

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

INDIAN ROCK DAM/CODORUS CREEK FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REHABILITATION PROJECT

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Baltimore District prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and document the potential environmental effects associated with the rehabilitation of the levee system in the Indian Rock Dam/Codorus Creek Flood Risk Management (FRM) Project in York County, Pennsylvania. The Codorus Creek FRM project includes eight USACE-constructed and maintained levee systems and a channel that provide flood damage reduction to the City of York. The purpose of this proposed action is to rehabilitate and repair the Codorus Creek FRM levee system and restore the overall reliability of the Indian Rock Dam/Codorus Creek FRM project.

The Codorus Creek FRM project was authorized under the Flood Control Act of 1936, built in the 1930s, and became operational in the 1940s. During the 2015 USACE periodic inspection of the levee system, deficiencies were identified in the levee system that need to be addressed to prevent further deterioration of the performance and structural integrity of the system. USACE requested funds from Congress to address the deficiencies and restore the levee system back to the project's authorized design. Congress allocated \$15.9 million in fiscal year 2018 for operation, maintenance, and repairs of the Codorus Creek FRM system. The proposed rehabilitation project includes four work tasks: (1) replacement of approximately 600 linear feet of floodwall near the Penn Street Bridge, (2) repairs of a bulging section of floodwall masonry near the Market Street Bridge, (3) stabilization of approximately 690 linear feet of levee bank near the South Richland Avenue Bridge including installation of approximately 190 feet of new riprap to reduce erosion and stabilize the embankment, and (4) maintenance of deficient drainage conduits along the length of the FRM project. Three alternatives and a no action alternative were examined in the *Indian Rock Dam/Codorus Creek FRM Rehabilitation Project EA*. Following evaluation of these alternatives, the preferred alternative was assessed for potential impacts to the natural and human environment.

Potential impacts from the preferred alternative were assessed with regard to aesthetics, wetlands; fish and wildlife resources; cultural resources; land use; water quality; hazardous, toxic, and radioactive substances; threatened and endangered species; environmental justice; and the general needs and welfare of the public. The EA documents the overall effects of the preferred alternative and finds that the impacts would be minor and temporary in nature.

Minor and short-term impacts would include disturbance to terrestrial and water resources as rehabilitation areas would be inaccessible to wildlife and aquatic organisms for the duration of the work. Disturbance of soils, creek banks, and channel bottom is anticipated during construction in previously disturbed areas within the project footprint. Impacts associated with these activities include excavation and discharge of

fill for floodwall foundation placement and bank stabilization work to restore the authorized design of the project. Construction activities would result in minor and short term effects to recreational navigation, parks and recreation, and aesthetics from limited riverine access at the proposed work locations. No impacts are anticipated to threatened and endangered species as a result of project work or construction activities. An avoidance measure is recommended by the US Fish and Wildlife Service to avoid construction impacts related to proposed conduit repairs located within the 660 feet buffer area of a bald eagle nest, regulated under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. USACE will adhere to the proposed avoidance measure, limiting activity within a 660 foot radius of a bald eagle nest during nesting and fledging season (January through July, of each year). No wetlands are present in the proposed work areas. The project work will be in compliance with Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's water quality standards. No long term adverse effects are anticipated to air quality, noise, transportation, socio-economics, low-income or minority populations, cultural resources, fish and wildlife, floodplains, wetlands, hazardous materials and solid waste, climate, threatened and endangered species, land use, and recreation. Beneficial impacts are anticipated from bank stabilization and reduction in erosion rates at the South Richland Avenue segment of the floodwall and improvement in the integrity and performance of the flood management system.

Upon reviewing the EA, I find that there will be no significant impacts to the natural or human environment considered. Because no significant impacts are expected, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required for this proposed action.



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