



Mayor Alex B. Morse
City of Holyoke

Alicia M. Zoeller, Administrator
Office for Community Development

Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a Wetland
Remediation of Contaminants at Former National Guard Firing Range, Mountain Road, Holyoke MA

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

On July 6, 2016, a First Notice of Proposed Activity in a Wetland was issued and comments sought. All comments received (1 comment) have been reviewed and considered.

This is to give notice that the City of Holyoke through its Office for Community Development as Responsible Entity under Part 58 has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded with \$60,000 of 2016 Community Development Block Grant funds. The proposed project is located at the former National Guard Firing Range, Mountain Road in City of Holyoke, Hampden County. The project involves the removal of soil contaminants from land at the former National Guard Firing Range. This proposal is the last portion of the remediation activities and will result in a project close out determination (Response Action Outcome) from MA DEP. The project involves disturbance and restoration to 40' linear feet of stream bank; disturbance of 61,161 square feet of Riverfront resource Area; and disturbance and restoration of 2035 square feet of bordering vegetated wetlands.

The City of Holyoke has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values: Proposed project: (i) Removal of lead and other contaminants (remediation) from wetlands and surrounding areas; Alternatives: (ii) alternatives considered included no action which would allow contaminants to remain in place; Mitigation (iii) all mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values including restoration of wetland, project close out (contaminants removed), and limited upland restoration of disturbed areas. Proposed remediation activities have been reviewed and permitted by the City of Holyoke Conservation Commission and MA Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP Final No. 186-0237).

The City of Holyoke has reevaluated the alternatives to removal of contaminants in the wetland and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11990, are available for public inspection, review and copying (for a fee) upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the City of Holyoke Office for Community Development at the following address on or before Monday September 5, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. EST directed to: Alicia M. Zoeller, Administrator, City of Holyoke Office for Community Development, City Hall Annex, Room 400, Holyoke MA 01040 (413-322-5610). A full description of the project may also be reviewed from Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. EST at address as above. Comments may also be submitted via email at zoellera@holyoke.org.

Date: August 24, 2016

20 Korean Veterans Plaza – Room 400 – Holyoke, Massachusetts 01040-5036
Phone: (413) 322-5610 Fax: (413) 322-5611 E-mail: zoellera@holyoke.org

Birthplace of Volleyball

RECEIVED
16 AUG 23 AM 9:04
CITY OF HOLYOKE
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE