

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

US Army Corps of Engineers St Paul District

Sponsor: Tracy Halstensgard Roseau River Watershed District Published: July 14, 2025 Expires: August 14, 2025

#### St. Paul District Permit Application No. 2023-00830-EJI

#### WETLAND COMPENSATORY MITIGATION BANK PROPOSAL:

Compensatory mitigation banks are one of three types of compensatory mitigation where the aquatic resources on a site are restored, established, enhanced, and/or preserved for the purpose of offsetting unavoidable adverse impacts authorized by Department of the Army permits. Once the Corps approves a mitigation bank and the site achieves certain milestones and performance standards, the sponsor receives credits, which they sell to permittees with projects in a designated geographic service area who are seeking Department of the Army permits. The sponsor is requesting Corps review of a proposed compensatory mitigation bank under <u>33 CFR 332.8</u> and district guidelines for mitigation. As part of this review process, the sponsor has submitted a complete prospectus. Interested parties can find a copy of the full prospectus on the <u>RIBITS</u> website or by emailing <u>evan.j.ingebrigtson@usace.army.mil</u>

#### SUMMARY OF PROSPECTUS:

The sponsor is proposing to develop the Spruce Vally 35 Wetland Bank by disabling onsite drainage infrastructure and restoring wetland hydrology and native vegetation. The proposed bank site is approximately 103 acres in size, including upland buffer areas.

- SPONSOR: Tracy Halstensgard Roseau River Watershed District 714 6th St SW Roseau, MN 56751
- AGENT: Torin McCormack HDR Inc. 213 Labree Ave North, Suite 203 Thief River Falls, MN 56701

**LOCATION:** The project area is located on the north side of 340<sup>th</sup> Street, 0.5 miles west of the intersection of 440<sup>th</sup> Ave and 340<sup>th</sup> Street in 35 Section, 163 Township, 39 Range; at Latitude 48.894976 and Longitude -95.647326; in Spruce Valley Unorganized Township, Roseau County, MN.

**COORDINATION WITH RESOURCE AGENCIES:** This project has been coordinated with the following members of the Interagency Review Team (IRT) and other resource

agencies: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

#### **CULTURAL RESOURCES:**

The Corps is evaluating the undertaking for effects to historic properties as required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This public notice serves to inform the public of the proposed undertaking and invites comments including those from local, State, and Federal government Agencies with respect to historic resources. Our final determination relative to historic resource impacts may be subject to additional coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer, federally recognized tribes and other interested parties.

No historic properties (i.e., properties listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places) are present within the Corps' permit area; therefore, there will be <u>no historic properties affected</u>. The Corps subsequently requests concurrence from the SHPO and/or THPO.

The District Engineer's final eligibility and effect determination will be based upon coordination with the SHPO, as appropriate and required, and with full consideration given to the proposed undertaking's potential direct and indirect effects on historic properties within the Corps-identified permit area.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** The Corps has performed an initial review of the prospectus and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) to determine if any threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species, as well as the proposed and final designated critical habitat may occur within the boundary of the proposed project. Based on this initial review, the Corps has made a preliminary determination that the proposed project will not affect any listed species or critical habitat.

Pursuant to Section 7 ESA, any required consultation with the Service(s) will be conducted in accordance with 50 CFR part 402.

This notice serves as request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity.

**COMMENTS:** The Corps 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 forwarded to the sponsor and considered during the Corps' evaluation.

The St. Paul District will receive written comments on the proposed work, as outlined above, until August 14, 2025. Comments should be submitted electronically via the

Regulatory Request System (RRS) at <u>https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs</u> or by email to evan.j.ingebrigtson@usace.army.mil. Please refer to the permit application number in your comments.

If electronic submittal is not available, you may submit comments in writing to:

Regulatory Division St. Paul District Corps of Engineers 10867 East Gull Lake Drive SW Brainerd, MN 56401

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROJECT, please contact Evan Ingebrigtson in the Brainerd Field Office at 218-350-1475.

To receive Public Notice notifications, go to: <u>https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Contact/RSS/</u> and subscribe to the RSS Feed for which you would like to receive Public Notices.

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, in detail, the reasons for holding a public hearing. A request may be denied if substantive reasons for holding a hearing are not provided or if there is otherwise no valid interest to be served.

Enclosures: 2023-00830-EJI Figures 1-11

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Contraction Flow Direction

Miles

0.2



County Ditch 18

Project Limits

Roseau County Parcels

2021 Aerial Photo

7800

Legend

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**F** 

Existing. Project Required Mitigation

01900

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RRWD

31.0002200



**SPRUCE VALLEY 35** PROPOSED WETLAND BANK - SITE MAP (2021 AERIAL PHOTO)



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Feet

## Legend



### Vegetative Community & Seed Mix

- Shallow Marsh - Mix 34-182 (32.27acres)
- Tallgrass Prairie Mix 34-263 (64.56 acres)
- Wet Meadow Mix 35-442 (5.42 acres)

VALLEY35 NEXTSTEPS.MXD - USER: TMC

#### 2023 Aerial Photo



960



**SPRUCE VALLEY 35** PROPOSED WETLAND BANK - VEGETATIVE COMMUNITY & SEEDING MAP



Feet

960

RUCEVALLEY35\_NEXTSTEPS.MXD - USER: TMCCORMACK - DATE: 3/13/2025

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Legend Vegetative Community Shallow Marsh Tallgrass Prairie Wet Meadow **Project Limits** 2023 Aerial Photo RRWD **FX** Miles CGIS\SPRUCEVALLEY35\_NEXTSTEPS.MXD - USER: TMCCORMACK - DATE: 3/24/2025



SPRUCE VALLEY 35 PROPOSED WETLAND BANK - REFERENCE WETLAND MAP



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SPRUCE VALLEY 35 WETLAND DELINEATION REPORT