1. WETLAND COMPENSATORY MITIGATION BANK PROPOSAL

2. SPECIFIC INFORMATION

SPONSOR’S ADDRESS: Mr. Edward and Mrs. Elizabeth Esselman
5036 Clairemont Drive
Appleton, Wisconsin 54913

SPONSOR’S AGENT: Stuart Boerst
McMahon Associates
P.O. Box 1025
Neenah, WI 54957-1025

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is located in Section 4, Township 20 North, Range 14 West, Winnebago County, Wisconsin. Latitude: 44.23097 Longitude: -88.833991.

BANK SERVICE AREA: The proposed bank service area is the Fox Bank Service Area within the State of Wisconsin.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The sponsor is proposing to develop the JLD Wetland Mitigation Bank in the Town of Wolf River, Wisconsin. The proposed bank site is approximately 74.21 acres in size, including upland buffer areas.

NEED AND OBJECTIVE OF PROJECT: The JLD Bank would service the Fox Bank Service Area which includes large metropolitan areas including Greater Appleton area, Greater Green Bay area, Waupaca, Oshkosh, Fond du Lac, Ripon, Shawano and many other smaller communities. This area has been developing rapidly for decades and is expected to continue long-term. The bank credits would be critical for continued support of development by the public and private sectors. The bank site is located in an area of high agricultural development. A large amount of wetlands have been lost to drainage by ditches and tiling. Furthermore, the environmental function values of any existing farmed wetland is very low. Additionally, many existing wetlands have been highly degraded by past farming practices that have ceased resulting with the vegetation coverage being dominated by reed canary grass. Forested wetlands have been degraded by improper logging practices that have changed the structural composition of the forests. The JLD Wetland Mitigation Bank would restore high quality wetlands of various communities to the area. The bank would enhance the quality of the environmental corridor centered around the Wolf River system that extends from Lake Poygan to the upper areas of Wisconsin. The main objective of the proposal is to restore 46.92 acres of Conifer/Hardwood Swamp through restoration and creation activities; Restore 3.65 acres of Shrub-Scrub wetlands; Restore and/or create 6.76 acres of Wet Meadow; and Restore 14.42 acre of Shallow/Deep marsh through restoration activities.
ESTABLISHMENT, OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT: The proposed bank area has historically been altered by agricultural activities. There is approximately 15 acres of existing farmland that is tilled most years, mostly on the northern part of the site. According to the sponsor, most years the crops produce very low yields due to the effects of wet conditions. There is approximately 6 acres of reed canary grass that is mowed some years. There is approximately 2.47 acres of deep ponds and channels. 51.5 acres of land is primarily occupied by white spruce (Picea glauca), which is not native to the area, has a FACU indicator and was actively planted on site. The white spruce area vegetation stressed in many areas due to a high water table. There would be substantial modifications to existing ditches and ditches/swales proposed to increase hydrology in the central and southern portion of the site to restore natural hydrology and support above mentioned plant communities. All the existing ponds would be filled with spoils from around the ponds and upland areas to restore the ponds to shallow/deep marshes. The proposed credit yield associated with the restoration and creation activities are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Type</th>
<th>Restoration via Re-Establishment</th>
<th>Restoration via Rehabilitation</th>
<th>Restoration via Creation</th>
<th>Preservation</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acres</td>
<td>Acres Credit Ratio (1:1)</td>
<td>Acres</td>
<td>Acres Credit Ratio (1:1)</td>
<td>Acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conifer/Hardwood Swamp</td>
<td>12.17</td>
<td>12.17</td>
<td>17.72</td>
<td>17.72</td>
<td>17.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrub-Carr</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>3.65</td>
<td>3.65</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wet Meadow</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shallow/Deep Marsh</td>
<td>0.26</td>
<td>0.26</td>
<td>14.03</td>
<td>14.03</td>
<td>0.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preservation</td>
<td>--</td>
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<td>--</td>
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<td>2.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>17.63</td>
<td>17.63</td>
<td>36.6</td>
<td>36.6</td>
<td>17.52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OWNERSHIP AND LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT: The site would be owned long-term by Edward Esselman, Jr. and Elizabeth Esselman. The long-term management would follow the requirements of the conservation easement that would be placed on the property as part of establishing the bank. The long-term management strategy will involve invasive species control consisting of prescribed burns, spot herbiciding, mowing and cut-stump herbiciding (buckthorn/honey suckles).

TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY AND QUALIFICATIONS: The large amount of degraded wetlands, wetlands that have reduced hydrology, uplands that will be restored/created to wetlands via ditch/swale filling and plugging combined with a plan to rehabilitate wetland communities to conifer/hardwood swamp and wet meadow make this site a technically feasible wetland mitigation bank site. Also, the location of the site is in close proximity to the Wolf River and the associated extensive regional north/south environmental corridor make the location of the site of high value.

ECOLOGICAL SUITABILITY: The sponsor states that the restoration of this site would substantially increase the functions and services to the site that is part of a very larger important natural resource area/corridor. The site is located 800 feet northeast of Wolf River. The surface water from the site discharges to a large marsh complex 1,200 feet south of the site that is directly connected to the Wolf River. The Wolf River from this point is surrounded by the large marsh complex for 3.8 miles until it discharges to Lake Poygan. The site is a significant connection point creating a corridor from the wetlands north of the site to the large marsh wetland complex to the south. The restoration of the site would substantially improve floral diversity, hydrology, reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, improve aesthetics, increase wildlife habitat, substantially reduce non-native invasive species and increase stormwater storage. Based on the wetland delineation, 36.6 acres of wetlands exist, most of which is highly degraded by a white spruce tree farm, active farmland and invasive species. A total of 17.63 acres exists as restorable wetland in terms of shifting the hydrology to the point of being a wetland. A total of 17.52 acres of upland exists that provides an opportunity for wetland creation.
HYDROLOGY: Historically, there were several historic vegetated oxbows traversing the northern one third of the site from the northwest to the southeast. Most of the oxbow area were filled in 2008 when six ponds and a channel were created on the north one-third of the site. There are some remnants remaining on the property, especially the northwest corner. There are many ditches and ditch/swales on the southern two-thirds of the site that eventually discharge at the southern end of the property to the ditch along Highway 110. Filling and/or plugging the ditches and swales would substantially increase hydrology on the southern two-thirds of the site. Two ponds were created in the 1980’s in the southern one-half of the site that are connected by a ditch. An outlet ditch exists from the pond and discharges substantial amounts of water to the culvert beneath Highway 110. All major ditches and swales can be seen in attached drawings. The entire site is within the 100 year floodplain of the Wolf River.

CURRENT LAND USES: The proposed bank area has historically been altered by agricultural activities and excavation of hydrology features (ditches and ponds). There is approximately 15 acres of existing farmland that is tilled most years, mostly on the northern part of the site. According to the sponsor, most years the crops produce very low yields due to the effects of wet conditions. There is approximately 6 acres of reed canary grass that is mowed some years. There is approximately 2.47 acres of deep ponds and channels. 51.5 acres of land is primarily occupied by white spruce (Picea glauca), which is not native to the area, has a FACU indicator and was actively planted on site. There is 36.6 acres of existing wetland onsite.

COORDINATION WITH RESOURCE AGENCIES: This project is being coordinated with the following members of the Interagency Review Team (IRT) and other resource agencies, through this Public Notice: Wisconsin DNR and US Environmental Protection Agency.

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

None were identified by the bank sponsor or are known to exist in the action area. However, Winnebago County is within the known historic range for the following Federally-listed species:

Northern Long-Eared Bat
Hibernates in caves and mines – swarming in surrounding wooded areas in autumn. Roosts and forages in upland forests during spring and summer.

Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid
Wet grasslands

Snuffbox Mussel
St. Croix, Wolf, Embarrass, and Little Wolf Rivers and Willow Creek

This notice 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 proposal is being 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.
5. HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL

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 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.

6. 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.

7. REPLIES/COMMENTS

Interested parties are invited to submit to this office written facts, arguments, or objections by the expiration date 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. A copy of the full prospectus submitted by the Sponsor is available to the public for review upon request.

Replies may be sent via email to, or IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROJECT, call or email Joey Shoemaker at the Green Bay field office of the Corps, telephone number 651-290-2378 or email joey.r.shoemaker@usace.army.mil.

To receive Public Notices by e-mail, go to: [http://mvp-extstp/list_server/](http://mvp-extstp/list_server/) and add your information in the New Registration Box.

Enclosure(s)
FIGURE 11
JLD WETLAND MITIGATION BANK
TOWN OF WOLF RIVER
WINNEBAGO COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Legend
- Major Basins
- Fox Bank Service Area
- HUC-8 Boundaries
- County Boundary

1 inch = 17 miles
Mapped Features

Project Area (75 acres)

Wetland Description

- Wetland (30.5 acres)
- Farmed Wetland (8.3 acres)
- Potentially Restorable Wetland (17.7 acres)
- Upland

Disclaimer: The property lines, right-of-way lines, and other property information on this drawing were developed or obtained as part of the County Geographic Information System or through the County property tax mapping function. McMAHON ASSOCIATES, INC. does not guarantee this information to be correct, current, or complete. The property and right-of-way information are only intended for use as a general reference and are not intended or suitable for site-specific uses. Any use to the contrary of the above stated uses is the responsibility of the user and such use is at the user’s own risk.
Projected Area (75 acres)

Proposed Community Type

- Conifer/Hardwood Swamp (46.9 acres)
- Shallow/Deep Marsh (14.69 acres)
- Shrub-carr (3.66 acres)
- Wet Meadow (6.75 acres)
- Easement Only - No Restoration (2.46 acres)

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FIGURE 9
PROPOSED PLANT COMMUNITIES
JLD WETLAND MITIGATION BANK
TOWN OF WOLF RIVER
WINNEBAGO COUNTY, WISCONSIN