# Getting To Implementation: Program Options for Puerto Rico



# **Puerto Rico is Not Alone!**

## **Implementation is Difficult**

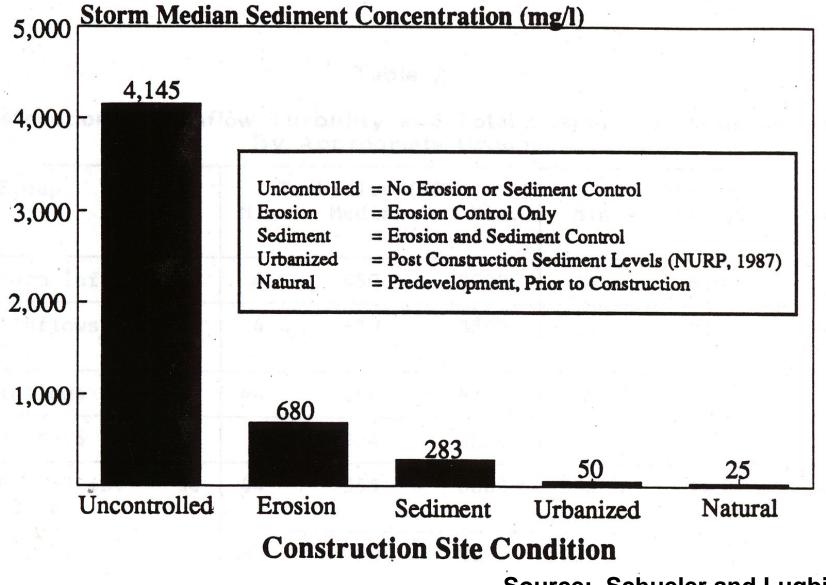
#### \$738,500,000

Soil loss @150 tons/ac/year 16,500,000 tons 15,670,000 cu. yd.

Statewide activity 10,000 sites Approximately 110,000 ac. disturbance

**State of MD** 

Effect of Erosion and Sediment Control Measures On Suspended Sediment Concentrations From Piedmont Construction Sites



Source: Schueler and Lugbill, 1990

Erosion Control Implementation? •Staff & Resources •Politics (Enforcement) •Conventional Way of Doing Things •Agency Coordination

## Why Implementation is Important!



Selected Program Options for ESC (Derived From 1/29/06 Meeting)

- Private Certifications & Licensing
- Performance Bonds
- Training for Inspectors
- Conditions in Contracts
- Incentives Through Review Process (Streamlining)
- Enforcement (Civil Penalties)
- Demonstration Projects (Caguas)
- Others?

## **ESC Implementation Tool #1**



# **1. Private Certification and Licensing**

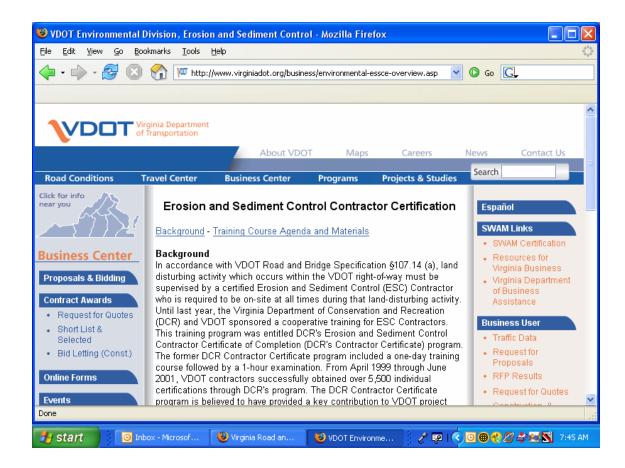
## What It Is:

- Training program for contractors, private inspectors, and plan preparers
- Attend training session, take exam and receive official sanction
- Maintain an official list
- List tied to certain requirements plan approval, weekly inspections, onsite presence, etc.

