



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HUNTINGTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
502 EIGHTH STREET
HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25701-2070

May 6, 2020

Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Planning Branch, Environmental Analysis Section

Joan Doe

Columbus, Ohio

Dear Ms. Doe

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a)(3), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District (District), is continuing consultation regarding rehabilitation of the Zoar Levee and Diversion Dam (Project), in Tuscarawas County, Ohio (Figure 1) within the Zoar National Historic Landmark District (NHLD) (Figure 2). The District completed a Programmatic Agreement (PA) among the District, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (OSHPO) in 2016, which evaluated potential actions to remediate the risk to the Zoar NHLD. In accordance with the PA, the District is required to provide the draft Public Outreach Plan for review and comment.

Under Stipulation I.1(d)(i) of the PA, the District is required to maintain regular and meaningful consultation with Section 106 Consulting Parties for the Zoar Levee and Diversion Dam. In accordance with Stipulation I.6, the District has prepared a draft Public Outreach Plan to share information and to help educate the public about the purpose and duration of construction activities and Zoar Levee & Diversion Dam in general, as well as make clear that Zoar Village and Zoar Village National Historic Landmark District are still open and accessible during construction. The draft Public Outreach Plan is included as Appendix A.

We would appreciate hearing from your office within 30 days of the receipt of this letter and documentation. If you have any questions regarding this project and attached documents,

please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Nathan White by phone at 304-399-5729 or via email at nathan.m.white@usace.army.mil

Sincerely,

Rebecca Rutherford
Chief, Environmental Analysis Section

Enclosures

Copy Furnished: AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

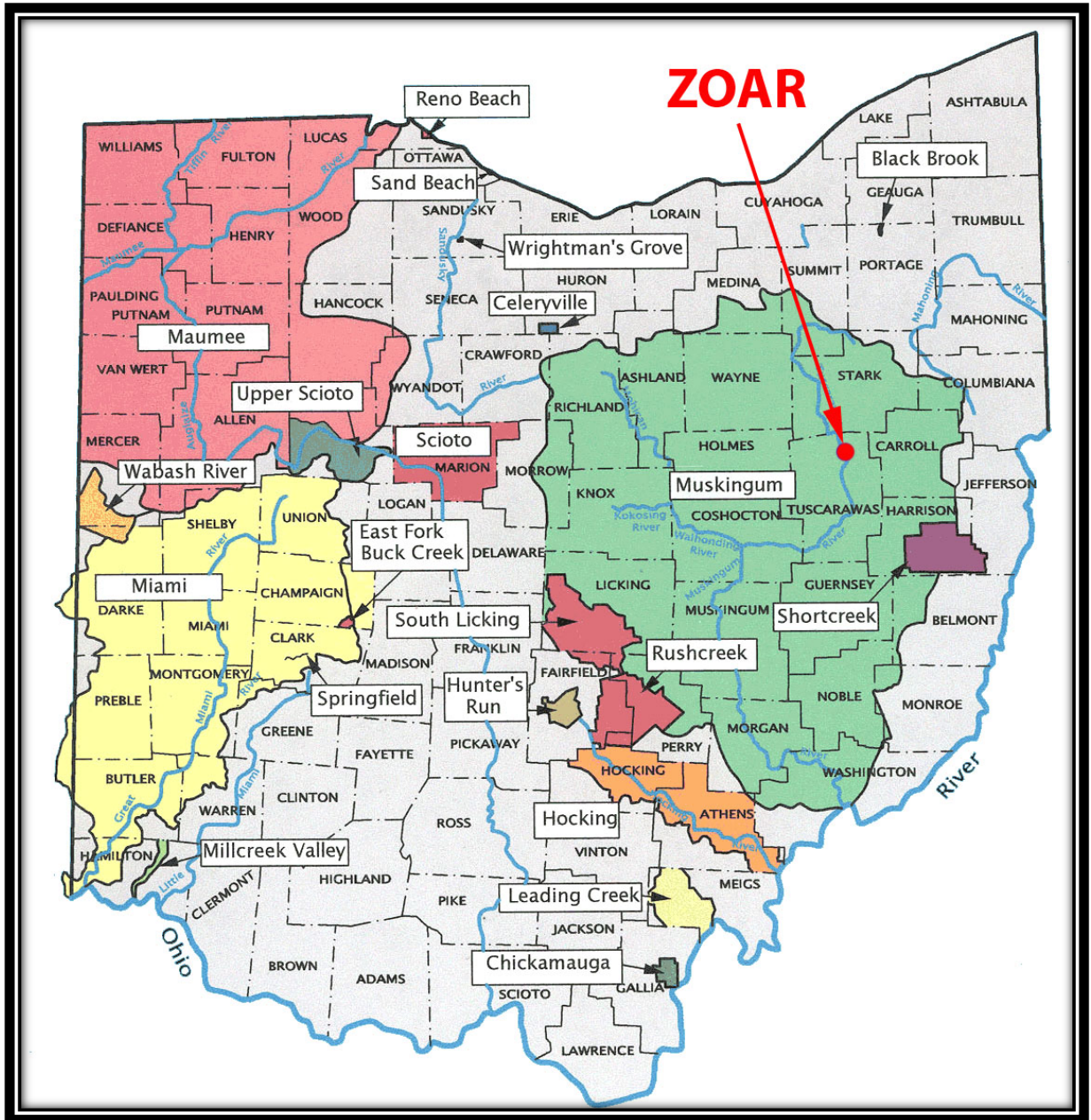


Figure 1. Map Showing Location of Zoar, Ohio



Figure 2. NHLD Boundary

APPENDIX

Draft
Public Outreach Plan

DRAFT PUBLIC OUTREACH PLAN DRAFTED FROM STIPULATION I.6 OF THE
PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT (PA) AMONG U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS,
HUNTINGTON DISTRICT (DISTRICT), THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC
PRESERVATION (ACHP) AND THE OHIO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
(OSHP) WITH ADDITIONAL STEPS PROPOSED BY THE DISTRICT

PURPOSE: To provide a mechanism for the District to consult with Zoar Village, Zoar Community Association and Ohio History Connection to develop a public outreach plan to share information and to help educate the public about the purpose and duration of construction activities and Zoar Levee & Diversion Dam in general, as well as make clear that Zoar Village and Zoar Village Historic Site are still open and accessible during construction.

- A. A web page (<https://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Current-Projects/Zoar/>) is active, and will be maintained during the span of the Construction Phase to communicate the purpose of Zoar Levee and Diversion Dam as well as provide regular updates on construction. The website also includes the following:
 - a. Dam Safety Modification Report (DSMR) and Environmental Assessment (EA)
 - b. Slideshows and meeting minutes from all public meetings
 - c. Email address for interested parties to contact District staff regarding the project
 - d. Upcoming meetings or teleconference announcements

- B. Up to 6000 color flyers or brochures to inform the public of the purpose and duration of construction activities and make clear that Zoar Village and Zoar National Historic Landmark District will be open throughout construction. A draft of the document contents, text and layout shall be provided to Consulting Parties for review and comment, prior to printing. PDF of the final versions shall be posted on the website for viewing or download. The publication shall incorporate the following:
 - a. Information such as alternate parking, explanation of temporary viewshed impairments (such as construction fencing and material storage) shall be provided
 - b. An estimated duration of construction activities
 - c. A brief description of the need for the project and what the Zoar Levee protect

- C. The District shall provide updates upon request for local media outlets, for publication in newspapers, websites and other media outlets, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Zoar Village
 - b. Ohio History Connection
 - c. Tuscarawas Bargain Hunter
 - d. Ohio and Erie Canalway Association
 - e. Appropriate tourism and recreation organizations or chambers of commerce

Local media outlets shall also be invited to regularly scheduled public meetings/teleconferences.

- D. Create and maintain durable but temporary outdoor interpretive exhibits including two large banners or two panel displays and two poster boards, during the Construction Phase. A draft of the document contents, text and layout shall be provided to Consulting Parties for review and comment, prior to printing. The District shall consult with Zoar Village to identify the most effective time and location for the exhibits. The exhibits shall incorporate the following:
 - a. Information such as alternate parking, explanation of temporary viewshed impairments (such as construction fencing and material storage) shall be provided
 - b. An estimated duration of construction activities
 - c. A brief description of the need for the project and the purpose of the Zoar Levee
 - d. A theme of “Zoar is Open for Business”

- E. Create and provide four informational video news releases (4 to 6 minutes in length) to update the public on the purpose and duration of the Construction Phase, appropriate for posting on the District’s webpage and available for the webpages of Consulting Party. Proposed video themes include the following:
 - a. History of the Village of Zoar and the levee
 - b. Performance of the levee
 - c. Construction Phase and consultation efforts with the Village
 - d. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act consultation and execution of the project

- F. The District shall provide staff and kiosks for the Zoar Harvest Festival and Civil War Days held during the Construction Phase, to engage and inform members of the public about the purpose of Zoar Levee and Diversion Dam, as well as the related construction activities. Displays and brochures shall be made available to the public at the kiosk.

- G. The District shall take the following steps to inform media, as appropriate:
 - a. Press releases
 - b. Media open houses
 - c. Press conferences
 - d. Media round tables
 - e. Invitations to public meetings

H. The District shall engage in up to eight of the following educational outreach activities:

- a. Speaking at civic events
- b. Serving as guest lecturers at schools or historical societies, as invited

The District has been informed of ten annual events by Zoar Village, as follows:

Pretzel Day (April 2, 2021 and April 15, 2022)

Opening Day (April 3, 2021 and April 2, 2022)

Homeschool Day (April 17, 2021 and April 22, 2022)

Maifest (May 8, 2021 and May 7, 2022)

Garden Tour (June 19, 2021 and June 18, 2022)

History Camp (July 14-16, 2021 and July 13-15, 2022)

Harvest Festival (July 24-25, 2021 and July 30-31 2022)

Teacher Day (August 7, 2021)

Fall School Day (October 14, 2022)

Civil War Days (September 10-12, 2021)

Ghost Tours (October 22-23rd and October 29-30, 2021 and October 21-22 and October 28-29 2022) after 5p.m.

Christmas in Zoar (December 4-5, 2021 and December 3-4 2022)

- I. The District shall arrange two training workshops (no longer than 4 hours each) to Zoar Community Association docents, so that the docents may educate the public about the need, nature and duration of the project and project benefits and construction. These workshops are tentatively scheduled to occur in the summer and fall of 2020 on dates that are agreeable to the District and Zoar Village.

ADDITIONAL STEPS PROPOSED BY THE DISTRICT IN ORDER TO KEEP THE PUBLIC INFORMED AS THE PROJECT PROGRESSES

In order to meet the spirit and the intent of the Programmatic Agreement (PA), the District proposes to take sufficient steps to provide quality information to stakeholders in a timely fashion and to ensure two-way communication are as efficient as possible.

1. Meeting Schedule: The District shall consult with signatories, consulting parties and residents of Zoar to develop an optimal meeting schedule and forum (teleconference, in-person, virtual meeting) that will allow maximum stakeholder participation
2. Meeting Agendas: The District shall develop meeting agendas in consultation with stockholders. A single meeting may include more than one topics as needed. Adequate time will be included within the meeting agenda to allow for questions from the participants
3. The agendas shall contain topics including (but not limited to) the following:
 - a. Schedule and protocol for pre and post construction assessment of structures, that will allow time for settling discrepancies between the Project Contractor's assessments and any assessments contracted independently by Zoar Village landowners
 - b. Description of the Maintenance of Traffic Plan to be developed by the Project Contractor prior to construction
 - c. Description and explanation of Best Management Practices outlined in the PA
 - d. Protocols for landowners who wish to report issues/violations or require information, including how and when to contact the District Resident Engineer
The District Resident Engineer maintains hour-by-hour control over the project
 - e. Periodic review of Zoar Events Calendar to seek opportunities to reduce impacts to events and to limit disruptions in the daily lives of residents
 - f. Results of any further archaeological work related to the project, or of any inadvertent discovery of archaeological materials
 - g. A record of any conflicts or violations and how they were resolved
 - h. Information regarding any Project changes or delays, upcoming milestones and opportunities for improvement

Meeting slideshow presentations and minutes shall be posted to the dedicated website (above) within 7 calendar days after the meeting.

4. Open office: In order to meet the schedule needs of stakeholders who cannot attend meetings, the District shall provide onsite open-office hours to allow stakeholders to drop in and ask questions. Comment cards will be available at the Zoar Store, with District contact information, and Points of Contact in order to provide feedback and ask questions.

Events schedule: Zoar Village has provided the District with the event schedule for 2021 and 2022 and the District shall coordinate with Zoar Village, in accordance with the PA and the Public Outreach Plan, to minimize or eliminate impacts.