

Rules of the South Florida Water Management District

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
RESOURCE STANDARD  
GENERAL PERMITS  
Chapter 40E-40, F.A.C.**



Last Updated: April 1, 1996



Rules of the South Florida Water Management District  
**CHAPTER 40E-40**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE**  
**STANDARD GENERAL PERMITS**

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40E-40.011 Policy and Purpose.

(1) The rules in this chapter authorize environmental resource standard general permits for certain surface water management systems which have been determined to be not harmful to the water resources of the District and to be not inconsistent with the objectives of the District. This chapter sets forth the requirements for qualifying for a standard general permit and the conditions under which it may be exercised. Unless expressly exempted by Rule 40E-4.051, F.A.C., surface water management systems which do not qualify for a no notice or noticed general permit pursuant to Chapter 40E-400, F.A.C., and which do not qualify for a standard general permit pursuant to this chapter are required to obtain individual environmental resource permits pursuant to Chapter 40E-4, F.A.C.

(2) The District reserves the right to require an individual permit application for any system that does not comply with the provisions of this chapter; is harmful to the water resources of the District; is not consistent with the overall objectives of the District; is contrary to the provisions of Chapter 373, F.S.; or for which a substantial objection(s) has been received.

(3) The rules in this chapter also authorize standard general permits for incidental site activities in uplands which may be done in conjunction with the work set forth in an individual environmental resource permit application. Projects qualifying for a standard general permit for

incidental site activities shall obtain an individual environmental resource permit for the proposed system and activities in, on, or over wetlands or other surface waters in accordance with this chapter, Chapters 40E-4, or 40E-400, F.A.C.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113, 373.118, 373.413(1) F.S. Law Implemented 373.118, 373.413(1), 373.416, F.S. History--New 9-3-81, Formerly 16K-4.021(1)(d), 16K-4.022(1)(e), Amended 7-31-87, 4/20/94, 10-3-95.

**40E-40.021 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, all terms shall mean the same as defined in Chapter 373, F.S., and Rule 40E-4.021, F.A.C.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113 F.S. Law Implemented 373.019, 373.403, 373.413, 373.416, 373.419, 403.031(16), 704.06, F.S. History--New 9-3-81, Amended 12-1-82, 7-31-87, 4/20/94, 10-3-95.

**40E-40.031 Implementation.**

(1) Rule 40E-4.031, F.A.C., specifies the effective dates for the environmental resource standard general permits granted in this chapter.

(2) The rules contained in this chapter shall apply to projects which do not have a complete permit application, as evidenced by a letter of completeness from the District prior to the effective date of these rules, unless the project is grandfathered pursuant to Section 373.414, F.S.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113, 373.118(1), F.S. Law Implemented 373.103(1), Part IV, Ch. 373, F.S. History--New 9-3-81, Amended 12-1-82, 7-31-87, 4/20/94, 10-3-95.

**40E-40.041 Permit Thresholds.**

(1) The permit threshold for non-exempt systems which do not qualify for a no notice or noticed general environmental resource permit are set forth below. Systems which exceed any one of these threshold conditions shall require an individual permit pursuant to Chapter 40E-4, F.A.C.

(2) Threshold conditions.

(a) the construction or alteration of a surface water management system, including dredging and filling, is proposed in, on, or over a total of one acre or more of wetlands or other surface waters; or

(b) the system serves a project area of 100 acres or more in total land area;

(c) the system includes more than nine proposed boat slips.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113 F.S. Law Implemented 373.406(5), 373.413(1), 373.416 F.S. History--New 4/20/94, Amended 10-3-95.

**40E-40.042 Standard General Permit for Incidental Site Activities.**

(1) Incidental site activities shall be conducted pursuant to the requirements of this rule.

