

Information for File #2013-02399-LSP

Applicant: Clearwater County Highway Department

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Primary County : Clearwater

Sec/Township/Range: Sections 1, 2, 11 and 12, T146N, R37W

Information Complete On: October 17, 2013

Posting Expires On: November 1, 2013

Authorization Type: LOP-05-MN

This application is being reviewed in accordance with the practices for documenting Corps jurisdiction under Sections 9 & 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act identified in Regulatory Guidance Letter 07-01. We have made a preliminary determination that the aquatic resources that would be impacted by the proposed project are regulated by the Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Our jurisdictional review and final jurisdictional determination could result in modifications to the scope of the project's regulated wetland impacts and compensatory mitigation requirements identified above. An approved jurisdictional determination will be made prior to reaching a permit decision, and will be posted on the St. Paul District web page at <http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/>.

PROJECT PURPOSE & NEED: According to information supplied by the applicant, the purpose of the project is to reconstruct and pave a two mile portion of County State Aid Highway 30 in Clearwater County, Minnesota (S.A.P. 15-630-003) in order to improve the safety of the traveling public. The project will involve vertical curve correction, roadway widening, inslope flattening and culvert replacement. This road will be built to a 55 mile per hour design.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant is proposing to permanently discharge fill material into approximately 1.28 acres of wetlands. An additional 0.35 acres of wetland will be temporarily impacted and restored to original condition after construction.

The segment proposed for reconstruction is approximately two miles in length and currently has a gravel driving surface with ditches. This project will consist of grading, widening and paving the driving surface, vertical and horizontal curve correction and ditch construction. The highway will be built to a design speed of 55 miles per hour.

NAME, AREA AND TYPES OF WATERS (INCLUDING WETLANDS) SUBJECT TO LOSS:

Construction of the new bridge with approach grading will result in the permanent loss of 0.07 acres of Seasonally Flooded Basin, 0.18 acres of Sedge Meadow, 0.07 acres of Shallow Marsh, 0.03 acres of Shrub Carr and 0.41 acres of Hardwood Swamp.

This project will also temporarily impact 0.02 acres of Seasonally Flooded Basin, 0.10 acres of Sedge Meadow, 0.43 acres of Shallow Marsh, 0.01 acres of Shrub Carr and 0.30 acres of Hardwood Forest.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: A no-build alternative was studied but was dismissed. This project is a safety upgrade to an existing public road. Under the no-action alternative, the need for safety improvements to the existing highway would not be met.

The applicant states that they have minimized impacts to aquatic resources to the greatest extent possible by maintaining the existing roadway alignment and by creating inslopes that will not exceed a 1:4 (V:H). They have also designed the project to create fill slopes in wetlands rather than an inslope with a ditch. This design eliminates impacts to wetlands that would occur due to ditch construction in wetlands.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: The applicant has proposed to provide compensatory mitigation for the permanent wetland impacts by debiting credits from the BWSR road bank. The applicant has stated that they will fully restore the temporarily impacted wetlands to previous contours and elevations and the area will be seeded with an appropriate seed mix.

Drawings See attached.

2013-02399-LSP Clearwater CSAH 30 Reconstruction Project Wetland Impact Locations

Location of Project

