

# Mosaic's NPDES Primer



Because of Florida's sub-tropical climate, significant amounts of rain water can sometimes collect on Mosaic mining and manufacturing operations property. Releasing excess rain water into public waterbodies through permitted National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) outfalls is necessary to ensure we continue operating in a safe and efficient manner, while also being protective of the quality of Florida's waterbodies.

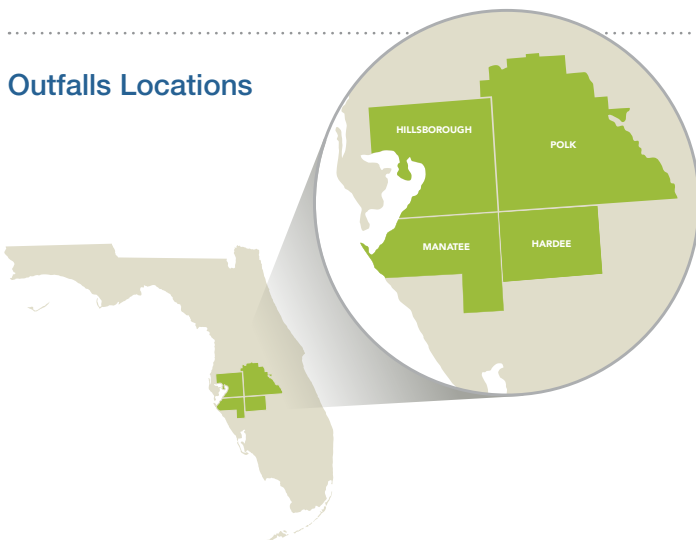
## What is a NPDES permit?

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean Water Act, no industry or entity is allowed to release water through any point source that flows into a "water of the United States" unless they have a NPDES permit. The overarching goal of the NPDES program is to protect and maintain public waters by regulating the type and amount of constituents that can be released. In Florida, the EPA has delegated authority to issue NPDES permits to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

## Does Mosaic release water into public waterbodies?

Before Mosaic can release any storm water through a permitted outfall, state-of-the-art water treatment methods are used to meet strict federal and state guidelines meant to protect people and the environment. Mosaic adheres to all rules and regulations to obtain NPDES permits for our industrial operations and to maintain authorization for surface water and groundwater releases across our Central Florida footprint.

## Outfalls Locations



## How does Mosaic release excess storm water?

Currently, Mosaic has several active outfalls at our operating sites across Central Florida which are authorized by NPDES permits to release water. Mosaic monitors each outfall for water quality and flow based on stringent permit requirements and we analyze the receiving waters (e.g. streams, rivers) for various constituents. We follow rigid quality control procedures to ensure that we only release water through these permitted outfalls that meet or exceed state water quality standards.

**The majority of water released through Mosaic outfalls occurs during the summer months when there is an excessive amount of rainfall.**

## How often does Mosaic monitor water quality at the permitted outfalls and nearby waterways?

To safeguard nearby waterways, outfalls are monitored for water quality on a daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, semiannual and annual basis. Specific monitoring protocols are outlined in each individual facility's NPDES permits. Mosaic staff also routinely monitors the water quality of neighboring waterbodies to ensure the 'fishable and swimmable' benchmark for public water(s) is maintained.

Many of our NPDES permits also include groundwater monitoring plans which are specific to the operations at each site. These plans require Mosaic to conduct routine monitoring of groundwater wells on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, semiannual and annual basis. The majority of water released through Mosaic outfalls occurs during the summer months when there is an excessive amount of rainfall.