



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
New England District

U.S. ARMY

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Comment Period Begins: March 19, 2024

Comment Period Ends: April 17, 2024

File Number: NAE-2013-00390

In Reply Refer to: LeeAnn Neal, Regulatory Division

Phone: (978) 318-8498

Email: [leeann.b.neal@usace.army.mil](mailto:leeann.b.neal@usace.army.mil)

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### 30 DAY PUBLIC NOTICE

The District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (USACE), has received a permit application, file number NAE-2013-00390, to conduct work in waters of the United States from the Town of Skowhegan. This work is proposed below the ordinary high-water line of the Kennebec River off Mt. Pleasant Avenue at Skowhegan, Maine.

The site coordinates are: Latitude 44.765192°N Longitude -69.715711°W.

The work involves the placement of temporary and permanent fill below the ordinary high-water line of the Kennebec River within a 4.74 acre area and in adjacent wetlands in conjunction with the construction and development of the Town of Skowhegan, Skowhegan River Park. The project will include the installation of access to the facility and three in-water features for public recreation.

The work is shown on the enclosed plans titled "Skowhegan River Park," on the attached 5 sheets dated "May 2023."

In order to compensate for the unavoidable impacts to the resource, the permittee proposes to make a contribution to the Maine In-Lieu-Fee Program. In addition, the permittee will complete the removal of remnant steel trestle components from the waterway in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project.

#### AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact 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 may reasonably 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 value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use,

navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The USACE 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. The USACE will consider all comments received 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.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended.

### **ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT**

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Essential Fish Habitat describes waters and substrate necessary for fish for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity.

This project will impact 4.74 acres of EFH. This habitat consists of a deep gorge area characterized by strong, turbulent currents and rocky substrate (primarily boulder and bedrock upstream and limited cobble, gravel, and sands downstream). Loss of this habitat may adversely affect species that use these waters and substrate. However, the District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect will not be substantial. Further consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding EFH conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

## **NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT**

Based on our initial review of the proposed project and coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s), no historic properties were identified within the permit area and the area of potential effects. Additional review and consultation to fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, will be ongoing as part of the permit review process.

## **ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION**

The USACE has reviewed the application for the potential impact on federally-listed threatened or endangered species and their designated critical habitat pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as amended. It is our preliminary determination that the proposed activity for which authorization is being sought is designed, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is likely to adversely affect a listed species or their critical habitat. We are coordinating with the National Marine Fisheries Service and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on listed species under their jurisdiction and the ESA consultation will be concluded prior to the final decision.

## **OTHER GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATIONS**

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- Permit, license or assent from State.
- Permit from local wetland agency or conservation commission.
- Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

## **COMMENTS**

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. People submitting comments are advised that all

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File No. NAE-2013-00390

comments received will be available for public review in their entirety and will be considered a matter of public record.

Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date. If you have any questions, please contact LeeAnn B. Neal, Regulatory Division, at [leeann.b.neal@usace.army.mil](mailto:leeann.b.neal@usace.army.mil), (978) 318-8498.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The USACE holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

**THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.**



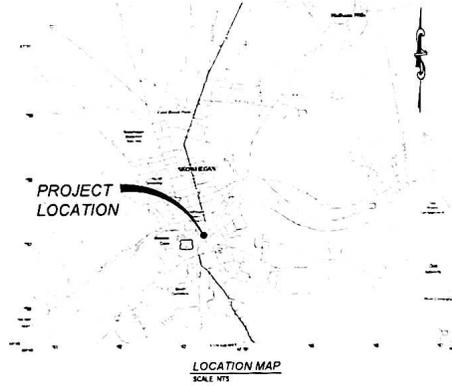
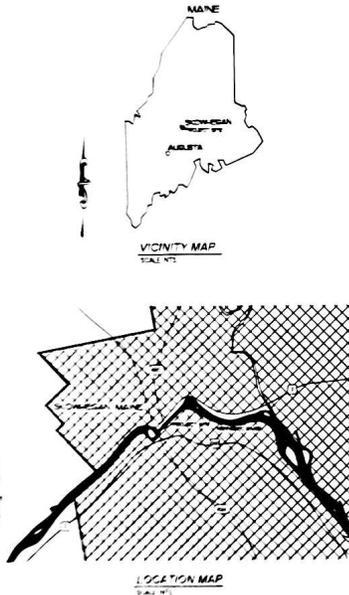
Peter D. Olmstead  
Chief, Maine Section  
Regulatory Division

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Please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at [bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil](mailto:bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil) or (978) 318-8058 if you would like to be removed from our public notice mailing list.

# SKOWHEGAN RIVER PARK

PREPARED FOR:  
TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN, MAINE  
PRELIMINARY DESIGN  
MAY 2023



PREPARED BY:  
 **MCLAUGHLIN  
WHITEWATER**

## DRAWING LIST

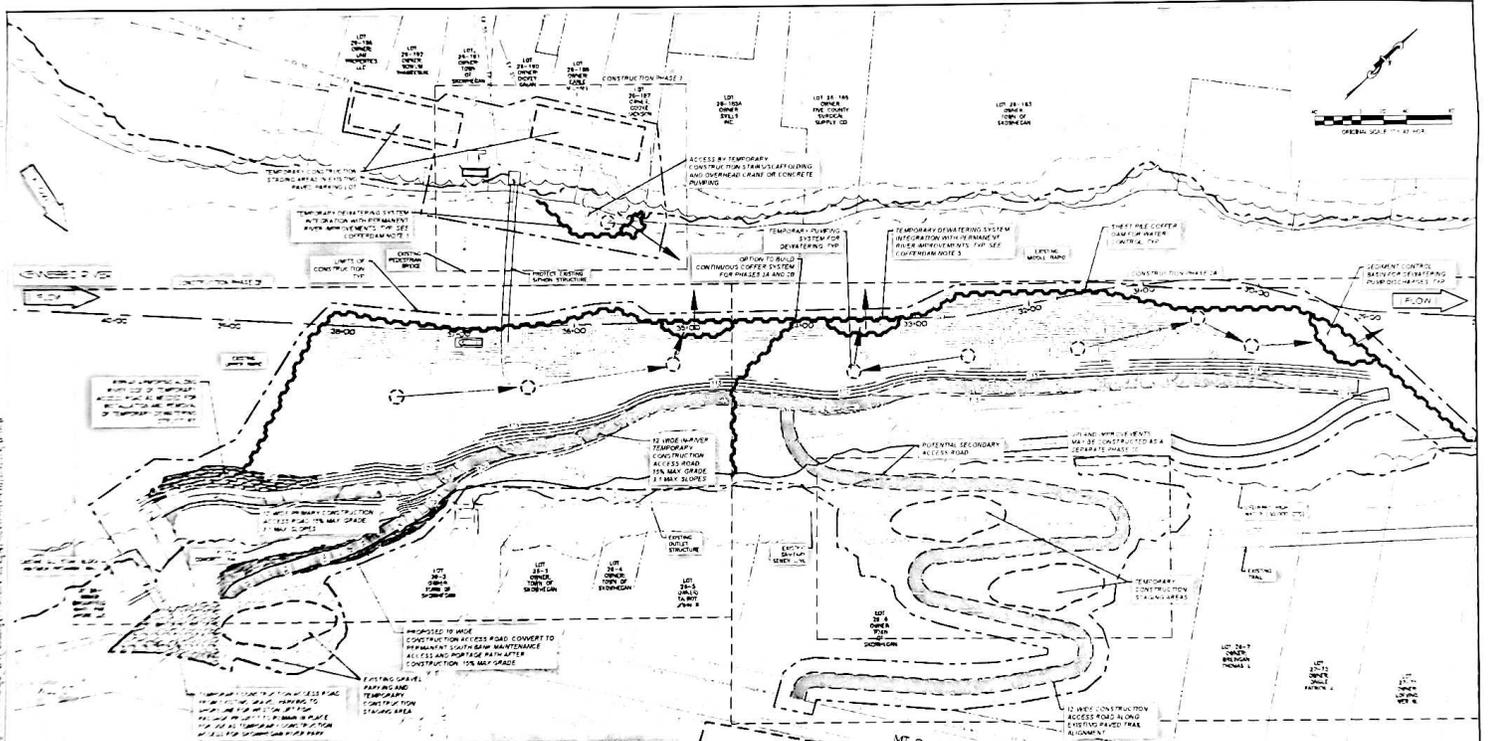
- C-1 COVER SHEET
- C-2 RIVER PLAN AND PROFILE STA. 42+20 TO STA. 23+00
- C-3 RIVER PLAN AND PROFILE STA. 23+00 TO STA. 0+00
- C-4 DETAIL PLAN WHITEWATER RAPID 1
- C-5 DETAIL PLAN WHITEWATER RAPID 2
- C-6 DETAIL PLAN WHITEWATER RAPID 3
- C-7 RAPID 1 CROSS SECTIONS
- C-8 RAPID 2 CROSS SECTIONS
- C-9 POOL CONSTRUCTION CROSS SECTIONS
- C-10 RAPID 3 CROSS SECTIONS
- C-11 RIVER ACCESS TRAIL, SOUTH BANK MAINTENANCE AND ALTERNATIVE ACCESS PATH PLAN & PROFILE
- C-12 NORTH AND SOUTH RIVER ACCESS SECTIONS AND DETAILS
- C-13 RAPID 1 - TUNEABLE VANE PLAN, SECTION AND CONTROL VAULT DETAILS
- C-14 RAPID 2 - WAVESHAPER PLAN, SECTIONS AND DETAILS
- C-15 VANE DETAIL
- C-16 TUNING DETAILS 1
- C-17 TUNING DETAILS 2
- C-18 BOULDER DETAILS
- C-19 SCULPTED CONCRETE DETAILS
- C-20 CONSTRUCTION ACCESS, LIMITS, PHASING AND DEWATERING PLAN
- C-21 CONSTRUCTIONS ACCESS, LIMITS, PHASING, AND DEWATERING PLAN
- C-22 RIVER DEBRIS REMOVAL
- C-23 RIVER DEBRIS REMOVAL

