



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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sponsor: City of Clive, Iowa
1900 NW 114th Str, Clive, IA 50325

Issued: April 19, 2023
Expires: May 18, 2023

Corps Project Number: CEMVR-RD-2023-0482
Proposed Project: Little Walnut Creek Stream and
Wetland Mitigation Bank

STREAM AND WETLAND COMPENSATORY MITIGATION BANK PROPOSAL

This notice is issued in accordance with the Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources; Final Rule (the Mitigation Rule) described in the Federal Register dated April 10, 2008 (33 CFR Parts 325 and 332).

- 1. Project Location:** The proposed site is located within Section 22, Township 79 North, Range 26 West, Dallas County, Iowa. See attached location maps. Latitude: 41.642538
Longitude: -93.869619.
- 2. Bank Objectives:** The fundamental objective of compensatory mitigation is to offset environmental losses resulting from unavoidable impacts to waters of the United States (WOTUS) authorized by Department of Army Permits. Other Objectives include restoration and enhancement of wildlife habitat; restoration and increase of aquatic resource functions lost from anthropogenic activities; increase of public resource functions, values, and resource stewardship awareness; reduction of sediment and nutrient loading; and the restoration of floodplain connectivity.
- 3. Project Description/Bank Establishment:** The bank sponsor proposes to complete activities on 90 acres of publicly owned property that would result in the establishment of both stream and wetland mitigation credits. The goal of this project is to restore 2,333 linear feet of Little Walnut Creek and four adjacent tributaries to generate an initial estimate of 98,194.45 stream credits. The bank sponsor proposes to use many different in-stream methods to aid in restoring these portions of stream, including re-meandering it to restore natural sinuosity to the channel and decrease the slopes. The sponsor also proposes to improve floodplain connectivity, install floodplain benches, and improve habitat by creating wood riffles and toe wood within the stream. Improvements to the riparian buffer include vegetation management to remove invasive species and promote native species diversity. Another goal of this project is to enhance an adjacent wetland and wetland buffer to generate an initial estimate of 7.85 emergent wetland credits. A wetland delineation has not been completed on this site but will be completed prior to the submission of the draft mitigation bank instrument.

4. **Service Area:** The proposed primary bank service area will be the Upper Des Moines Service Area.

5. **Bank Need/Technical Feasibility/Ecological Suitability:** Urban sprawl is anticipated to continue in the western Des Moines area and within the Walnut Creek watershed. This development will generate a continued need for stream credits, as well as wetland credits in the Upper Des Moines service area. The sponsor believes that the proposed bank site is suitable for mitigation activities, and the likelihood of this site being successful is high. The site is nested in a valley with sufficient belt width to provide for restoration of a natural meandering planform with restored connections to floodplains. The soils in the valley bottoms have high organic matter and optimum clay fractions to support rapid vegetation establishment in restored areas. The stream design uses natural channel design derived methods, where the baseline dimensional parameters are based on reference and regional geomorphic conditions, while also being developed to manage changing watershed conditions through the establishment of multi-stage channels that meet baseflow habitat requirements and flood event conveyance requirements. The proposed structures will focus on woody debris as a primary component, softening the design and allowing for natural stream processes of deep-rooted woody vegetation establishment and riparian succession to provide long term habitat and function.

6. **Long Term Management:** The Sponsor or maintenance contractor would perform annual maintenance during the life of the Bank. Upon closure, the bank will be in satisfactory condition. The bank shall be preserved in perpetuity with a conservation easement, approved by the USACE. The proposed Bank would be continuously managed by a contractor or landowner. Long-term management efforts would include maintaining vegetation within the riparian buffer and ensuring that the stream remains stable.

7. **Sponsor Qualifications:** The Sponsor, City of Clive, regularly completes streambank restoration projects as part of on-going maintenance and management of their natural resources. The consultant, Stantec, has over 65 years of combined experience in stream restoration in Iowa and Minnesota. They bring a wide breadth of restoration experience and will enable the establishment of realistic goals, objectives, performance standards and management plans to guide the vegetation restoration and enhancement success at the site.

8. **Water Rights:** There are no water rights severances or restrictions in this project area. The sponsor would not have complete control of upstream practices that may alter flows to the project area.

9. **Agency Review:** Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers. The Corps of Engineer is participating in this matter as the chair of an Interagency Review Team. The Interagency Review Team consists of the Corps of Engineers, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The project would require Section 404, Clean Water Act authorization prior to the proposed construction. If approved, the proposed bank could provide stream credit for future, Section 404, authorized projects that require compensatory mitigation. Formal authorization of the bank proposal occurs through Corps approval of a Mitigation Banking Instrument.

10. **Historical/Archaeological:** Based on a review of historic and current aerial photos, topo maps, the HILD database / Culture Map it is the opinion of the District Archaeologist the permit area may have the potential to contain historic properties that may be potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The District will require the applicant to submit a Phase I archaeological survey and geomorphological evaluation report covering the permit area. Geomorphological investigation must extend at least 50 centimeters below the proposed depths of soil disturbance or to a depth below which no possibility of historic properties exists. 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.

11. **Endangered Species:** This proposal will be coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments USFWS may have concerning Federally-listed threatened or endangered wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

12. **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 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 approve the proposed bank. Any comments received will be distributed to the members of the Interagency Review Team. Comments should be submitted on or before the expiration date specified at the top of page 1. Comments should bear upon the adequacy of plans and suitability of locations and should, if appropriate, suggest any changes considered desirable. Any person may also request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer within the designated comment period of the notice and must state the specific reasons for requesting the public hearing.

13. **Reply to the Corps of Engineers:** Comments or questions concerning this notice may be directed to Abby Steele via phone (309/794-5377), email (Abigail.A.Steele@usace.army.mil), or by writing to the following address: US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, ATTN: Abby Steele- RD, Clock Tower Building - Post Office Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004.

14. **Complete Prospectus:** The complete prospectus can be found on our public website at: https://ribits.ops.usace.army.mil/ords/f?p=107:278:12504785590050:::RP,278:P278_BANK_ID:6580 Hard copies are also available by request.

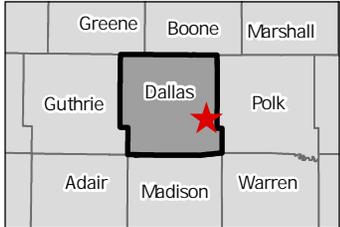
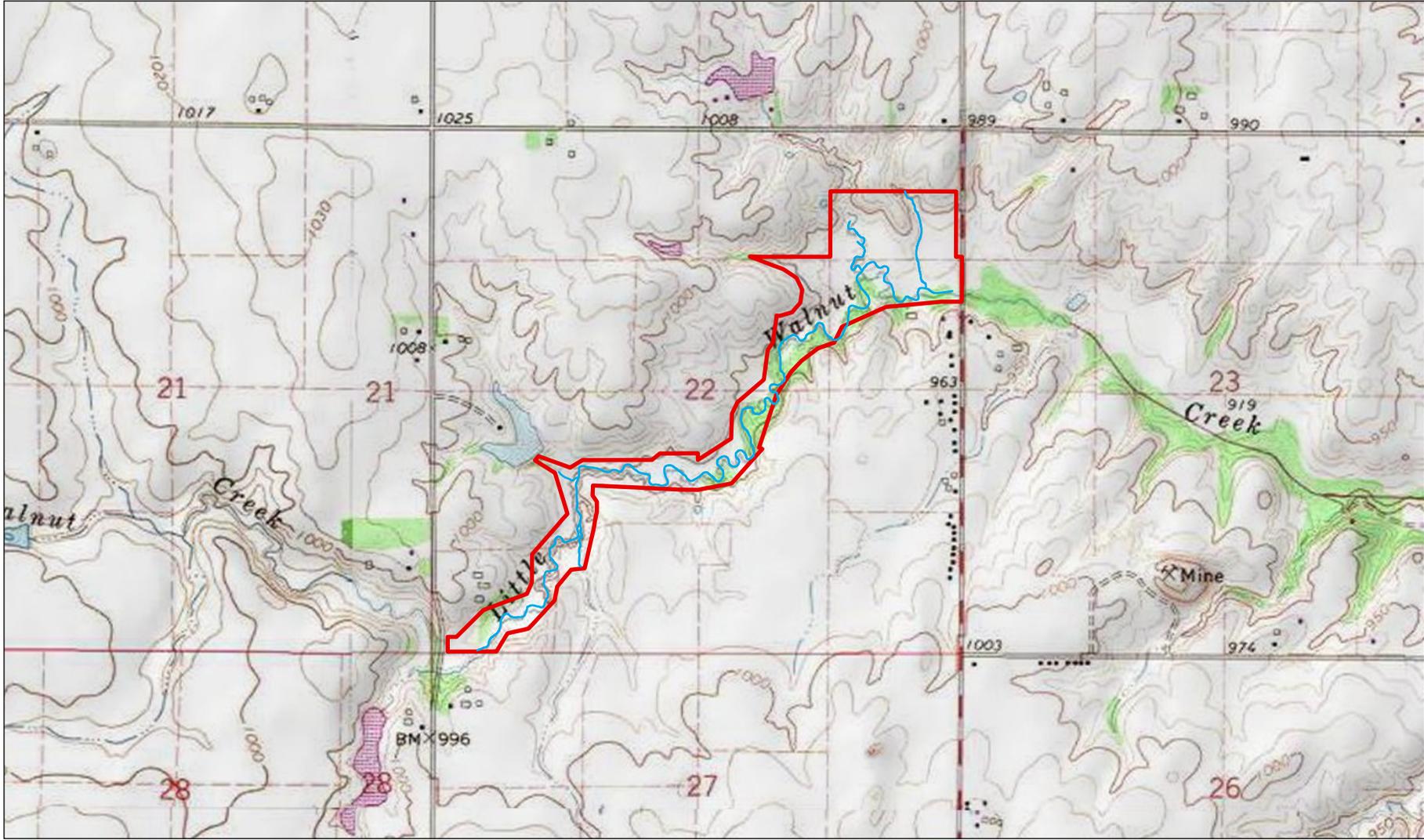
Attach
Plan

Abigail A. Steele

Ms. Abigail Steele
Chief, 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.



Legend
 — Existing Streams Centerline
 □ Project Area



Notes
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Iowa South FIPS 1402 Feet
 2. Background: Copyright© 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed, Esri, HERE, DeLorme
 3. Data Sources: Stantec, City of Clive, IowaDNR, USGS, NRCS, USACE, Iowa Geospatial Data

Project Location Prepared by CMM on 2023-03-07
 Clive, Iowa TR by MW on 2023-03-07
 IR by JBM on 2023-03-07

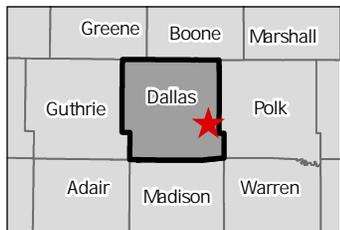
Client/Project 193806064
 City of Clive
 Little Walnut Creek Restoration and Trail Construction

Figure No.
02

Title
Location of Bank Site



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- Legend**
- Proposed Re-Alignment
 - Little Walnut Creek
 - Proposed Oxbow Wetland
 - Project Area
 - Sewer Easement
 - Proposed Soft Stabilization
 - Proposed Log Step
 - Proposed Boulder Cross Vane/J-Hook Vane
 - Proposed Inner Berm and Live Stake Plantings
 - Proposed Wood Toe
 - Proposed Woody Riffle
 - Headwater Treatment
 - Enhancement Restoration Buffer
 - Riparian Restoration Buffer
 - Upland Restoration Buffer



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 (At original document size of 8.5x11)
 1:4,800

Notes

1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Iowa South FIPS 1402 Feet
2. Background:
3. Data Sources: Stantec, City of Clive, IowaDNR, USGS, NRCS, USACE, Iowa Geospatial Data



Project Location
 Clive, Iowa

Client/Project
 City of Clive
 Little Walnut Creek Restoration and Trail Construction

