

## CHAPTER 10 - RESTRICTED AREAS FOR HAZARDOUS WATERS AT DAMS AND OTHER CIVIL WORKS STRUCTURES

10-1. Purpose. This chapter establishes the policy on restricted areas upstream and downstream of certain project structures, and establishes standard criteria for determining the extent of these restricted areas.

10-2. Policy. It is the policy of the Corps of Engineers that:

a. Restricted areas prohibiting public access shall be established for the hazardous waters immediately upstream and downstream of all Corps-owned locks and dams, flood control dams, multi-purpose dams, re-regulation structures, and any other structures with similar hazards to boating or visitor safety.

b. The extent of each restricted area shall be based on hydraulic criteria and operational considerations. The minimum size of a restricted area is fixed by the hydraulic line and a buffer zone beyond the line as specified in Chapter 10 of EP 1130-2-520, and in accordance with the following criteria:

(1) Upstream restricted areas must be sized (including necessary buffer zones) to allow a boater to reach shore before being carried by currents into the dam or intake area, or to allow a reasonable expectation of rescue in the event of a boating accident or motor failure.

(2) Downstream restricted areas must be sized (including necessary buffer zones) to prevent a boat that is without power or a swimmer from being drawn into the dam or discharge areas. The restricted zones must encompass areas containing turbulent waters caused by the operation of the project that creates significant risk of swamping or capsizing small boat that are either underway, moored, or adrift.

c. Restricted area boundaries shall ordinarily be established based on high flow condition, not variable with fluctuating flows, intermittent discharges, or seasonal variations.

d. Approval authority for defining boundaries of restricted areas is delegated to MSC commanders who may redelegate the authority to district commanders.


e. The District Commander will appoint an interdisciplinary team from Safety, Hydraulics, and Operations to evaluate all applicable sites and to recommend restricted area boundaries and associated control measures. The team will consult with the person in charge at each site, other Corps representatives, and other Federal, state, and local agencies (where necessary) who may have significant interest or input in the matter. The team will document its findings, including the calculation of the hydraulic line, operational considerations and views

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from other sources. The approving authority will sign the boundary determination.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

2 APPENDIXES  
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