PROJECT COORDINATE SYSTEM MATCHES MAINE STATE PLANES WEST ZONE 18 NAD83 VERTICAL DATUM NAVD83

<p>811 Dig safe &amp; better Call before you dig</p>	<p>TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN PROJECT # 23-00-000</p>	<p>PRELIMINARY NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION</p>	<p> <b>MCLAUGHLIN WHITEWATER</b></p>	<p></p>	<p>SKOWHEGAN RIVER PARK SKOWHEGAN MAINE COVER SHEET</p>	<p>DATE: MAY 2023 C1</p>
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NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY
1	ISSUED FOR PERMITTING	11/15/23	AW
2	REVISIONS	11/15/23	AW
3	REVISIONS	11/15/23	AW
4	REVISIONS	11/15/23	AW
5	REVISIONS	11/15/23	AW
6	REVISIONS	11/15/23	AW
7	REVISIONS	11/15/23	AW
8	REVISIONS	11/15/23	AW
9	REVISIONS	11/15/23	AW
10	REVISIONS	11/15/23	AW

VALUES SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE INTENDED FOR INITIAL DISCUSSION REGARDING SCOURING & COFFER DAM DESIGN APPROACH. THE HEIGHTS ARE CHANGING ALONG THE COFFER DAM. HEIGHTS ARE FOR DEWATERING CHAINING.

ESTIMATED COFFER HEIGHTS ASSUME A WALL TYPE SYSTEM OVER BARGE AND PILE DRIVING PILES IN WATER LEVELS LISTED TO SCOPE. COFFER DAMS WERE NOT CONSIDERED.

NO FREE BOARD IS CHARGED FOR THE ESTIMATED HEIGHTS IN THIS TABLE.

NO PROVISION FOR TEMPORARY DEWATERING SYSTEMS WITH PERMANENT PILE DRIVERS.

CONSTRUCTION LIMITS ARE FOR CONSTRUCTION ONLY INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, EXCAVATION, PILING, AND SOIL REMEDIATION. SOILS WILL BE REMEDIATED IN PLACE AS PART OF THE 10, 15, 20, AND 25 YEAR PHASES AS LONG AS DEWATERING INTERFERS WITH THE AND LEVEL OF DEWATERING TO BE DETERMINED BY THE DESIGNER FOR EACH PHASE.

MT PLEASANT AVENUE

POTENTIAL ALTERNATE CONSTRUCTION STAGING AREA

NOTES:

1. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF ALL TEMPORARY STRUCTURES AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF ALL TEMPORARY DEWATERING SYSTEMS.
2. ALL PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DESIGN AND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE DESIGNER'S REVIEW AND APPROVAL.
3. CONSTRUCTION SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DESIGN AND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE DESIGNER'S REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

**TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN**

PRELIMINARY  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

**MCLAUGHLIN WHITEWATER**

SCALE: 1" = 40'

**SKOWHEGAN RIVER PARK**  
SKOWHEGAN MAINE

**CONSTRUCTION ACCESS LIMITS AND DEWATERING PLAN**

DATE: 11/15/23

BY: AW

PROJECT: 23-001

SCALE: 1" = 40'

DATE: 11/15/23

BY: AW

PROJECT: 23-001

SCALE: 1" = 40'

