



Public Notice

US Army Corps
of Engineers

Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Public Notice Number: 200050403

Date: April 5, 2001

Comments Due: April 24, 2001

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: Application for a Department of the Army permit under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and water quality certification under Section 401 of the CWA to discharge fill material in connection with widening of State Road 6 in isolated wetlands, as shown in the attached drawing.

APPLICANT: Lars Anderson
Utah Department of Transportation
825 North 900 West
Orem, Utah 84057

LOCATION: The project is located at SR-6 near mile post 198.91 and 200.5 within Spanish Fork Canyon in Section 16 and 17, Township 10 South, Range 6 East, Utah County, Utah.

PURPOSE: This segment of SR-6 poses a notable safety hazard to the traveling public. This is partially due to the traffic volumes, high prevailing speeds, and clear zones, along with the lack of passing lanes. The substandard curves are frequently adjacent to steep hillside slopes which also pose sight distance limitations. The purpose of the project is to improve safety conditions of this section of SR-6.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project will improve the existing SR-6 safety deficiencies by flattening various curves and adding passing lanes in each direction, along with a median, to the existing roadway between mile posts 198.9 and 200.5. The work will also include widening of shoulders, improvement of clear zones and flattening of roadway side slopes. This involves the placement of fill in 0.95 acres of jurisdictional isolated wetlands located at three separate locations along the roadway. These wetlands will be filled with 12,200 cubic yards of compacted granular material from nearby excavations. Road dimensions and plans are shown on the attached drawing. The wetlands impacts would be mitigated with creation of 3.15 acres of wetlands adjacent to Spanish Fork River. Wetlands will be created off site.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The project wetlands are located on the bottom of a mountain slope. South of SR-6 there is rail road grade and Soldier Creek. The proposed work would fill emergent marsh and riparian scrub/shrub wetlands. These wetlands are of high value. These areas get flooded during spring runoff and spring seeps along the north slope. The emergent wetland has cattails (*Typha sp.*) and Sandbar willow (*Salix exigua*), Yellow willow (*Salix lutea*), Woods rose (*Rosa woodsii*) and other wetland vegetation on the wetlands edge.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Certification that the proposed work, if permitted, would not violate applicable water quality standards has been requested from the Utah Bureau of Water Pollution Control. For further information, please contact Mr. Lars Anderson, telephone 801-227-8089 or Mr. Anthony Vigil, 1403 South 600 West, Suite A, Bountiful, Utah, 84010, email - avigil@spk.usace.army.mil, telephone (801) 295-8380.

The latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and its monthly supplements have been reviewed and there are no places either listed or recommended as eligible which would be affected. Presently unknown cultural resources may be located in the permit area. This activity would not affect any threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat. The District Engineer has made this determination based on information provided by the applicant and on the Corps' preliminary investigation.

Certification for this project, according to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act has been requested from the Utah Division of Water Quality. The Utah Division of Water Quality intends to issue certification, provided that the proposed work will not violate applicable water quality standards. Projects are usually certified where the project may create diffuse sources (nonpoint sources) of wastes which will occur only during the actual construction activity, and where best management practices will be employed to minimize pollution effects. Written comments on water quality certification should be submitted to Mr. William O. Moellmer, Ph.D., Utah Division of Water Quality, 288 North 1460 West, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114, on or before **April 24, 2001**.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on or before **April 24, 2001**. 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.

The decision whether to issue a 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, flood plain 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 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.

Michael J. Walsh
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

Enclosures: 5 Drawings