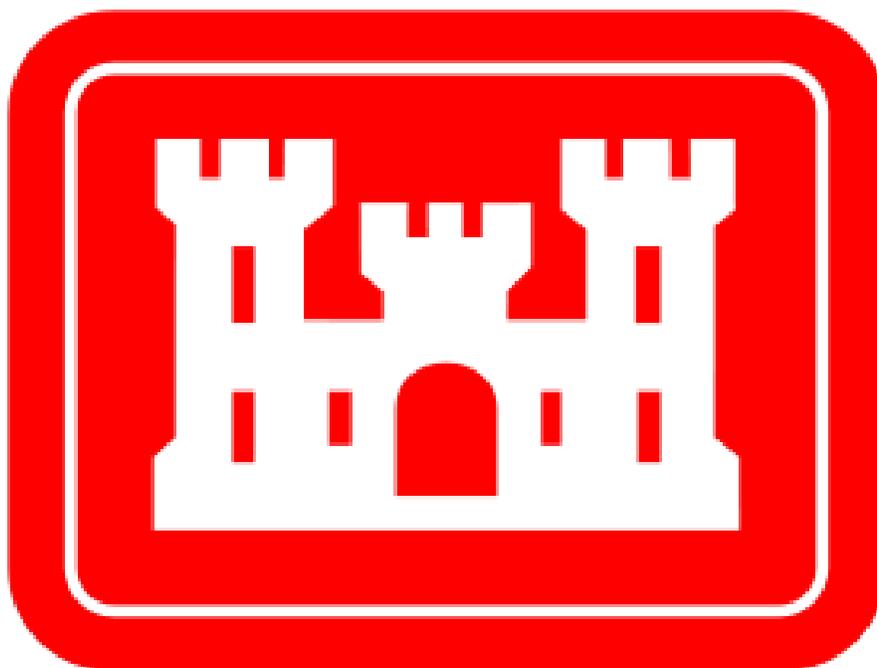


Draft Environmental Assessment
Section 594
Culpepper Water System Improvement Project
Fayette County, Ohio



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Huntington District
Huntington, West Virginia
January 2017

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Executive Summary

Fayette County is proposing to improve the local public water supply system located in the Culpepper Area in and around the small community of Eber and is largely confined to the area between Paint Creek, Bloomingburg - New Holland Road Northwest, and Prairie Road Northwest.

The Proposed Action Alternative would entail construction and installation of approximately 10,650 linear feet of 12 inch, 8 inch, and 6 inch water main and one storage tank. The new water main will replace and upgrade the deteriorating existing water main and provide upgraded service to the Miami Trace School District campus. The proposed storage tank would increase storage capacity and supply adequate pressure to allow fire suppression capabilities for the Culpepper area.

The proposed project is a partnership agreement between Fayette County and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), established under the authority of Section 594 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999. The Section 594 program provides design and construction assistance for water related environmental infrastructure projects to Non-Federal interests in the state of Ohio. Under this program the Corps may provide support in the form of design and construction assistance for water-related environmental infrastructure, water resource protection and development, and environmental restoration. Examples of possible projects that would qualify under this program include wastewater treatment and related facilities, water supply, water storage, water treatment, water distribution facilities, and surface water resource protection and development. Funding, as established under Section 594, shall be shared 75% Federal and 25% Non-Federal (State and Local). This Environmental Assessment is prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Corps implementing regulation, ER 200-2-2.

The Draft Environmental Assessment has concluded there are no significant impacts to the human environment associated with the implementation of the proposed Culpepper Water System Improvement Project.



SECTION 594
CULPEPPER WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
FAYETTE COUNTY, OHIO

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	Project Description	1
1.1	Project Background	1
1.2	Purpose, Need, and Authorization	1
2.0	Alternatives Dismissed from Further Consideration	1
2.1	New Site Alternative	1
2.2	Oxidation Ditch Alternative	2
3.0	Proposed Actions and Alternatives	2
3.1	Proposed Action	2
3.2	No Action Alternative	2
4.0	Environmental Setting and Consequences	3
4.1	Location	3
4.2	Land Use	3
4.3	Climate	3
4.4	Terrestrial Habitat	4
4.5	Floodplains	4
4.6	Prime and Unique Farmland	4
4.7	Aquatic Habitat/Water Quality	5
4.8	Wetlands	5
4.9	Wild and Scenic Rivers	5
4.10	Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Wastes	5
4.11	Cultural Resources	6
4.12	Threatened and Endangered Species	6
4.13	Air Quality	6
4.14	Noise	7
4.15	Environmental Justice	8
4.16	Aesthetics	8
4.17	Transportation and Traffic	9
4.18	Health and Safety	9
4.19	Cumulative Effects	9
5.0	Status of Environmental Compliance	10



6.0	Required Coordination	11
6.1	Agencies Contacted	11
6.2	Public Review and Comments	11
7.0	Conclusion	11

List of Tables

Table 1	Permissible Non-Department of Defense Noise Exposures	7
Table 2	Status of Environmental Compliance	10

List of Appendices

Appendix A	Exhibits
Appendix B	Agency Coordination
Appendix C	Mailing List



The brief and concise nature of this document is consistent with the 40 CFR requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to reduce paperwork and delay by eliminating duplication with existing environmental documentation, incorporating pertinent material by reference, and by emphasizing interagency cooperation. The majority of data collection and analysis in this document was performed by the Fayette County Engineer and his staff in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps).

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.1 Project Background

This Environmental Assessment (EA) examines the potential environmental impacts of the Culpepper Area Water System Improvement proposed by Fayette County. The purpose of the EA is to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). An EA and FONSI were completed in 2009 for this project. Due to upgrades, changes, and duration of time passed since documentation was completed, the project is being re-evaluated under NEPA.

1.2 Purpose, Need, and Authorization

The purpose of this project is to maintain and improve the water delivery system for the Culpepper Area that is owned and operated by Fayette County. Existing water mains are failing and/or in need of repair. The proposed project would address inadequacies of the existing raw water supply system. The need for the water system upgrades in the proposed area is to provide residents with a reliable water delivery system and upgrade service to the newly constructed Miami Trace School District Campus.

The proposed project is a partnership agreement, between Fayette County and the Corps, established under the authority of Section 594 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1999 (Public Law No. 106- 53), as amended, which provides authority for the Corps to establish a program to provide environmental assistance to Non-Federal interests in Ohio. This law provides design and construction assistance for water related environmental infrastructure projects, including projects for wastewater treatment and related facilities, water supply, water storage, water treatment, water distribution facilities, and surface water resource protection and development.

This EA is prepared pursuant to NEPA, Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Corps implementing regulation, ER 200-2-2.

2.0 ALTERNATIVES DISMISSED FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION

2.1 New Site Alternative

This alternative explored the option of locating the wastewater treatment plant at a new site. The nearest property suitable for the facility and out of the floodway is roughly three miles



downstream. Additional costs to purchase, site, and construct three miles of transmission sewer would render this alternative ‘not cost effective’. Therefore, this alternative was dismissed from further consideration due to lack of suitable sites and total project cost.

2.2 Oxidation Ditch Alternative

This alternative explored the option of upgrading the existing wastewater treatment plant with an oxidation ditch. This alternative has high operation and maintenance costs and requires more space than readily available at the existing site. Therefore, this alternative was dismissed from further consideration due to cost, practicality, and not meeting the intended purpose and need of the project.

3.0 PROPOSED ACTIONS AND ALTERNATIVES

3.1 Proposed Action Alternative (PAA)

The PAA would provide a water delivery system to address specific maintenance, transport, and raw water supply issues within the existing public water supply system. The PAA consists of the construction and installation of approximately 10,650 linear feet (LF) of 12 inch, 8 inch, and 6 inch water main and one storage tank. The new water main will replace and upgrade the deteriorating existing water main and provide upgraded service to the Miami Trace School District campus. The proposed storage tank will be elevated and constructed at a site adjacent to State Route 41 just south of Hickory Lane intersection to increase storage capacity and supply adequate pressure to allow fire suppression capabilities. The water mains would follow previously disturbed road right-of-ways. Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be used throughout the project for stability and to prevent soil erosion. After construction, road right-of-ways will be restored to preexisting conditions.