(2) For purposes of this rule, "Incidental site activities" means site activities in uplands which may be conducted in conjunction and conformance with the work set forth in an individual permit such as: land clearing in uplands; minimal earthwork, lake construction; road subgrade construction; foundation construction; utility installation; fence installation; construction trailer installation; unconnected drainage facility construction; or other similar activities.

(3) In order to receive a permit under this rule the applicant must:

(a) submit an environmental resource permit application deemed complete, as evidenced by a letter of completeness from the District,

NOTE:

The record set of Chapter 40E-40, F.A.C., which became effective on April 1, 1996, did not contain Section 40E-40.061. Why the section was not included is, at this time, unknown. On the reverse side of this sheet is the April 1, 1996 text of Section 40E-40.061, as it appeared in a later document.

- R.L.F.  
October 1998

40E40-31

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113, F.S. Law Implemented 373.103(2), 373.103(6), F.S. History--New 10-3-95, Amended 4-1-96.

**40E-40.061 Delegation of Authority Pertaining to General Environmental Resource Permits, General Surface Water Management Permits and Associated Sovereign Submerged Lands Authorizations.**

(1) The Governing Board delegates to and appoints the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, Regulation Department Director, Regulation Department Deputy Director, Natural Resource Management Division Director, Surface Water Management Division Director, Service Center Directors, and Regulatory Area Managers as its agents to review and take final action on all general environmental resource and surface water management permit applications issued under Chapter 40E-40, F.A.C. However, staff recommendations for denial of general permit applications shall be considered by the Governing Board.

(2) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, pursuant to Section 18-21.0051, F.A.C., has delegated to the Governing Board the authority to review and take final agency action on certain applications to use sovereign submerged lands. Section 18-21.0051, F.A.C., also provides that the Governing Board may delegate review and decision-making authority to District staff. Therefore, the Governing Board further delegates this authority to the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, Regulation Department Director, Regulation Department Deputy Director, Natural Resource Management Division Director, Surface Water Management Division Director, Service Center Directors, and Regulatory Area Managers, when an application to use sovereign submerged lands involves an activity which is to be reviewed pursuant to the general permit procedures of Chapters 40E-1, 40E-40, or 40E-400, F.A.C.

Specific Authority 120.53(1), 373.044, 373.113, 373.118 F.S. Law Implemented 120.53, 373.016, 373.118 F.S. History--New 4-1-96, Formerly 40E-1.6015.

**40E-40.091 Publications, Rules and Interagency Agreements Incorporated by Reference.**

All publications, rules and interagency agreements incorporated by reference are set forth in Rule 40E-4.091, F.A.C.

Specific Authority 120.54(8), 373.044, 373.046, 373.113, 373.171, 373.414, 403.812, F.S. Law Implemented 120.54(8), 373.046, 373.403, 373.413, 373.414, 373.416, 373.429, F.S. History--New 11-15-92, Amended 1/23/94, 4/20/94, 10-3-95.

**40E-40.101 Content of Permit Application.**

The content requirements for environmental resource permit applications are set forth in Rule 40E-4.101, F.A.C., and are incorporated by reference in this rule.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113, F.S. Law Implemented 373.117, 373.413, 373.416, 373.426, F.S. History--New 10-3-95.

**40E-40.112 Notice of Intent.**

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113, 373.118 F.S. Law Implemented 373.103(1), 373.118, 373.416, 373.419 F.S. History--New 9-3-81, Formerly 16K-4.021(1)(c), 16K-4.022(1)(d), Amended 12-1-82, 7-31-87, 4/20/94, Repealed 10-3-95.

(b) receive a preliminary staff recommendation of approval of such application, and  
(c) submit plans or a description of incidental site activities proposed, including proposed locations for work.

(d) provide reasonable assurances that the conditions specified in Rule 40E-40.302, F.A.C., have been met.

(4)(a) The permittee shall not construct any works or engage in any land clearing activities within 50 feet of the landward extent of wetlands or other surface waters or proposed upland preservation areas on the project site.

