



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore District

22 April 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration
Anacostia River Watershed, Montgomery County
Feasibility Report and Integrated Environmental Assessment
Revised Notice: Public Comment Period Extended to May 30, 2025

All Interested Parties: the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (USACE), is recommending a plan for aquatic ecosystem restoration in the Anacostia River watershed, Montgomery County, Maryland. The draft feasibility report with an integrated environmental assessment has been prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, and is available for public comment for 60 days, from March 31, 2025, to May 30, 2025. The study was conducted in partnership with the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection and the Maryland-National Capital Parks and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC).

Purpose of Work: The purpose of the project is to restore in-stream physical habitat in the Bel Pre and Lamberton Creeks, tributaries of the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River, and enhancing aquatic ecosystem resilience by restoring fish passage and floodplain connectivity. This study is being completed under the Continuing Authorities Program (CAP), Section 206 – Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration. Projects under the CAP Section 206 program must be in the public interest, be cost-effective, and minimize potential impacts to the environment. This study has been completed to identify and evaluate alternative plans that would realize in-stream habitat restoration benefits while minimizing impacts to riparian forests, wetlands, and other resources of concern.

Recommended Plan Description: The Recommended Plan consists of improving stream habitat condition in Bel Pre Creek for a total length of 2.5 miles, extending from Bel Pre Neighborhood Park to 100 feet upstream of the confluence with the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River. An additional improvement will occur along Lamberton Creek for 0.7 miles from the outfall at Yeatman Terrace to 1,000 feet upstream of the confluence with the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River. The recommended plan includes raising the channel bed using a series of grade control structures to address blockages of resident fish passage at the culvert under Poplar Run Drive (Bel Pre Creek) and at the Lovejoy Street Culvert (Lamberton Creek). Channel bed raising will also address historic downcutting of the channel, improving floodplain connectivity between the stream and adjacent wetland and riparian habitat. The plan also includes a series of riffle pool habitats within each stream segment, increasing habitat diversity and supporting resident fish, benthic macroinvertebrates and herpetofauna in the floodplain.

Restoration of in-stream physical habitat will utilize natural channel design principles, including the placement of in stream structures such as riffles, cross vanes, and J-hooks for grade control

and restoration of riffle/pool sequences. The project will also use a combination of grading, planting of native species, and removal of non-native plant species to improve stream health. Project construction will result in localized, short-term, and minor negative environmental impacts to water quality, air quality, and noise levels. In-stream work will be performed to minimize disturbance and fish relocations will occur prior to construction. Impacts to cultural resources will be avoided. The recommended plan directly supports USACE's commitment to the Chesapeake Bay goals included in Executive Order 13508, *Chesapeake Bay Protection and Restoration*.

An in-person public meeting will be held in April 23, 2025, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the Wheaton Library (Art Room), 11701 Georgia Ave, Wheaton MD 20902. The draft feasibility report and integrated environmental assessment is available for viewing electronically at <https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/Montgomery-County-MD-Continuing-Authorities-Program-206-Study/> and hard copies can be found at the following libraries:

Wheaton Library - 11701 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring MD, 20902

Aspen Hill Library – 4407 Aspen Hill Road, Rockville MD, 20853

White Oak Library – 11701 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring MD, 20904

If additional information is needed about the Environmental Assessment or the draft Finding of No Significant Impact, you may contact Chris Johnson at (410) 962-2969 or by e-mail at [Christopher.A.Johnson @usace.army.mil](mailto:Christopher.A.Johnson@usace.army.mil).



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Planning Division

Enclosure

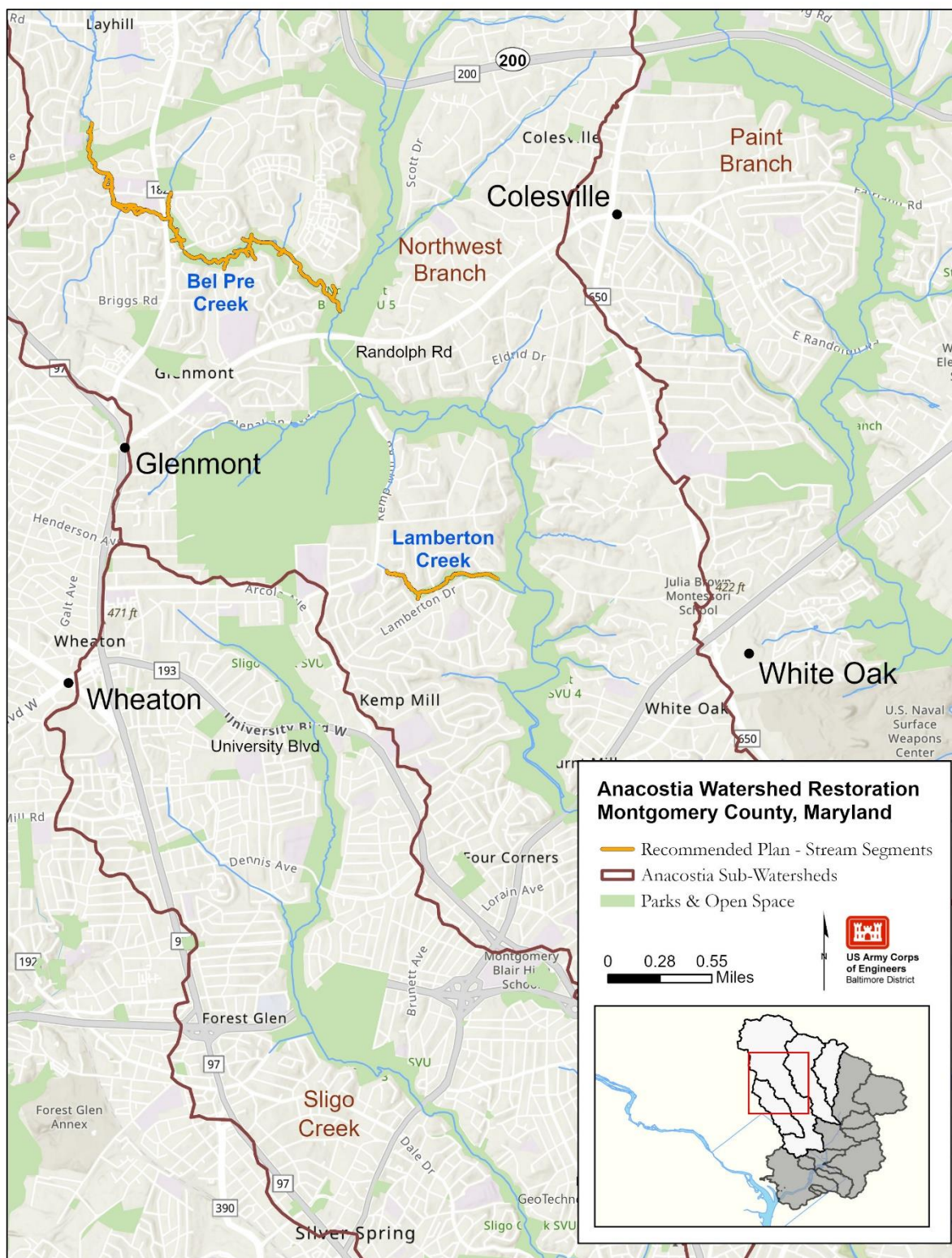


Figure 1: Recommended Streams Locations – Bel Pre Creek & Lamberton Creek