



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Rock Island District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: Mr. Wayne Schiebel

Date: October 15, 2004

Expires: November 13, 2004

CEMVR-OD-P-2004-936

Section: 404

**Joint Public Notice
US Army Corps of Engineers
Iowa Department of Natural Resources**

1. Applicant. Mr. Wayne Schiebel, 1033 Prairie Avenue, Liscomb, Iowa 50148
2. Project Location. Section 25, Township 86 North, Range 18 West, near Conrad, Grundy County, Iowa; Unnamed tributary of Wolf Creek.
3. Project Description. The applicant proposes to regrade and tile a small tributary stream. The purpose of the project is to provide a tiled, grassed waterway to facilitate farming operations. The tiled waterway would be crossable by farm equipment for most of the season except during wet periods in the Spring. The existing channel has a continuous low flow most of the season. The streambed is typically wet all season. The stream channel is 3000 feet long. Drainage area above the project site is 412 acres. Bottom width is 10 feet. Depth from top-of-bank to streambed is 5 to 6 feet. Top width of the channel is 35 to 40 feet. The average slope of the streambanks is in the range of 2 (horizontal) : 1 (vertical), to 3 (h) : 1 (v). The sideslopes of the channel are mostly grass covered and stable. However, the active streamflow has incised and downcut the streambed 1 to 2 feet in parts of the channel. The stream and the riparian grass buffers have an overall width of 150 to 200 feet. Dominant vegetation is Reed Canarygrass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), Bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*), Timothy (*Phleum pratense*), Smartweed (*Polygonum*), and Sedges (*Carex*). The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) performed a certified wetland determination of the farm tract. Two wetland areas were delineated adjacent to the tributary stream. The upstream wetland is along the east (right) side of the stream and is 0.3 acre in size. The downstream wetland is along the west (left) side of the stream and is 0.4 acre in size. Total wetlands is 0.7 acre. Wetland vegetation includes Reed Canarygrass (FACW+), Smartweed (OBL-FACW), and Sedges (OBL-FACW).

Subsurface drainage tile will be installed on both sides of the channel and will outlet at the north property line. Existing lateral tiles will be connected to the new drainage main. Drainage tile will need to be installed no closer than 100 to 125 feet from the edge of the two wetland areas. Or, non-perforated tile will be installed through or near the two wetland areas. The non-perforated tile would extend 100 to 125 feet beyond the perimeter of the wetland, or as specified by the NRCS, to minimize lateral drainage of the wetland areas.

The stream channel will be excavated and regraded. Bottom width will be 10 feet or wider. Depth will be 5 to 6 feet. With sideslopes at 8 (h) : 1 (v), the top width of the new waterway would be approximately 106 feet, or wider. Final design may be provided by the NRCS. The perimeter of the two wetlands will be flagged so the waterway excavation work will avoid disturbing these wetland areas. Otherwise, compensatory wetland mitigation would be required.

Since streambed downcutting has occurred, then the Corps will recommend, and may require, that rock riffles be designed and installed. A minimum of four rock riffles are recommended. One riffle near the upstream end; one at the downstream end of each of the two wetlands, and one at the downstream end of the waterway. A rock or culverted crossing could also be constructed for farm equipment to cross during periods when the waterway is too wet.

4. Agency Review and Where to Reply.

a. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers. The Department of the Army application is being processed under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

b. State of Iowa. The project plans have been submitted to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for state certification of the proposed work in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The certification, if issued, will express the Department's opinion that the proposed activity will comply with Iowa's water quality standards (Chapter 61 IAC). The applicant has also applied for authorization of work in the floodplain pursuant to Chapter 455B of the Iowa Code and other applicable state permits. Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Iowa should be addressed to: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 900 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. A copy of the comments should be provided to the Corps of Engineers office (see paragraph 11. of this public notice for address).

5. Historical/Archaeological. The Corps consulted with the District geographic information systems (GIS) archeological site and survey databases current as of May 2004. The query determined that the permit area had not been surveyed previously and that more than 7 previously recorded cultural resource sites were documented in the immediate vicinity of the permit area. The permit area has the potential to contain historic properties that may be potentially eligible for listing on the NRHP and will require the applicant to submit two (2) copies of a Phase I archaeological survey and geomorphological evaluation report covering the permit area. The applicant, in addition to this Phase I report, may be required to conduct additional Phase II test excavations to evaluate sites for eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP as well as other studies, site avoidance, or data recovery as may be the case.

6. Endangered Species. District staff have performed a preliminary review of this application for the potential impact on threatened or endangered species pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. Based upon the information provided and available at this time, our preliminary determination is that the proposed activity would have no effect on federally-listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat. While no consultation has been initiated with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) at this time, we are further coordinating this application with the FWS and the respective resource agencies through this public notice. Accordingly, our preliminary determination is subject to change should further information become available.

7. Dredge/Fill Material Guidelines. The evaluation of the impact of the proposed activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

8. Public Interest Review. The decision whether to issue the Corps 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 proposal, 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, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

9. Who Should Reply. 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 need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. These statements should be submitted on or before the expiration date specified at the top of page 1. These statements should bear upon the adequacy of plans and suitability of locations and should, if appropriate, suggest any changes considered desirable.

10. Public Hearing Requests. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. A request may be denied if substantive reasons for holding a hearing are not provided.

