

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Pittsburgh District

Public Notice

In Reply Refer to Notice No. below

US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District 1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. 2009-2009

Date: October 27, 2010

Notice No. 10-65

Closing Date: November 19, 2010

1. <u>TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN</u>: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

2. APPLICANT:

Jerry Woomer Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission 450 Robinson Lane Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823

- 3. <u>LOCATION</u>: Hereford Manor Lakes, Zelienople, Franklin Township, Beaver County, Pennsylvania (40° 48' 39.3"N, 80° 9' 39.6"W)
- PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant proposes to breach both the upper and lower dams at Hereford Manor Lakes. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Dam Safety has mandated that the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) repair or breach the dams due to safety concerns. The PFBC has determined that breaching the dam is the most feasible option at this time. They intend to restore the streams that exist within the impoundment to their preexisting flow paths based on historical data. Additionally, a new culvert will be installed under State Route 288 to convey the reestablished stream to the Connoquenessing Creek. The area within the impoundment will be planted with native vegetation. 0.58 acre of PEM wetland and 0.05 acre of PSS wetland will be directly impacted by the activity and 5.78 acres of wetland may potentially be indirectly impacted by the breach. The mitigation plan that has been submitted proposes to monitor the area that was within the impoundment to see what wetlands establish naturally. Once the wetlands have had a reasonable opportunity to establish, they will be delineated and compared with pre-project acreages. If the wetlands do not naturally establish themselves in ratios that would adequately account for replacement ratios of 1:1 for PEM, 2:1 for PSS and 3:1 for PFO then a corrective action plan must be submitted. Drawings of the proposed conditions are attached to this notice.

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5. <u>ENCROACHMENT PERMIT</u>: The applicant must obtain a Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit which includes 401 Water Quality Certification from the:

PA Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Waterways Engineering PO Box 8460 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8460

Office Phone: 717-787-3411

- 6. <u>IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES</u>: According to PNDI Project Environmental Review Receipt number 20100217229513, further review was required by the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) for the Indiana Bat. In a letter dated August 25, 2010, the PGC deferred comments on potential impacts to Indiana bats to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This Public Notice serves as a request to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).
- 7. <u>IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted, and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the register which would be directly affected by the proposed work. Additionally, in a letter dated July 8, 2010 from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, it was their opinion that the proposed project will have no effect on archeological resources and no evaluation of historic structures would be necessary. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515).
- 8. <u>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.
- 9. <u>EVALUATION</u>: Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposals must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic

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properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. The evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

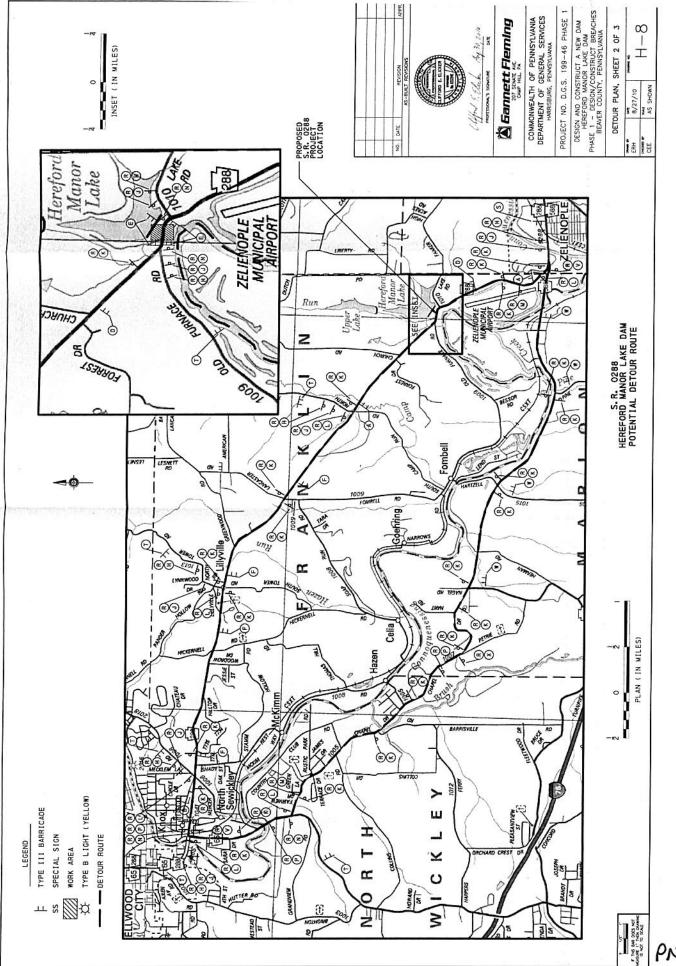
10. <u>RESPONSES</u>: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination. Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn Jared N. Pritts at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7251, or by e-mail at jared.n.pritts@usace.army.mil Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 2009-2009 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

SIGNED

Marcia H. Haberman Chief, Southern Section Regulatory Branch





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