



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs): Construction Best Management Practices (BMP) Handbook

Why was the CASQA Construction BMP Handbook revised in 2023?

The content and guidance in the CASQA Construction BMP Handbook was updated to ensure consistency with and reflect the requirements of the 2022 Construction General Permit ([2022 CGP](#)). The 2022 CGP was reissued by the State Water Resources Control Board on September 8, 2022 and effective on September 1, 2023.

When will the 2023 Construction BMP Handbook be needed?

The [2023 Construction BMP Handbook](#) will be needed starting on September 1, 2023 for all construction projects subject to the [2022 CGP](#).

What revisions were completed in the 2023 Construction BMP Handbook?

The 2023 Construction BMP Handbook revisions include:

I. Updated SWPPP Templates:

- Traditional Projects (Appendix C), and
- Linear Underground Projects/LUPs (Appendix D).

II. Removed Requirements:

- Rain Event Action Plan (REAP) and all references to REAP, and
- Bioassessment references and guidelines.

III. New/Added Requirements:

- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements (Section 2.2.6) and BMPs applicable for TMDL implementation (Section 2.3.3),
- Conditions for inactive construction sites (Section 2.5.5.1),
- Conditions for passive treatment technologies (Appendices C and D),
- Effluent and receiving water sampling requirements (Section 2.5.5.2),
- BMP maintenance requirements (Section 2.5.3),
- Discharger and Legally Responsible Person (LRP) responsibilities training (Section 2.5.4),
- BMPs to address US EPA Effluent Limitation Guidelines (ELGs) (Section 1.3.1),
- Programmatic permitting information for LUPs (Section 2.2.3),
- Definitions and acronyms to ensure consistency with 2022 CGP as applicable to the 2023 Construction BMP Handbook (Section 5), and
- CGP references and included hyperlink to the [2022 CGP](#) (Appendix A).

I have a current subscription to the Construction BMP Handbook. How do I access the updated 2023 version?

Current subscribers have immediate access to the 2023 Construction BMP Handbook (as well as continued access to the 2019 Construction BMP Handbook). Make sure you are logged in to your CASQA account and [click here](#).

I do not have a subscription to the Construction BMP Handbook. How do I access it?

Both the 2023 and 2019 Construction BMP Handbooks are available through an annual subscription. To purchase a new subscription, [click here](#).

Why are there two versions of the Construction BMP Handbook available to subscribers?

The 2022 CGP includes a transition period, resulting in some projects continuing coverage under the [2009 CGP](#) and other projects requiring coverage under the [2022 CGP](#). To support all construction projects, CASQA is providing two versions of the Construction BMP Handbooks to subscribers.

2023 Construction BMP Handbook

All construction projects initiated after September 1, 2023 will require coverage under the 2022 CGP. This handbook supports implementation of the 2022 CGP.

2019 Construction BMP Handbook

All construction projects with the Waste Discharge ID (WDID) numbers issued before September 1, 2023 may continue construction activities under the [2009 CGP](#) (with some exceptions that require compliance with the 2022 CGP – see [below](#) for more details). This handbook supports implementation of the 2009 CGP. It will be available to support these projects until August 31, 2025 (when the 2009 CGP will cease to be applicable to all construction activities).

What about construction projects subject to the 2009 CGP? What Construction BMP Handbook should I use?

All construction projects with the Waste Discharge ID (WDID) numbers issued before September 1, 2023 may continue construction activities under the [2009 CGP](#), with some exceptions (see [below](#)). Projects subject to the 2009 CGP should use the 2019 Construction BMP Handbook as it contains guidance and templates applicable to the 2009 permit requirements.

Why would a project with a WDID number issued before September 1, 2023 need to comply with the 2022 CGP? What Construction BMP Handbook should I use?

There are some exceptions where a project or a portion of the project with a WDID number issued before September 1, 2023 would need to comply with the [2022 CGP](#) (and not the [2009 CGP](#)). The exceptions noted here are for general guidance purposes only. **It is the responsibility of the permittee to consult with the [California Water Boards](#) to ensure all projects comply with the applicable permit, based on the considerations for each individual project.**

Projects with WDID numbers issued before September 1, 2023 may need to comply with the [2022 CGP](#) if:

- The project's disturbed acreage increases on or after September 1, 2023. The new area will be regulated under the [2022 CGP](#).
- The project's Small Construction Rainfall Erosivity Waiver needs modification.
- The project is not completed by August 31, 2025. The Water Board will administratively terminate coverage under the [2009 CGP](#) and the permittee will be required to obtain coverage under the [2022 CGP](#) by September 1, 2025 to continue construction activities.

If these exceptions apply to your project, and you have confirmed that your project is subject to the [2022 CGP](#), you should use the 2023 Construction BMP Handbook as it contains the appropriate guidance and templates.

My project was initiated before September 1, 2023 but I elected coverage under the 2022 CGP. Which Construction BMP Handbook should I use?

Projects that have elected coverage under the [2022 CGP](#) should use the 2023 Construction BMP Handbook. To learn more about how to elect coverage under the 2022 CGP, contact [California Water Boards](#).

How long will the 2019 Construction BMP Handbook be available online?

The 2019 Construction BMP Handbook, which assists with implementation of the [2009 CGP](#), will be available to subscribers until August 31, 2025. After September 1, 2025, the 2019 Construction BMP Handbook will be no longer available on the CASQA website as it will no longer be necessary or applicable to any construction projects within California.

How do I Access the Construction BMP Handbooks (2023 and 2019 versions)?

Both handbooks are available through the same subscription. Current subscribers have immediate access to both versions. If you have a lapsed subscription or need to purchase a new subscription, [click here](#) or scan the QR code.

