PLAN CHECKING & DESIGN PROCEDURES
FOR
EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL
ON
LA DOTD N/LPDES PERMITTED PROJECTS

This document pertains to those projects which fall under Phase I and Phase II of **L**ouisiana's **P**ollutant **D**ischarge **E**limination **S**ystem permitting program. The program applies to all construction projects disturbing one acre or greater of land as of March 2003.

Plan checking and design procedures on the use of erosion and sediment controls are to be followed according to the *Roadway Design Procedures and Details Manual (RDM)* with few exceptions as shown herein. A reference is made to section 4.5.2 of this manual and Standard Plan EC-01. Temporary erosion controls should be shown on the plan and construction sequence sheets, or on separate sheets altogether. This is a revision to section 8.2.5(h) of the RDM. Where many controls are required such that they would clutter the plans, the controls should instead, be listed in tables on summary sheets. Temporary erosion control symbols should be included as part of a plan symbol legend. Structural controls should have details for their installation included within the plans. Examples of structural (i. e., sediment) controls are silt fencing, sediment basins, check dams, etc. See Standard Plan EC-01. New products are continuously being developed to aid in erosion and sediment control. Products equivalent to the traditional ones mentioned in this document are acceptable as approved by the LADOTD.

Plan preparation procedures for separate, temporary erosion control sheets are also included. They should follow similar procedures to those discussed below for showing controls within the traditional plan set. The guidelines and procedures listed below are used to supplement, and may supersede, the RDM and Standard Plan EC-01.

PRELIMINARY DESIGN/PLAN CHECK

Roadside, median, and temporary ditches should have hay/straw or stone (or equivalent material) check dams placed in them. There are many options for the temporary stabilization of ditches. Construction personnel are allowed to make adjustments for field conditions. As a guideline, check dams should only be used in channels with a contributing drainage area of 10 acres or less. Additionally, they should only be placed in channels having a 10% grade or less, and where the depth of flow is not expected to exceed one (1) foot. Use hay or straw baled check dams where the maximum contributing drainage area is 2 acres. Use stone check dams where the drainage area is between 2 and 10 acres. (It will not be necessary to show such drainage areas on the Design Drainage Map.) The maximum spacing between dams should be such that the toe of the upstream dam is at the same elevation as the top of the downstream dam.

Check dams range from 1½ ft. to 3 ft. in height, depending on the channel cross-section or depth of flow. The height should be equal to the top of the lower channel bank or to the depth of anticipated flow, whichever is lower, with a minimum of 1½ ft. The center of the dam should be at least 6 inches lower than the height (outer edges). The bottom length should be three times the height (3 x h).

On bridge construction and replacement jobs, silt fencing (or an equivalent product) should be specified near the toe of the banks, parallel to the waterway and between the right-of-way limits on either side of the bridge. Roadside channels on either side of the bridge should have either check dams or bridge/erosion drain pipes (*ditch blocks*) to help slow channel velocity from any runoff during the time of construction, when the bridge embankment is vulnerable to erosion. Silt fencing and check dams used here can be shown on either the plan or bridge general plan sheets. (Refer to section 5.2.4 of the RDM and Chapter I of the Hydraulics Manual for design details pertaining to ditch blocks.)

Existing catch basins (both curb & open-top inlet types) that are to remain on a project should have some form of silt protection. Traditionally, this has been accomplished with either silt fence or hay/straw bales and thus, accounted for in a (204) pay item. Rock or stone barriers are also acceptable as long as they are properly installed. Because drainage work is performed early in the construction period, proposed catch basins should also have inlet protection.

Permanent erosion control at the outlets of cross drain structures should be noted on the preliminary plans (section 8.2.5(5.b) of the RDM).

(This paragraph reserved for future design guidelines pertaining to detention/sediment basins.)

FINAL DESIGN/PLAN CHECK

Standard Plan EC-01 should be included in the final plan set.

