

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. 2014-1109

Date: March 11, 2016

Notice No. 16-08

Closing Date: April 11, 2016

1. <u>TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN</u>: The following Unnamed Tributary (UNT) to Whitehorn Creek Stream Restoration Project has been submitted by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) for approval under the West Virginia In-Lieu Fee Program (WVILF). (WVDEP ILF Project #13056)

2. <u>APPLICANT</u>:

Brian Bridgewater WV In-Lieu Fee Coordinator West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection 601 57th Street, SE Charleston, WV 25304

- 3. <u>LOCATION</u>: The stream restoration project will be completed at the Frazier site along Whitethorn and Jackthorn Creeks off Lightstone Drive, the South Branch of the Potomac (HUC-02070001) watershed in Pendelton County, West Virginia.38.450990 North, -79.407517 West.
- 4. <u>PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK</u>: The WVDEP proposes to restore 730 LF of stream for a net stream credit of 601.03. The Corps, in coordination with the WV Interagency Review Team (IRT), has provided initial approval to WVDEP to expend funds and develop the mitigation site plan (MSP) for this project. Please see attached information for details.
- 5. <u>WEST VIRGINIA CERTIFICATION</u>: In addition to the WVIRT approval of the WVDEP MSP for the Frazier ILF site, a Corps permit is required pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for any discharges of dredged or fill material into Waters of the U.S. The State of West Virginia, Division of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), previously issued State Certification for Nationwide Permit No. 27, Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment and Enhancement Activities. The Corps anticipates authorizing the work under NWP 27 if the MSP is approved by the WV IRT. Please contact the below for any questions concerning State Certification:

Ms. Wilma Reip, 401 Program Manager

Phone: 304-962-0499 ext. 1599 E-mail: Wilma.reip@wv.gov

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 (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. EVALUATION: 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, 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

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(40 CFR Part 230).

10. <u>RESPONSES</u>: This project will be authorized under the existing WVILF Instrument 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, comments can be mailed to:

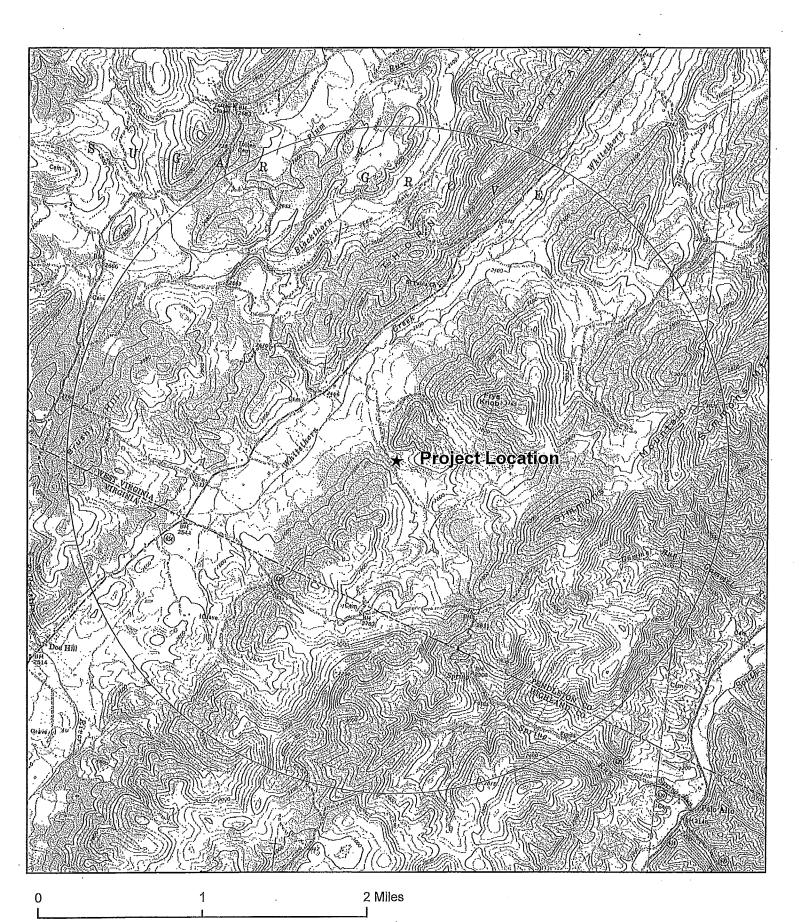
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District 1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186 Re: Public Notice CELRP-OP-F No. 16-09

Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the WVDEP for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to approve as an ILF project. All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn Matthew Gilbert at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7189, or by e-mail at matthew.c.gilbert@usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 2014-1109 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

/signed/

Karen A. Kochenbach Chief, South Section, Regulatory Branch



National Register of Historic Places does not indicate any locations in the 2 mile radius

