



Public Notice

US Army Corps
of Engineers

Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Public Notice Number: 200050435

Date: May 25, 2001

Comments Due: June 13, 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 to discharge 789 cubic yards of fill material into wetlands adjacent to the Blacksmith Fork River and Little Ballard Creek. The project is in connection with the construction of the 21-acre Baer Regional Park as shown in the attached drawings.

APPLICANT: Russ Akina, Director
Logan Parks and Recreation
195 South 100 West
Logan, Utah 84321

LOCATION: The project is located at LeGrande Street and 1700 South in Logan, within Section 9, Township 11 North, Range 1 East, Cache County, Utah.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the project is to provide recreational and open space area for the developing southeastern population in the City of Logan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project is a 21-acre regional park. The site plan includes parking for 200 vehicles, a multi-use trail, two playground areas, two picnic pavilions, two restrooms, one concession building, one maintenance area, and 4 regulation-size soccer fields. A 12-foot road would be constructed through the center of wetlands adjacent to Little Ballard Creek. Three new stream crossing will be constructed as part of the project. A pedestrian bridge will be constructed across Blacksmith Fork River. There will be a 75.5 foot impact on an unnamed stream adjacent to LeGrande Street. A 14-foot concrete box culvert would be constructed across Little Ballard Creek. The applicant would discharge 789 cubic yards of clean fill material into 0.58 acres of wetlands. Mitigation for wetland impacts would be creation of 0.58 acres of wetland on site. Approximately 185 feet of the unnamed stream will be impacted in order to provide adequate parking. The applicant would mitigate on site for stream impacts with the creation of 260 linear feet of the unnamed stream channel.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The proposed project is located between 1700 South Street to the south and LeGrande Street to the north. There are subdivisions to the east and west of the site. There are palustrine emergent wetlands on the property. These wetlands are supported by three different streams: Little Ballard Creek and an unnamed stream on the north and Blacksmith Fork River on the south side of the project site. The Blacksmith Fork River has an established scrub-shrub riparian community made up of willows (*Salix spp.*), Box elder (*Acer negundo*), and red osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) which dominate the banks. The wetland vegetation in the palustrine emergent wetland consists of Nebraska sedge (*Carex nebrascensis*), creeping spikerush (*Eleocharis palustris*), fowl bluegrass (*Poa palustris*) and other wetland vegetation.

ALTERNATIVES: The planned access road from the parking lot to the soccer fields on the north side of the project would cross the center of the wetland. The road could be constructed to the east or the west of the wetlands which would prevent dividing the wetlands. This would lessen impacts to the existing wetlands.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Certification that the proposed work, if permitted, will not violate applicable water quality standards has been requested from the Utah Bureau of Water Pollution Control. For further information, please contact Mr. Russ Akina of Logan Parks and Recreation, telephone (435) 716-9250, or Mr. Anthony Vigil, at the Utah Regulatory Office, 1403 South 600 West, Suite A, Bountiful, Utah 84010, telephone (801) 295-8380, extension 15, or email avigil@spk.usace.army.mil.

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 N. 1460 W., P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84114-4870, on or before **June 13, 2001**.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments to the Utah Regulatory Office, 1403 South 600 West, Suite A, Bountiful, Utah, 84010, on or before **June 13, 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: 4 Drawings