1. Private Certification and Licensing: Delaware Sediment & Stormwater Program

- State requires a Certified Construction Reviewer (CCR) to provide inspection duties
- State provides certification
- CCR must become familiar with site plan
- Reports prepared by CCR on weekly basis throughout duration of project
- ESC controls must be in accordance with approved plan and Handbook; non-compliance must be reported to State
- State pursues enforcement actions
- State has ability to revoke certification

#### **Virginia DOT: Contractor Certification**



Required for Contractor to Get State Contract for Road Work

# **1. Private Certification and Licensing**

#### PROS

- Tied to economic incentive
- Simple administration from centralized agency
- Provides consequences for bad actors

#### <u>CONS</u>

- Self-policing seldom adequate as stand alone enforcement tool
- Bad actor consequences can be hard to enforce

## **ESC Implementation Tool #2**



## **2. Performance Bonds**

What It Is:

- Financial Surety Posted Prior to Plan
  Approval and/or Grading Permit
- Motivator for Compliance
- Usually Required in Code
- Allows Program Authority to Cash Bond & Conduct Work if Applicant is not in Compliance

## 2. Performance Bond Example: Albemarle County, VA

- Bond posted for Erosion & Sediment Control & Stormwater Management prior to plan approval
- Bond estimate based on cost + 25%
- Partial bond reductions based on inspection – retain 20% until complete
- Annual renewal fee extensions beyond 1 year discouraged
- Bonds tracked in data base
- Bonds cashed in rare instances
- Administration 20% of FTE (60 bonds annually)

## 2. Performance Bonds

#### PROS

- Economic incentive for compliance
- Good complement to
  other enforcement tools

#### <u>CONS</u>

- Administrative burden (compute bonds, inspections, data base)
- Politically & administratively difficult to cash bonds & perform work
- Bonds need a life span

# ESC Implementation Tool #3

# Training for Inspectors



# 3. Training for Inspectors

What It Is:

- Training for those involved in carrying out or complying with inspection aspects of ESC
- Can be tied into private certifications
- Can consist of a one-day course covers minimum standards and specifications for conservation practices, basic soil mechanics and inspector skills
- Require recertification every 3 years or so

## 3. Training for Inspectors Example: Virginia DCR

- Erosion and Sediment Control Training and Certification
  - localities are required to have a certified inspector
  - Initial certification requires an Erosion and Sediment Control 101 course and one specifically geared at inspection
  - Inspectors must be recertified every 3 years
  - Recertification can be completed through online course
  - Maintains a list of certified inspectors on

# 3. Training for Inspectors

#### <u>PROS</u>

- Simple
- Builds motivation
- Keep inspectors upto-date on technolgies
- Help provide consistent enforcement

#### <u>CONS</u>

- Turnover?
- Uncertain results

## **ESC Implementation Tool #4**



## **4. Conditions in Contracts**

#### What It Is:

- Contracts for government work (roads, municipal projects, etc.) specify training, preparation of plans, and compliance
- May be coordinated with training and/or certification program

### 4. Contract Example: CalTrans

- Storm Water Management Enforcement Guidance Manual – <u>Standard Specs</u>
  - Contractor develops water pollution control program
  - State not liable for delays due to lack of program
  - Temporary or permanent stabilization for each 70,000 square meters (17.3 acres)

## 4. Contract Example: CalTrans

- Storm Water Management Enforcement Guidance Manual – <u>Special Provisions</u>
  - Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan as per State Manual
  - Retention of funds for noncompliance
    (25%) (most effective compliance tool)
  - Training for water pollution control manager (annual certification)

# 4. Contract Example: CalTrans

- Storm Water Management Enforcement Guidance Manual – <u>Special Provisions</u> (cont.)
  - Special rainy season plans (max. disturbed)
  - Inspections & Maintenance
  - Scheduling
  - Removal of temporary BMPs
  - Suspension of work/contract termination

