

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Old Fort has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Program funding through the North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) as a sub-recipient.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990, FEMA is required to consider alternatives, and to provide a public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority and low-income populations. This notice may also fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state, and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions.

Sub-Applicant: Town of Old Fort

Project Title: Waterline Repair – Old Fort

Location of Proposed Work:

Facility and Address	Latitude	Longitude	Date of Construction
Jarrett Creek Camp Grier Rd. Old Fort, NC 28762 McDowell County	Start: 35.63551 End: 35.63541	Start: -82.19529 End: -82.19557	1980, not listed in the NRHP

Special Flood Hazard Area Zone: The Town of Old Fort has repaired 85 LF of galvanized water supply pipeline near Jarrett Creek in Old Fort which is located in an AE zone. Confirmation of location in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) was determined by the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map, Panel Number: 3710075000J, dated 10/2/2008. The work conforms to all applicable State of North Carolina and local floodplain regulations. The work took place adjacent to a Freshwater Forested / Shrub Wetland (classification PFO1A) per the United States Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory. The actions has little potential to impact or affect wetland values as long as construction activities and equipment storage were not located in the wetland. There is a potential for the facility to be impacted by similar flooding events due to its location within an AE zone.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

The Town of Old Fort repaired the water supply pipeline near Jarrett Creek and Camp Grier Rd. to its pre-disaster design, function, and capacity within the existing footprint. The town replaced 85 LF of galvanized pipe and 1 concrete cylinder supporting post located in the creek. Per applicant correspondence with NCDEQ, state regulations do not prohibit the replacement of the waterline, including the supporting post. The intention of the work was to repair the facility to pre-disaster conditions and functionality.

Project Alternatives:

Alternative #1 (no action alternative): The 'no action' alternative would ultimately result in a negative impact on the Old Fort community. If the damaged pipe was not replaced it leaves the Old Fort area with more limited access to potable water. Therefore, the 'no action' alternative could result in adverse impacts to nearby communities.

Alternative #2 (alternate locations): Alternate locations were not considered as relocating the entire waterline is both (1) cost prohibitive, (2) detrimental to the community, and (3) could negatively impact forested area due to clear cutting.

Alternative #3 (mitigation/minimization): Mitigation measures consisting of repairing the facility using a core bore in stone bed were considered. This option was found not practicable as it would be (1) cost prohibitive and (2) could negatively impact the nearby natural environment.

Comment Period:

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state or federal agencies, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to:

FEMA Internal 11988 Reviewer
FEMA Region 4
3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road
Atlanta, Georgia, 30341

Alternatively, comments may be emailed to: FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov. Please send comments with the subject line [DR-4393-NC-00674 11988 COMMENT].

All comments are due by no later than 15 days of the posted date of this notice.

POSTED ON: July 29, 2019

End of Notice