Silt fencing is used to minimize the amount of sediment leaving the construction site and/or entering water ways. It is also used to decrease the velocity of sheet flows. Silt fencing should be shown on the plans along areas of disturbance sloping away from the project site or towards adjacent, naturally existing water ways. It should not cross entrance and drainage ways. Disturbed areas typically extend fifteen (15) feet outside the limits of construction or to the limits of right-of-way, whichever is less. A look at the existing cross-sections will indicate slopes during clearing and grubbing operations. On urban projects where fore slopes are toward the roadway and inlet protection is specified, silt fence will likely not be necessary. The estimated quantity for silt fencing should take these and other situations into consideration. Silt fencing that coincides with the right-of-way should be indicated with an arrow and note at least once per plan sheet. At other locations, silt fencing should be indicated with the appropriate symbol at least once per plan sheet. Summary tables are now not required for silt fencing, since the plans can better indicate locations.

Show temporary slope (embankment) drains on the plans to carry storm water from the work area down unprotected long (greater than 100 ft.) and/or steep (greater than 2:1) slopes. Slope drains are typically only necessary on large, embankment moving projects. Earthen berms directing water into the pipe inlets should also be shown on the plans (see Std. Plan EC-01) unless the slope drains are included in a summary table(s).

Permanent erosion controls (i. e., seeding, mulching, rip-rap, erosion control systems, etc.), if not indicated on plan or profile sheets, should be tabulated in summary tables. This is a slight modification of Section 8.2.5(h) of the RDM. Locations (i. e., to and from stationing, and Lt., Rt., or Med. of roadway) and type (i. e., vegetative mulch, Type A covering, 30-lb rip-rap class, etc.) should be clearly indicated. (Refer to the Hydraulics office for design procedures pertaining to channel protection and rip-rap sizing/placement.) Erosion control coverings should be shown on either the profile sheets or listed in a summary table(s). They are used for either slope or channel protection, and should be labeled as such. Temporary check dams should still be placed in channels requiring covering until vegetation is established and the dams can be removed. The quantity for temporary seeding in these areas will be computed as specified in the appendix of the Road Design Manual under Miscellaneous Design Aids, *Rules Associated with Pay Items.* Rip-rap used at bridge abutments should be indicated on the bridge general plan sheets.

Pay items for temporary erosion controls should be included on the *Summary of Estimated Quantities* sheets. These include such items as temporary silt fencing and temporary slope drains (204-). Though not necessarily shown within the plans, at least two (2) items for temporary stone construction entrances should also be included on the *Summary of Estimated Quantities* sheets. Design aids for estimating temporary erosion control quantities are provided in the appendix of the Road Design Manual under Miscellaneous Design Aids, *Rules Associated with Pay Items*.

Pay items for permanent erosion controls should be included on the *Summary of Estimated Quantities* sheets. These include such items as fertilizing (718-01) and seeding (717-01), landscaping (719-), erosion control systems (720-), riprap used as outlet protection for cross drains and at bridge abutments (711), and others in the 700-no. category. Fertilizing and seeding limits are usually indicated on the typical section sheets (section 8.2.3(6) of the RDM). Permanent erosion controls can be used in place of temporary controls if placed early enough, and may share pay item numbers. Design aids for estimating permanent erosion control quantities are provided in the appendix of the Road Design Manual under Miscellaneous Design Aids, *Rules Associated with Pay Items*.

SEQUENCE OF CONSTRUCTION

Temporary erosion and sediment controls are usually installed during the first phase of construction, before the land is disturbed. In fact, storm water permit coverage starts from the commencement of construction activities until final project stabilization. Temporary structural controls must be removed whenever they are no longer necessary in serving their purpose, or when the protected area has been stabilized through the use of seeding and mulching, erosion control blankets, rip-rap, or other means. The installation and removal of controls and practices used to control erosion (BMPs) should be indicated on construction sequencing sheets. Below are guidelines for the sequencing of erosion controls and BMPs on LA DOTD state projects:

Silt fencing should be installed before clearing and grubbing operations begin, except when clearing involves installing the fence. Typically, this would be performed in the first stage of phase one of construction. It should be removed once the upslope area being protected has been stabilized. On bridge construction jobs over water ways, silt fencing should be installed before ground-breaking activities begin. On bridge replacement jobs over water ways, it should be installed prior to existing bridge removal and detour bridge construction (if applicable). In the case of both bridge construction and replacement jobs, it can be removed once the bridges and abutment protection are in place.

