Construction Stormwater Terms, Jargon, and Acronyms

BMP	Best Management Practice BMPs are management practices and structural controls used to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants. BMPs include scheduling of activities, prohibitions of practices, operation and maintenance procedures, treatment, and vegetated infiltration basins amongst other practices.
Bioretention	An engineered system designed to remove pollutants from stormwater runoff by settling, filtration, biological degradation, plant uptake, media absorption/adsorption or other physical, biological, or chemical processes. The system filters stormwater through an engineered soil media into a layer of rock and allows infiltration into the soil.
CASQA	California Stormwater Quality Association
CGP	Construction General Stormwater Permit California General NPDES Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities
COI	Change of Information Online form filed to change details about a CGP project.
CPESC	Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control
CWA	Clean Water Act
Dewatering	The process of removing excess water in an excavation or impoundment by pumping or other mechanical means.
Erosion Control BMPs	Practices used to prevent soil detachment. BMPs include vegetation, straw, stabilizing emulsion, rolled erosion control products placed to stabilize disturbed soils to reduce loss of soil due to the action of water or wind.
ERP	Enforcement Response Plan A plan that describes actions to be taken for common violations and provides guidance to inspectors on the different enforcement responses available, when and how to refer violators to the State, and how to track enforcement actions.
ESCP	Erosion and Sediment Control Plan A plan that describes appropriate site-specific construction site BMPs for small (< 1-acre) projects. The Phase II Permit describes the ESCP requirements.
Good Housekeeping BMPs	BMPs designed to reduce or eliminate the addition of pollutants to construction site runoff by minimizing exposure of pollutant sources, implementation of proper handling/disposal practices, employee education, and other actions.
LID	Low Impact Development A sustainable practice that benefits water supply and contributes to water quality protection using site design and stormwater management to maintain the site's pre-development runoff rates and volumes. The goal of LID is to mimic a site's predevelopment hydrology by using design techniques that infiltrate, filter, store, evaporate, and detain runoff close to the source of rainfall.
LRP	Legally Responsible Person The representative of a permittee and signatory that is legally designated to sign, certify, and electronically submit permit related documents.
Phase II Permit	California General NPDES Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems

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MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System A stormwater conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains) that is owned or operated by municipality.
NAL	Numeric Action Level A pollutant level that triggers an evaluation of the effectiveness of implemented BMPs and the implementation of additional corrective actions necessary to reduce the subject pollutant below the NAL.
NOI	Notice of Intent The application form by which dischargers seek coverage under the CGP.
NOT	Notice of Termination The form filed to end coverage under the CGP.
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System The program under the CWA that authorizes (permits) discharges of pollutants to Waters of the US.
PRDs	Permit Registration Documents The set of documents filed to obtain coverage under the CGP, including the NOI, risk assessment, SWPPP, site map, post construction calculations, and permit fee.
QSD	Qualified SWPPP Developer A stormwater professional qualified to develop and revise SWPPPs.
QSP	Qualified SWPPP Practitioner A stormwater professional qualified to conduct visual observations, sampling, and implement all elements of the SWPPP.
QSP Delegate	Qualified SWPPP Practitioner Delegate An individual trained by and determined to be competent by the QSP to perform specific visual observations, sampling, and implement the SWPPP.
QPE	Qualifying Precipitation Event Any weather pattern that is forecast to have a 50 percent or greater Probability of Precipitation (PoP) and a Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) of 0.5 inches or more within a 24-hour period. The event begins with the 24-hour period when 0.5 inches has been forecast and continues on subsequent 24-hour periods when 0.25 inches of precipitation or more is forecast.
Sediment Control BMPs	Practices used to trap and/or retain eroded soil before discharging from the construction site by intercepting and slowing or detaining stormwater to allow sediment to settle and be trapped (e.g., silt fence, sediment basin, fiber rolls).
SMARTS	Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System The State Water Board's online system for applying for, filing reports, and terminating coverage under general stormwater permits.
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan A site specific plan for preventing sediment and other pollutants discharges from a construction site. The CGP specifies the SWPPP requirements.
WDID	Waste Discharge Identification Number Identification number assigned to an individual discharger under a General Permit.