

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Shenango River Lake 2023 Master Plan Shenango River Lake Project Trumbull County, Ohio and Mercer County, Pennsylvania

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District (USACE) is presenting an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The Environmental Assessment (EA) dated [dates to be provided after EA completion], for the Shenango River Lake 2023 Master Plan for the Shenango River Lake Project (Project), located in Trumbull County, Ohio and Mercer County, Pennsylvania, evaluates potential environmental impacts associated with updating the Master Plan.

The EA considered two alternatives. The preferred alternative, ultimately the Proposed Federal Action, includes updating the Master Plan. In addition to the preferred alternative, a “no action” alternative was evaluated, which is to continue to operate the Project under the existing Master Plan. For the preferred alternative, the potential effects to the following resources were evaluated:

Environmental Resource	Minor effect	No effect
Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic resources, wetlands, hydrology, and water quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²	<input type="checkbox"/>
Invasive species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fish and wildlife habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²	<input type="checkbox"/>
Federally protected species, including threatened and endangered species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Historic properties and other cultural resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²	<input type="checkbox"/>
Floodplains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Land use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Noise levels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental justice and Socioeconomics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Climate change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child health and safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ Temporary effect; ² Beneficial effect

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), as amended, USACE determined that the preferred alternative will have no effect on threatened and endangered species and no effect on designated critical habitat. Replacement of the pedestrian bridge on the Shenango Trail may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect threatened and endangered species or critical habitat as there will be no work below the ordinary high water mark for this project. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with this opinion in a letter dated 31 October 2023. Other future development projects will be evaluated for ESA compliance once plan details have been developed.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, the Corps subsequently determined that the Proposed Federal Action, including the replacement of the pedestrian bridge on the Shenango Trail, will have no effect on historic or cultural resources. Other future development projects will be evaluated for NHPA compliance once plan details have been developed.

Pursuant to the Clean Water Act of 1972 (CWA), as amended, USACE has determined that the Proposed Federal Action will have no impact on waters of the United States (WOTUS). Replacement of the pedestrian bridge on the Shenango Trail will not result in placement of fill or discharge of pollutants into WOTUS. Other future development projects will be evaluated for CWA compliance once plan details have been developed.

A 30-day public comment period occurred from [to be completed after public comment period]. [Amount] [to be completed after public comment period] comment letter was received pertaining to the EA. Comments and responses can be found in the final EA. [or] No public comments pertaining to the EA were received. [to be completed after public comment period]

After having reviewed the EA and carefully having evaluated all aspects of the Proposed Federal Action, I have reasonably concluded that the Proposed Federal Action does not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required and will not be prepared.

Date

NICHOLAS O. MELIN
COLONEL, Corps of Engineers
District Commander