July 14, 2015

Todd Sando
State Engineer
North Dakota State Water Commission
900 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0850

PROJECT: SS-BRS-2-011(035)083; PCN 20280
ROADBED STABILIZATION
DICIKEY COUNTY

The NDDOT is requesting a Sovereign Lands Permit to place embankment and riprap within the James River on ND highway 11 in Dickey County. The current bid opening is October 9, 2015. The NDDOT requests an expedited review to be able to obtain a permit prior to the bid opening.

The project on ND highway 11 includes removing and replacing the bridge within the Maple River and deck replacement, bridge approach reconstruction, and slope protection within the James River.

The roadbed of ND highway 11 is held in place by sheet piling in the James River. The existing sheet piling is failing on the north side of the roadway within the James River. The project includes adding earthen embankment, and riprap to better protect Highway 11 roadbed within the river channel.

The NDDOT assumes that the ordinary high water mark (OHW) elevation of 1291', in the James River, is the high water stain on the sheet piling. Therefore work within Sovereign Lands (below the OHW) will include placing approximately 3,475 cubic yards of earthen fill and 1,070 cubic yards of riprap along the existing roadbed in the James River.

Temporary impacts in the James River are assumed for the staging area located on the south east side of the bridge near an existing boat ramp. The staging area may be needed for stockpiling riprap, staging equipment, and methods used by the contractor to place the riprap which may include utilizing a barge. No additional fill is anticipated at the staging area.
If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Steve Kessler at (701) 328-3736.

MARK S. GAYDOS, P.E.
DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL & TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DIVISION

194:msg:sek
enclosures
APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO CONSTRUCT A PROJECT
WITHIN ISLANDS AND BEDS OF NAVIGABLE STREAMS AND WATERS

Office of the State Engineer
900 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0850
Permit No. __________
Project No. 1625

I, the undersigned, do hereby submit the following information to the Office of the State Engineer as an application to construct a project that may impact islands and beds of navigable streams and waters of North Dakota under NDCC Chapter 61-33.

GENERAL INFORMATION:
This Application must include a map from an actual survey, aerial photo or topographic map and plot map (if a development). The size of the map shall be 8½ by 11 inches. The map shall have a north arrow and approximate scale. Indicate the existing or proposed work on the drawing. Plans and specifications must be submitted if project includes construction work.

(1) Project will be located in the: Dickey County __________________________ Water Resource District

(2) Legal description to the nearest 40 acre tract: SE,SW ¼ SE,SW ¼ Section 2;1 ______ Township __129___ Range __60___

(3) Is this application for modification of an existing project ☐ Yes ☐ No If so, what year was project constructed: ____________

By whom: __________________________

(4) Proposed project involves ☐ water crossing, type Roadway ☐ boat dock, ☐ boat ramp, ☐ water intake, ☐ dredge, volume ________ cu. yds. ☐ filling, volume 3475;1070 cu. yds. ☐ other (explain) ________________________________

(5) Water body on which project will be located: James River

(6) Purpose: Stabilize existing roadway.

(7) Project Description: Placing embankment and riprap in the James River on the north side of highway 11 where the sheet piling is failing. NDDOT assumed OHW elevation is 1291'.

(8) Contractor, if known: Unknown

(9) Anticipated construction start date: Spring 2016 Completion date: Fall 2016

The filing of this application and its approval in no way relieves the applicant or landowner from any responsibility or liability resulting from the construction, operation or failure of the project.

Applicant: (Print) Mark S. Gavdos, PE

Land Owner or Legal Entity Sponsor: (Print) NDDOT

Address: 608 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0700

Phone: (H) ___________________ (W) 701-328-4417

Signature: __________________________ Date Submitted: 7/14/15

(riparian owner or legal entity sponsoring the project)
June 25, 2015

Mr. Mick Erickson
Wildlife Refuge Manager
Kulm Wetland Management District
US Fish & Wildlife Service
1 First St SW – PO Box E
Kulm, ND 58456

PROJECT NO. SS-BRS-2-011(035)083, PCN 20280
STRUCTURAL REPLACEMENT/DECK REPLACEMENT
DICEY COUNTY

The North Dakota Department of Transportation is finalizing its environmental review and preliminary design for a bridge project at ND Highway 11 at the James River at RP 96.356. The project consists of removing and replacing the existing bridge on ND Highway 11 at the Maple River at RP 83.957, and replacing the deck on the existing bridge on ND Highway 11 at the James River at RP 96.356. In addition, the proposed scope of work includes improvement options to address failing sheet pile retaining walls along the north approach embankments at the James River Bridge. The proposed project will also address the failing retaining walls at the James River. The NDDOT evaluated a no-build alternative, constructing a new anchored sheet pile retaining wall to the north of the existing wall (Option 1), or widening the highway embankment on the north side and constructing an inslope of borrow material armored with riprap for erosion protection (Option 2). NDDOT Engineering and Environmental staff have identified Option 2 as the preferred option during the NEPA review.

The preferred option’s embankment will encroach on the Dakota Lake Easement National Wildlife Refuge and constitute a ‘use’ under Section 4(f) of the DOT Act of 1966. All of the proposed work is within NDDOT right-of-way. However, because the preferred option requires the placement of fill below the ordinary high water elevation at the wildlife refuge, the NDDOT is seeking your written approval to the proposed options described herein.

Option 1 is to install a new anchored sheet pile retaining wall approximately 5 feet north of the existing sheet piling walls. This option would result in approximately 0.08 acres of fill being placed within the channel, and thus would still constitute a ‘use’ under Section 4(f) of the DOT Act of 1966. This option is not preferred by the NDDOT due to the high cost of installation and continued maintenance which may be required with this option. The NDDOT views this option as having the potential for similar failures in the future and becoming a reoccurring issue.
June 25, 2015

Option 2 is to construct a wider embankment along the north side of the highway with riprap placed along the inslopes to protect the slopes from erosion. This option would result in approximately 0.51 acres of fill being placed within the James River channel.

No permanent right-of-way will be needed for either option as all of the proposed work is within existing NDDOT right-of-way. A 2.42 acre temporary construction easement has been issued for the use of private land as a construction staging area and use of a boat ramp for access into the James River.

Please review the attached information regarding the proposed options to address the failing sheet pile retaining wall at the James River. To comply with Federal Highway Administration’s Section 4(f) requirements a written response from your organization is required. Please sign and return an approval document, printed on your letterhead, if your organization approves of the proposed work options.

If further information is desired regarding the proposed roadway improvement, please contact Randall Sandvig at 701-328-3035 in Bismarck, North Dakota.

TERRENCE R. UDLAND, P.E., BRIDGE ENGINEER

25/tru/rds

Enclosure
Option 1 – Sheet Pile Retaining Wall

Option 2 – Embankment Widening
June 26, 2015

Mr. Randall Sandvig  
ND Department of Transportation  
608 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, ND  58505

Dear Mr. Sandvig:

This letter is in response to the June 25, 2015 letter I received from Mr. Terrence Udland, Bridge Engineer, concerning the proposed project SS-BRS-2-011(035)083, PCN 20280; Structural Replacement/Deck Replacement project.

The letter explained that the ND DOT is investigating two options to address the failing retaining walls along the James River within the Dakota Lake Easement National Wildlife Refuge. The option selected consists of widening the highway embankment on the north side of the highway and constructing an in-slope of borrow material armored with riprap for erosion protection. This option results in approximately 0.51 acres of fill material will be placed within the James River channel.

The proposed work as described in the letter will not negatively impact our jurisdiction of the Dakota Lake Easement National Wildlife Refuge and therefore, have no objections to your proposed project. I would strongly suggest coordinating with our USFWS Ecological Services office (Mr. Terry Ellsworth) on this project to make sure all other possible impacts are considered. Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this project.

Sincerely,

Mick Erickson  
Refuge Manager
APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO CONSTRUCT A PROJECT WITHIN ISLANDS AND BEDS OF NAVIGABLE STREAMS AND WATERS

Office of the State Engineer
900 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0850

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(1) Project will be located in the: Dickey County Water Resource District

(2) Legal description to the nearest 40 acre tract: SE:SW ¼ SE:SW ¼ Section 2:1 Township 129 Range 60

(3) Is this application for modification of an existing project Yes ☐ No ☐ If so, what year was project constructed: _________ By whom: ________________

(4) Proposed project involves ☑ water crossing, type Roadway ☐ boat dock, ☐ boat ramp, ☐ water intake, ☑ dredge, volume ________ cu. yds. ☑ filling, volume 3475:1070 cu. yds., type Earthen Fill:Riprap ☐ other (explain) ________

(5) Water body on which project will be located: James River

(6) Purpose: Stabilize existing roadway.

(7) Project Description: Placing embankment and riprap in the James River on the north side of highway 11 where the sheet piling is failing. NDDOT assumed OHW elevation is 129'.

(8) Contractor, if known: Unknown

(9) Anticipated construction start date: Spring 2016 Completion date: Fall 2016

The filing of this application and its approval in no way relieves the applicant or landowner from any responsibility or liability resulting from the construction, operation or failure of the project.

Applicant: (Print) Mark S. Gaydos, PE

Land Owner or Legal Entity Sponsor: (Print) NDDOT

Address: 608 East Boulevard Avenue

Bismarck, ND 58504-0700

Phone: (H) ___________________ (W) 701-328-4417

Signature: ____________________ Date Submitted: 7/13/15

(riparian owner or legal entity sponsoring the project)
This document is preliminary and not for construction or implementation purposes.

Wetlands
Bridge 0011-596.356
Deck Replacement
1 Mi West of Ludden
This document is preliminary and not for construction or implementation purposes.

Permanent Sediment & Erosion Control
Bridge 0011-396.356
Deck Replacement
1 Mi West of Ludden