FHWA/INDOT Joint 
Waterway Permits 
Stewardship Review 
2008

PURPOSE
ENSURE FEDERALLY 
FUNDED 
PROJECTS ARE IN 
COMPLIANCE WITH ALL 
APPLICABLE LAWS
SCOPE OF WORK

• Construction field reviews
• Follow-up to action items from 2007 findings

STEWARDSHIP TEAM

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CONSTRUCTION FIELD REVIEWS

Objective of Field Review

- Ensure INDOT in compliance with waterway permits
- Ensure permit conditions match field conditions.
2008 Erosion/Sediment Control Peer Exchange

- INDOT/FHWA traveled to Wisconsin and Minnesota DOTs
- Visited construction sites as well as face to face discussions of each state’s methodologies for erosion/sediment control.

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- Focus – demonstrate good in situ erosion/sediment control practices to INDOT.
- Wisconsin and Minnesota were establishing good, accountable criteria for soil erosion/sediment control.
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Action Items

- Need for training
- Revise specs to require all Erosion Control Supervisors to provide credentials showing they meet qualifications (experience) and training requirements
Action Items, Continued

• OES or district environmental staff attend pre-construction conference for discussion of permits
• Revise Design Manual to ensure PE/PS provided copy of permits, NEPA document, and Commitment Form as part of contract document.

Action Items, Continued

• Revise Design Manual and specs to clarify who is responsible for erosion control sequencing, NOI, I & M of erosion control features, how they are to be paid for, and ensure sufficient flexibility in plans to allow for modifications to accommodate changing conditions and permitting agencies requirements.
Action Items, Continued

- OES and District Environmental Staff are available with expert assistance.
- OES and District Environmental Staff should visit construction sites to ensure compliance.

Action Items, Continued

- Develop method of ensuring utilities comply with permits.
- Prepare good field manual for erosion and sediment control measures.
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- States with sound ESC programs seem to have the following in their process and standard specifications:
  - Authority that allows DOT to act and take action
  - Conditions that provide the basis for taking action and that assist inspector/contractor/engineer judgment. The more precisely the conditions are spelled out the better.
  - Risk analysis (completed before plan approval) that tells DOT where to focus authority and where to be most observant of conditions

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- Upon return to Indiana, the FHWA, Indiana Division and INDOT staff met to discuss those methodologies that could be most helpful to INDOT in improving their erosion/sediment control.
- Following selected for consideration and possible implementation:
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• Continue to develop a better working relationship with the regulatory agencies.
• Assign 1 to 2 persons per district or area to be assigned to erosion/sediment control. This person would be responsible for reviewing erosion/sediment control plans, conduct on-site reviews.

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• Conduct training for certified erosion/sediment control inspectors, designers (INDOT staff and consultants), and contractors. IDEM and the PE/PSs would also be invited.
• Include set prices for BMP. This item list would include all erosion control methods.
Develop a per day liquidated damages for non-compliance or inoperative erosion control measures. This would be initiated by an erosion control order with a defined deduction for not responding within a specified time period issued by the PE/PS.

Erosion/Sediment Control subcontractors need to be available at all times. Deductions need to be applied to them if they do not respond in a timely manner. Additional erosion/sediment control materials should be stored on site.
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- Place limits on the amount of area that can be exposed without erosion/sediment control protection. If these conditions are not met, the contractor will be liable for deductions. This will also act as an incentive to get to final grade as soon as possible.

- Develop a handbook (pocket guide) for Erosion/Sediment Control.
- Establish a QA/QC performance standard that required ground that will not be disturbed during the winter must be protected by more than just temporary mulch. If this is not done properly, then liquidated damages should be incurred by the contractor.
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- The contractor should develop an erosion/sediment control site plan for problem erosion/sediment control areas. The costs could be covered with a lump sum bid for each area.