(b) The permittee shall excavate no closer than 200 feet of the landward extent of wetlands or other surface waters on the project site, or as otherwise specified in the permit.

(5) Authorization to conduct incidental site activities pursuant to this rule must be approved by the Regulation Department Director or designee by letter to the applicant.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113 F.S. Law Implemented 120.60(2), 373.103(4), 373.118, 373.413, 373.416, F.S. History--New 9-3-81, Formerly 16K-4.021(1), 16K-4.022(1), Amended 12-1-82, 7-31-87, 4/20/94, 10-3-95.

#### **40E-40.051 Standard General Permit Authorization.**

(1) Application procedures for standard general environmental resource permits are set forth in Rule 40E-1.603, F.A.C. and are incorporated by reference in this rule.

(2) Standard general environmental resource permit authorizations are set forth in Rule 40E-4.303, F.A.C., and are incorporated by reference in this rule.

(3) Agency action shall be taken no later than 60 days after a standard general permit application is declared complete, unless waived by the applicant or stayed by the filing of a petition for an administrative hearing.

(4) For applications for standard general permits, the Governing Board delegates to and appoints the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, Regulation Department Director, Regulation Department Deputy Director, Natural Resource Management Division Director, Surface Water Management Division Director, Service Center Directors, and Regulatory Area Managers, as its agents for the purposes of reviewing and issuing these permits.

(5) For standard general environmental resource permit applications, or permit applications under subsections 373.414(11)-(16), F.S., which involve activities located on submerged lands owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund under Chapters 253 or 258, F.A.C., the District shall conduct concurrent application and review procedures in accordance with Section 373.427, F.S., Chapter 18-21, F.A.C., and Rules 62-343.075 and 18-18.014, F.A.C.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113, F.S. Law Implemented 373.103(2), 373.103(6), F.S. History--New 10-3-95, Amended 4-1-96.

#### **40E-40.091 Publications, Rules and Interagency Agreements Incorporated by Reference.**

All publications, rules and interagency agreements incorporated by reference are set forth in Rule 40E-4.091, F.A.C.

Specific Authority 120.54(8), 373.044, 373.046, 373.113, 373.171, 373.414, 403.812, F.S. Law Implemented 120.54(8), 373.046, 373.403, 373.413, 373.414, 373.416, 373.429, F.S. History--New 11-15-92, Amended 1/23/94, 4/20/94, 10-3-95.

#### **40E-40.101 Content of Permit Application.**

The content requirements for environmental resource permit applications are set forth in Rule 40E-4.101, F.A.C., and are incorporated by reference in this rule.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113, F.S. Law Implemented 373.117, 373.413, 373.416, 373.426, F.S. History--New 10-3-95.

#### **40E-40.112 Notice of Intent.**

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113, 373.118 F.S. Law Implemented 373.103(1), 373.118, 373.416, 373.419 F.S. History--New 9-3-81, Formerly 16K-4.021(1)(c), 16K-4.022(1)(d), Amended 12-1-82, 7-31-87, 4/20/94, Repealed 10-3-95.

**40E-40.141 Request for Additional Information.** The District may request additional information from standard general permit applicants in accordance with subsection 40E-1.603(4)(c), F.A.C.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113 F.S. Law Implemented 120.60(2), 373.416, 373.419 F.S. History--New 9-3-81, Amended 4/20/94, 10-3-95.

**40E-40.302 Conditions for Issuance of Permits.** In order to qualify for a standard general permit under this chapter, the applicant must give reasonable assurances that the surface water management system meets the following general conditions:

(1) The surface water management system must meet the criteria specified in Rule 40E-4.301 and 40E-4.302, F.A.C.

(2) The surface water management system must meet the threshold conditions as set forth in Rule 40E-40.041, F.A.C.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113, 373.149, 373.171 F.S. Law Implemented 373.046, 373.413, 373.416, F.S. History--New 9-3-81, Formerly 16K-4.021(1)(a),(2), 16K-4.022(1)(a),(b), Amended 12-1-82, 7-31-87, 11-15-92, 4/20/94, 10-3-95.

