

APPLICANT:

Ketchum Island Cranberry Co.

Public Notice

ISSUED: September 5, 2024 EXPIRES: September 19, 2024

REFER TO: MVP-2024-00299-BJL

SECTION: 404 - Clean Water Act

1. APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO discharge fill material into 1.88 acres of wetland for expansion of a cranberry operation at the existing Ketchum Island Cranberry Co.

2. SPECIFIC INFORMATION

AGENT Ketchum Island Cranberry Co.

c/o Dennis and Connie Potter N5351 Cranberry Road

Pittsville, WI 54466

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is located in Section 25, Township 21 North., Range 01 East., Jackson County, Wisconsin. Latitude 44.26641 N, Longitude -90.32415 W.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The applicant has submitted a Department of the Army permit application to discharge fill material into 1.88 acres of wetland for the expansion of an existing cranberry operation at Ketchum Island Cranberry Co. The purpose of the project is to add four additional cranberry beds to remain competitive in the cranberry industry. The expansion area would total approximately 25 acres and is located north and west of Beds D1 and D2. The project would connect and utilize infrastructure from the existing cranberry beds owned by Ketchum Island Cranberry Co.

QUANTITY, TYPE, AND AREA OF FILL: The Proposed Cranberry Bed Expansion project would result in the permanent loss of a total of 1.88 acres of wetland. Wetland losses by plant community include:

Wetland ID	Wet Meadow	White Pine Red	White Pine	Wet	Wooded	Shrub
	Non-WOTUS	Maple Swamp	Red Maple	Meadow	Swamp	Swamp
		Non-WOTUS	Swamp			
Wetland 1				0.027 ac.		
Wetland 2				0.01		
Wetland 3A			0.004 ac.			
Wetland 3B			0.302 ac.			
Wetland 3C						0.258 ac.
Wetland 3D						0.261 ac.
Wetland 3E			0.201 ac.			
Wetland 3F			0.06 ac.			
Wetland 3G			0.566 ac.			
Wetland 3H					0.193 ac.	
*Wetland 4	0.039 ac.					
*Wetland 6		0.502 ac.				
Total	0.039 ac.	0.502 ac.	1.133 ac.	0.037 ac.	0.193 ac.	0.519 ac.
*Wetland 4 and Wetland 6 were determined to be non-jurisdictional by the Corps.						

VEGETATION IN AFFECTED AREA: A majority of the affected area includes a White Pine and Red Maple Swamp. Other areas that would be affected include a wooded swamp dominated by Tamarack, White Pine, Speckled Alder, Northern Long Sedge, and Cinnamon Fern; the shrub swamp is dominated by Speckled Alder; and the wet meadows are dominated by Lake Sedge and Wool Grass.

SOURCE OF FILL MATERIAL: All fill material utilized for this project would either be generated on-site or hauled in from a licensed source and would be free of contaminants.

SURROUNDING LAND USE: There are eight existing cranberry beds located south and east of the proposed cranberry bed expansion. There is an upland forest to the west and a mix of upland forest and White Pine-Red Maple swamp to the north.

DESCRIPTION OF DREDGING OR EXCAVATION: Approximately 2.423 acres of wetlands (1.88 acres are WOTUS and 0.54 acres are Non-WOTUS) would be excavated for the cranberry operation expansion. The regulated activities associated with this project include the permanent discharge of fill material into 1.88 acres of Jurisdictional wetland. Construction activities would involve mobilization of equipment, clearing and grubbing, excavation, dozing, embankments, temporary erosion control, and establishment of new vegetation.

THE FOLLOWING POTENTIALLY TOXIC MATERIALS COULD BE USED AT THE PROJECT SITE: Hydraulic fluids and fuels from heavy equipment could potentially be present during construction of the project.

THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY HAVE BEEN DESCRIBED BY THE APPLICANT: Implementation of construction BMPs (equipment washing, silt fence, and reseeding of disturbed areas) are proposed to minimize impacts.

MITIGATION: The applicant has proposed to compensate the permanent loss of wetland functions from this project by purchasing 0.04 Fresh (Wet) Meadow, 0.31 Shrub Carr, and 2.20 Wooded Swamp wetland credits from the Corps approved Kreyer Creek Mitigation Bank located in Monroe County, WI. The proposed wetland compensation would occur within the Lower Wisconsin Bank Service Area.

