



NEW JERSEY Wetlands Mitigation Council

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Catherine McCabe, Commissioner
Ms. Claudia Rocca
Mr. Bryon DuBois
Dr. Lenore Tedesco
Dr. Philip Orton

Mail Code 401-07B
PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
Telephone: (609) 633-2201
Fax: (609) 292-4608

June 2, 2020

New Jersey Wetlands Mitigation Council
Mail Code 401-07B
PO Box 420
401 E. State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

RE: Staff Comments on a final proposal for the "Jamesburg Park Conservation Area: Buckelew Bogs & Shekiro Pond-Wetland Enhancement Project" is Helmetta Borough and Monroe Township of Middlesex County.

Dear Council Members,

On February 7, 2020, Council staff received a final mitigation proposal in response to the June 3, 2019 Request For Proposals for the Raritan Region. Council staff preliminarily reviewed the proposal and determined it was complete and was received prior to the deadlines set forth in the RFP. The proposed project is for the Jamesburg Park Conservation Area: Buckelew Bogs & Shekiro Pond-Wetland Enhancement Project located on Block 9, Lots 1,3,4,5, and 6 of Helmetta Borough, Middlesex County and Block 83, Lot 12.02 of Monroe Township, Middlesex County.

The project, proposed by GreenTrust Alliance, promotes restoration, water quality and wildlife habitat improvement, open space management, and greenway connection in Middlesex County. The proposal is to enhance 9.86 acres of wetlands resulting in 3.29 mitigation credits. The total project cost is \$669,877.93, with an estimated cost per credit amount of \$203,816.82.

Council staff previously reviewed the conceptual project and conducted a site inspection on October 17, 2019. The final proposal addressed concerns raised by Council members and Council staff in the conceptual review. Specifically, the proposal clarified the project scope, removed the development of a water budget, and proposed a milestone-based budget, similar to other projects GreenTrust Alliance has undertaken with a Council grant. Therefore, Council staff recommends approval of the proposed project.

If you should have any questions regarding these staff comments, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Jill Aspinwall
Council Staff