

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, HONOLULU DISTRICT 230 OTAKE STREET, CEPOH-RO FORT SHAFTER, HAWAII 96858-5440

June 23, 2025

Regulatory Branch

Agnes "Sam" M. Sablan
Acting Director, Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 501304
Saipan, MP 96950
ssablan@dcrm.gov.mp

Dear Ms. Sablan:

On June 18, 2025, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers published in the Federal Register its proposal to reissue the Nationwide Permits (NWPs). The NWP Federal Register Notice (FRN) is located at:

https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/06/18/2025-11190/proposal-to-reissue-and-modify-nationwide-permits.

The Federal Register notice is the Corps' determination of Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) consistency, pursuant to Section 307(c)(1) of the CZMA for NWP activities within or affecting the coastal zone of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). By the referenced Federal Register notice and confirmation by this letter, the Honolulu District requests CZMA consistency concurrence for the proposed issuance of these NWPs. The Honolulu District has determined that the activities authorized by the proposed NWPs will be undertaken in a manner consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of CNMI's approved management program, under the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM).

Please find attached a list of NWPs verified under the 2021 NWPs, that you may find helpful in making your decision. We have also provided a document on the estimated annual use of the 2026 proposed NWPs based on this data.

The Honolulu District is proposing regional conditions for the proposed NWPs. Enclosed is a copy of the Honolulu District's public notice inviting public comment on the proposed regional conditions. Note that the proposed 'REGIONAL CONDITION 1 – Revoked Permits' continues to revoke the usage of NWPs 21 (Surface Coal Mining Activities, NWP 24 (Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs), NWP 30 (Moist Soil Management for Wildlife), NWP 34 (Cranberry Production Activities), NWP 44 (Mining Activities), NWP 40 (Coal Mining Activities), NWP 50 (Underground Coal Mining Activities) and NWP 52 (Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects) within the Honolulu District's Area of Responsibility.

At this time, we are asking that you begin your review and approval process. In accordance with 15 CFR 930.41, please provide your concurrence or objection to the Honolulu District's consistency determination within 60 days of the date of this letter. If you do not reach a final position on CZMA consistency before the end of the 60-day period, we will presume consistency concurrence in accordance with 15 CFR 930.41(a).

In accordance with the Corps' regulations at 33 CFR 330.4(d), if you object with the Corps' CZMA consistency determination for certain activities authorized by the proposed NWPs, then the Corps will deny without prejudice authorization for those activities. Anyone wanting to perform such activities must obtain an activity-specific CZMA consistency concurrence or a presumption of concurrence. Upon concurrence by DCRM, or a presumption of concurrence, the activity would be authorized by the NWP.

The Honolulu District's point-of-contacts for the CZMA consistency determination for the proposed issuance of the NWPs are Jason Brewer, by telephone at (808) 835-4056/(671) 339-2108 or by email at Jason.D.Brewer@usace.army.mil, or Jen Martin by telephone at (808) 835-4300 or by email at Jennifer.L.Martin@usace.army.mil.

Thank you for your attention regarding this matter. We remain available to discuss issues or proposed conditions you may be considering for the NWPs. We look forward to working with your office on this effort.

Sincerely,

Jen Martin

Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures