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. 2010-895 Date: December 5, 2016

Notice No. 16-63 Closing Date: December 19, 2016

1. TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

2. APPLICANT: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 11-0
   Thoms Run Road
   Bridgeville, Pennsylvania 15017

3. LOCATION: The project is located in North Sewickley Township and Kopple Borough, Beaver County, Pennsylvania. Decimal Degrees: 40.84141 N, -80.31667 W

4. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: This application was previously authorized by Nationwide Permit 14 & 33 on October 17, 2016, however due to constructability concerns the applicant has asked to increase the footprint (s) of the causeway area. The applicant proposes to place fill material into waters of the United States for construction activities associated with the replacement of the existing State Route 0351, Section B10 bridge over the Beaver River. The existing bridge carries SR 0351 across the Beaver River in northern Beaver County, and connects the town of Kopple on the southwest side of the river with Ellwood City on the northeast. A new four-span bridge is proposed to be constructed immediately downstream from the current bridge. Construction of the new bridge will commence with building access roads, construction staging areas, and causeways to facilitate construction of the new bridge and demolition of the existing bridge. The construction of the access road will result in approximately 8 linear feet of temporary impact to an unnamed tributary to the Beaver River. The construction of the cofferdam and phased construction of two causeways will temporarily impact approximately 78,099 square feet of riverbed. The new pier will impact approximately 540 square feet of riverbed. Drawings of the proposed project are attached. Additional details and/or drawings of the proposed project are available upon request.

5. ENCROACHMENT PERMIT: On November 28, 2016 the applicant obtained a Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit which includes 401 Water Quality Certification from the:
   Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
   Southwest Regional Office
   Waterways and Wetlands Section
   400 Waterfront Drive
   Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745
6. **IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES:** The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and determined that the project may affect, but 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. Due to the potential involvement with the Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis) the applicant has agreed to place a seasonal restriction from November 16 to March 31 on cutting trees within the project area. 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. **IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES:** 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. **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:** 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 (40 CFR Part 230).

10. RESPONSES: 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 Allen R. Edris at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7158, or by e-mail at allen.r.edris@usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 2010-895 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

~~-SIGNED~~

Scott A. Hans
Chief, Regulatory Branch
Koppel Bridge
Project Location Map

Source: Beaver Falls, PA USGS Quadrangle