

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES  
Davy Crockett Tower, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
500 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243**

**Proposed Establishment of Tennessee's  
Aquatic Resource Alteration General Permits  
for Non-isolated and Isolated Wetlands**

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Where the Commissioner finds that a category of activities or discharges would be appropriately regulated under a general permit, the Commissioner may use a general permit to authorize alterations to waters for specific categories of activities that are substantially similar in nature. Notices of coverage by the Division of activities that qualify under general permits also serve as a section 401 Water Quality Certification pursuant to the federal *Clean Water Act*. The Division is proposing issuance or establishment of new permits for 2 general ARAPs, as follows:

GARAP	
Permits	Proposed title changes and other notable changes
011 Minor Alterations to Non-isolated Wetlands	Allows for impacts up 0.10 moderate quality wetlands and 0.25 of low-quality wetlands
020 Minor Alterations to Isolated Wetlands	low-quality isolated wetlands that are greater than one (1) acre up to two (2) acres in size, or moderate-quality isolated wetlands that are greater than one-quarter (0.25) acre up to two (2) acres in size
All Permits	Revised to include a permit number.
All Permits	Revised to include the same general conditions.
All Permits	Changed the term Special Conditions to Specific Conditions.
All Permits	Added Definitions, Acronym, and Resource section.

### GENERAL PERMIT DESCRIPTION

General permits issued by the Division of Water Resources establish limits of work and notification procedures required for authorization. Existing General Permits can be viewed at <https://www.tn.gov/environment/permit-permits/water-permits1/aquatic-resource-alteration-permit-arap/permit-water-aquatic-resource-alteration-list-of-general-permits.html> Draft

permits can be reviewed at any of the Division's offices, by sending a request in writing to the above address or by email to [ARAP.permits@tn.gov](mailto:ARAP.permits@tn.gov), or on the Division's public participation webpage at <https://www.tn.gov/environment/ppo-public-participation/ppo-public-participation/ppo-water.html>.

## **PERMIT CONSIDERATIONS**

In deciding whether to issue these general permits, the Division will consider all comments of record and the requirements of applicable federal and state laws. The department will also consider loss of waters or habitat, diminishment in biological diversity, cumulative or secondary impacts to water resources, and adverse impacts to unique, high quality, or impaired waters.

Persons wishing to comment on the issuance or revocation of these revised general permits are invited to deliver oral or written comment at the public hearing. The hearing officer will limit all testimony to relevant water quality issues and may limit testimony in the interest of time. However, all persons desiring to speak will be given an opportunity to do so. Written testimony will be accepted following the hearing and will be considered part of the official record. Please submit any written comments to the Division at the address printed below. The comments must be received by June 30, 2025. After considering all public comments, the Division will publish a final permit decision and a notice of the Division's determinations. Interested persons may obtain additional information or inspect and copy related documents during business hours at the Division's offices.

Written comments will be accepted at the hearing and following the hearing through the end of the comment period listed above. Please send written comments to:

Division of Water Resources  
Attn: Eddie Gordon  
Davy Crockett Tower, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
500 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Written comments may also be submitted to [ARAP.permits@tn.gov](mailto:ARAP.permits@tn.gov)

## **LOCATION**

All jurisdictional streams and wetlands in Tennessee.

## **ANTIDegradation DETERMINATION**

In accordance with the Tennessee Antidegradation Statement (Rule 0400-40-03-.06), the Division has determined that activities conducted under these general permits will not result in an appreciable permanent loss of resource value or greater than *de minimis* degradation to water quality.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

### TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

#### DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

Davy Crockett Tower, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor

500 James Robertson Parkway

Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Phone: 615-879-0563

Fax: 615-532-0046

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, the Division of Water Resources will hold a public hearing pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-110, concerning the proposed establishment and renewal of Tennessee's Aquatic Resource Alteration General Permits.

The purpose of this notice is to inform interested parties of these draft permits and ask for comments and information necessary to determine possible impacts to water quality. Persons wishing to comment on the proposal are invited to submit written comments to the department or attend one of the scheduled public hearings listed below. All comments must be received by June 30, 2025. Comments will become part of the record and will be considered in the final decision.

The department will hold a public hearing on these draft general permits on June 30, 2025 utilizing video conferencing with Nashville as the primary hearing location. TDEC staff will also be present in all field offices in advance of the Presentation and Public Hearing to answer questions during the Open House Information Sessions:

<b>Hearing Location:</b>	<b>Conference Room 1A, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Davy Crockett Tower 500 James Robertson Pkwy, Nashville, Tennessee, 37243</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Monday, June 30, 2025</b>
<b>Informational Session:</b>	<b>1:00 – 2:00 pm CST</b>
<b>Public Hearing:</b>	<b>2:00 CST</b>

**Videoconferencing Locations:** The public may also participate via videoconference.

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**Microsoft Teams** [Need help?](#)

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Meeting ID: 243 712 504 602 8

Passcode: a5bf6yx7

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**Dial in by phone**

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Phone conference ID: 801 651 242#

**Join on a video conferencing device**

Tenant key: [stateoftn@m.webex.com](mailto:stateoftn@m.webex.com)

Video ID: 119 540 893 0

[More info](#)

Public comments will be received during the formal public hearing concerning the proposed renewal of Tennessee's Aquatic Resource Alteration General Permits.

Prior to opening the formal public hearing, an informational session will be held with Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) staff. Concurrent informational sessions will be held at the hearing and videoconferencing locations. The informational session will have a one-on-one question and answer format. Once the formal public hearing begins, the question-and-answer format will end, and all public comments will be collected for the hearing record without response from TDEC during the hearing. TDEC staff will provide written responses to all oral and written comments following the public hearing and public comment period, prior to making a final determination on the permit action.

The meeting moderator may limit the length of oral comments in order to allow all parties an opportunity to speak and will require that all comments be relevant to the proposed permit action and Division of Water Resources issues. Written comments will be accepted through June 30, 2025, and will be considered part of the hearing record.

Interested persons may obtain additional information, including a copy of the draft permits, and may inspect and copy related documents at the Division's Central Office at the address listed above, or at the Environmental Field Offices at the addresses listed above. Additional information may also be obtained from the Division's website at: <https://www.tn.gov/environment/ppo-public-participation/ppo-public-participation/ppo-water.html>.

Individuals with disabilities who wish to participate in these proceedings or review the file record should contact TDEC to discuss any auxiliary aids or services needed to facilitate such participation. Contact may be in person, by writing, telephone, or other means, and should be made no less than ten working days prior to June 30, 2025 to allow time to provide such aid or services. Contact the ADA Coordinator (615-532-0211) for further information. If it is hard for you to read, speak, or understand English, TDEC may be able to provide translation or interpretation services free of charge by contacting Brian Canada at 615-979-1406 or [brian.canada@tn.gov](mailto:brian.canada@tn.gov). Further information you may reach to Natural Resource Unit at [ARAP.permits@tn.gov](mailto:ARAP.permits@tn.gov) or Eddie Gordon 615-879-0563.

### **How To Comment**

Persons wishing to comment on the issuance or revocation of these revised general permits are invited to deliver oral or written comment at the public hearing. The hearing officer will limit all testimony to relevant water quality issues and may limit testimony in the interest of time. However, all persons desiring to speak will be given an opportunity to do so. Written testimony will be accepted following the hearing and will be considered part of the official record. Please submit comments in writing to the Division at the address printed below. The comments must be received by June 30, 2025. After considering all public comments, the Division will publish a final permit decision and a notice of the Division's determinations. Interested persons may obtain additional information or inspect and copy related

documents during business hours at the Division's offices.

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