

**U.S. Army Corps** of Engineers

Pittsburgh District

1.

## **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. LRP-2020-405

Date: March 24, 2021

Notice No. 21-10

the Clean Water Act.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of

Closing Date: April 25, 2021

2. **APPLICANT:** City of Alliance

c/o Kimberly Laquatra 12251 Rockhill Avenue, NE

Alliance, OH 44601

- 3. LOCATION: The proposed site is located at Berlin Lake northeast of the Alliance Wastewater Treatment Plant that is located at 12251 Rockhill Avenue, NE, Alliance, OH 44601 in Lexington Township, Stark County, Ohio (40.958364, -81.115563).
- 4. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant proposes to construct a new, 36-inch, 1,150 linear foot effluent pipeline adjacent to an existing 48inch effluent pipeline located at the Alliance Wastewater Treatment Plant property in Alliance, Ohio. The new effluent pipeline will convey flow from the wastewater treatment plant effluent collection chamber to the plant outfall on Beech Creek (Berlin Lake). The purpose of the project is to increase the plant capacity from 32 million gallons per day to 50 million gallons per day. The pipeline will be installed via open trench methods which would result impacts to the following jurisdictional resources: 1,049 linear feet of a perennial, unnamed tributary to Beech Creek (aka Stream 1), 1.13 acres of adjacent, forested wetland (aka Wetland A, PFO), and 0.69 acres of Berlin Lake. The proposed project will remove existing trees and shrubs within a 60-foot wide work limit, and a 37foot corridor within that work limit will be kept free of trees and shrubs to maintain the long term integrity of the pipelines. This would result in the conversion of approximately 0.7 acre of forested wetland. The applicant has proposed to purchase 3.4 wetland In-Lieu Fee Program credits as mitigation for the impacts to the forested wetlands. Stream and lake impacts will be temporary as these resources will be returned to preconstruction elevations upon project completion. Drawings of the proposed activity are attached to this notice.

5. <u>WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION</u>: A Permit will not be granted until Water Quality Certification is received or waived from:

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) Section 401 Coordinator PO Box 1049 Columbus, Ohio 43266-0149 Telephone Number: 614-644-2001

- 6. <u>IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES</u>: The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect endangered species or threatened species, or result in destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. 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). If the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurs with the may affect, not likely to adversely affect determination please respond with written concurrence.
- 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 (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,

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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, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

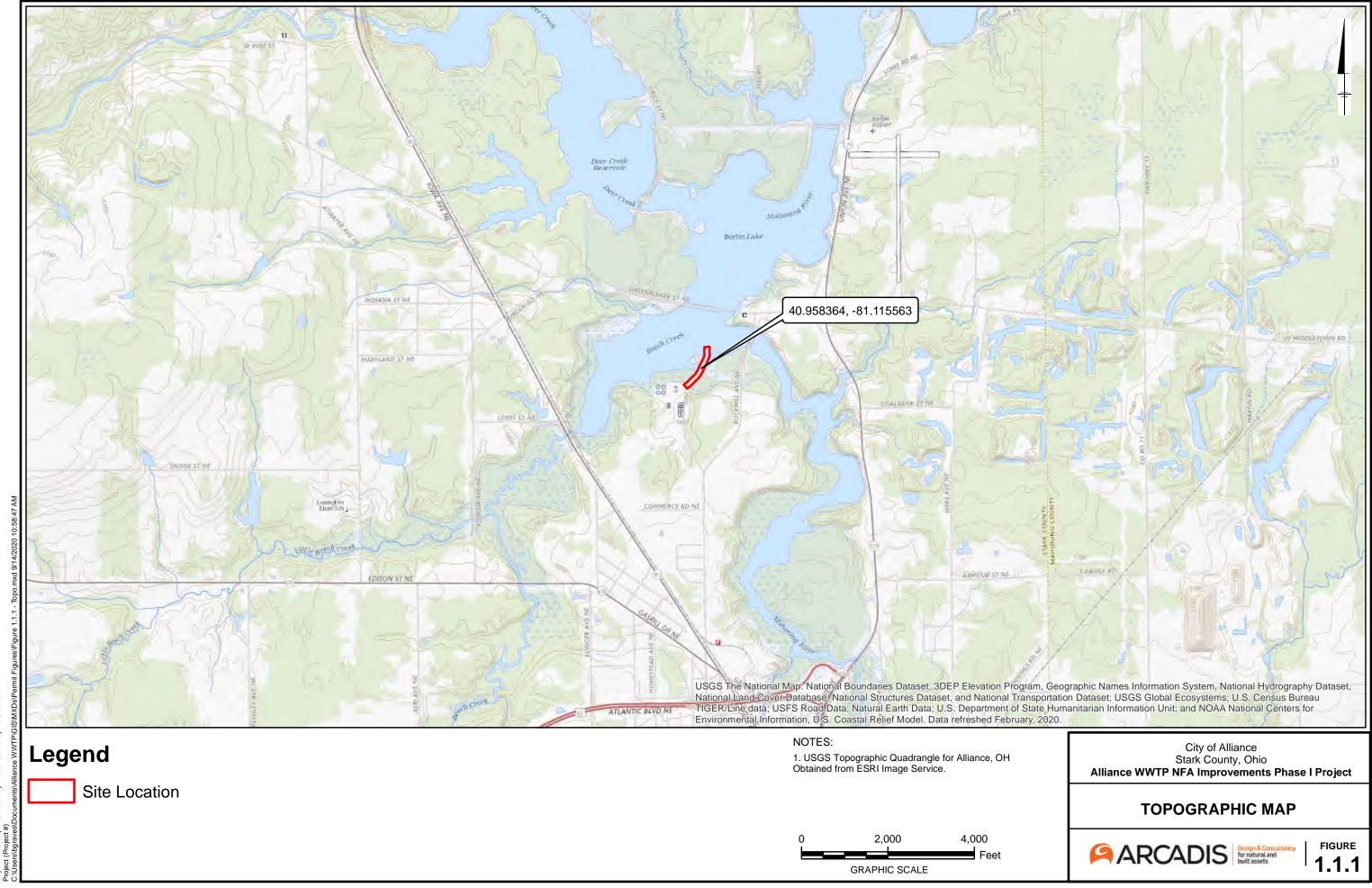
The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine 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, attention Kristina Tarasan at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7153, or by e-mail at Kristina.M.Tarasan@usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-RG LRP-2020-405 in all responses.

