What is a Jurisdictional Dam?

Division of Water Resources (DWR)

Public Service Announcement

Get a determination from DWR prior to constructing a dam!

Information to provide to KDA-DWR for a determination:
- Location of the dam
- Height
- Reservoir capacity table
- Elevation of emergency spillway (if there will be one)
- Land owner information
Jurisdictional Dam for KDA-DWR

- 25 feet or more in height
- 6 feet or greater in height and a storage volume at the top of the emergency spillway of 50 acre-feet or more.

My Dam is Non-Jurisdictional, Now What?

- Non-jurisdictional dams on a stream with a large enough drainage area will require a stream obstruction permit from KDA-DWR.
- If the structure is not on a designated stream but is in a FEMA defined floodplain, a floodplain fill permit will be required.
DWR Exemptions

• Embankment has a height of less than 30 feet and a storage volume at the top of the emergency spillway of less than 125 acre-feet AND is considered low hazard.
  ➢ Must register with KDA Dam Safety to qualify for exemption.
  ➢ Registration form can be found on our website.

• A wastewater storage structure for a confined feeding facility that has been approved by the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.
Hazard Classifications: Class “A” — Low

- Dam located in an area where failure could damage only farm or other uninhabited buildings, agriculture or undeveloped land including hiking trails, or traffic on low-volume roads.
- Low volume roads are 0 through 500 vehicles per day.
- If there is a roadway across the top of the dam, 0 through 100 vehicles per day is considered low volume.

My Dam is Class “A” Exempt, Now What?

- If the project is within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated floodplain, the project will require a floodplain fill permit.
Hazard Classifications:
Class “B” — Significant

- Dam located in an area where failure could:
  - endanger a few lives
  - damage an isolated home
  - damage traffic on moderate-volume roads
  - damage low-volume railroad tracks
  - interrupt the use or service of a utility serving a small number of customers
  - inundate recreation facilities, including campground areas intermittently used for sleeping and serving a relatively small number of persons
- Moderate-volume roadway is considered 501 through 1,500 vehicles per day.
- Roadway across the top of the dam 101 through 500 vehicles per day.

Hazard Classifications:
Class “C” — High

- Dam located in an area where failure could result in any of the following:
  - extensive loss of life
  - more than one home
  - damage to industrial or commercial facilities
  - interruption of a public utility serving a large number of customers
  - damage to traffic on high-volume roads
  - inundation of a frequently used recreation facility serving a relatively large number of persons
  - two or more individual hazards described in hazard class B
- High volume roads are more than 1,500 vehicles per day.
- Roadway across the top of the dam more than 500 vehicles per day.
Additional Permitting

USACE 404 Permitting

DWR Water Rights Permitting

Local permitting (county, city, etc.)

DWR Contacts

• Dam Permits – Ambrose Ketter
  • 785-564-6653 or Ambrose.Ketter@ks.gov
• Stream Obstruction & Floodplain Fill Permits – Contact Janelle Phillips
  • 785-564-6656 or Janelle.Phillips@ks.gov
Questions?

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