#### **40E-40.321 Duration of Permits.**

Unless revoked or otherwise modified, the duration of a standard general permit authorized pursuant to this chapter is set forth in Rule 40E-4.321, F.A.C.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113 F.S. Law Implemented 373.413, 373.416, 373.419, 373.426, F.S. History--New 9-3-81, Amended 12-1-82, 7-31-87, 4/20/94, 10-3-95.

**40E-40.331 Modification of Permits.** A request for modification of an environmental resource standard general permit shall be made in accordance with this chapter, unless the permit has expired or has been otherwise revoked or suspended. Requests to modify such permits shall be made:

(1) in accordance with Rules 40E-1.603 and 40.302, F.A.C.; or

(2) by letter in accordance with Rule 40E-4.331(2)(b), F.A.C.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113 F.S. Law Implemented 373.413, 373.416(1) F.S. History--New 12-1-82, Amended 4/20/94, 10-3-95.

**40E-40.341 District Revocation or Modification of Permits.** The Governing Board may revoke a permit in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 373, F.S., and Chapter 40E-1.609, F.A.C.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113 F.S. Law Implemented 120.60(6), 373.429 F.S. History--New 9-3-81, Formerly 16K-4.021(1)(e), 16K-4.022(1)(f) F.S., Amended 12-1-82, 10-3-95.

**40E-40.351 Transfer of Permits.**

Transfer of permits shall be made in accordance with Rule 40E-4.351.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113 F.S. Law Implemented 373.413, 373.416(2), F.S. History--New 12-1-82.

**40E-40.381 General Conditions.**

(1) The standard general permits authorized pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to the general conditions set forth in Rule 40E-4.381, F.A.C.

(2) In addition to the general conditions referenced in subsection (1), the following shall apply to standard general permits authorizing incidental site activities:

(a) The permittee shall not construct any works or engage in any land clearing activities within 50 feet of the landward extent of wetlands or other surface waters on the project site.

(b) The permittee shall excavate no closer than 200 feet of the landward extent of wetlands or other surface waters on the project site, or as otherwise specified in the permit.

(c) The property must be restored to the satisfaction of the District if the individual environmental resource permit is denied or the permitted project is otherwise not in accord with the incidental site activities authorized herein.

(d) Any damage to off-site property which may have been caused by the incidental site activities herein must be mitigated or otherwise offset to the satisfaction of the District.

(e) The activities are commenced at the permittee's own risk.

(f) The permittee shall proceed to timely obtain the individual environmental resource permit.

(3) The standard general permit shall be subject to other reasonable conditions as are necessary to assure that the permitted works will not be inconsistent with the overall objectives of the District and will not be harmful to the water resources of the District.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113, 373.118 F.S. Law Implemented 373.117, 373.118, 373.413, 373.416, 373.419 F.S. History--New 9-3-81, Formerly 16K-4.021(1)(b), 16K-4.022(1)(c), Amended 7-31-87, 4/20/94, 10-3-95.

**40E-40.391 Forms and Instructions.**

(1) District forms and instructions have been approved by the Governing Board and are set forth in Rule 40E-1.659, F.A.C.

(2) Forms and instructions are available at District Service Centers upon request.

Specific Authority 120.53(1), 373.044, 373.113, 373.118, F.S. Law Implemented 120.52(16), 120.53(1), 373.085, 373.116, 373.118, 373.103, 373.106, 373.229, 373.413, F.S. History--New 10-3-95.

**40E-40.407 Permit Application Processing Fees.** There shall be a non-refundable permit application processing fee as specified by Rule 40E-1.607(3), F.A.C.

Specific Authority 373.044, 373.113 F.S. Law Implemented 373.109 F.S. History--New 10-3-95.