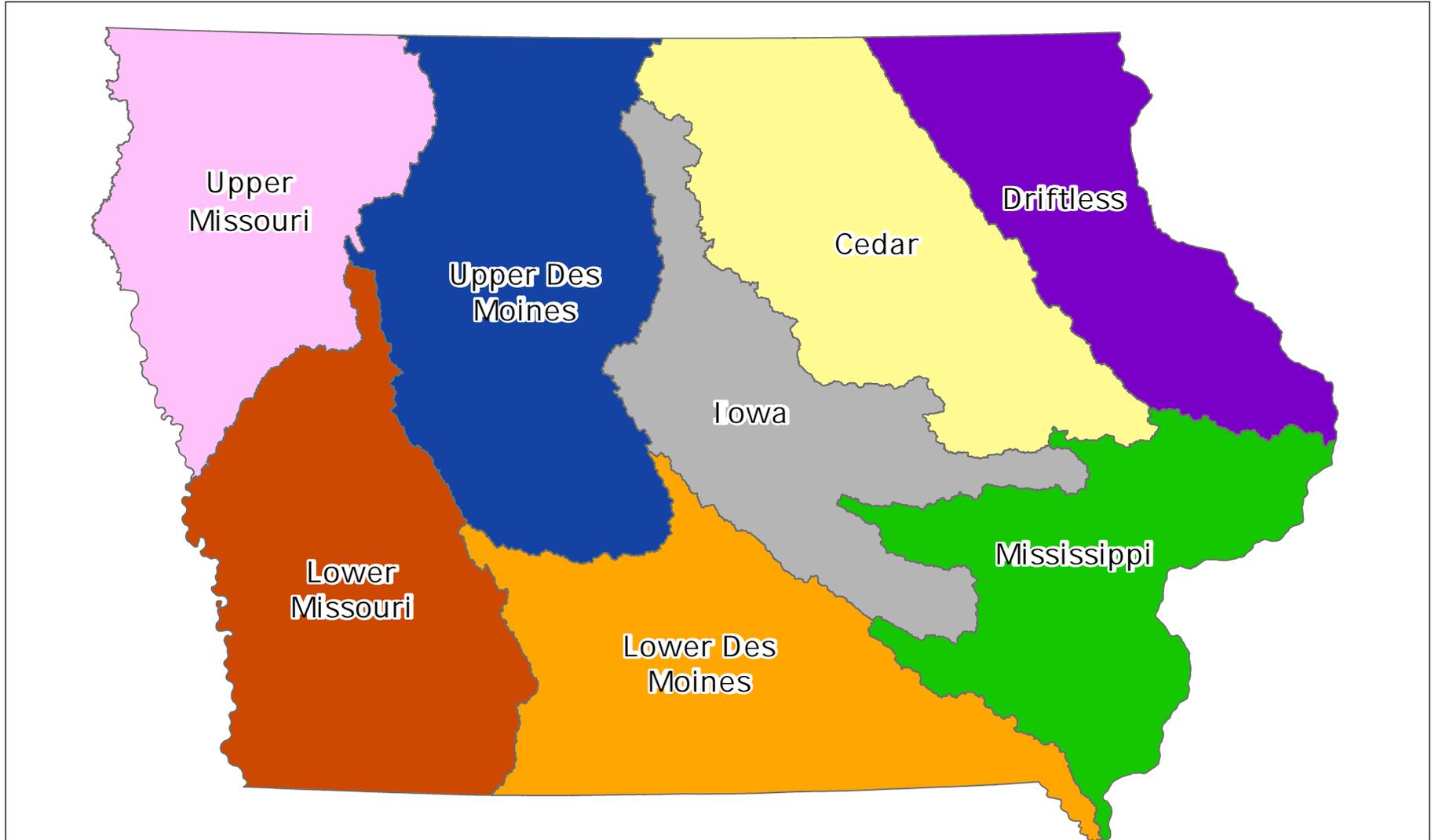
Prepared by CMM on 2023-03-07
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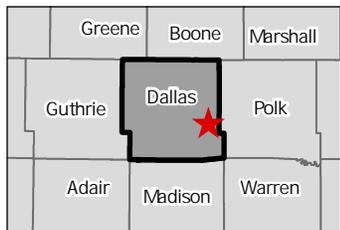
Figure No.
05.1

Title
Proposed Mitigation
Aerial

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Service Areas in Iowa

- Cedar
- Driftless
- Iowa
- Lower Des Moines
- Lower Missouri
- Mississippi
- Upper Des Moines
- Upper Missouri



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 (At original document size of 8.5x11)
 1:2,534,400

Notes

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Figure No.
07

Title
Iowa Service Areas

