

## **Public Notice**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District In Reply Refer to Notice No. below US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District 1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. LRP-2021-414

Date: January 14, 2022

Closing Date: February 13, 2022

Notice No. 22-04

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. <u>APPLICANT</u>: City of DuBois

Attn: Mr. Chris Nasuit 16 West Scribner Avenue DuBois, PA 15801

3. LOCATION: 34-acre site at 96 Guy Avenue in City of DuBois, PA

4. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant proposes to construct a new wastewater treatment plant including tanks, buildings, driveways, access road across Sandy Lick Creek, outfall structure and stormwater management facilities. The currently existing wastewater treatment plant will be demolished and the existing access bridge over Sandy Lick Creek will be removed. The project is needed due to the age and condition of the current facility and in order to meet effluent limitations under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit.

The project area is 34 acres and currently includes the existing wastewater treatment plant, outfall structures, an access bridge across Sandy Lick Creek, wetlands, woods, grassy areas and trails. The existing surrounding land uses include residential areas to the southwest, commercial development to the southeast and wooded areas and a commercial railroad yard to the north. Four streams and five wetlands were identified within the project area. The five palustrine emergent and scrub-shrub wetlands located onsite total 2.92 acres The applicant is proposing a total of 1.17 acre of permanent wetland impact.

The applicant is proposing to mitigate for the 1.17 acre of wetland impact by creating 2.21 acre of emergent and scrub-shrub wetland onsite in three separate, yet closely neighboring, mitigation areas. The mitigation areas also neighbor existing wetlands and will be graded to similar elevations. Following the completion of grading activities a wetland meadow seed mix along with buttonbush and red osier live stakings will be planted throughout.

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

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Northwest Regional Office Waterways and Wetlands Section 230 Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335 Telephone: 814-332-6945

- 6. <u>IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES</u>: The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect on endangered species or threatened species or result in destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. While concurrence with this determination is not required, 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. 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 (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 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,

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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. Public comments may be subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Division, attn. Paul Leffler at the above address or by e-mail at paul.m.leffler@usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-RG LRP-2021-414 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

//SIGNED//

Tyler J. Bintrim Chief, North Branch Regulatory Division

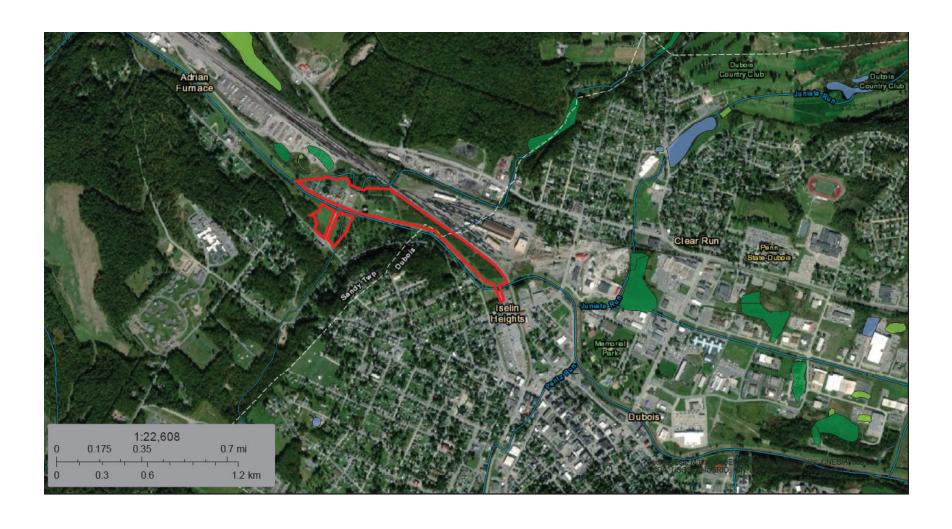


Exhibit 1: Site location and project area outlined in red.

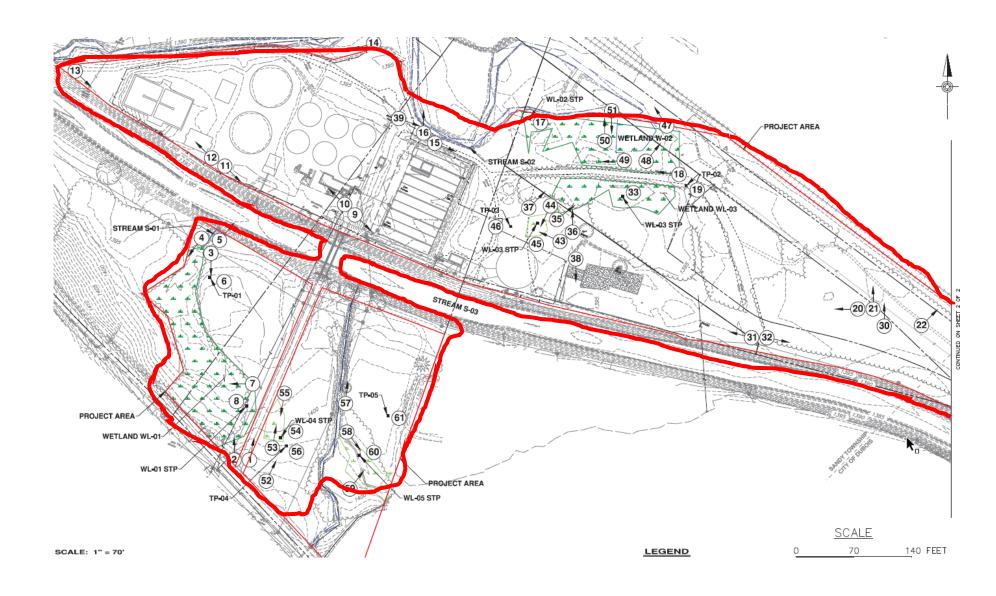


Exhibit 2: Project area and wetlands

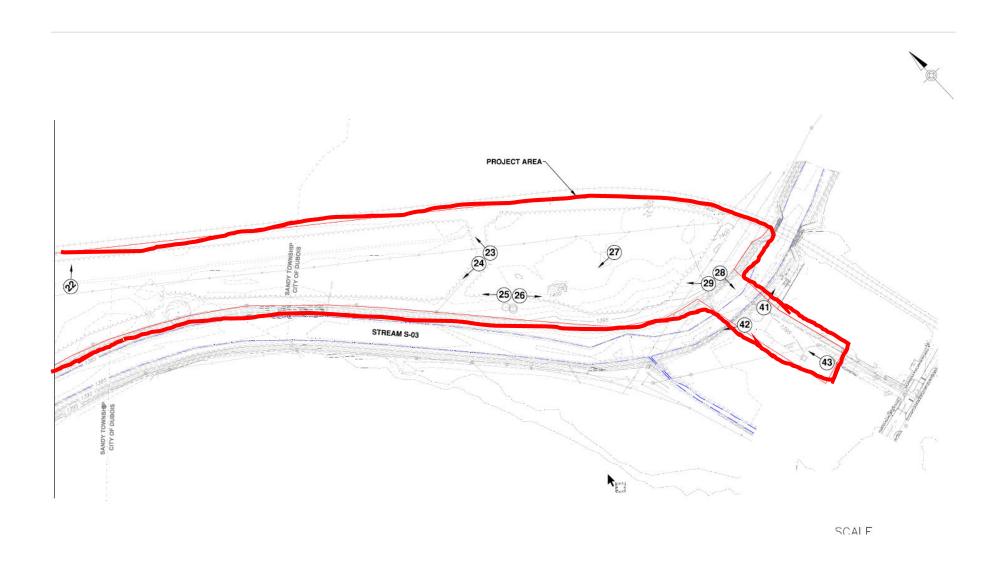


Exhibit 3: Eastern portion of project area.

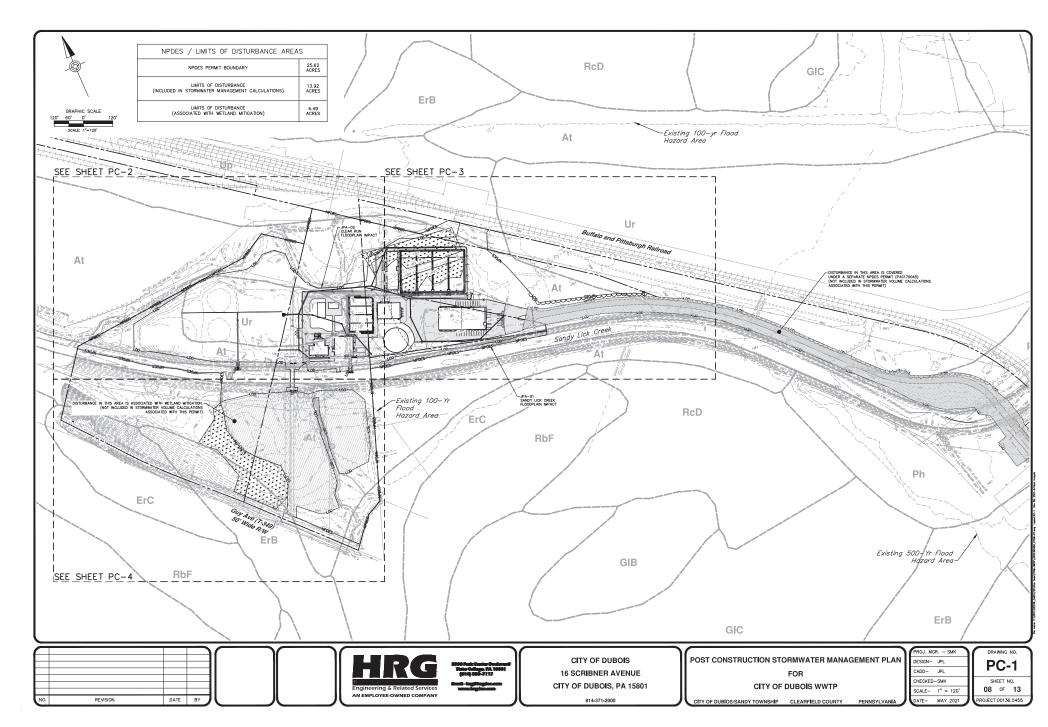


Exhibit 4: Proposed Construction Plan

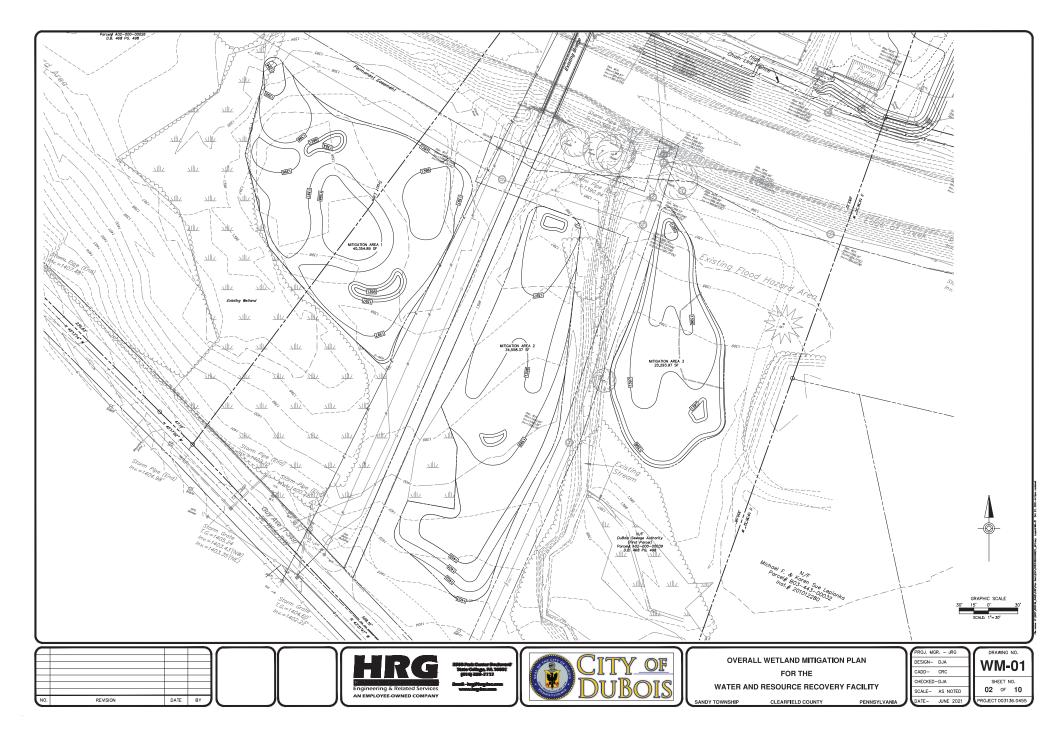


Exhibit 5: Proposed mitigation area onsite