



Revisions to the Water Quality Specifications

The purpose of this Bulletin is to provide information and instruction regarding revisions to the following Standard Specifications and Standard Plans:

1. Subsection 107.25, Water Quality Control
2. Section 208, Erosion Control
3. Section 213, Mulching
4. Section 216, Soil Retention Covering
5. Standard Plan M-208-1, Temporary Erosion Control

Changes to these specifications, defined as the Water Quality Specifications per 208.09(a)7, were made to comply with the requirements of the new Colorado Discharge Permit System—Stormwater Construction Permit (CDPS-SCP) also known as the COR400000. The new CDPS-SCP was issued on January 31, 2024, and became effective on April 1, 2024. The guidance provided in this Bulletin should be followed for all projects that require a CDPS-SCP.

These changes have been incorporated into the Standard Special Provisions (SSPs), updated M-Standards, and Form 1176 linked below. **Projects currently under design that require a CDPS-SCP must incorporate this SSP into the specifications. Projects that are currently under ad should pursue a Revision Under Ad to incorporate the SSP. Projects that have been awarded should refer to [Construction Bulletin, 2024 Number 2](#) for guidance. These instructions would similarly apply to any Local Agency projects meeting the same criteria.**

- [Section 107.25 SSP](#)
- [Section 208, 213, and 216 SSP](#)
- [M-208-01](#)
- [Form 1176, Revised May 2024](#)

Nomenclature Changes

Changes were incorporated to ensure consistent nomenclature is utilized within the Water Quality Specifications and is consistent with the CDPS-SCP. While the majority of these changes were minor, some changes may impact project documentation, such as the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP). For example, the following nomenclature has been adopted and will impact documentation:

Form 1176 Inspection

Previous names: seven-day inspections, site inspections, Inspections

Description: Form 1176 Inspections are the Contractor-led inspections required for compliance with the CDPS-SCP. “Form 1176 Inspections” was used for consistency and to clarify the difference between inspections performed by the Contractor and those conducted by CDOT.



Monthly Audit Report (MAR)

Previous names: Headquarters and Region water quality control inspections, Headquarters or Region water quality routine audits, Water Quality Audit Reports, water quality inspections, routine stormwater management inspection, and CDOT MS4 inspection.

Description: MARs are the CDOT-led water quality audits required for compliance with CDOT's MS4 permit. In this update, all such CDOT-led audits will be called Monthly Audit Reports or MARs. This change was to improve consistency within the specifications and to reduce confusion between the Contractor-led inspections and the CDOT-led audits.

Daily Stabilization:

Previous name: Temporary Stabilization

Description: Daily stabilization includes surface roughening or vertical tracking that is conducted at the end of each working day on disturbed areas. This change was incorporated to allow temporary stabilization to match the permit definition to reduce confusion.

Temporary Stabilization:

Previous name: Interim Stabilization

Description: Temporary stabilization shall be implemented in disturbed areas where construction activities permanently or temporarily cease for more than 14 days. This change was incorporated to match the permit definition of temporary stabilization and to reduce confusion.

Additional Potential Pollutants and Allowable Discharges

The new CDPS-SCP included new potential pollutants that must be identified and described in the SWMP. These additional potential pollutants include:

1. Wash water and byproducts from masonry operations.
2. Reclaimed and potable water used in construction activities, including water used as a dust palliative.

The SWMP Preparer must ensure these additional pollutant sources are documented in the SWMP as described in Section 107.25(b)5 and that appropriate control measures for these additional pollutant sources are included in the SWMP.

There were new Allowable Non-Stormwater Discharges added, including:

1. Discharges to the ground of masonry washout water
2. Discharges to the ground of water used to wash vehicles, equipment, and external buildings, provided that those waters do not contain added soaps, solvents, or detergents

These discharges are allowable only under the conditions described in Section 107.25(b)21.



SWMP Documentation Changes

Updates and additions throughout the CDPS-SCP prompted changes to SWMP documentation requirements in the Water Quality Specifications. A Cheat Sheet for SWMP Preparers and Administrators has been developed to address the changes required in each SWMP tab. SWMP Preparers should update the SWMP to reflect all necessary changes to the applicable tabs.

This SWMP Cheat Sheet is linked below.

[SWMP Changes Cheat Sheet, Revised May 2024](#)

Discharges of Pollutants Outside of the LOC

Additional language in the CDPS-SCP prompted the clarification that all pollutants discharged outside the Limits of Construction (LOC) must be reclaimed and disposed of properly. If the pollutants discharge outside of CDOT ROW, the Project Engineer will coordinate with the Contractor and property owners to obtain access so that the required remediation activities can occur.

Vegetative Buffers

The updated CDPS-SCP specifically requires that all vegetative buffers adjacent to state waters be protected by additional upgradient control measures. Language was added to Section 208.03 to meet this requirement for protection of vegetative buffers.

Form 1176 Inspection Requirements and Corrective Action Response Times

This revision includes updates to the Form 1176 Inspection frequency, required inspection areas, and documentation requirements. See section 208.03(c)2 for details.

Deficiencies found during the normal course of work and Form 1176 Inspection findings must now be corrected by the Contractor immediately but no later than 2 days from the time of observation. In the event that this Corrective Action Response Time cannot be met, an Interim Action Response Plan must be submitted per Section 208.03(c)2.D(2).

Reporting Requirements

The Noncompliance Reporting section, now 208.03(c)2.E, was updated to require that the Contractor immediately reports all incidences of potential noncompliance to the Project Engineer. This change was implemented to ensure that all incidents of noncompliance are reported to the appropriate entity and through the appropriate reporting channels.



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New Colorado Discharge Permit System Stormwater Construction Permit (CDPS-SCP) Requirements

2024 Number 2, Page 4 of 4

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Questions and Resources

The updated CDPS-SCP as well as fact sheets are posted here:

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/cor400000-stormwater-discharge>

Additional guidance for SWMP Preparers on the changes required to comply with these updates can be found here: [SWMP Changes Cheat Sheet, Revised May 2024](#)

If there are any questions on how to implement these changes on projects, the Design Project Manager should coordinate with the Headquarters Water Quality Construction Section.

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