

# The FINISH line is fast approaching

If you've ever run a race, do you remember the feeling you got when you could finally see the finish line? Remember the feeling of accomplishment and relief the race was almost over that encouraged you to push yourself harder and finish strong! That may be the way you are feeling if your project is permitted under the 2009 CGP and your project is coming to a close as the Permit gets ready to be terminated. However, if your project is nowhere near finishing, the bad news for you is that, like in a triathlon, you will be moving from one challenging race section to another equally, if not harder, race section. But don't give up yet! You've come this far and should be able to quickly find your stride again as a construction site under the 2022 CGP. In this month's edition of **The Monthly Dirt**, we are going to talk about the transition from the 2009 CGP to the 2022 CGP that will need to occur for every site permitted under the old permit before September 1st of this year.

#### 2009 Permit Termination

**Deadline** —If you are currently under the 2009 Construction General Permit, you probably received an email from the Water Board notifying you that the 2009 CGP is coming close to its termination date in a few months. On September 1, 2025, the two-year regulatory transition period from the 2009 CGP to the 2022 CGP comes to an end. By that date, if you are currently under the 2009



CGP, you will need to make some significant changes to your storm water compliance program. For sites that are already permitted under the 2022 CGP, there will be no change for you, just keep running the race

#### What does this mean for 2009

Sites? - By September 1st, these sites will need to file a notice of intent (NOI) for the 2022 CGP to obtain permit coverage. On a practical level, this means new training requirements, performing site assessments and evaluating total maximum daily load (TMDL) requirements that may now apply to your project, preparing a new SWPPP, gearing up for a change in the monitoring program, additional documentation requirements (especially for the annual report), and permit fees. However, if your site is set to be completed by September 1st, you could be looking at filing for an NOT instead and not have to obtain coverage under the new permit. If your site is close to finishing, it might be added incentive to finish strong and knock out those final stages of construction faster than planned to avoid having to switch from one permit to another.

**NOT Approval:** If construction activities and final site stabilization are completed prior to September 1, 2025, the Water Board states in their notification that "The discharger shall submit a NOT in the Stormwater Multiple Application and Reports Tracking System (SMARTS) compliant with Section II.D of the 2009 CGP, including the submission of any outstanding Annual Reports. If the NOT is returned or denied by the Regional Water Board, the construction site may require coverage under the 2022 CGP." If feasibly possible, trying to wrap up your project before the deadline will save you quite a bit of time, money, and headaches from not having to transition from one permit to the other. While this might not be obtainable for all sites, like runners who break into a sprint at the end of their race, you might consider speeding up construction to expedite the deadline to avoid having to go past September.

**File for 2022 Coverage**: But for sites with construction occurring past the September 1st deadline, the Water Board states, "Dischargers continuing"

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construction activities after September 1, 2025 are required to submit a new NOI with an updated Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) including the application fee, compliant with the requirements of the 2022 CGP. Note: dischargers are required to use the date that construction activities initially started when calculating risk, not September 1, 2025." If this is the route your site will need to take, don't procrastinate too long. You will need a new or newly updated SWPPP and will need to start training your staff in all the new requirements of the permit—and this takes time. With the rainy season coming to a close in the next couple months, it might be advisable to wait until the rainy season ends to make the switch, so your team doesn't have to tackle the onerous task of 2022 rain events for at least the first couple months of being under the new permit. As an additional note, the Water Board gave a tip for avoiding having to pay both the application fee and annual fee for the 2009 CGP - "Dischargers that recently received an invoice (annual fee) for permit coverage or are scheduled to receive an invoice in April 2025, are required to pay the invoice unless an NOT is submitted within 90 days of the invoice issuance. If construction activities are planned after September 1, 2025, dischargers may want to consider terminating coverage under the 2009 CGP and filing a new NOI under the 2022 CGP within 90 days of the invoice date to avoid paying both the annual invoice for the 2009 CGP and application fee for the new 2022 NOI."



## What should I expect from a different permit? Wondering

what to expect from the new permit? Over the last couple of years we prepared several resources for learning the ins and outs of the coming 2022 CGP. Well, it is now here! If you click on the newsletter photo, you can review a Monthly Dirt newsletter series that we issued on the changes of permit from the











2009 to the 2022.

Also, during a previous Storm Water Awareness Week, we hosted various workshops which cover the requirements of the 2022 CGP and have also interviewed Brandon Roosenboom (the permit writer). Linked to the left is a five part workshop series that will provide you five hours of training on all the nitty gritty details for what you will need to do in order to comply with the 2022 CGP. With only 6 more months until the 2009 CGP expires, it is time to start planning the transition. Of course, you don't need to do anything if you are already covered by that permit. Otherwise, it is time to be proactive and start either bumping up the production of your site so it finishes ahead of schedule, or start the process of acquiring a new and 2022 compliant SWPPP for filing for new permit coverage. Here is a checklist you can use to track your transitional progress:

### **Permit Transition Checklist**

- Perform a new pollutant source assessment in accordance with the guidelines in the 2022 CGP (as described in Section IV.O.2.b of the Order).
- ☑ Determine if any TMDLs are applicable to the project and if the Legally Responsible Person is also a "Responsible Discharger" (refer to Attachment H of the 2022 CGP.)
- Provide foundational and site specific training to all QSP delegated inspectors.
- ☑ Prepare a new SWPPP meeting all of the requirements in Section IV.O. of the Order. Include the new pre-earthwork and the construction and earthwork drawing that are now required to be in the SWPPP. Identify in the SWPPP by name, email, and phone number the LRP, duly authorized representatives, QSDs, QSPs, and QSP-delegated inspectors.
- File the notice of intent and pay the fee on SMARTS.
- Create and install a WDID number sign on the project.
- ☑ Gear up for the new annual reporting requirements by reviewing the detailed spreadsheet now required to document inspections and corrective action.
- ☑ Train all persons responsible for inspections and BMP implementation on the new requirements.

### Please contact us if you have any questions ... The $Monthly\ Dirt$

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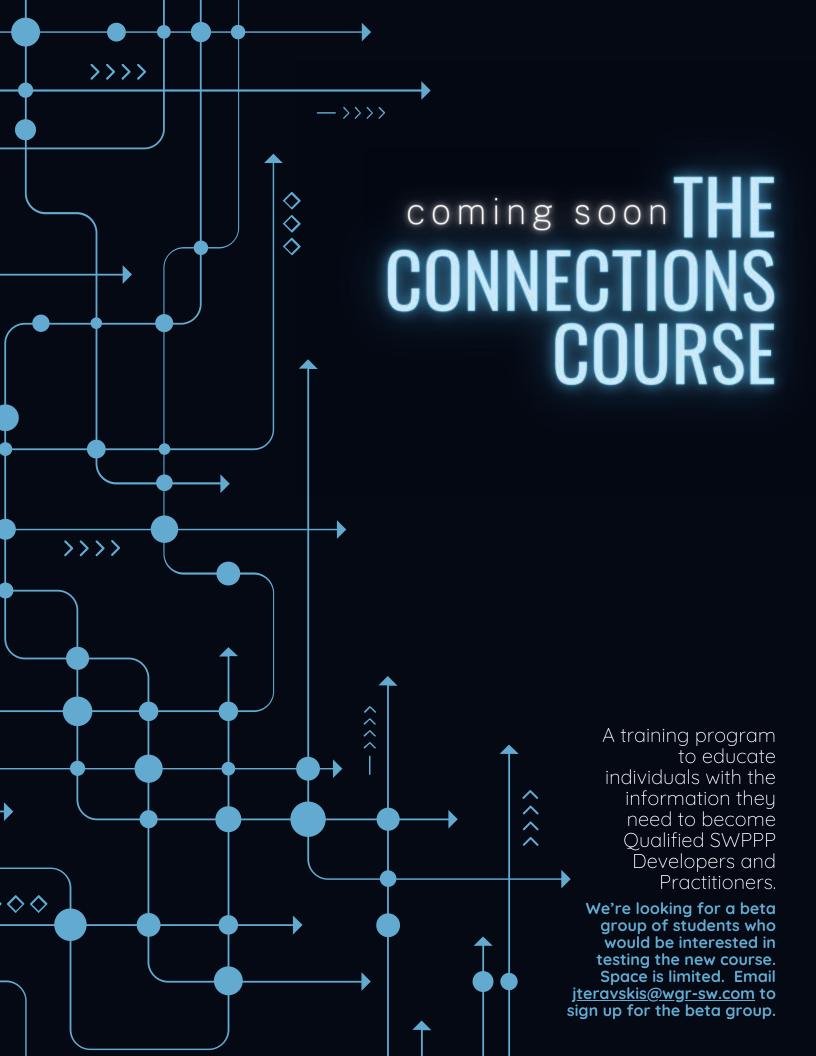
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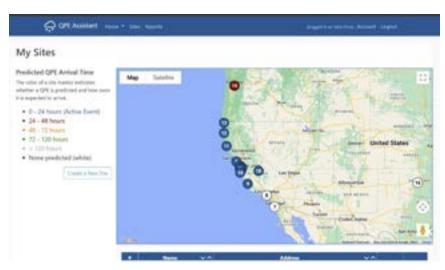




The rainy season has started in California! That's why we're excited to announce the release of **QPE Assistant**, a new app designed to take the guesswork out of predicting QPEs for compliance with the 2022 CGP. By automatically pulling real-time data from the National Weather Service (NWS), **QPE Assistant** predicts QPEs for your sites, so you no longer have to spend hours sifting through weather reports and manually crunching numbers.

#### Features:

- Automated QPE Predictions Real-time predictions based on the latest NWS data, tailored for your construction sites.
- **Daily QPE Reports** Automatically sends a daily summary of QPE forecasts directly to your email, keeping you informed without lifting a finger.
- **Save Time & Reduce Errors** Eliminate manual calculations and the risk of human error.
- **Completely Free for One Site** Manage a single site at no cost. If you have multiple sites, it's only \$1/month per additional site.



QPE Assistant Map View

Focus more on the work that matters and less on compliance headaches!

Questions? – We're happy to help! info@digamesystems.com

We hope you'll give it a try!

Best regards from the **QPE** Assistant Team!

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