

571—13.7(455A,461A,462A) Review standards. Department staff shall conduct an environmental review of the application. In completing the environmental review, different bureaus and staff members of the department will provide input based on law, professional judgment, data and accepted scientific theory. The following standards shall apply to permits issued under the rules of this chapter:

13.7(1) *Uses of public lands and waters.* Development of public lands and public waters permitted by these rules shall be limited to projects that meet all of the following criteria. The projects:

a. Are built to minimally impact the natural resources of public recreational use and navigation on such lands and waters. Specifically, applicants must demonstrate that the project accomplishes all of the following:

- (1) Does not negatively impact water quality in or around the proposed permitted area.
- (2) Minimizes erosion and sedimentation in or around the proposed area.
- (3) Minimizes detrimental impacts to biological and botanical resources in or around the proposed area, including upland, wetland and sensitive areas and unique community structures.
- (4) Complies with laws and regulations related to threatened and endangered species, through both federal and state programs.

b. Utilize the smallest amount of public lands and public waters.

c. Do not convert the public lands and public waters to an exclusive or private use.

d. Are the only viable method for conducting the activities, and no viable alternatives to constructing on public lands exist.

13.7(2) *Shoreline erosion protection and retaining walls.* Shoreline erosion protection activities may be permitted if the activities are in compliance with rule 571—13.6(455A,461A,462A) and the following additional standards:

a. Shoreline erosion protection activities on meandered sovereign lakes shall be limited to placement of native stone riprap, extending to a maximum of four feet horizontally within or below the elevation contour line of the OHWM. Placement of earth fill within the OHWM shall not be allowed. Retaining walls, sheet piling, gabions or other retaining structures shall be placed above the OHWM. When such retaining structures are placed at the OHWM, they must be faced with native stone riprap.

b. Shoreline erosion protection activities on meandered sovereign rivers, except the Mississippi River, shall be limited to placement of approved in-stream erosion control structures or native stone or standard riprap. Riprap shall extend riverward from the OHWM and may not exceed a slope of two feet horizontal to one foot vertical (2:1). Placement of earth fill below the OHWM shall not be allowed. Retaining walls, sheet piling, gabions or other retaining structures shall not be placed within the OHWM. When such retaining structures are placed at the OHWM, they must be faced with riprap.

c. Shoreline erosion protection activities on the Mississippi River shall be limited to placement of approved in-stream erosion control structures or native stone riprap. Riprap shall extend riverward from the OHWM and may not exceed a slope of two feet horizontal to one foot vertical (2:1). Placement of earth fill within the OHWM shall not be allowed. Retaining walls, sheet piling, gabions or other retaining structures shall not be placed within the OHWM. When such retaining structures are placed at the OHWM, they must be faced with native stone riprap.

d. Retaining walls on all meandered sovereign lakes and meandered sovereign rivers. The landowner shall maintain the wall system at all times and take corrective measures to eliminate any nuisance condition, repair deterioration of the structure, eliminate erosion around the structure, and repair damage to the structure caused by the action of the water or ice. When a retaining wall or other structure placed on the shoreline prevents the public from traversing the shoreline, the landowner shall grant the public a license to walk from the landowner's property within 15 feet of the top of the wall or structure for the purpose of traversing the shoreline.

Notwithstanding the prohibitions in this subrule, nothing in this subrule shall prohibit activities that would be part of habitat development or natural resources mitigation projects constructed or approved by a political subdivision of the state and subject to review under these rules.

13.7(3) *Quality of the applicant.* Applicants or authorized agents who have a current violation for another project are not eligible for consideration for a permit under these rules unless and until all other

noncompliant projects have been remediated and any enforcement actions related to the same have been resolved or satisfied.

13.7(4) *Cantilever access structures.* Permanent cantilever access structures that lawfully existed and were lawfully permitted under prior sovereign lands construction permit rules as of April 15, 2009, shall be deemed lawfully permitted under these rules. All cantilever access structures that were not lawfully installed prior to April 15, 2009, or were installed after April 15, 2009, shall be regulated as docks by 571—Chapter 16.

13.7(5) *Beaches, canals, commercial boat ramps, and channels.* Permits may be granted to maintain existing beaches, canals, and channels lawfully installed as of April 15, 2009, to ensure the navigation and safety of those existing lawful beaches, canals, and channels. The department shall not permit new beaches, canals, commercial boat ramps or artificial channels or expansion of existing beaches, canals, commercial boat ramps or artificial channels, except that the department may permit new beaches, canals, commercial boat ramps and artificial channels and expansions of existing beaches, canals, commercial boat ramps and artificial channels when such establishment or expansion would be under the jurisdiction of a political subdivision of the state, would be accomplished to provide public access to the water, and would meet the review standards established by these rules.

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