3.2 No Action Alternative (NAA)

Under the NAA, the Corps would not provide funding for the project. Consequently, Fayette County would be unable to maintain the existing Culpepper Area public water system, as well as upgrade public water service to the Miami Trace School District Campus which is located in the Culpepper Area. The school campus currently receives public water from the City of Washington court House, a temporary plan to provide the school with water until Fayette County could perform necessary improvements to the existing Culpepper Area water system. Without Fayette County receiving funding to improve the current system this plan is not sustainable and not a long-term solution and would leave the new school district without access to water. This alternative is considered unacceptable due to health and safety for the Culpepper Area community and Miami Trace School District.



4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND CONSEQUENCES

4.1 Location

This project area is located northwest of the Washington Court House, Ohio in rural central Fayette County. Fayette County is located in the upper Paint Creek Watershed of the Scioto River Basin. The Culpepper Area is situated in and around the small community of Eber located approximately three miles northwest of Washington Court House, the Fayette County seat. Eber is situated in an agricultural landscape, and is largely confined to the area between Paint Creek, Bloomingburg-New Holland Road Northwest, and Prairie Road Northwest.

4.2 Land Use

The land use in the vicinity of the PAA is rural, consisting primarily of residential homes and agricultural lands. The majority of the proposed project would be constructed within previously disturbed areas such as roadway rights-of-way.

The water lines associated with the PAA would be constructed within previously disturbed road right-of-ways. The water tank to be installed would be constructed on previously disturbed land next to the road but not entirely in the road right-of-way. The area of impact is currently an undeveloped, unfarmed field.

There would be no impacts to land use as a result of either the PAA or NAA.

4.3 Climate

Executive Order (E.O.) 13653 requires Federal actions to address climate change. The Scioto River basin is located in the eastern interior of North America making it susceptible to highly variable weather throughout the year. The watershed's climate is greatly influenced by oceanic and atmospheric interactions. The watershed experiences seasonal weather patterns throughout the year, with climatic conditions typical of summer, fall, winter, and spring seasons. Variability in weather tends to be greater during the late winter, spring, and fall seasons within the watershed. Summers are usually characterized by warm to hot weather with periods of high humidity. Winters within the watershed are typically mild to moderate for cold temperatures and experiencing snowfall. Fall is typically the driest season, while spring is usually the wettest season within the watershed.

The PAA would not involve any activity that could affect the environment in regard to climate change. This region is not projected to experience severe drought conditions and is instead expected to experience more precipitation in the future as larger and more intense rainfalls have become more frequent. As a result, the condition of the PAA would not likely influence future climate change. For the same reasons, there are also no impacts expected with respect to climate as a result of the NAA.



4.4 Terrestrial Habitat

The project area is located within a residential community along state road right-of-ways in previously disturbed area. The area adjacent to the road right-of-ways consists of grass lawns and agricultural fields. The majority of the PAA would be constructed on previously disturbed areas within road right-of-ways; therefore, potential impacts to vegetation would be minimal. Construction and staging areas would be reseeded in order to return to pre-construction conditions upon completion of the proposed action. The PAA will not result in any tree clearing or further fragmentation of terrestrial wildlife habitat. Only short-term temporary impacts during construction are anticipated to occur from the PAA.

As the selection of the NAA would entail no changes to the project area, there are no impacts to terrestrial habitat anticipated as part of the NAA.

4.5 Floodplains

Executive Order 11988 requires Federal agencies to consider the potential effects of their proposed actions to floodplains. In order to determine the PAA's potential floodplain impact, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panels were reviewed and the proposed project area is not located within the base floodplain or the area that has a 1-percent chance or greater of having a flood in any given year. (<https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/flood-zones>).

