with native species:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Returned to the previous use:</p> <p>Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report]</p> <p>Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Waterside borrow sites designed to fill slowly on a rising river and drain fully on a falling river:</p> <p>Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report]</p> <p>Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Borrow area has side slopes of 3H:1V or flatter:</p> <p>Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report]</p> <p>Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Bottom of borrow area is sloped to drain away from the levee in a downstream direction:</p> <p>Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report]</p> <p>Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Borrow area will not promote ponding at the levee toe:</p> <p>Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report]</p> <p>Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

No soils exhibiting hazardous or toxic characteristics: <input type="checkbox"/> Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report] Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]
No known historic or cultural resources located in borrow area: <input type="checkbox"/> Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report] Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]
Borrow related materials and equipment will not be stored on the levee or within the waterside or landside easements, in a way that could destabilize the riverbank, within the river flowage area during flood season, or in a way that could impede access to the levee: <input type="checkbox"/> Reference: [Click to enter document source. Example – plan sheet (p. 4), specs, report] Comment: [Click to enter rationale, explanation, unique situation, etc.]

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[*Comment*]

RCP Eligibility Review

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Add'l. Info</u> <u>Requested</u>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Reviewer:	Date: <small>Click date</small>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering Reviewer:	Date: <small>Click date</small>