

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

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FROM Brent A. Story, P.E., State Design Policy Engineer

TO Program Delivery, Engineering, Permits/Operations, Construction, Local Grants/Field Services, P3

SUBJECT **Selection of Representative Sampling on Erosion Control Plans.**

This is to implement a new Microsoft Access Database tool and methodology to assist designers in the selection of representative sampling locations on Erosion Sedimentation Pollution Control Plans (ESPCP).

The NPDES General Permit No.GAR100002 permits representative sampling for turbidity at select outfall locations in lieu of sampling every outfall. Recently, the Department's Roadway Hydraulics Group has been coordinating with EPD to refine the methodology used to make these selections. Subsequently, a standard method for selecting representative sampling points has been developed that focuses on grouping outfall by the common characteristics listed below:

1. **Disturbed area:** less than 1 acre, 1 to 2 acres, greater than 2 acres;
2. **Erosion control index:** low (5 or less), high (greater than 5);
3. **Exit slope:** mild (3% or less), steep (greater than 3%);
4. **Construction type:** new location in fill, new location in cut, widening, maintenance or safety;
5. **Warm/Cold Water:** whether the stream is classified as a warm or cold water stream.

Sites are grouped together if all of the values for all characteristics are the same. The designer must choose a primary sampling site for every group. It is important for the designer to ensure that at least one sample location per group is available during all stages, if possible. The designer may combine representative categories provided they include an adequate written justification for combining categories.

EPD has given their support to the new method. The Microsoft Access Database tool, Erosion Control General Notes, Sampling Table, and instructions for how to use the tool can be found on the ROADS webpage at: <http://www.dot.ga.gov/doingbusiness/PoliciesManuals/roads/Pages/DesignPolicies.aspx>

EPD requested that GDOT establish an implementation date so they know when to expect usage of the new method. Since FFPR should be held 6 months prior to Letting, an implementation date of November 2012 has been established. All applicable projects Let in November 2012 and afterwards should utilize this new method of selecting representative sampling locations.

If you have any questions contact Brad McManus at (404) 631-1630, or Jacob Achorn at (404) 631-1654.

BAS:BRE:MBM