



Greetings from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Management.

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Permits/Mitigation Division Updates

- ❑ It has come to OCM's attention that there is quite a bit of confusion over plug and abandon (P&A) work and site clearance work and what does and does not require a permit. In order to clarify this issue, OCM offers the following:

As defined by OCM, P&A work means the actual physical plugging of the well (setting the plug in the well bore and officially abandoning the well). Site clearance involves the removal of structures (including but not limited to underground and surface casing/piping, keyways, platforms, boat docks, pilings, and pipelines/flowlines). Site clearance verification is the trawling around the well necessary to ensure all debris is removed.

Using these definitions, P&A work is permitted by the Office of Conservation through a work permit and does not require a separate permit from OCM. If excavation for access to the P&A site is necessary, a permit from OCM will be required for the access dredging. Site clearance work does require a permit from OCM prior to commencement of site clearance activities IF 1) the well is in an area where sensitive coastal resources (such as but not limited to oysters, natural heritage sites, wetlands, wildlife management areas, scenic streams) are present, or 2) any excavation is necessary to remove a structure (this includes jetting to cut/remove casing, piping or pilings and to cut, cap and rebury or remove pipelines/flowlines), or 3) dredging for access is required. Excavation is defined as any movement of water bottom material by either mechanical dredging, jetting, propwashing, pushing or other type of displacement of water bottom material. For additional details please see items #10 and 11 in our Rules and Regulations [FAQ](#).

- ❑ Revisions to the State's Rules and Procedures for Mitigation (LAC 43:724.A,B,C,E,F, G,H,I, and K) became Final Rule. The amended rules and procedures can be accessed on pages 32-44 of the October 2013 publication of the [Louisiana Administrative Code](#). Please contact [Kelley Templet](#) of the Mitigation Section at (225) 342-3124 if you have any questions.
- ❑ The FY13/14 rate for monetary contribution to satisfy Beneficial Use of Dredged Material requirements is \$1.38/cu. yd. of material excavated. All applications received after July 1, 2013 for which beneficial use of dredged material is required and the monetary contribution option is selected will be charged this rate.
- ❑ OCM has updated its policy for submission of as-built plats and representative drawings. This policy outlines the requirements for when to provide as-built plats and what should be included. Click here to view the new updated policy. Click [here](#) to view the updated policy.
- ❑ OCM is pleased to introduce four new members of the Permits and Mitigation staff. Please join us in welcoming Brandt Becnel, Crystal Dunn and Emily Cassidy to the Permit Section and Stephanie Zumo to the Mitigation Section.

Coastit Notes is a publication of the Office of Coastal Management to inform permit applicants, the public and others of events and items that may impact them or their interaction with our office. This document is intended to improve customer service.

and awareness of OCM works and functions and includes announcements from all OCM divisions as issues arise.

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