



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

# PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: Iowa Department  
of Natural Resources

Date: May 9, 2023

Expires: June 7, 2023

CEMVR-RD-2023-277

Section 404

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

1. **Applicant:** Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 806 East Trail Ridge Place, Indianola, Iowa 50125.

2. **Project Location:**

- Rock Creek Lake in Rock Creek State Park
- Sections 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, and 18, Township 90 North, Range 17 West
- Jasper County, Iowa
- UTM NAD-83 Zone15
- Lat 41.7453, Long -92.8484.

3. **Project Description and Purpose:** The applicant proposes to stabilize the bank of Rock Creek Lake by placing rock armoring along the shoreline at 57 locations for a total distance of 18,510 linear feet. Most of the riprap is new and will be placed along the shoreline on a 2:1 slope with the toe at a depth below ordinary high-water mark between one to three feet. The riprap will be placed one to three feet below pool elevation. No bank reshaping is required. All disturbed areas will be seeded, mulched, and fertilized. The applicant has stated there are no impacts on existing wetlands, no borrow areas, stockpile and staging will occur in existing gravel parking lots, there will be no tree clearing, and existing trees will be preserved and worked around with small equipment. There is no borrow areas needed for this project and the riprap will come from a limestone rock quarry. The purpose of this project is to stabilize the shoreline of Rock Creek Lake

4. **Avoidance and Minimization:** Avoidance and minimization efforts were minimized by installing riprap at the eroding bank line locations, no tree clearing, utilizing existing parking lots for staging and stockpiling locations, and no bank reshaping. The applicant also looked at using Flexamat, but that requires bank shaping measures, which may impact additional waters of the U.S., and the lake would be required to be drained for installation. The applicant reviewed vegetation alternatives. However, they have stated that the use of this bank stabilization measure is difficult to impossible to establish on an actively eroding lakeshore and that it does not provide protection from wind fetch that occurs on a large lake. Stream mitigation will not be required due to the nature of the project does as is not considered a loss of aquatic resources.

## 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 (IDNR) 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 East 9<sup>th</sup> 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 United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is providing federal funding for this project under Section 319 and is the federal lead for National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) compliance, which includes Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. A copy of the USEPA's NEPA compliance with Section 106 will be provided to the Corps for concurrence prior to a Section 404 permit issuance.

7. **Endangered Species.** The USEPA is providing federal funding for this project under Section 319 and is the federal lead for NEPA compliance, which includes Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. A copy of the USEPA's NEPA compliance with Section 7 will be provided to the Corps for concurrence prior to a Section 404 permit issuance.

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 US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, Attn: RD (K. Brown), Clock Tower Building - Post Office Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004. **Ms. Kirsten Brown** may be contacted for additional information at (309) 794-5369 or email at [Kirsten.L.Brown@usace.army.mil](mailto:Kirsten.L.Brown@usace.army.mil).

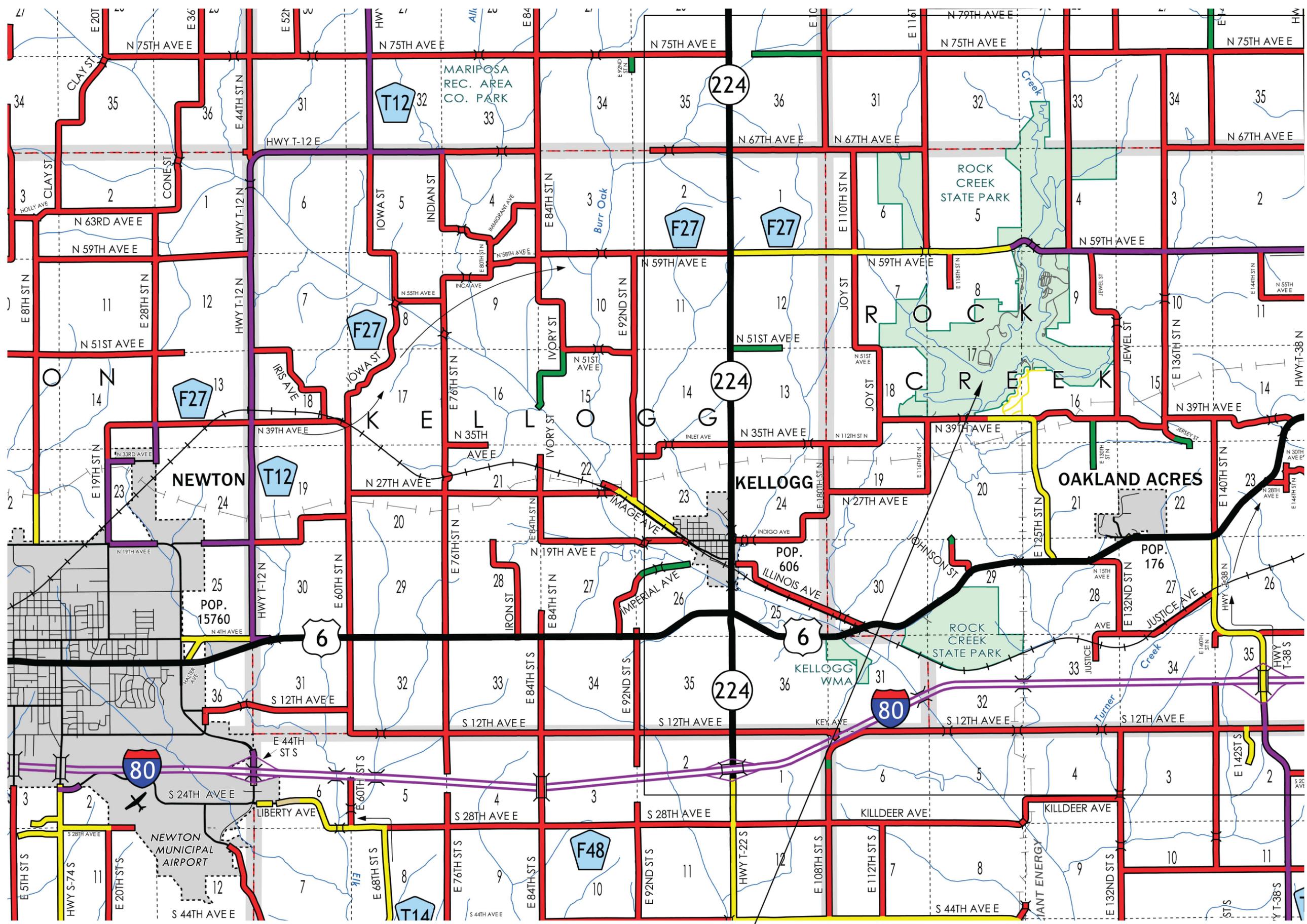


Attach  
Plan

Kirsten Brown  
Senior Project Manager, Western Branch  
Regulatory Division

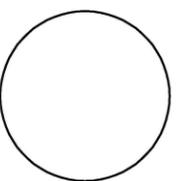
Construction Plans – 5 pages





Project Location

CONSULTANT:



**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

ENGINEERING SERVICES - WALLACE BUILDING  
502 E. 9TH ST., DES MOINES, IA 50319-0034



**LOCATION MAP**

SHORELINE STABILIZATION PHASE 1 & 2

**ROCK CREEK STATE PARK**

JASPER COUNTY

NO.	BY	DATE	REVISION

DRAWN BY: JKK  
PROJECT NUMBER: 24-05-50-01  
CHKD BY: DATE: 02-2023

SHEET NO:





