

Sediment Poses Environmental Risks

Loose soil can be carried in rainfall runoff in a process called **erosion**. The deposition of eroded soil in runoff into a new location is called **sedimentation**.

Soil disturbance at construction sites is inevitable. Disturbed soil can be eroded in rainfall runoff and carried into **stormdrains**



and directly into waterways where it is considered a **pollutant**.

Too much sediment in a stormdrain or waterbody can block water flow which increases flooding potential. Excess sediment clouds the water which reduces sunlight, smothers aquatic habitat, clogs fish gills, and can even impede navigation in large waterways which requires expensive dredging to remove.

OKR10 requires

the **final stabilization** of construction sites to prevent soil erosion after the project has been completed. Site stabilization can play a significant role in reducing the impact of construction projects on the stormwater system and the environment. **The present OKR10 permit will expire in 2022, and a new OKR10 will be finalized. Changes are expected.**

Additional Resources

Visit the **Green Country Stormwater Alliance (GCSA)** website listed below for more details about stormwater protection, including Best Management Practices (BMPs) and other pollution reduction strategies.



Contact Information:

For information about Green Country Stormwater Alliance, contact INCOG at 918-584-7526 or by email at stormwater@incog.org. For local information, contact your city or county stormwater coordinator.

For more information about stormwater protection, contact the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Water Quality Division at 405-702-8100 or visit the DEQ web site at: <https://www.deq.ok.gov/water-quality-division/stormwater/>

For stormwater related complaints, call the DEQ statewide hotline at 1-800-522-0206. This number is answered 24-7. Citizens may fill out an online complaint form at the DEQ web site at <https://www.deq.ok.gov/environmental-complaints/> and submit it electronically to DEQ. The site also provides contact links to DEQ.

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Final Stabilization at Construction Sites OKR10 Requirements





OKR10 Requirements on

Final Site Stabilization

Site Stabilization in OKR10

SWP3: Permittees must prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) that describes the interim and final site stabilization measures required in OKR10.

OKR10 Stabilization Citations:

The following are some of the OKR10 passages that deal with site stabilization:

- **1.4:** Termination of coverage.
- **3.3.1:** Erosion and sediment control, area of disturbance.
- **3.3.1.D:** Minimize sediment track-out.
- **3.3.1.E.3:** Stockpiled sediment or soil.
- **3.3.1.G.3:** Disturbance of steep slopes.
- **3.3.1.H:** Preserving native topsoil
- **3.3.1.I:** Minimizing soil compaction.
- **3.3.1.L:** Sediment basin controls.

3.3.2: Stabilization Requirements:

Part 3.3.2 contains OKR10's most detailed requirements for stabilization, but there are many other references in OKR04 as well.

- **3.3.2.A.1:** Initiate installation.
- **3.3.2.A.2:** Completing installation.
- **3.3.2.B:** Stabilization criteria.

OKR10 Stabilization Requirements

OKR10 has requirements for **temporary and final** stabilization. Most construction projects do not have to account for impacts to **sensitive waters**, such as 303(d) impaired, Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW), or Aquatic Resources of Concern (ARC).

For non-sensitive waters, OKR10 **Part 3.3.2.A** allows 14 days for completion of stabilization practices, and 7 days for sites having to protect sensitive waters.

Part 3.3.2.A specifies that **stabilization requirements must be met** if construction activities have permanently ceased or if any portion of the site will be temporarily inactive for 14 or more days.



Part 3.3.2.B.1 requires that **vegetative cover be 70% or more** of the "vegetation native to local undisturbed areas." If native cover was 50% of the surface, then 70% of the 50% would require 35% of the disturbed site to be vegetated in site stabilization.

For construction sites having to protect sensitive waters, completion of stabilization must be within 7 calendar days.

More OKR10 Stabilization Citations

- **1.4:** Termination of coverage.
- **3.5.1.D:** 303(d) requirements.
- **3.5.2:** OWR and ARC requirements.
- **3.6.3:** Common Plan of Development.
- **4.3.4.D:** SWP3 schedules.
- **4.3.11.A.3:** SWP3 stabilization description.
- **4.3.11.A.4.a:** SWP3 common drainage.
- **Part 8 Definitions:** 31. Stabilization (includes both temporary and final).
- **10.2 Step 2 (ARC), A.4:** stabilization requirements within ARC buffer areas.
- **10.2 Step 2 (ARC), B:** implementation schedule for stabilization requirements within ARC buffer areas.

Part 3.6.3 (Common Plan of Development) includes stabilization requirements for both the "primary" and "secondary" operators at construction sites. **Part 3.6.3** also defines these terms.

This brochure does not provide complete guidance on the OKR10 General Permit for construction activities. Consult the OKR10 permit or DEQ for all regulatory construction site compliance information.