
ACTION ALERT

Winter 2011/2012

DRAINAGE INLET PROTECTION

Straw wattles and single bags prohibited!

The new California Construction General Permit that went into effect July 1, 2010 requires all construction projects over one acre to prevent sediment, pollutants and non-stormwater discharges from entering receiving waters, including the Fresno-Clovis municipal storm drain system.

Properly installed and maintained perimeter and trackout controls can minimize or eliminate the need for drainage inlet protection.

The District **PROHIBITS** the use of single bags as forms of drainage inlet protection because they break apart and obstruct the District's storm drain inlets and have been the cause of localized flooding. Bags and wattles are often improperly placed across the throat of the inlet, completely blocking the storm drain inlet.

The District also **PROHIBITS** the use of single straw or gravel bags for drainage inlet protection on any major street where vehicles are likely to displace or degrade the integrity of the inlet protection. Drainage inlet protection discovered at locations where it creates potential or actual blockage of the drainage system will be removed from the location. The District will make a reasonable effort to notify the owner of the removal of the materials and explain the correct placement of drain inlet protection.

The only District-approved method of using single



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bags for street drainage inlet protection is the “Weired-J” (shown to the right). The Weired-J requires 8-12 bags and is designed to intercept some of the sediment in storm runoff while allowing excess storm water to flow out of the structure. The Weired-J is part of a series of sediment control BMPs that are used to keep a construction site in compliance with the new permit and minimize the discharge of sediment-laden water.



Weired-J is the only District-approved drainage inlet protection.

Drainage inlet protection should always be placed immediately downstream of the area generating sediment. If the Weired-J must be installed in the vicinity of a drainage inlet, the installation should be at least 10 feet upstream of the inlet to reduce the chance of the bags migrating into the face of the inlet and inspected after each storm event to repair, replace or position the bags. The Weired-J should only be used within developments and on low traffic streets. Inside construction sites, drainage inlets (grates) need to be protected by geotextile fabric under the grate, or by enclosure with some type of perimeter protection (shown to the right).



Protecting an interior drainage inlet.

BMP References:

Caltrans - www.dot.ca.gov/hq/construc/stormwater/manuals.htm

California Stormwater Quality Association - www.cabmphandbooks.com/

Questions?

If you need more information on selecting and using drainage inlet protection on your jobsite, call Andrew Remus of the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District at 456-3292. On-site training is also available at no charge.

ACTION ALERT

Winter 2011/2012

New Construction General Permit **MANDATORY PERIMETER & TRACKOUT CONTROLS**

The new California Construction General Permit that went into effect July 1, 2010 requires (among many other requirements) that all construction sites over one acre to implement perimeter control and trackout control. The choice of control methods is up to the property owner.

During the rainy season inspection and enforcement efforts will focus on ensuring that property owners and their contractors adopt effective perimeter and trackout controls.

PERIMETER CONTROLS



The new Construction General Permit's requirement for Perimeter Control can be met by installing silt fences, straw wattles, or other methods described in either the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) or Caltrans Stormwater BMP handbooks (see links on the back page). Perimeter control is mandatory for the duration of the project. Inspectors can require that degraded, failed or incomplete perimeter controls be replaced with more effective perimeter control BMPs.



Combining silt fences, or straw wattles, and curb cut backs can be effective at keeping dirt on construction sites and out of gutters.



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TRACKOUT CONTROLS

The new permit also requires control of sediment trackout caused by vehicles and trucks leaving a construction site. Sediment trackout controls must be developed, maintained and inspected at ALL CONSTRUCTION SITE EXITS throughout the course of the project. Trackout extending more than 50 feet from a construction site exit must be cleaned up immediately by sweeping and/or vacuuming.



Well-developed trackout control using rock, rumble strips, and silt fences.

DRAINAGE INLET PROTECTION

Properly installed and maintained perimeter and trackout controls will minimize the need for drainage inlet protection. **The District prohibits the use of single straw or gravel bags for drainage inlet protection on any major street**



Weired-J is the only District-approved drainage inlet protection.

where vehicles are likely to displace or degrade the integrity of the inlet protection. The District also prohibits the use of single bags as a form of drainage inlet protection because these bags obstruct the District's storm drain inlets, and have been the cause of localized flooding.



The District-approved method of deploying single straw or gravel bags for drainage inlet protection is the "Weired-J" (shown above). The Weired-J requires 8-12 bags and is designed to intercept some of the sediment in storm runoff while allowing excess storm water to flow around the structure. For more details on proper drainage inlet protection, see our ACTION ALERT - WINTER 2010/2011 - DRAINAGE INLET PROTECTION fact sheet. For more information on the State's new requirements for site control, materials handling, site inspections, reporting and contractor training and certification visit www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/construction/shtml.

BMP References:

Caltrans - www.dot.ca.gov/hq/construc/stormwater/manuals.htm

California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) - www.cabmphandbooks.com/

Questions?

If you need more information on selecting and using trackout control methods on your jobsite, call Andrew Remus or Patrick Bryan at 456-3292. On-site training is also available at no charge.