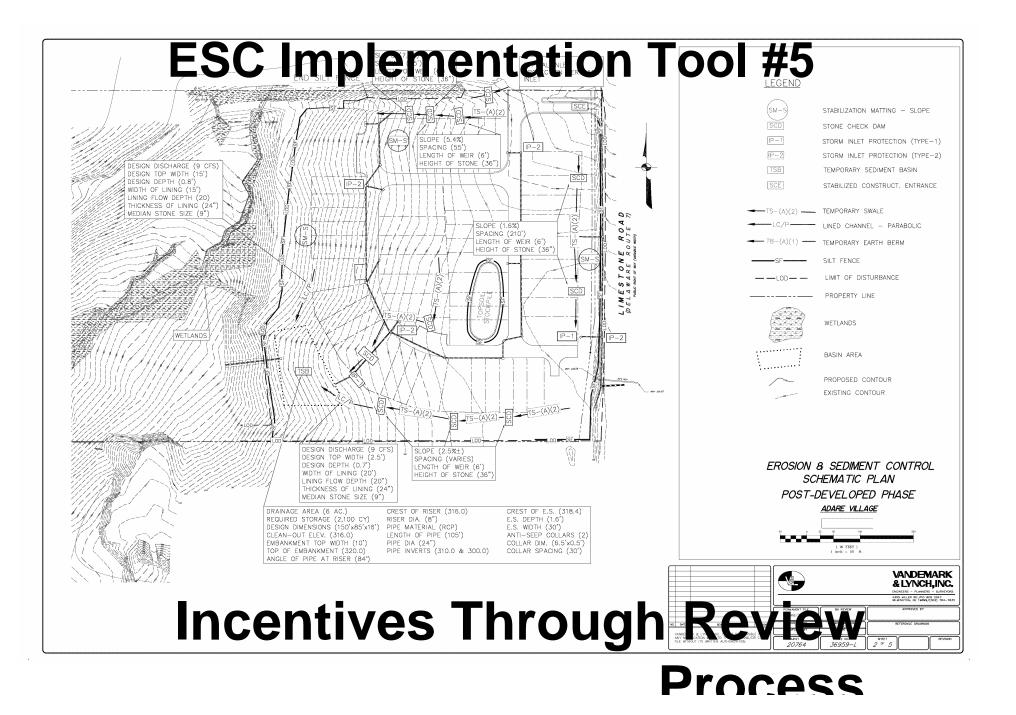
## 4. Contract Conditions

#### <u>PROS</u>

 Highlights Erosion Control Early in Process (contract)

#### <u>CONS</u>

- Often forgotten during construction, except if there is conflict
- Difficult to Enforce (legal action)



## 5. Incentives Through Review Process

What It Is:

- Review and Approval process for site plans is sometimes time consuming and results in lengthy delay
- Use a ESC checklist to verify complete plan
- If plan is complete and meets checklist, it becomes a fast-track priority

# 5. Incentives Through Review Process

#### <u>PROS</u>

- Carrot
- Leads to better plans
- Encourage interagency coordination

<u>CONS</u>

- Delays in approval usually a symptom of several issues (lack of staff, etc.) – may not be as simple as moving to top
- Only applies to review stage, does not ensure good implementation
- Result in inadequate

## **ESC Implementation Tool #6**



## 6. Enforcement: Civil Penalties

What It Is:

- Specified in Code
- Civil Fines for Specified Violations (like a traffic ticket)
- Requires Trained Inspection Staff

## Existing PR Regulation: Regulation for the Control of Erosion and Prevention of Sedimentation (EQB)

- Rule 1240.D
- Rule 1260
  - Cease & Desist
  - Show Cause Orders
  - Revoke Permits
  - Administrative Fines up to \$25,000 per day
  - Contumacy Fines up to \$50,000 per day
  - Criminal Penalties



DIRT

COPS

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### 6. Civil Penalties Example: Roanoke County, VA Ticket Book

	ROANOKE COUNTY COMMU EROSION & SEDIMEN <u>SUMMON</u>	T CONTRO			
Project Name/Tax Map #:	File N	0	Inspection Date:		Time:
Inspected by:	Owner/Developer:			RLD:	
Location of Violation(s):					
	JT A PERMIT	\$1000/DAY	x _	DAYS =	
STD 3.01 Safety Fence		\$100/DAY	× _	DAYS =	
STD 3.01 Safety Fence	intrance	\$100/DAY \$100/DAY	× –	DAYS = DAYS =	
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## 6. Civil Penalties

#### <u>PROS</u>

- Effective Compliance
- Easier to Apply than Criminal Penalties

<u>CONS</u>

- Political Will Needed to
  Apply Tool
- Need Control of "Renegade" Inspectors
- Need Enough Inspectors to Document Conditions at Sites
- Judges Not Always
  Sympathetic

## **ESC Implementation Tool #7**

# Demonstration Projects

## 7. Demonstration Projects

#### What It Is:

- demonstration projects that illustrate the use, design, installation and maintenance of innovative erosion and sediment control practices
- Incorporate into workshops, certifications, tours, websites, etc.

- 7. Demonstration Projects Example: UVI Cooperative Extension Service
- Installed ESC practices at the CES Home Demonstration Garden
- Demonstrate the proper use and installation of practices not widely used in the territory:
  - erosion control mats, hydroseeding, and triangular dikes
- Demonstrate the proper siting, installation and maintenance of silt fencing;
- Display different native and adapted grasses and ground covers that can be used for erosion control; and
- Provide public education and outreach on effective erosion and sediment control methods

## 7. Demonstration Project

#### PROS

- Non-threatening but convincing
- Allows govt agencies to set good example and high bar
- Good outreach potential
- Grants/Funding

#### <u>CONS</u>

- Temporary
- Risk factor some projects fail
- One piece of puzzle

