



US Army Corps
of Engineers

Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Public Notice

Public Notice Number: 199925022

Date: February 26, 2003

Comments Due: March 13, 2003

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Subject: Department of the Army Permit Application. The District Engineer, Sacramento District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) is evaluating a permit application from the Carson City Boys and Girls Club. This evaluation is under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act which regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States. The purpose of this notice is to inform interested parties of a proposed work activity and to solicit comments. The proposed project is described below and shown on the attached drawings. This notice may also be viewed at the Corps web site at: <http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/cespk-co/regulatory/PNs/>.

Applicant: Carson City Boys and Girls Club, 673 S Stewart St, Carson City NV 89701

Location: The project site is in Carson City, southwest of the intersection of Lompa Lane and Northridge Drive in Section 9, Township 15 North, Range 20 East, Carson City County, Nevada in the New Empire USGS Topographic Quadrangle.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed fill is to build a new boys and girls facility, a youth center with day care and recreation facilities.

Project Description: The applicant is proposing to fill approximately 1.02 acres of an unnamed (primary) tributary to the Carson River and 0.17 acres of adjacent wetland located on a 17-acre site. The boys and girls club facility includes constructing a 59,000 square foot building with associated parking areas and soccer fields, a softball field, tennis courts, and a playground area. The tributary waters and the wetland adjacent to Northridge Drive will be routed to storm drains associated with the impending Carson City (freeway) Bypass project proposed by the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT). No fill material will be placed in wetlands on the west portion of the project site. The attached maps and drawing provide additional project details.

The applicant believes there is a need to provide a youth center facility in Carson City because the existing facility's capacity is exceeded. The new facility is expected to meet current and anticipated future demand for youth recreation and after-school activities.

The Corps requires that applicants consider and use all reasonable and practical measures to avoid and minimize impacts. If the applicant is unable to avoid or minimize all impacts, the Corps may require compensatory mitigation. For this proposal, the Corps may require compensatory mitigation if the impacts caused by the proposal are authorized. However, applicant's consultant has indicated that NDOT has already mitigated for project site impacts. The mitigation site is located at the southern end Washoe Lake, the NDOT mitigation site. If this is verified, no further mitigation would be required if the proposal is authorized.

Environmental Setting: The project site is located in east Carson City. Urban development is nearly complete on the east, south, and west of the project site. The impending Carson City Bypass will be on the eastern border of the project site. To the north (north of Northridge Drive), the land is undeveloped. The affected unnamed tributary originates approximately one mile north of the project site. It is fed by hot springs and ground water, as well as precipitation. This tributary terminates in the Carson River, approximately 3 miles downstream. The site has been disturbed; it is currently being used by locals as an unimproved open area to walk, dirt bike, and play. The site to the north is a designated wetland area that at one time was believed to be habitat for a listed species (see below). The project site is covered with grass species and a few woody shrubs. The tributaries do not have notable riparian vegetation, although their substrate does support several pockets of hydrophitic vegetation. The tributary is intermittent, but likely used to be perennial. Another artificially created ditch that parallels Northridge Drive (flows west to east and then south as a Lompa Lane ditch) intercepts nearly all the water that would otherwise flow into the tributary.

Additional Information: Additional information may be obtained from the applicant at 775-882-8820 in or by calling Richard Gebhart, Project Manager, Corps of Engineers at 775-784-5304 in Reno. Participation in this public review process is encouraged so that the District Engineer is better able to complete a more thorough public interest review. Comments assist the Corps to make a reasonable decision based on public interest factors. The District Engineer is particularly interested in receiving comments related to the proposals probable impacts on the affected aquatic systems functional values and the cumulative and secondary effects.

Water Quality Certification: A permit for the described work will not be issued until certification, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, has been granted or is waived from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP). A waiver will be deemed to occur if the state fails or refuses to act on the request for certification within 60 days.

Section 404(b)(1) Evaluation: The activity's impact on the public interest will include application of the 404 (b) (1) guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

Public Hearing: Before the expiration date of this notice, anyone may request, in writing, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests shall specifically state the reason(s) for holding a public hearing. If the District Engineer determines that the information received in response to this notice is inadequate for thorough evaluation, a public hearing may be warranted. If a public hearing is warranted, interested parties will be notified of the time, date, and location.

Endangered Species: The federally-listed Carson wandering skipper, *Pseudocopaodes eunum obscurus*, was known to be in the project area. Informal consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service verifies that the species are no longer in the area. Therefore, the Corps has determined that the proposed project will not affect the Carson wandering skipper which is protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844).

Cultural Resources: In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, initial review of cultural resources information available in the National Register of Historic Places and its current supplements indicates that no historic properties would be affected by the proposed activity. This notice was sent to the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office.

Evaluation: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the described 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 described activity must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the described activity 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, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration 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 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.

Submitting Comments: Comments must be received on or before the expiration date (located above) to be considered in subsequent actions on this application. Please note that all comment letters received are subject to release to the public through the Freedom of Information Act. Anyone whose interests may be affected by the proposed work is invited to submit favorable or unfavorable written comments to:

US Army Corps of Engineers
Reno Regulatory Office (Gebhart)
300 Booth Street Rm 2103
Reno NV 89509-1361
Email: richard.a.gebhart@usace.army.mil

Additional Requirements: State law requires that leases, easements, or permits be obtained for certain works or activity in the described waters. These state requirements must be met, where applicable, and a Department of the Army permit must be obtained before any work within the applicable statutory authority, previously indicated, may be accomplished. Other local governmental agencies may also have ordinances or requirements which must be satisfied before the work is accomplished.

Michael J. Conrad, Jr.
Colonel, US Army
District Engineer

Attachments: Drawing