

408-SAW-2024-0029

## PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO MODIFY A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROJECT UNDER SECTION 408

**TITLE:** Beaufort SWCD, South Creek Stream Debris Removal, South Creek Flood Control Project, Beaufort County, North Carolina.

## **PUBLIC NOTICE COMMENT PERIOD:**

Begins: October 3, 2024 Expires: October 17, 2024

Interested parties are hereby notified that a request has been received for Department of the Army Section 408 (Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; 33 U.S.C. 408; hereinafter Section 408) approval to remove vegetation and other debris from the South Creek Flood Control Project which is a federal project subject to Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, 33 USC 408 (Section 408), as described below. Written comments are being solicited from anyone having an interest in the requested alteration. Comments received will become part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) administrative record and will be considered in determining whether to approve the request. Comments supporting, opposing, or identifying concerns that should be considered by the USACE in its decision process are welcome. Comments providing substantive information and/or a rationale for the commenter's position are the most helpful. Comments regarding the proposed work should reference the USACE public notice number (408-SAW-2024-0029) and must reach the USACE via email no later than **October 17**, **2024**, to become part of the public record and be considered in the USACE's decision. Please send comments to the Wilmington District Section 408 Coordinator at: ronnie.d.smith@usace.army.mil.

**REQUESTER:** Beaufort County Soil and Water Conversation District.

**LOCATION:** The proposed action is located along South Creek between Bateman Road and the confluence of Gum Swamp Run, south of the Town of Idalia, Beaufort County, North Carolina. (from 35.262670, -76.783947 to 35.256524, -76.788896).

**PROPOSED ACTION:** The requester proposes to remove vegetation and other debris from within the South Creek channel and along the banks of the channel using a boat, excavator, and chainsaw winch. Heavy machinery would operate from a path maintained by the South Creek Drainage District.

**REGULATORY AUTHORITY:** This request will be reviewed according to the provisions of Section 408. A requester has the responsibility to acquire all other permissions or authorizations required by federal, state, and local laws or regulations. An approval under Section 408 does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

**EVALUATION**: The decision whether to grant the requested permission for federal project modification under Section 408 will be based on several factors and will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. Review of the request for modification will be reviewedby a USACE technical review team and will consider, but not necessarily be limited to, the following factors:

- 1. <u>Impair the Usefulness of the Project Determination</u>. The review team will determine if the proposed alteration would limit the ability of the projects to function as authorized, or would compromise or change any authorized project's conditions, purposes, or outputs. The decision whether to approve a request for modification would be based on a determination of no impairments.
- 2. <u>Injurious to the Public Interest Determination</u>. Proposed alterations will be reviewed by the District to determine the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, on the public interest.

**SUMMARY:** It should be noted that materials submitted as part of Section 408 requests become part of the public record and will be available to the general public under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Individuals may submit a written request to obtain materials under the FOIA or make an appointment to view the project file at the USACE Wilmington District's Office of Counsel.

Interested parties wishing to comment on the proposed action must do so in writing no later than **October 17**, **2024**. It is presumed that all parties viewing this notice will wish to respond; therefore, a lack of response will be interpreted as meaning there is no objection to the proposed action as described.

Ronnie Smith

Wilmington District

Ronnie Smith

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

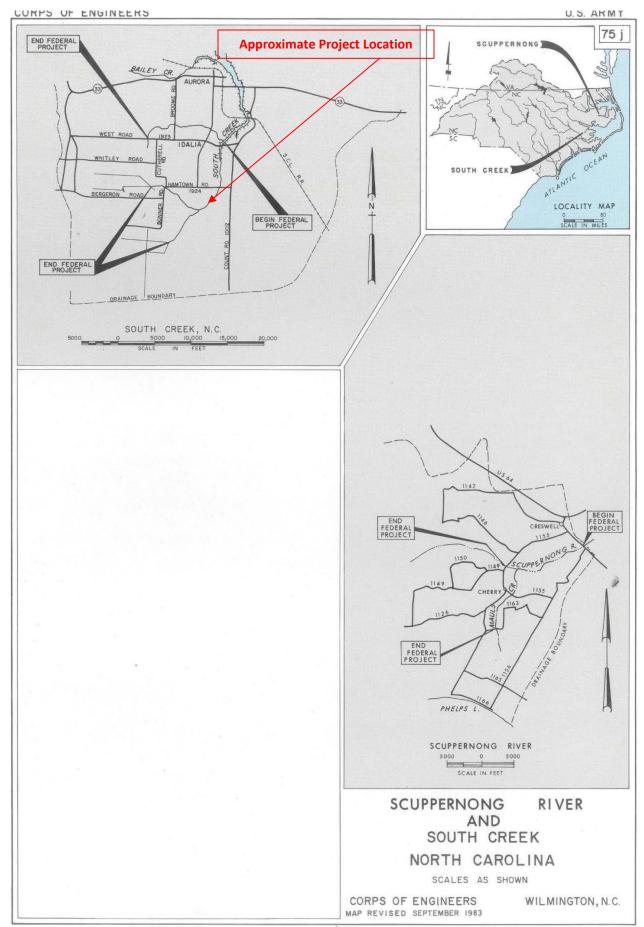


Figure 1: South Creek Flood Control Project Map



Figure 2: Vicinity Map