

Environmental permitting for your project: Permit Info

*A step-by-step overview of the
environmental compliance
process*

What permits does my project need?



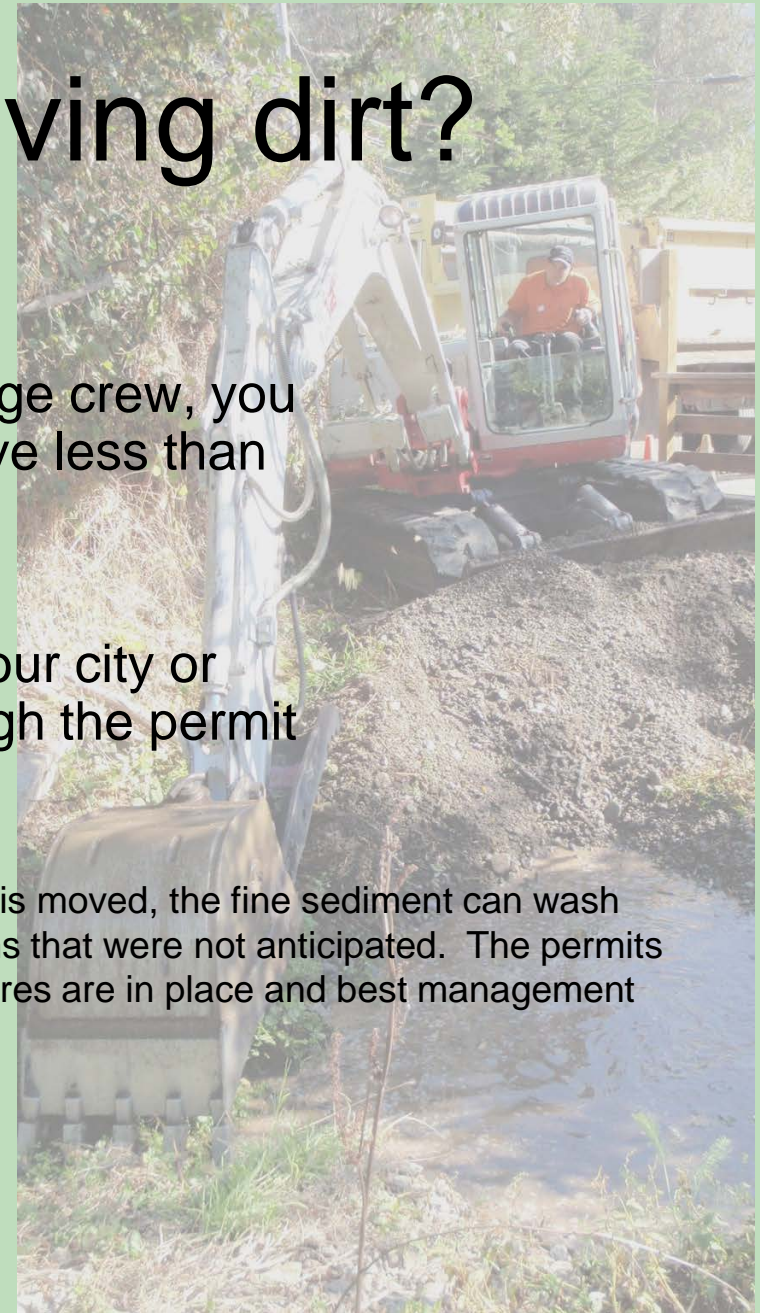
- Permit requirements depend on *where* you are working and *what* you are doing
- This slideshow will help you understand what permits are needed for certain types of work

Will you be moving dirt?

- With hand labor or a shovel?
 - Unless you're moving dirt with a large crew, you probably won't need permits to move less than 150 cubic yards of material.
- With heavy equipment?
 - Start with your local municipality, your city or county and they will help you through the permit process

Moving soil can impact more than just your project. Once dirt is moved, the fine sediment can wash away with rains or could result in much larger erosion problems that were not anticipated. The permits help guide you through a process to ensure that safety measures are in place and best management practices are used to keep off-site impacts to a minimum.

Department of Fish and Game Section 1600 permit
US Army Corps Section 404 permit
Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 permit
Your local city or county may require grading permits



Will the work for the project disturb one or more acres?

- Known as discharge, any materials including dirt, waste materials, or toxics that could end up in the creek or off-site must be managed. This includes managing for unexpected situations related to weather and construction sites.
- The one-acre area includes staging locations, access roads, as well as the construction site



Notice of Intent and a Stormwater Pollution and Prevention Plan (SWPPP) from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (NPDES Construction permit)

Are you working in a creek?

Ephemeral creeks flow only during or immediately after periods of precipitation. They generally flow less than 30 days per year.

Intermittent creeks flow only during certain times of the year. Seasonal flow in an intermittent stream usually lasts longer than 30 days per year.

Perennial creeks flow continuously during both wet and dry times.

- Moving dirt or placing materials (plants, rock, buildings, walls, etc.) in the creek may require permits.

Department of Fish and Game Section 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement

US Army Corps Section 404 permit

Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 permit

Your local city or county may require creek or grading permits



Is the project site located along the coast or bay?



- Along the Pacific coast and western shoreline (within the first 5 miles of shoreline), check with the **County of Marin Community Development Department** to determine if the project is in the Coastal Zone
 - If it is, the County will need to review the project and determine if it is consistent with the **Local Coastal Plan** and
 - A **Coastal Development Permit** (CDP) from the **California Coastal Commission** may be required.
- Along SF Bay, check the **Bay Conservation and Development Commission** for activities inland 100 feet from the shoreline of the bay and further in some tributary creeks

Will you need to divert water from the creek for your project?

- Dewatering involves temporarily drying out a section of the creek and relocating fish and other species out of the dried area
- Some creek projects will need diversions to construct with as little impact to fish and water quality as possible

A [US Army Corps Section 404 permit](#) is generally required
A [dewatering and species protection plan](#) will need to be prepared by a qualified biologist
If endangered species are present, consultation with [US Fish and Wildlife Service](#) and/or [Ca Department of Fish and Game](#) may be necessary



Will structures or natural materials be placed in or near the creek?



- Structures include items for restoration, erosion control, and infrastructure: large woody debris, boulders, culverts, bridge abutments, walls, or homes placed near or in a creek

US Army Corps Section 10 permit

Is the project in a wetland?

- Wetlands are determined by the type of vegetation, soils, and the presence of water
- The presence of a wetland must be determined by a qualified professional
- If the project is in a wetland, a wetland delineation will need to be prepared and the project plan will need to include mitigation for any impacts to wetlands



US Army Corps of Engineers
Ca Department of Fish and Game
California Coastal Commission or Bay Conservation and
Development Commission
Your local city or county may have additional zoning requirements

Will the project remove plants or cut trees?



Removal of existing creekside vegetation, native or non-native requires compliance with local tree ordinances, timing to insure that nesting birds aren't harmed, and possibly verification that other species aren't impacted through shade, habitat, or noise.

Ca Department of Fish and Game **Section 1602 SAA**
Your local city or county may have additional **zoning requirements**

Will the project impact federally listed plant, animal or fish species?



- Check to see if a federally listed species may be present in the project area
- If species may be present, consult with a qualified biologist about potential impacts to the species
 - The biologist may need to visit the site and prepare a report about the species
- Consultation with **US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service** will occur through your Corps application. **CA Dept of Fish and Game** will review your application for state impacts.

Other special permits

- If you're planning to build a detention pond, reservoir, dam, or other structure to detain water, contact the local municipality and the CA Dept of Water Resources
- If the project is located on or between levees, you will need to coordinate with your local Flood Control District