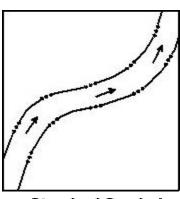
EC-4 DIVERSION CHANNELS/INTERCEPTOR DITCHES

Refer to: ITD Standards and Specifications for Highway Construction, Sections 208, 209, 212. ITD Standard Drawing P-1-D.





Standard Symbol

Definition and Purpose

Diversion channels or interceptor ditches are small excavations for diverting overland flow away from exposed slopes, conveying the water to where it can be safely discharged through a stabilized outlet or to a sediment basin.

Appropriate Applications

- Diversion channels or interceptor ditches are used above the top of slopes, at the toe of slopes or embankments, in material sources, and at waste sites to collect and divert runoff.
- Temporary diversion channels or interceptor ditches can be used on the lower side of cleared areas that are awaiting excavation. They can also be used along benches on large slope faces to reduce the length of an uninterrupted slope face.
- A diversion channel or interceptor ditch may be used in conjunction with a berm or dike. Flows concentrated by a diversion channel or ditch and dike or berm should be discharged using chutes, flumes, or slope drains. Concentrated flows should be discharged to a stabilized area or a permanently vegetated area.

Limitations

- Mechanical stabilization may be required for temporary channels or ditches with large or swift flows and/or highly erodible soils.
- Conditions of an NPDES permit and/or a 404 permit may apply.



Design Parameters

- The diversion outlet may be discharged to a non-wetland (preferably vegetated) area, sediment basin, an artificially stabilized area. The diverted runoff should not be allowed to overtop the dike or lip of the ditch. Discharge should be to a flat or gently sloping area and at a non-erosive flow velocity.
- Side slopes of the channel or ditch should be 2H:1V or flatter, and the grade should be gradual.
- The diversion channel or interceptor ditch may consist of a trench and a dike or berm. If a berm or dike is used, it should be compacted as specified.
- Other sediment-control measures, such as sediment basins, ditch checks, etc., may be required to filter or trap sediment before the runoff leaves the site.
- Erosion of channels and their embankments must be minimized through the use of erosion controls and velocity dissipation devices per the NPDES permit.
- Field adjustments shall be made as necessary to ensure proper performance.

Maintenance and Inspection

- Conduct inspections as required by the NPDES permit or contract specifications.
- Repair damaged areas immediately, and remove obstructions.
- Remove the channel or ditch, if it not part of the projects permanent stabilization plan.
- The area feeding runoff to the channel or interceptor ditch shall be permanently stabilized before the channel or ditch is removed.