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| **QUESTION** | **Application** |
| **SS8.1** | Is Wood Mulching applied as required? |
| **CGP, Attachment C.D.2, D.D.2, E.D.2** | Risk Level 1, 2 and 3 dischargers shall provide effective soil cover for inactive1 areas and all finished slopes, open space, utility backfill, and completed lots.  1 Inactive areas of construction are areas of construction activity that have been disturbed and are not scheduled to be re-disturbed for at least 14 days. |
| **CGP, Attachment D.E.3, E.E.3** | Risk Level 2 and 3 dischargers shall implement appropriate erosion control BMPs (runoff control and soil stabilization) in conjunction with sediment control BMPs for areas under active2 construction.  2 Active areas of construction are areas undergoing land surface disturbance. This includes construction activity during the preliminary stage, mass grading stage, streets and utilities stage and the vertical construction stage. |
| **13-1.03A General** | Install soil stabilization materials for water pollution control practices in all work areas that are inactive or before storm events. |
| **SPECs, 13-5.03A General** | Apply temporary soil stabilization materials within 24 hours after an area is ready to receive temporary soil stabilization or before a forecasted storm event. |

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|  | **Installation** |
| **SS8.2** | Is Wood Mulching installed properly? |
| **SPECs, 13-5.03C Temporary Mulch** | If rates are not shown, spread mulch to a uniform thickness to form a 2-inch thick blanket. |
| **SPECs, 20-7.03I(10) Mulch** | Spread mulch placed in areas outside of plant basins to a uniform thickness as shown.  Mulch must be placed at the rate described and placed in the plant basins or spread in areas as shown after the plants have been planted. Mulch placed in plant basins must not come in contact with the plant crown and stem.  Spread mulch from the outside edge of the proposed plant basin or plant without basin to the adjacent edges of shoulders, paving, retaining walls, dikes, curbs, sidewalks, walls, fences, and existing plantings. If the proposed plant or plant without basin is 12 feet or more from the adjacent edges of shoulders, paving, retaining walls, dikes, curbs, sidewalks, walls, fences, and existing plantings, spread the mulch 6 feet beyond the outside edge of the proposed plant basin or plant without basin.  Do not place mulch within 4 feet of the (1) flow line of earthen drainage ditches, (2) edge of paved ditches, or (3) drainage flow lines. |

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|  | **Materials** |
| **SS8.3** | Does Wood Mulching consist of the proper materials? |
| **SPECs, 20-7.02D(6) Mulch**  **20-7.02D(6)(a) General** | Mulch must not contain more than 0.1 percent of deleterious materials such as rocks, glass, plastics, metals, clods, weeds, weed seeds, coarse objects, sticks larger than the specified particle size, salts, paint, petroleum products, pesticides or other chemical residues harmful to plant or animal life. |
| **SPECs, 20-7.02D(6)(b) Tree Bark Mulch** | Tree bark mulch must be derived from cedar, Douglas fir, or redwood species.  Tree bark mulch must be ground so that a minimum of 95 percent of the material by volume is less than 2 inches and no more than 30 percent by volume is less than 1 inch. |
| **SPECs, 20-7.02D(6)(c) Wood Chip Mulch** | Wood chip mulch must be derived from clean wood and not contain leaves or small twigs.  Wood chip mulch must have an average thickness of 1/16 inch, length between 1/2 inch and 3 inches, and a width 3/8 inch or greater. At least 95 percent of wood chips, by volume, must conform to these dimensions. |
| **SPECs, 20-7.02D(6)(d) Shredded Bark Mulch** | Shredded bark mulch must be a blend of loose, long, thin wood or bark pieces derived from trees with a high length-to-width ratio. A minimum of 95 percent of the wood strands must have lengths from 2 to 8 inches, with a width and thickness from 1/8 to 1-1/2 inches. |
| **SPECs, 20-7.02D(6)(e) Tree Trimming Mulch** | Tree trimming mulch must be derived from chipped trees and may contain leaves and small twigs.  Tree trimming mulch must have a particle size such that a minimum of 95 percent of the material by volume is less than 3 inches and no more than 30 percent by volume is less than 1 inch. |

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|  | **Maintenance** | |
| **SS8.4** | Is Wood Mulching maintained properly? | |
| **CGP, Order IV.E Proper Operations and Maintenance** | The discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain any facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the discharger to achieve compliance with the conditions of this General Permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. Proper operation and maintenance may require the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems installed by a discharger when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this General Permit. |