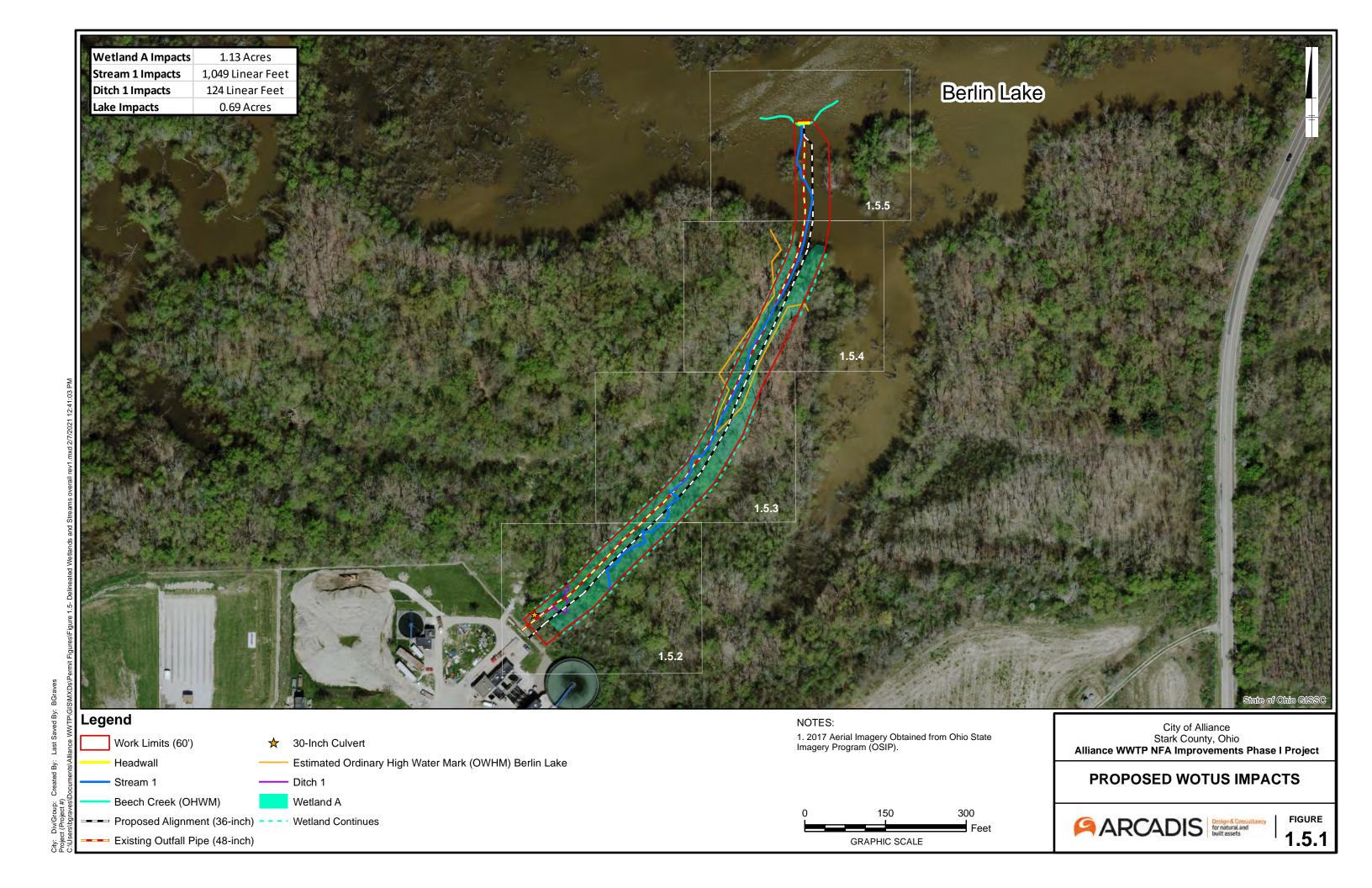
FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

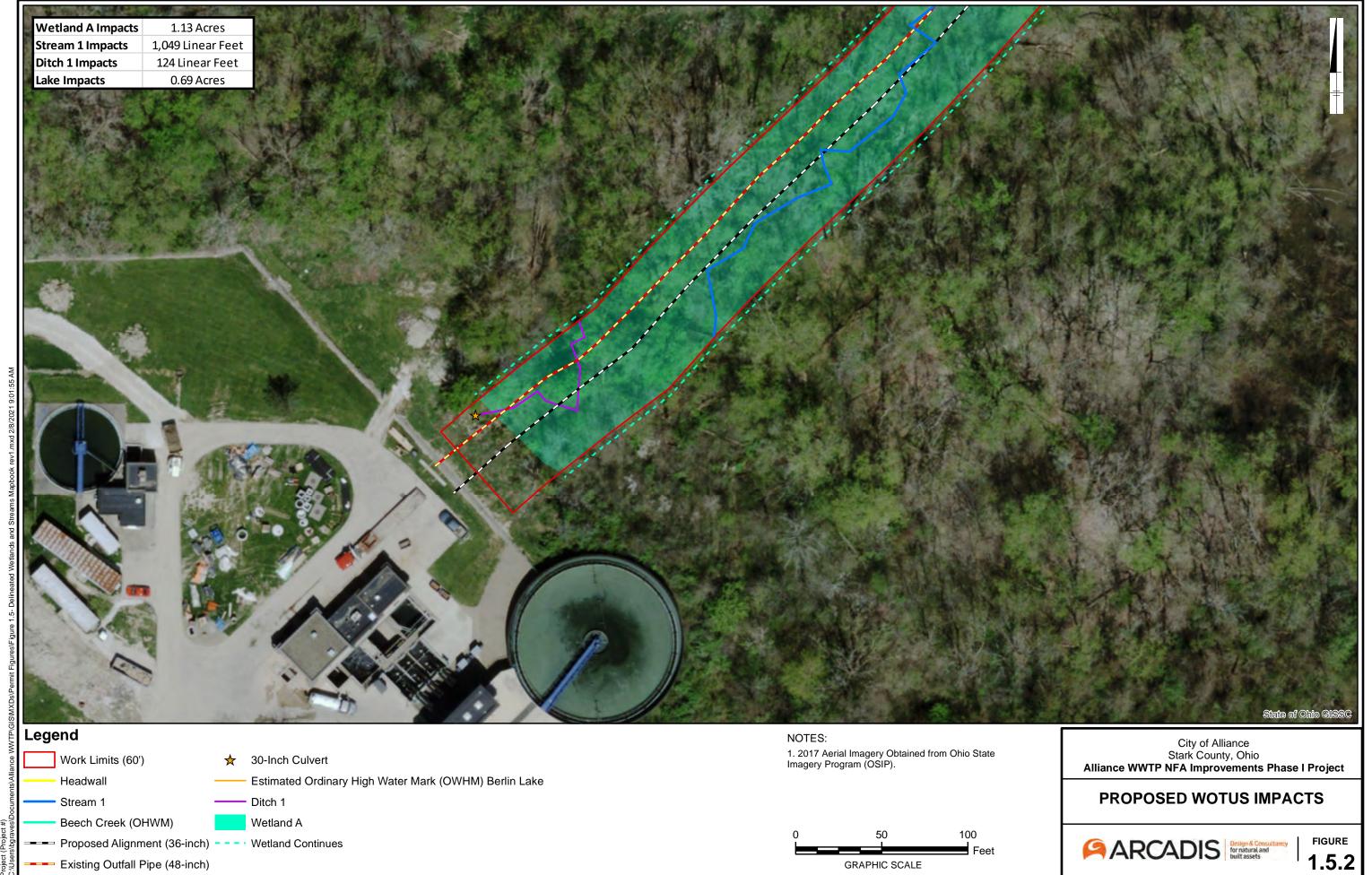
//SIGNED//

Tyler J. Bintrim Chief, North Branch Regulatory Division



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