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Sediment Tracking Control

ontrolling sediment tracking onto roadways has been identified as the most common storm water deficiency on construction sites. Mud and dirt carried from construction sites onto roadways may enter the storm drain system, create a nuisance, or create a hazard to the public. This bulletin reviews common challenges and recommends corrective actions to better control sediment tracking.



The National Pollutant Discharge
Elimination System (NPDES)
Construction General Permit for
Storm Water Discharges Associated
with Construction Activity requires
the use of BMPs to reduce the
tracking of sediment onto public or
private roads at all times.
(Section A.8)

Contract Documents

The contract documents can pave the way for effective storm water pollution prevention. The inclusion of specific requirements for installation, maintenance, inspection and corrective action in the standard special provisions (SSPs) and Standard Plans provide a mechanism for enforcing effective tracking control. Look for BMPs and SSPs that may apply to projects that have potential for tracking.

- ◆ TC-1, Temporary Construction Entrance
- ♦ TC-2, Stabilized Construction Roadway
- ♦ SC-7, Street Sweeping
- S5-630, Relations with California Regional Water Quality Control Board
- ♦ 07-345, Water Pollution Control
- ♦ Standard Plan T58

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

Check the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

- Include BMPs to prevent tracking soil and sediment onto roads.
- The resident engineer is responsible for reviewing and approving the SWPPP.
- Maintenance of tracking control practices is essential to sustain effectiveness.
- The SWPPP inspection checklist should be tailored to include specific questions to prompt the contractor when maintenance is required.

Site Constraints

Customize your sediment tracking controls to the job site.

- Standard dimensions of the temporary construction entrance should conform to Standard Plan T58.
- Alternative temporary construction entrance design must be reviewed and approved by the resident engineer.
- Increase sweeping frequency when temporary construction entrance is inadequate.



Uncontrolled construction entrance/exit

Uncontrolled Construction Traffic

Look for opportunities to control construction traffic when tracking BMP effectiveness is marginal.

• Define traffic patterns at the construction site.

- Locate temporary construction entrances to confine traffic to its use.
- Use barriers or other methods to prevent traffic from developing ad hoc egress routes.

Inadequate Corrugated "Ribbed" Steel Panels

To be effective, these corrugated or ribbed steel panels need to meet specifications and be maintained.

- Type 2 temporary construction entrance should conform to Standard Plan T58
- ♦ Typical rib height of 1-1/2" is required.

Effective Inspections

Inspections are most effective when conducted jointly by the contractor and Caltrans inspectors.

- Minimum inspection frequency is defined in the project specifications.
- Identify the root causes of any tracking problems that may be occurring, and take an appropriate corrective action.
- Modify tracking control practices to effectively reduce tracking under changing construction operations or weather conditions.
- At a minimum, inspect entrances and exits of active job sites daily.
- Replace, add rock, and/or increase length of temporary construction entrance when clumping on the roadway is observed.

Enforcement Procedures

If the contractor does not respond to requests for improvement in controlling sediment tracking, the resident engineer should prepare a mandatory non-compliance letter. If the contractor is not responsive, execute appropriate contract enforcement mechanisms to ensure the contractor complies.