Slope drains and their temporary earth berms should be installed after clearing and grubbing and grading of the embankment slope has occurred. It should be removed only when the disturbed slope upon which it rests has been stabilized. This should be before roadway base work begins.

Check dams should be installed immediately after the channel is brought to grade, and should be removed only after the upslope channel for which they serve has been stabilized. Check dams in roadside channels near bridges should be placed before ground-breaking activities begin, or after ditch grading (if applicable). They should be removed after the installation of any bridge/erosion drain pipes (*ditch blocks*), or after the upslope channel for which they serve has been stabilized. Check dams should be tabulated in summary sheets indicating their locations by stationing. Where only a few dams are required, they can instead, be indicated on the sequence of construction sheets with a symbol, at a minimum scale of 1:1000 or 1” = 80’.

Protection for existing drainage inlets remaining onsite should be fully installed before clearing and grubbing operations begin in the area. Protection for proposed drainage inlets should be installed immediately after the new inlets are in place. In both cases, they should not be removed until the upslope area for which they serve has been stabilized. Inlet protections should typically be the last erosion controls removed from a site. They can be indicated on the sequence of construction sheets with a symbol, at a minimum scale of 1:1000 or 1” = 80’. Protection for many catch basins as part of subsurface drainage systems should instead, be listed in a summary table(s).

Temporary seeding, if necessary prior to permanent seeding, occurs after clearing, grubbing and grading operations. The limits are the same as that indicated on the typical section sheets for permanent seeding, and need not be shown elsewhere. A note on the sequence of construction sheets will suffice.

Erosion controls shown on the plan sheets reflect their initial placement.
During construction, some controls may need to change location based upon grade changes required to form the typical sections and based upon the location of detour roads. No additional payment will be made for the moving of erosion control devices at different sequences of construction. The former statement should be included in the notes of the construction sequence sheets.

Below is a reference table summarizing where erosion and sediment controls should be incorporated into the plan set.

E & S Control	**Location in plan set**	**Include in summary tables?**
Silt fence	plan, bridge general plan sheets	Not required
Slope drains	plan sheets	Yes, if not on plan sheets
Check dams	construction sequence sheets	Yes, if not on construction sequence sheets
Inlet protection	construction sequence sheets	Yes, if not on construction sequence sheets
Stone construction entrances	construction sequence sheets, if location known	No
Seeding, fertilizing, mulching & sodding (temporary & permanent)	typical section sheets	No
Erosion control systems	profile sheets	Yes, if not on profile sheets
Rip-rap (permanent)	plan, bridge general plan sheets	Yes, if used for channel lining

TEMPORARY EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL SHEETS

The designer has the option of placing temporary erosion and sediment control measures on separate sheets. These should consist of layout sheets (similar to a construction sequence sheet) at a minimum scale of 1:000 or 1"= 80'. Layout sheets should indicate drainage patterns and, like the construction sequence sheets, a description of the phasing in of practices and controls. Temporary erosion control symbols should be included as part of a plan symbol legend on these sheets, and may include part or all of the construction legend to illustrate sequencing with roadway construction.

Where many controls are required such that may clutter these sheets, the controls should instead, be listed in tables on summary sheets, as mentioned previously. Permanent erosion controls should be shown on the appropriate sheets within the traditional plan set. They should be placed as soon as practical after clearing, grubbing, grading operations and if appropriate, after drainage installations.