

# Section 408 Categorical Permission

## *Association of Environmental Professionals and Flood Management Association Luncheon*

Ryan Larson, P.E.

District Section 408 Coordinator

May 17, 2018



**U.S. ARMY**



US Army Corps of Engineers  
**BUILDING STRONG**



# Agenda

- Section 408
- Categorical Permissions
- Effort to Date
- Alteration Description categories
- Conditions
- Questions

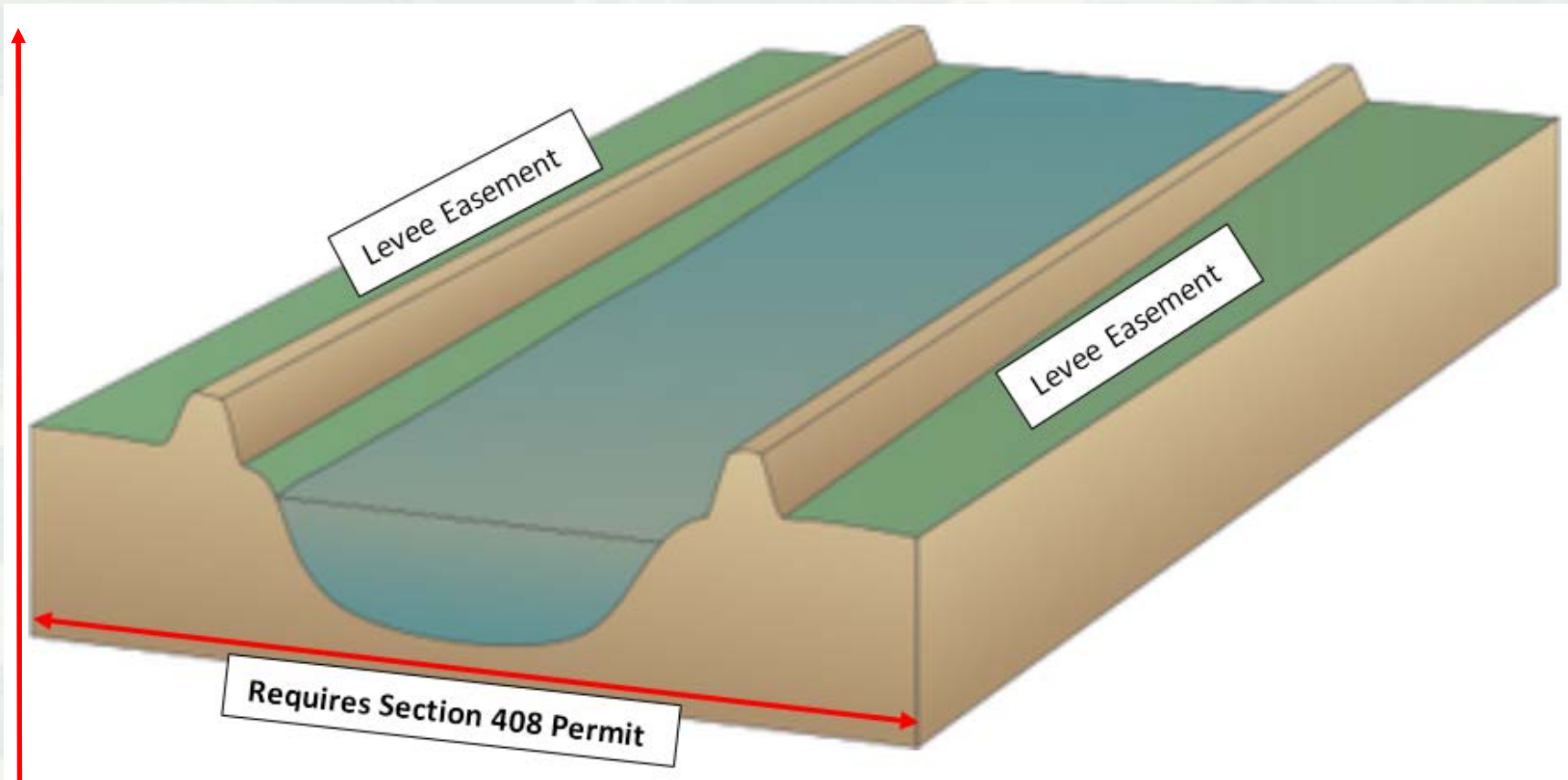


# Section 408

- Actions (permanent or temporary) that build upon, alter, improve, move, occupy, or otherwise could affect the authorized USACE Civil Works projects
- 33 USC 408



# Section 408 Jurisdiction





# What is this Categorical Permission?



# Purpose and Vision



# Categorical Permission

- Developed at the Sacramento District office for activities within the entire district Civil Works boundary.
- 5 year scope



# Effort to Date

- 30 day Public Notice
  - ▶ (September 18- October 18, 2017)
- Outreach to stakeholders
- Staff level coordination across District
- Preparation of Draft Documents





# 25 Alteration Descriptions

1. Agriculture and Landscaping
2. Borings, Levee Explorations and Instrumentation
3. Borrow Areas
4. Bridges
5. Buildings and Structures
6. Ditches and Canals
7. Docks
8. Environmental Restoration
9. Erosion Control
10. Fences, Gates, and Signage
11. Fiber Optic and Dry Utility Pipes
12. Fish Screens
13. Gravity Pipes
14. Horizontal Directional Drilling
15. Landside Pump Station
16. Pressurized Pipes
17. Retaining Walls
18. Seepage and Stability Berms
19. Stairs and Handrails
20. Swimming Pools
21. Trail, Roads, and Ramps
22. Utility Poles
23. Water Supply Pump Station
24. Wells
25. Research and Monitoring



# Example- Stairs and Handrails

- Stairs may be made of concrete, rock, brick, or other sufficiently durable inorganic materials. Do not build stairs out of wood or wood-based products.
- Waterside stairs must be built into the levee, flush with the slope to avoid creating eddy currents in the adjoining channel. No part of the stairs or its foundation may extend deeper than 12 inches into the levee. The profile of the stairs must not protrude above the face of the slope. Handrails are not allowed on the waterside levee slope or on the levee crown.



# Special Conditions

- Disqualifying circumstances
- Standard engineering and environmental conditions.
- All standard conditions must be met to fit under the categorical permission.



# Environmental Compliance

- Programmatic Environmental Assessment
- All consultations, including Section 7 (ESA) and 106 (NHPA), will need to be completed for individual alterations as required.



# Utilizing the Categorical Permissions

- Questionnaire
  - ▶ Show how the proposed alteration falls under the categorical permission
- Validation Memorandum
  - ▶ Internal document
- Timelines for Review
- Letters of Permission

