

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps of Engineers ® Rock Island District

> Applicants: Tama County Conservation Board

Date: July 22, 2021

Expires: August 20, 2021

CEMVR-RD-2021-0907

Section 404

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

1. **Applicant**: Tama County Conservation Board, c/o: Mr. Stephen Mayne, 2283 Park Road, Toledo, Iowa 502342.

2. **Project Location**: The project is located at Otter Creek Lake & Park, east of CR R22/North 10th Street, west of North Warrior Lane, north of I-35/I-80, west of N Avenue, east of M Avenue, north of 28th Street, and south of 260th Street, in Sections 30 and 31, Township 84 North, Range 14 West, Tama County, Iowa. UTM NAD-83 Zone 15, Latitude 42.046205, Longitude -92.520305.

3. **Project Description**: The Applicant proposes to stabilize the banks of Otter Creek Lake utilizing a combination of erosion control techniques. This project also involves dredging in the lake that will not require a permit. The spoils will be placed in uplands. This project is Phase 3 of a series of phased projects to improve the water quality of the lake. Impacts to Waters of the U.S., will occur through the placement of riprap, earthen fill/geogrids, the creation of new jetties, and the enhancement of existing jetties. Specifically, this project will involve the permanent loss of 0.477 acres of wetland and 0.97 acres of open water, and permanent impacts to approximately 4477 linear feet of lake shoreline. Otter Creek Lake will be impacted along 4477 linear feet of its shoreline for placement of riprap and earthen fill /geogrids. There will be a loss of 0.461 acres of wetland for placement of riprap and a loss of 0.016 acres of wetland for placement of earthen fill/geogrids. There will be a loss of 0.551 acres of Otter Creek Lake for constriction of new jetties and a loss of 0.376 acres of Otter Creek Lake for the enhancement of existing jetties. As this project exceeds 0.1 acres of wetland loss, and the mitigation thresholds for previous phases have been met, mitigation will be required for all phases of this project. The applicant proposes to mitigate for the losses of aquatic resources through permittee responsible mitigation, on-site in the northwest corner of Otter Creek Lake. Alternatives, both on-site and off-site will be evaluated to ensure compliance with the 404 B 1 guidelines.

4. **Purpose and Need**: The applicant states that Otter Creek Lake's water quality is impaired, and one source of this impairment is the shoreline erosion that releases sediment into the lake and downstream waterbodies. The applicant states that purpose of this project is to repair and stabilize the eroded shoreline of the lake to protect the shoreline from erosion and improve the water quality.

5. Agency Review:

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, 502 E. 9th Street, 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).

6. **Historical/Archaeological**: The Corps consulted with the Iowa I-Sites online geographic information systems (GIS) archeological site and survey databases (including the HILD data layer) and there were no sites in proximity of the project area shown on the I-Sites GIS website. A Phase 1 Archeologic Survey was complete, and no eligible sites were discovered. A "**no historic properties affected**" determination was made and the Phase 1 survey will be coordinated with the Iowa SHPO.

7. Endangered Species: District staff has 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. The following threatened or endangered species are listed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as occurring in Polk County, Iowa: (https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/)

- Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis) & Northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis) The project area does not contain any known roost trees or hibernacula. The project area does contain large forested areas and potentially suitable habitat so this project **may affect but is not likely to adversely affect** any endangered and threatened bats. Coordination with the United States Fish and Wildlife service may be conducted.
- Prairie Bush-clover (Lespedeza leptostachya) The project site does not contain dry to mesic prairies with gravelly soils; therefore, the Corps has determined there will be **no effect** to this species.
- Western Prairie Fringed Orchid (Platanthera praeclara) The project site does not contain mesic to wet unplowed tallgrass prairies and meadows, therefore the Corps has determined there will be **no effect** to this species.
- Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid (Platanthera leucophaea) The project site does not contain mesic to wet prairies and meadows; therefore, the Corps has determined that there will be **no effect** to this species.

8. **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).

9. **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.

10. 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.

11. **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.

12. **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: RD (MEINCKE), Clock Tower Building - Post Office Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004. For additional information contact **Mr. Alex Meincke 309-794-5368**) or email: <u>alexander.c.meincke@usace.army.mil</u>.

Alex Meincke

Attach Plan Mr. Alex C. Meincke Project Manager, Western Branch Regulatory Division

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.



Figure 1. Location Map

Request for Individual Permit Otter Creek Lake & Park - Shoreline Stabilization Project Tama County Conservation Board



0

2,000 4,000 Feet







Figure 2. Map Index

Request for Individual Permit Otter Creek Lake & Park - Shoreline Stabilization Project Tama County Conservation Board



400 800 Feet







Wetland Impacts (0.003-ac) Earthen Fill/Geogrid: 9.2-cy

Wetland Impacts (0.006-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 18.6-cy Wetland Impacts (0.166-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 534.9-cy

> Wetland Impacts (0.240-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 775.5-cy

Wetland Impacts (0.008-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 26.2-cy

Wetland Impacts (0.002-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 6.3-cy

Wetland Impacts (0.001-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 2.8-cy

Otter Creek Lake

Figure 2A. Plan View Request for Individual Permit Otter Creek Lake & Park - Shoreline Stabilization Project Tama County Conservation Board



150 300





Wetland Impacts (0.002-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 7.8-cy

Wetland Impacts (0.002-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 6.4-cy

> Wetland Impacts (0.006-ac) Earthen Fill/Geogrid: 18.9-cy Wetland Impacts (0.007-ac) Earthen Fill/Geogrid: 22.4-cy

Wetland Impacts (0.001-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 3.9-cy

> Otter Creek Lake

Wetland Impacts (0.001-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 3.6-cy

> Wetland Impacts (0.004-ac) / Rock Riprap Fill: 14.5-cy

Wetland Impacts (0.024-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 76.0-cy

Wetland Impacts (0.004-ac) Rock Riprap Fill: 14.1-cy

Wetlands
Shoreline Protection Measures
Riprap
Earthen Fill/Geogrid
New Jetties
Jetty Enhancements

Figure 2B. Plan View Request for Individual Permit Otter Creek Lake & Park - Shoreline Stabilization Project Tama County Conservation Board



150

300

🗖 Feet

1













Spoil Site Locations Spoil Site Locations Otter Creek Lake & Park Project Tama County Conservation Board

