

## Process to Determine if a USCG Bridge Permit is Required

1. Check USCG's Navigability List for waterways.
2. If listed as Non-Navigable – No permit required.
3. If listed as “Navigable,” then:
  - (1) Does activity qualify for an exemption?
    - (a) If “yes” – no permit required.
    - (b) If “no” – permit is required.
4. If not listed as a navigable waterway, then:
  - (1) Submit “Navigability Determination Request” form to USCG.
    - (a) If USCG determines as non-navigable—no permit required.
    - (b) If USCG determines as navigable, then:
      - (1) Does project qualify as an exemption?
        - (a) If yes – no permit required.
        - (b) If no – permit is required.

## Initial USCG Bridge Permit Applicability Questions

1. Is the waterbody tidally influenced? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Is the waterbody on the USCG Navigable Waterbody List? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Does the bridge cross a tributary of a listed Navigable Waterbody? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Can a boat be used on the waterbody? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

*If yes to any of the above, provide the list of “minimum information required for initial review” to FHWA.*

### List of Minimum Information Required for Initial USCG Review

- 8 ½ x 11 drawing of proposed structure with dimensions for the height between ordinary high water and “low steel” and the bridge width (simple line drawing preferred).
- Description of anticipated construction method, including temporary construction or access bridge if applicable.
- Photographs upstream and downstream at the crossing location.
- Aerial photos (if available).
- Location/Vicinity map.

*Provide any relevant information available that could assist in determining the USCG Bridge Permit applicability.*

## **Information Required for USCG to Determine Navigability of a Waterway**

1. Waterbody name:
2. Tributary to (if applicable):
3. Physical characteristics:
  - (a) Type of waterway (river, bay, slough, estuary)
  - (b) Length
  - (c) Width
  - (d) Depth at Mean High Water
  - (e) Drainage area
  - (f) Discharge volumes (maximum, minimum, mean)
  - (g) Cross-section or profile at proposed crossing
  - (h) Fall per mile
  - (i) Velocity of Flow (maximum, minimum)
  - (j) Elevation of water surface at:
    - Design High Water (25 or 50 year flood)
    - Mean High Water (mean annual flood)
    - Mean Low Water (average low observed during navigation season)
  - (k) Extent of tidal influence
  - (l) Tributary of or to another waterway
4. Past or present use of the waterway by boats, vessels, barges, rafts, canoes, etc.
5. Past or present use of the waterway for interstate commerce:
  - (a) General types, extent and period of time.
  - (b) Documentation, if necessary.
6. Nature and location of significant obstructions to navigation.
7. Length of time the waterway is open for navigation:
  - (a) Time of spring break-up.
  - (b) Time of fall freeze-up.
8. Description of any known proposed or completed projects to improve the condition of the waterway for navigation.
9. Pictures of the waterway in the vicinity of the proposed crossing at periods of high and low tides.
10. Pictures of any obstructions to navigation.
11. List any other information that could assist in the navigability determination.