



State Revolving Fund Loan Programs Drinking Water, Clean Water, Nonpoint Source

PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

**NORTH LIBERTY
POTATO CREEK STATE PARK
SRF Project WW 22 45 71 01**

Date: April 23, 2023

Pursuant to IC 5-1.2-3, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the North Liberty's Preliminary Engineering Report will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion (CE) from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

How were environmental issues considered?

The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision-making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement.

Why is additional environmental review not required?

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action. In the absence of significant comments, the attached CE shall serve as the final environmental document.

How do I submit comments?

Comments can be submitted to:

April Douglas
Environmental Review Coordinator
SRF Programs
317-234-7294
adouglas@ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: **Potato Creek State Park**
North Liberty
PO Box 515
North Liberty, Indiana 46554

SRF Project Number: **WW 22 45 71 01**

Authorized Representative: Randy Lemert, Town Council President

II. PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed project is located in St. Joseph County, Liberty township, North Liberty and Lakeville 24K USGS Quadrangles, township 36N, range 1E sections 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28. See **Figure 1**.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

This project will include the construction of a wastewater collection system that will incorporate the existing collection system at the State Park. The system will convey effluent to the Town of North Liberty and the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The entire collection system and wastewater treatment system will be operated and maintained by the Town of North Liberty.

The selected alternative includes the following components:

- Construction of a 12-inch diameter gravity sewer in the right-of-way of State Road 4 from the east limits of the Town of North Liberty to the intersection of State Road 4 and Primrose Road. Included in this construction would be one lift station and a force main of approximately 3300 feet in length, connecting to the Town's existing system at the intersection of State Road 4 and Washington Street.
- Construction of a 12-inch diameter gravity sewer from State Road 4 along the former path of Primrose Road within the State Park to a point near the main loop road.
- Reconstruction of the existing gravity sewer within the State Park from Manhole 26, east of Osprey Lane, to the proposed new main lift station at the location of existing Lift Station #3.
- Construction of a new six-inch diameter force main from the new main lift station to the end point of the new gravity sewer in the former path of Primrose Lane.
- Construction of a new six-inch diameter force main from Lift Station #2 to the new main lift station near Lift Station #3.
- Decommissioning and closure of Lift Station #3, to be replaced by the new main lift station.
- Improvements to the other lift stations (LS #1, LS #4, and LS #5).
- Incidental improvements in the State Park, including grinder pump stations and low-pressure small-diameter force mains to connect all State Park facilities currently served by septic systems.
- Decommissioning and closure of existing State Park Wastewater Treatment Plant.

IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

Collection/Transport		\$3,980,000
Potato Creek State Park Plant Closure		\$1,000,000
Potato Creek State Park Septic System Removal		\$ 400,000
Contingencies		<u>\$ 540,000</u>
	Sub Total Construction	\$5,920,000
Non-Construction		<u>\$ 960,000</u>
	Total Project Cost	\$6,880,000

Total cost of this project is estimated to be approximately \$6,880,000. The Town of North Liberty will finance the project with a loan from the Clean Water SRF Loan Program for a term and annual fixed interest rate to be determined at loan closing. Monthly user rates and charges may need to be analyzed to determine if adjustments are required for loan repayment.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

The environmental impacts will be minimal. All project activities will take place in areas previously disturbed by installation of the existing roads and utilities. The proposed project will not affect streams, floodplains, wetlands, wooded areas, or other sensitive environmental resources and will not convert prime farmland.

Construction and operation of the project will not alter, demolish, or remove historic properties. If any visual or audible impacts to historic properties occur, they will be temporary and will not alter the characteristics that qualify such properties for inclusion in or eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. The SRF's finding pursuant to Section 106 of the National Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected."

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A properly noticed public hearing was held on April 18, 2022, at 6 pm at the North Liberty Community Building, 300 South Main Street, North Liberty, IN 46554. There were no questions on this project during the hearing. No written comments were received in the 5-day period following the hearing for this project.

