



**Summary of AMAFCA's MS4
Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control Program
FY 2021 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)**

NPDES Permit No. NMR04A000

Part I.D.5.a - Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control Program

Construction site stormwater runoff control is intended to control polluted stormwater runoff from a construction site to Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) that is ultimately discharged into local rivers and streams. Sediment is usually the main pollutant of concern for construction site stormwater runoff. Sediment runoff rates from construction sites are typically 10 to 20 times greater than those of agricultural lands, and 1,000 to 2,000 times greater than those of forest lands. During a short period of time, construction sites can contribute more sediment to streams than can be deposited naturally during several decades. In accordance with AMAFCA's SWMP, AMAFCA has continued and will continue to follow its program practices outlined in the program's strategies and procedures to control construction site stormwater runoff.

AMAFCA files Notice of Intent (NOI) documents for a Construction General Permit (CGP) for each of their construction sites that is greater than 1 acre in size. The image below shows the active construction sites in FY 2021.

Net NPDES Stormwater Construction General Permit

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Actions	Project / Site Name	NPDES ID	Submission Status	Submission Type	Coverage Status	Coverage Type	Certified / Submitted Date	Effective Date
Actions	Valle de Oro Swale Project	NMR10045C	Approved	New	Active	General Permit	08/12/2021	08/26/2021
Actions	Valle de Oro Outfall Structure	NMR1002OU	Approved	Discontinuation	Discontinued	Low Erosivity Waiver	07/14/2021	01/10/2020
Actions	Black Mesa 3 Dam Outlet Raymac Dam to Don Felipe Dam Phase III and IV Project	NMR1002H1	Approved	Termination	Terminated	General Permit	06/15/2021	10/16/2019
Actions	Lower Bear Tributary Arroyo Regional Flood Control and Water Quality Improvement	NMR1001XR	Approved	Termination	Terminated	General Permit	06/15/2021	03/06/2019
Actions	Black Mesa 3 Dam Outlet Raymac to McCoy Dam - Phase V	NMR1003C4	Approved	Termination	Terminated	General Permit	06/15/2021	10/15/2020

Screen Shot from EPA's Net NPDES Tool Showing Active CGP NOIs

Related to the CGP, EPA published a draft 2022 CGP document for public review and comment in May 2021 and allowed comments until July 12, 2021. AMAFCA worked closely with area MS4s to develop and submit comments on the draft 2022 CGP. AMAFCA also attended an EPA webinar on the draft 2022 CGP.

As part of the North Diversion Channel (NDC) Embayment Earthwork and Grade Control Structures construction project, which AMAFCA began in 2015, AMAFCA regularly monitors the status of vegetation growing in the channel bed of the embayment where it drains into the Rio Grande in Bernalillo County, New Mexico. The NDC Embayment Bed was filled with approximately 29,130 cubic yards of clean fill to raise the existing embayment with approximately 2,380 cubic yards of rock riprap in January and February of 2016. The project impacted approximately 7.9 acres of waters managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). AMAFCA must comply with USACE Regulation Regional General Permit NM-14-01, Stream Stabilization and Water Quality Improvement Projects within Urban Ephemeral Channels, relative to the status of vegetation colonizing the recently completed project. Specifically, AMAFCA must monitor vegetation on the newly constructed embayment to demonstrate compliance with the special conditions of the Regional General Permit Verification: Action No. SPA-2015-00147-ABQ.

AMAFCA must manage native species by removing or limiting the presence and spread of non-native and noxious weed species. Many of the non-native and noxious weed species are introduced to the site from rainfall runoff coming from other parts of Albuquerque and it is extremely difficult to eliminate these species completely. Under the permit requirements and stipulations of the USACE, AMAFCA must reduce the presence of non-native species for the site's overall vegetative cover.

In late 2019, AMAFCA met with the USACE to discuss the Special Conditions in the Regional General Permit. Due to the project area within the NDC being a very dynamic system, AMAFCA worked with the USACE to revise the Special Conditions to be in compliance with the Regional General Permit. The Special Conditions changes the Bosque Seed mix to 70-percent native and 30-percent non-native of baseline by year 3, measured at 10 randomly selected metered transects.

During the May 2021 plant field training, AMAFCA staff were split into groups of 3-5 staff members and paired with an SWCA Environmental Consultant biologist. The groups walked throughout the NDC identifying different grass, forb/herb, shrub, and tree species and gave staff tips on how to identify and distinguish between the species while using this plant field guide. During the plant field training, SWCA biologists and AMAFCA observed that there were a significant number of non-native species that are not considered noxious weeds providing ground cover in the NDC. Although these species are considered non-native, SWCA and AMAFCA identified this ground cover as providing a positive ecological function by increasing soil stability and significantly reducing erosion potential at the site. However, if AMAFCA was to remove these species leaving bare ground, then the site would easily be overrun with non-native species and much harder to manage. With these factors in mind, SWCA and AMAFCA staff further developed this field guide to include a color-coded system for staff to quickly differentiate between the different groups of species based on their ecological function and noxious weed status, described in detail below and in the attached plant field guide. AMAFCA may also use this field guide to

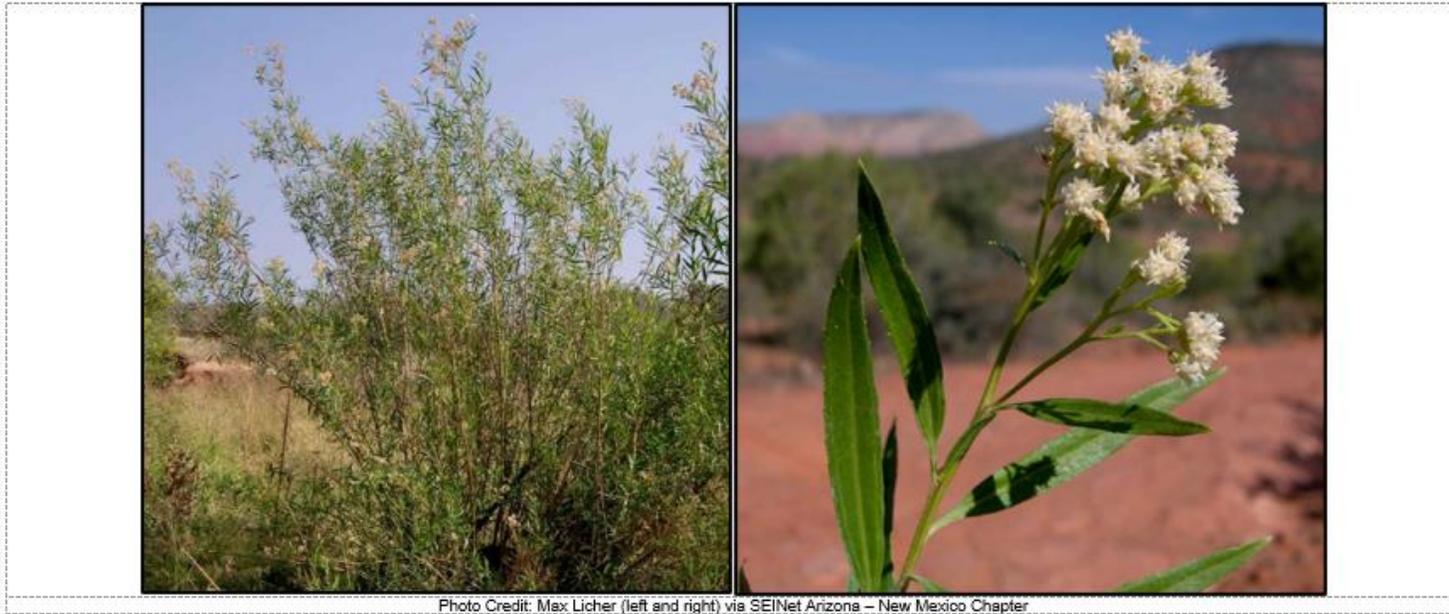
identify and locate species listed as non-native and/or noxious and target them for eradication as part of their maintenance activities. Vegetation field training was aimed at recognizing the 70-percent native and 30-percent non-native mix and allowing AMAFCA to maintain this recommendation.

The attached report, *Vegetation Monitoring Report for the North Diversion Channel / SWCA Project No. 42159.03*, February 14, 2020, completed by SWCA, and this letter are considered the year 1 report related to the 2015 USACE Regional General Permit Verification: Action No. SPA-2015-00147-ABQ, with the updated Special Conditions recommendation by SWCA, the vegetation monitoring contractor, and subsequent consultation and agreement by USACE on 70-percent native and 30-percent non-native mix of vegetation.



Photos from AMAFCA's North Diversion Channel Embayment Staff Training in May 2021

Mule-Fat (Seepwillow)



Scientific Name: *Baccharis salicifolia*

Family: Daisies (Asteraceae)

Duration: Perennial

Nativity: **Native**

General Description: Shrub growing 1 – 4 m tall with a willow-like architecture. Branches are long, wand-like, and tan. Leaves are alternate, sessile or short-petiolate. Leaf blades are lanceolate-elliptic and willow-like growing 3 – 15 cm long and 0.5 – 2 cm wide with margins that are finely and evenly serrate and surfaces dotted with glands. Flowers are whitish or yellowish, discoid, and arranged in terminal, flat-topped clusters. Fruits are small 1 mm achenes with silvery-white pappus. Distinguished by its showy white flowers, shiny resinous, sticky, toothed leaves, and willow-like growth habit.

Ecology: Found along streams and drainages, often forming thickets, below 5,000 feet. Flowers from March – October.

More Information and Photos: <https://swbiodiversity.org/seinet/taxa/index.php?taxon=Baccharis+salicifolia&formsubmit=Search+Terms>

Example from AMAFCA's North Diversion Channel Embayment Plant Field Guide Used for Staff Training in May 2021