



Erosion & Sediment Control Inspections

WisDOT NWR Guidance Document

Erosion & Sediment Control Best Management Practices (BMPs) are used on WisDOT projects to meet environmental requirements for limiting the off-site effects of erosion and sedimentation. Project sites must be inspected to validate that the contractor is performing the work as required in the contract and to ensure compliance with the approved Erosion Control Implementation Plan (ECIP). BMPs are generally classified into two categories: Erosion Control and Sediment Control.

- *Erosion Control* – Measures employed to prevent or minimize the dislodging and transporting of soil particles from the disturbed soil surface. Includes physical BMPs such as erosion mat or seeding, and actions such as limiting exposed soil areas. Erosion control BMPs are the first line of defense against releases.
- *Sediment Control* – Measures employed to prevent or minimize the loss of eroded material from a site after the erosion process has already begun. Includes BMPs such as silt fence, inlet protection, vegetative buffers, or other devices to filter and/or reduce the velocity of water and settle out soil particles. Sediment control BMPs are vital to prevent the loss of eroded material from a site and must work in tandem with erosion control BMPs for maximum effectiveness.

When are inspections required?

Trans 401 and the TCGP require all implemented erosion and sediment control BMPs to be inspected:

- Weekly (within 7 days of last inspection)
- Within 24 hours of a rainfall event of 0.5 inches or more
- At each stage, as new portions of a project are disturbed
- Upon completing the installation of permanent BMPs that stabilize disturbed areas
- At the completion of the project, before final project acceptance
 - Permanent BMPs are established
 - Temporary BMPs have been removed

Where are inspections required?

Inspectors must inspect all BMPs identified in the ECIP (that are implemented at that time).

- Within the project limits
- Borrow and waste sites*
- Equipment storage*
- Material staging areas*
- Temporary batch plants*

**Not required if these areas have separate WDNR stormwater permit coverage*

Who conducts inspections?

WisDOT is responsible for completing erosion and sediment control inspections. WisDOT must invite the prime contractor to be present for all required inspections at least one hour before the inspection; discuss this at the preconstruction and/or weekly meetings. Contractor is not required to be present.

Performing Inspections

Inspectors will use Form DT1072 (current version dated 2/2020). Forms should be filled out electronically and completed inspections added to the Box folder for the project. Fill out all information completely for each inspection and provide photos of all critical locations.

Good inspection practice:

- Review plans and ECIP first to ensure familiarity with site and implementation plan
- Review all erosion and sediment control BMPs
 - Erosion control: seed, erosion mat, mulch, grading practices, etc.
 - Sediment control: silt fence, inlet protection, sediment traps, etc.
- Take photos (include reference points/locations)
- Check areas where water leaves the project (best way to check for overall BMP function)
- Inspect critical/problem areas (past releases or large water volumes)
- Determine if all BMPs shown on the ECIP are properly implemented and functional
- Ensure ROW/roadway/curb line is free of tracked soil and accumulation
- Review downstream wetlands, lakes, streams, ditches, and storm sewer to ensure they are free of sedimentation and turbid water leaving the site
- Check concrete washout locations to ensure proper installation and that washout material is not leaving the site
- Inspection form DT1072 is populated with common BMPs used on WisDOT projects; other BMPs may be present on site and should be added to the form

References

- Wisconsin Construction Site Erosion Control Field Guide: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/Stormwater/MS4/WIconstECfieldGuide.pdf>
- WisDOT Erosion Control Product Acceptability List (PAL): <https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/eng-consultants/cnslt-rsrcs/tools/pal/default.aspx>
- WisDOT CMM Section 645 (Erosion Control): <https://wisconsindot.gov/rdwy/cmm/cm-06-45.pdf>
- WisDOT TCGP Guidance Document: <https://wisconsindot.gov/Documents/doing-bus/eng-consultants/cnslt-rsrcs/environment/tcpgguidance.pdf>
- WisDOT Construction Stormwater Inspections (presentation): <https://wisconsindot.gov/Documents/doing-bus/eng-consultants/cnslt-rsrcs/environment/Erosioncontrolinspections.pdf>