3. FEDERALLY LISTED THREATENED OR ENDANGERED WILDLIFE OR PLANTS OR THEIR CRITICAL HABITAT

None were identified by the applicant or are known to exist in the permit area. However, Jackson County is within the known or historic range of the following Federally listed species:

MAMMALS

NAME STATUS

Gray Wolf Canis lupus

Endangered

Population: U.S.A.: All of AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IN, IL, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA,

VT, WI, and WV; and portions of AZ, NM, OR, UT, and WA. Mexico.

There is final critical habitat for this species.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4488

Northern Long-eared Bat Myotis septentrionalis

Endangered

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions:

• This species only needs to be considered if the project includes wind turbine operations.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045

BIRDS

NAME

Whooping Crane Grus americana

Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY)

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758

STATUS

Experimental

Population, NO, NC, Population, NonEssential

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Salamander Mussel Simpsonaias ambigua	Proposed
There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical	Endangered
habitat.	O
Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6208	

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Karner Blue Butterfly Lycaeides melissa samuelis	Endangered
There is proposed critical habitat for this species.	

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6656

Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus*

Candidate

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments it may have concerning Federally listed threatened or endangered wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

4. JURISDICTION

This application has been reviewed in accordance with the practices for documenting Corps jurisdiction under Sections 9 & 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Wetland 4 and Wetland 6 were determined to be non-jurisdictional by an Approved Jurisdictional Determination issued by the Corps on August 12, 2024.

5. SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Valid Section 404 permits cannot be issued for any activity unless water quality certification for the activity is granted or waived pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The Section 401 authority for this project is the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. A Department of the Army permit will not be granted until the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has issued or waived Section 401 WQC certification and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) neighboring jurisdiction process is completed. Corps Section 404 Clean Water Act decisions may not be finalized until after the USEPA completes this process.

6. HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL

This public notice is being sent to the National Park Service and the State Archaeologist for their comments. The Corps will review information on known cultural resources and/or historic properties within and adjacent to the project area. The Corps will also consider the potential effects of the project on any properties that have yet to be identified. The results of this review and the Corps' determination of effect will be coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Officer independent of this public notice. Any adverse effects on historic properties will be resolved prior to the Corps authorization, or approval, of the work in connection with this project.

The latest versions of the National Register of Historic Places and the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Database have been consulted and no listed properties (known to be eligible for inclusion, or included in the Register) are located within, or adjacent to the project area.

7. PUBLIC HEARING REQUESTS

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.

8. PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW

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. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, 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 and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Environmental and other documents will be available for review in the St. Paul District Office.

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.

REPLIES/COMMENTS

Interested parties are invited to submit to this office written facts, arguments, or objections by the expiration date indicated above. These statements should bear upon the suitability of the location and the adequacy of the project and should, if appropriate, suggest any changes believed to be desirable. Comments received may be forwarded to the applicant.

Replies may be sent to Benjamin J. LaCount at benjamin.i.lacount@usace.army.mil.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROJECT, contact Benjamin LaCount at the Stevens Point office at 920-718-0622 or benjamin.j.lacount@usace.army.mil.

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

Enclosures:

Project Drawings labeled MVP-2024-00299-BJL Page 1 of 8 through Page 8 of 8

KETCHUM ISLAND CRANBERRY

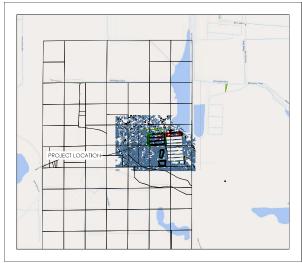
BED EXPANSION PROJECT

80% DRAFT PLANS 5-7-24 FOR PERMITTING REVIEW ONLY NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

 NW_4^1 OF SW_4^1 SECTION 25, T21N, R01E

TOWN OF BEAR BLUFF





TOWN OF BEAR BLUFF JACKSON COUNTY WISCONSIN

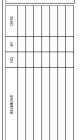
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WESLIE Engineering Group

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TITLE PAGE
BED EXPANSION PROJECT
Ketchum Island Cranberry
Town of Bear Bluff



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