

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Omaha District, Corps of Engineers  
6014 U.S. Post Office and Courthouse  
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

DM 1130-2-12

MROED-HF

Memorandum  
No. 1130-2-12

1 August 1982

Project Operation  
WATER QUALITY SAMPLING

1. Purpose. This memorandum establishes policies for obtaining routine water quality samples at Omaha District area offices.
2. Applicability. This memorandum is applicable to all field operating elements having civil works responsibility.
3. References.
  - a. EO 12088 Federal Compliance with Pollution Standards.
  - b. ER 1130-2-415 Water Quality Data Collection, Interpretation, and Application Activities.
  - c. Public Law 92-500 Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972.
  - d. Public Law 95-217 Clean Water Act.
4. General.
  - a. Legislation requires that environmental quality be a major consideration in resource development, management, and operational activities of federal projects. Water quality, in particular, has become a major environmental concern because of its interrelationship with public health, water supply, and recreation. In addition, water quality improvement is a national goal and federal agencies are required to comply with substantive and procedural requirements of state and local laws.
  - b. The Omaha District's primary water quality responsibilities are outlined in ER 1130-2-415. Briefly, these responsibilities include establishing base-line conditions and monitoring subsequent changes, identifying water quality-environmental problems, providing guidance to reservoir regulation elements, studying special problems, and providing an adequate data base and understanding of project conditions. Because of the size of the Omaha District and expenses associated with travel, per diem, or contracting, routine water quality sampling activities have been delegated to area personnel where possible.

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c. Water quality monitoring is essentially a three-part process consisting of sampling, chemical and/or biological analysis, and data analysis. A breakdown at any point in this three-part process automatically negates the work efforts of individuals involved in any other part of this three-part process. Thus, it is imperative that individuals involved in any step of the water quality process do their job in a timely and professional manner.

5. Responsibilities.

a. It is the responsibility of Water Quality and Sediment Section personnel to equip and train area Natural Resource Management personnel in order to insure the use of appropriate sampling techniques.

b. It is the responsibility of area Natural Resource Management personnel to conduct routine sampling in a timely and professional manner to insure the quality of the work performed. It is also the responsibility of area personnel to report problem occurrences or sampling delays to the Omaha District Water Quality and Sediment Section as soon as possible.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

  
GRANT L. FREDRICKS  
LTC, Corps of Engineers  
Deputy Commander

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