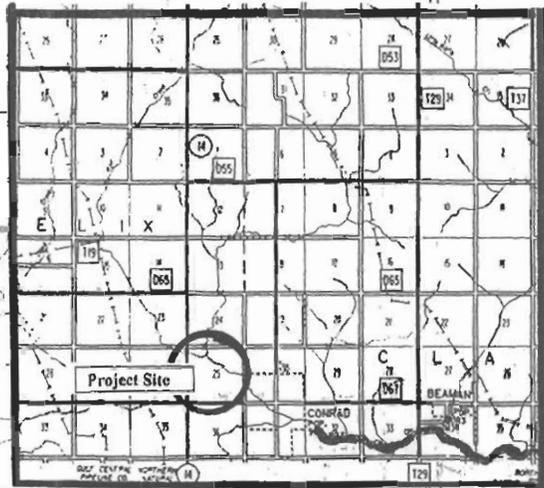
11. Reply to the Corps. Comments concerning the Corps permit should be addressed to the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, ATTN: OD-P, Clock Tower Building - Post Office Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004. **Mr. Marlyn W. Schafer (309/794-5377)** may be contacted for additional information (email: marlyn.schafer@usace.army.mil).

Attach
Plan

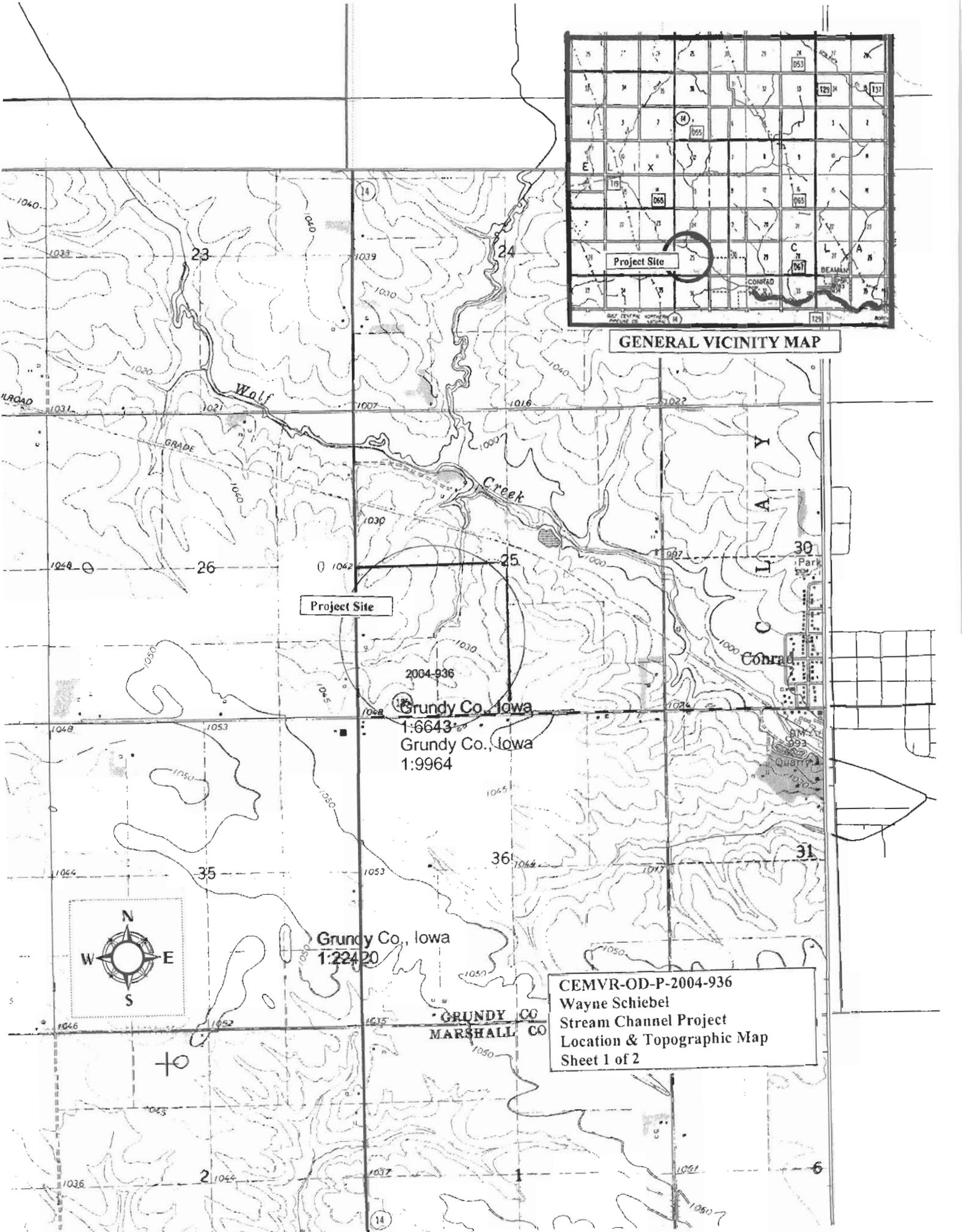
Marlyn W. Schafer
Project Manager
Regulatory Branch

REQUEST TO POSTMASTERS: Please post this notice conspicuously and continuously until the expiration date specified at the top of page 1.

NOTICE TO EDITORS: This notice is provided as background information for your use in formatting news stories. This notice is not a contract for classified display advertising. For more information call the Rock Island District Public Affairs Office, 309/794-5274.



GENERAL VICINITY MAP



Project Site

2004-936
 Grundy Co., Iowa
 1:6643
 Grundy Co., Iowa
 1:9964

Grundy Co., Iowa
 1:22420

GRUNDY CO
 MARSHALL CO

CEMVR-OD-P-2004-936
 Wayne Schiebel
 Stream Channel Project
 Location & Topographic Map
 Sheet 1 of 2



