

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Codorus Creek Flood Risk Management Project Programmatic Environmental Assessment York, Pennsylvania

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (USACE) has conducted an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA). The Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) dated April 2024, focuses on operation and maintenance (O&M) actions to the Codorus Creek Flood Risk Management Project (FRM project) for the next 10 years to ensure that the system does not deteriorate and is able to function as designed. Regular maintenance is needed to reduce the threat to life and property from riverine flooding.

The Programmatic EA evaluated two alternatives that would manage flood risk by meeting the necessary O&M needs of the Codorus Creek FRM project: the preferred alternative and the no-action alternative. The preferred alternative includes future O&M work for the Codorus Creek FRM project for a period of 10 years. These tasks are reliant on USACE receiving federal funding to perform these actions. The preferred alternative includes:

- A. Riprap removal/repair/replacement
 1. Remove riprap where no longer needed or in the case of subsidence into the channel.
 2. Augment existing riprap in the event scour protection has been compromised.
 3. Replace riprap where and when necessary to maintain system performance.
- B. Drainage issues and pipe/outflow replacement/repairs
 1. Repairs to the gated outlets.
 2. Drainage conduit maintenance (inspection/cleaning and repair/replacement).
- C. Floodwall maintenance/repair/replacement
 1. Pointing, grouting, sealing.
 2. Repair of mortar/rocks.
 3. Removal of vegetation having roots that would endanger floodwalls.
 4. Floodwall bulge repairs.
 5. Masonry repairs.
 6. Floodwall replacement in whole or in part.
- D. Levee maintenance
 1. Repair levee embankments.
 2. Removal/replacement of rubble fill/riprap.
 3. Routine mowing of grass and cutting of weeds.
 4. Rodent extermination activities.
 5. Fill with compacted material any holes or washes found in the levee.
 6. Repair gaps where road crossings have worn down the levee crown or other locations where the levee is below grade.
 7. Maintenance of access roads to and on the levee.
- E. Channel maintenance and shoal removal (sediment/gravel bars) including the removal of snags and debris in the channel. Sediment and gravel bars primarily occur in the Codorus Creek

FRM project above and below Richland Avenue, between Grantley Road and Penn Street, above and below Poorhouse Run, and south of Route 30. Typically, deposition removal actions are performed by USACE every 2 to 3 years, rotating between areas, so dredging may occur between 5 to 10 years at various locations. Dredging within Codorus Creek is typically conducted via a long-arm excavator from the uplands. However, portions of the sediment/gravel bars are located over 120 feet from the top of the streambank where a long-arm excavator cannot reach. Therefore, vehicles would be allowed to track on the sediment/gravel bars in order to dredge these areas. All dredged material and other debris would be transported to an authorized landfill or other approved, upland disposal site for final disposal.

Under the No-Action Alternative, USACE would continue to perform O&M actions for the Codorus Creek FRM project. However, without a programmatic approach, a separate NEPA document would be needed for each O&M action or group of actions as needed. The preparation of a NEPA document may be needed up to one to two times per year. The No-Action Alternative would be less efficient, more costly, and may result in potential project delays.

For all alternatives, the potential effects were evaluated, as appropriate. A summary assessment of the potential effects of the preferred alternative are listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Preferred Alternative

Topic	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation	Resource unaffected by action
Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fish and wildlife habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Threatened/Endangered species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cultural resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous, toxic & radioactive waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hydrology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Navigation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noise levels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Socioeconomics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental justice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Floodplains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prime farmland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

All practicable and appropriate means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were analyzed and incorporated into the preferred alternative. Best management practices as detailed in the EA will be implemented, if appropriate, to minimize impacts.

No compensatory mitigation is required as part of the preferred alternative.

Public review of the draft EA and FONSI occurred from February 12, 2024, to March 13, 2024. No comments were submitted during the public review period.

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, USACE determined that the preferred alternative may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the tri-colored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) provided no comments on the February 16, 2024, concurrence letter.

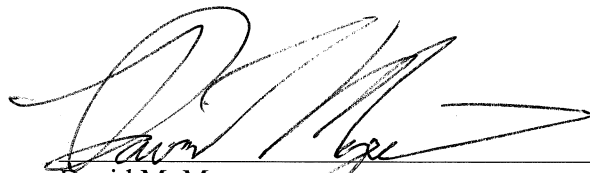
Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, USACE determined that the preferred alternative has no potential to cause adverse effects on historic properties.

Pursuant to the Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended, the discharge of dredged or fill material associated with the preferred alternative is consistent with the terms and conditions of Nationwide Permit (NWP) 31. Therefore, a separate Section 404(b)(1) analysis is not required. A water quality certification pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act is covered under the NWP 31. All conditions of the NWP 31 and the water quality certification will be implemented in order to minimize adverse impacts to water quality.

All applicable environmental laws have been considered and coordination with appropriate agencies has been completed. Based on the EA and this FONSI, the reviews by other federal, state and local agencies, tribal nations, input of the public, and the review by my staff, it is my determination that the preferred alternative would not cause significant adverse effects on the quality of the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

22 APR 2024

Date



David M. Myers
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
Deputy District Commander