Therefore, no impacts to floodplains are anticipated to occur from the PAA or NAA.

4.6 Prime and Unique Farmland

The Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) requires Federal agencies to minimize the conversion of prime and unique farmland to non-agricultural uses. The soil survey for Fayette County indicated that prime farmland soils are present throughout the project study area. However, no prime or unique farmland is located within the study area.

As required by FPPA, a farmland conversion impact rating form (AD-1006) was prepared for the project and submitted on March 3, 2016 to the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). No prime or unique farmland was found to be within the project area. The NRCS's review of the project indicated that there are prime farmland soils present within the Project area; however, the percentage of prime farmland soils to be converted was less than 0.01 percent, and that 73.8 percent of remaining farmland within the Project Area was a valuable or more valuable than the small percentage of prime farmland to be converted by the PAA. Therefore, implementation of the PAA is expected to have minimal impacts to prime or unique farmlands located within the Project Area.

There are no impacts to prime and unique farmland anticipated as part of the NAA.



4.7 Aquatic Habitat/Water Quality

The Culpepper Area is located within the Scioto River Basin Watershed. Several waterbodies within the watershed are listed on Ohio's 2014 Section 303(d) list of impaired waters. Paint Creek flows into the project area and is in partial attainment for aquatic life but is listed as impaired because of pollutants and bacteria. Implementation of the PAA would not result in any discharge of pollutants. The PAA will protect the overall quality of water in the area long-term.

The project area is located to the east of the river and at a good distance, therefore construction of the PAA will not have any in-stream impacts. No discharge will occur within Waters of the United States. Therefore, under the Clean Water Act, a 404 permit is not needed for this action. No impacts to aquatic habitat or water quality are anticipated as part of the PAA.

Under the NAA, water quality near the project area would remain impaired.

4.8 Wetlands

National Wetland Inventory Maps (NWI) were reviewed for the proposed project area and a site reconnaissance was conducted to determine validity of NWI Maps. NWI maps and site reconnaissance indicated there are no wetlands within to the project area. No impacts to wetlands are anticipated as part of the PAA or NAA.

4.9 Wild and Scenic Rivers

No designated State Wild or Scenic Rivers are present within the Project Area. Therefore, no impacts to these resources are anticipated as part of the PAA or NAA.

4.10 Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW)

A Phase 1 HTRW Environmental Site Assessment was conducted for the Culpepper Area Water System Improvement Project in 2009 and updated in 2014 and in March 2016 in accordance with ER 1165-2-132 to identify environmental conditions and identify the potential presence of HTRW contamination located in the project's work limits. Below are the following Phase 1 HTRW findings:

Results of the Phase I HTRW indicated the Project Area does not have areas that are currently or have previously been contaminated by hazardous, toxic or radioactive wastes. The Corps HTRW staff determined the Phase 1 HTRW showed no evidence of recognized environmental conditions with the property and no further HTRW action is required. Therefore, no impacts to or from HTRW are anticipated with the PAA. A clearance memorandum was signed by Corps HTRW staff September 29, 2016.

The NAA would not result in ground disturbing activities therefore, there are no HTRW impacts associated with the NAA.



4.11 Cultural Resources

Coordination with the Ohio History Connection (OHC) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) was conducted by TranSystems. OHC determined the proposed undertaking will not affect properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In a letter dated May 23, 2016, OHC concurred with the determination that no further consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA is necessary (Appendix B). There are no architectural resources eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places that would be impacted by this project; therefore, no additional consultation is necessary for architectural resources.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Corps has made the determination that no historic properties will be affected by the PAA. If unanticipated archaeological deposits or human remains are discovered during construction, all work near the location of the discovery shall cease and the Huntington District Archaeologist shall be contacted immediately. The Ohio State Police, the Fayette County Coroner, and OHC must also be notified immediately if human remains are discovered. Additionally, there would be no impacts associated with the NAA.

4.12 Threatened and Endangered Species

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) the project area is within the range of the Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*), Northern Long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), and Eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*). In correspondence dated March 29, 2016, the USFWS stated due to the project, type, size, and location they do not anticipate adverse effects to federally endangered, threatened, proposed, or candidate species. The proposed water system improvement would primarily occur in previously disturbed areas and would not require tree removal therefore would not impact the Indiana bat or Northern Long-eared bat. Field investigations showed there is no suitable habitat located within the project area for the Eastern massasauga. Therefore, the Corps' Huntington District has determined that the proposed action would have no effect on the Indiana Bat or Northern Long-eared Bat or Eastern massasauga. No further Section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act is required.

No impacts to threatened or endangered species are anticipated to occur from the PAA or the NAA.

4.13 Air Quality

According to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Fayette County, Ohio is classified as "in attainment" (maintaining applicable standards) for all criteria pollutants. Emissions from construction equipment would occur during the construction period. Contractors would operate all equipment in accordance with local, State, and Federal regulations. The PAA is exempted by 40 CFR Part 93.153 from making a conformity determination, since estimated emissions from construction equipment would not be expected to exceed *deminimis* levels, direct emissions of a criteria pollutant, or its precursors. Any impacts would be short-term, localized,



and would occur only during construction phase activities. Impacts to air quality under the PAA would be temporary during construction and minor.

No impacts to air quality are anticipated to occur as part of the NAA.

4.14 Noise

Noise associated with the PAA would be limited to that generated during construction. Construction noise would be short in duration and would only occur during daylight hours. Noise is measured as Day Night average noise levels (DNL) in “A-weighted” decibels that the human ear is most sensitive to (dBA). There are no Federal standards for allowable noise levels. According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development Guidelines, DNLs below 65 dBA are normally acceptable levels of exterior noise in residential areas. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) denotes a DNL above 65 dBA as the level of significant noise impact. Several other agencies, including the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, use a DNL criterion of 55 dBA as the threshold for defining noise impacts in suburban and rural residential areas. According to Dr. Paul Schomer in his 2001 Whitepaper, while there are numerous thresholds for acceptable noise in residential areas, research suggests an area’s current noise environment, which has experienced noise in the past, may reasonably expect to tolerate a level of noise about 5 dBA higher than the general guidelines. The Corps Safety and Health Requirements Manual provides criteria for temporary permissible noise exposure levels (see Table 3.1 below), for consideration of hearing protection or the need to administer sound reduction controls.

Duration/day (hours)	Noise level (dBA)
8	90
6	92
4	95
3	97
2	100
1.5	102
1	105

Construction noise would be similar to that of farm equipment and other small machinery used in the local area. A backhoe, end loader, road grader and/or vibratory roller are examples of equipment that is likely to be used during construction. Each emits noise levels around 85 dBA at 45 feet. Construction equipment would be operated during daylight hours when many residents are at work; therefore a reasonable exposure time of two hours would be expected during the time residents may be home during the day. Peak outdoor noise levels ranging from 78-90 dBA would occur during the time in which equipment is directly in front of or in proximity to homes and businesses (within 25-100 feet). A maximum noise exposure of approximately 98 dBA, for one hour could occur if equipment were within 10 feet of homes and business. The noise projections do not account for screening objects, such as trees, outbuildings or other objects that muffle and reduce the noise being emitted. The outdoor construction noise would be further muffled while residents are inside their homes. While the construction noise generated would be considered unacceptable according to HUD and FAA standards, these limited exposures and time intervals



are still within allowable Corps safety levels. Further, they are similar to typical neighborhood noise generated by gas powered lawnmowers in the local area, which could range from 90-95 dBA at three feet and 70-75 dBA at 100 feet. Residents being exposed to these noise levels would occur if and/or when residents are home and outdoors.

Due to daytime construction and the short and limited duration of elevated noise levels associated with the PAA, impacts from the noise to local residences would be temporary and minor. There would be no change in noise with the NAA.

4.15 Environmental Justice

Executive Order (E.O.) 12898 requires Federal actions to address environmental justice in minority populations and low-income populations. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the 2015 population estimate for Fayette County, Ohio was 28,679 and does not contain significant minority populations. The 2015 census indicates Fayette County is 95% white and has a median household income of \$40,576 as of 2014 compared with the median household income of \$48,849 for the State of Ohio. Individuals residing in the county below the poverty level is 15.8% the same as the state level.

Implementation of the PAA will allow Fayette County to make the necessary repairs and improvements to the public water system in the Culpepper Area. These repairs and improvements are essential to maintain and expand public water service within the Culpepper Area, including service to a large local user, the Miami Trace School District. Upgrading the school district campus on to the local water supply system would increase its economic viability, and would have a positive impact on the community. Therefore, the PAA meets the directive of EO 12898 by avoiding any disproportionately high adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low income populations.

No impacts to minority or low income populations are anticipated to occur from the NAA.

4.16 Aesthetics

The project area is a rural agricultural setting with the greatest concentration of homes located in the Leslie Trace subdivision and along Culpepper Trace. The PAA primarily consist of the installation of buried water mains as well as an elevated storage tank. The above ground storage tank will be no more of a landscape intrusion than the current existing structures scattered throughout the Culpepper area.

PAA construction will result in temporary ground disturbance, as well as the presence and operation of heavy equipment for the duration of construction. In order to minimize these temporary impacts, construction activities will occur during normal working hours, and all excavated sites would be restored to original conditions.

Neither the PAA nor NAA would significantly impact local aesthetics.



4.17 Transportation and Traffic

The project area is a rural agricultural area that is served by SR 41, as well as locally traveled township and county routes. The operation of the PAA will not disrupt normal traffic patterns; however, construction of the PAA along existing roads may result in slight delays. Flagmen will be used to maintain traffic along these routes during construction, and any traffic delays resulting from PAA construction will be localized and will have a short duration. Necessary warnings and traffic control devices will be used, as necessary, to ensure safety of the public and construction workers. Impacts anticipated to occur from the PAA would be minimal and temporary.

No impacts to transportation and traffic are anticipated to occur from the NAA.

4.18 Health and Safety

The PAA has been designed to extend and improve the current Culpepper Area Water System. The upgrade to the system will increase capacity allowing more residence and businesses to move into the area without the worry of adequate water supply. Therefore, the PAA is anticipated to have a long term beneficial impact on health and safety of the Culpepper area.

Under the NAA, water mains would continue to fail in the project area; perpetuating health and safety concerns.

4.19 Cumulative Effects

The Corps must consider the cumulative effects of the proposed project on the environment as stipulated in the NEPA. Cumulative effects are "the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or Non-Federal) or person undertakes such actions". Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time (40 CFR Part 1508.7 Council on Environmental Quality [CEQ] Regulations).

The cumulative effects analysis is based on the potential effects of the proposed project when added to similar impacts from other projects in the region. An inherent part of the cumulative effects analysis is the uncertainty surrounding actions that have not yet been fully developed. The CEQ regulations provide for the inclusion of uncertainties in the analysis and states that "when an agency is evaluating reasonably foreseeable significant adverse effects on the human environment...and there is incomplete or unavailable information, the agency shall always make clear that such information is lacking" (40 CFR 1502.22).

Temporal and geographical limits for this project must be established in order to frame the analysis. These limits can vary by the resources that are affected. The improvement of the water system would have temporary and insignificant negative impacts of the environment. Resources which would show long term beneficial effects from the project would be health, safety, and socioeconomic. The temporal limits for assessment of this impact would initiate in 1972 with the passage of the Clean Water Act and end 50 years after completion of this project. The



geographical extent would be broadened to consider effects beyond the PAA. The geographical extent considered is the Paint Creek Watershed.

The Paint Creek Watershed of the Scioto River Basin is listed on Ohio Environmental Protection Agency’s list of impaired waters due to a poor aquatic life use assessment and bacteria levels. The Upper Paint Creek Watershed received FY16 funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service to help improve water quality and strengthen agricultural operations through the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative. The Paint Creek Watershed Project is an initiative to improve the water quality and management through best management practices and education, sponsored by the local Soil and Water Conservation District to reduce erosion in the watershed. In the future, watershed programs may continue to address water quality and conservation activities. Impairment of the Paint Creek Watershed is expected to continue but through projects such as the proposed action and if these other programs continue, a cleaner, healthier watershed would be promoted. Water quality standards and regulations are expected to remain as stringent today as in the future.

Section 4.0 documents the existing environment and potential environmental effects of the PAA and NAA with respect to existing conditions. The effects of the PAA, as discussed beforehand, are localized and minor. Past actions that may result in similar effects may include upgrading of other water utilities in the watershed. Foreseeable future actions that would have similar impacts as the proposed action include additional water mains, replacing water facility, and potential ground disturbing activities associated from homeowners connecting to the water mains. In scoping cumulative effects issues, no resources were identified as having a potential to be significantly affected. Only minor and temporary impacts to ecological resources would be sustained with the implementation of the PAA. These resources would be fully reestablished upon completion of construction.

The availability of Federal funds through programs, such as the 594 Program, to assist communities with installation and construction of water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in Ohio is an additional benefit to the area. The significance of this action on health and safety would be positive. Given the current program is in place for the foreseeable future and the overall beneficial effect from implementation of the PAA, there is expected to be a positive, though small, cumulative effect on health and safety based on past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions.

5.0 Status of Environmental Compliance

The PAA is in full compliance with all local, State, and Federal statutes as well as Executive Orders is complete. This compliance is documented below in Table 2

Table 2 - Environmental Compliance Status			
Statute/Executive Order	Full	Partial	N/A
National Environmental Policy Act (considered partial until the FONSI is signed)		X	
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act	X		
Endangered Species Act	X		



Clean Water Act	X		
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act	X		
Clean Air Act	X		
National Historic Preservation Act	X		
Archeological Resources Protection Act			N/A
Comprehensive, Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act	X		
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act	X		
Toxic Substances Control Act	X		
Quiet Communities Act	X		
Farmland Protection Act	X		
Executive Order 11988 Floodplain Management	X		
Executive Order 11990 Protection of Wetlands	X		
Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations	X		

*Anticipated FONSI signature to occur after public review

6.0 REQUIRED COORDINATION

6.1 Agencies Contacted

Direct coordination with the USFWS, USDA, and OHC was completed prior to publication of the EA. Agency correspondence is included in Appendix B.

6.2 Public Review and Comments

The Draft EA and FONSI will be made available for public review and comment for a period of 30 days, as required under NEPA. A Notice of Availability will be published in the local newspaper, Record Herald, advising the public of this document's availability for review and comment. A copy of the EA will also be placed in the Carnegie Public Library and made available on-line at <http://www.lrh.Corps.army.mil/Missions/PublicReview.aspx>. The mailing list for the Draft EA is located in Appendix C.

7.0 CONCLUSION

The proposed project will replace and upgrade portions of the local water supply system in and around the Culpepper Area that are old, undersized, and failing. The project will also add water storage tanks to improve water quality and water pressure within the existing system. The newly constructed Miami Trace School District campus will be upgraded and serviced by the Culpepper Area water system, and the PAA will provide service to this facility. The PAA best meets the purpose and need of the project, and since it will be constructed in previously disturbed areas, it minimizes impacts to natural and cultural resources to the maximum extent



practicable. No significant adverse impacts have been identified as a result of implementation of the proposed water system improvement project.

Construction would take place on previously disturbed land. Benefits to health and safety along with socioeconomic benefits would occur with project implementation. Effects associated with construction would be minor and temporary. BMPs would be implemented during construction to minimize impacts to residents and the environment. Therefore, the PAA would not be expected to have significant impacts on the human environment.