

From: [Neeve, Kyle](#)
To: [Kovacevich, Caree C CIV USARMY CEMVP \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Von Holdt, Crystal L - DNR](#); [Larson, Zachary](#); [Tkachuk, Tyler](#); jschumac@epic.com; [Isaac Schrock](#)
Subject: Re: Epic Systems/West Road Verona: ERR Review?
Date: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 4:55:17 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Caree,

I appreciate the response and glad that satisfies most of those outstanding comments/questions. Please see below for some further questions/responses.

1. Proposed Mitigative Strategies/Conservations Measures for RPBB (this was a joint effort by Epic's Horticultural Team and AECOM's Stream Restoration/Environmental Scientist):

a.

<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	It is native to this region and somewhat adaptable to wetter environments. I've used this a lot in restoration projects.
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	It is native to this region and appropriate for drier locations, not saturated or pooled areas (it wants sandy soils in open woodlands). I've used this a lot in restoration projects, but not wetland areas.
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	It is native to this region but prefers transition areas between wet and dry – it can handle up to 18-inches of inundation for about 24 hours, then less tolerant through to day 3. After three days it prefers moist-to-dry soil. I've used this a lot in restoration projects, but not wetland areas, though have been successful with it in raingardens that hold less than 12-inches of water for less than 24 hours.
<i>Salix humilis</i>	It is native to this region and prefers wet environments, tolerating extended inundation periods. Willows are great for wetlands and will spread readily to help with stabilization. They will, however, form large monoculture stands within about 10-15 years. Not a big deal for this project, though.
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	It is native to this region and commonly found in moist areas with rich loam to clay-loam soil, such as low woods, swamp borders, or near stream banks. . I've used this a lot in restoration projects.
<i>Prunus americana</i>	It is native to this region and grows in prairies, woodlands, pastures, and along roadsides and riverbanks, but isn't especially saturation and inundation tolerant. . I've used this a lot in upland forest restoration projects, though I wouldn't hesitate using it near the toe of a slope adjacent to a wetland.
<i>Malus ioensis</i>	It is native to this region but zero anaerobic tolerance (not suitable for longer periods of inundation), and prefers drier sites such as

	prairies. Never used it. And wouldn't in a wetland setting.
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	It is native to this region and is a common wetland and riverbank shrub – great stabilizer. I've used this a lot in restoration projects.

- b. As the project continues to progress, the specifics of location, quantities, and specific species will be determined. Ideally, a variety (covering all of the bloom times from spring-fall) will be picked.
2. Field survey of the arch/cultural resources has been completed and UWM is working on the completion of the final report. We will pass that along when we get it.
 3. **Question:** Are you consulting for RPBB on the whole project, not just the parts of the project that are covered under the permit (wetland/waterway impact areas)?
 4. **Question:** During my research I was unable to find how long the permit coverage would be once approved. I know the wetland delineation is only valid for 5 years. Could you please provide how long the USACE permit would be valid?
 5. Other information to consider for proposed shrubs/forbs that were discussed with Epic's Horticultural Team. As previously noted, as the project continues to progress, the specifics will be finalized. It is recommended to mimic the moderate to high quality areas that were identified in the survey as best we can if site conditions seem similar.:
 - a. Upland Mix
 - i. Recommend a 50/50 of Agrecol's Tallgrass for Wet-Mesic Soils and Tallgrass Prairie for Medium Soils. A combination of those two pretty well covers the DOT#70 listed species and expands upon it by quite a bit. Supplement with a cover/nurse crop of 10 lbs Regreen (wheat/wheatgrass hybrid) per acre. It wouldn't be recommended adding shrubs to this area.
 - ii. Native mix: 50/50 blend Tallgrass for Wet-Mesic Soils and Tallgrass Prairie for Medium Soils (Agrecol)
 - iii. Cover crop: 10 lbs Regreen/acre
 - iv. Shrubs: none
 - b. Wetland/Floodplain
 - i. Recommend a combination of 2 or more different mixes that Agrecol offers, based on the actual conditions that will be present once the project is complete. Wet Prairie, Wetland Emergent, Sedge Meadow, Low Profile Moist, or Flood Plain Mix would all be appropriate depending on the proposed finished design. Many of the species in those mixes overlap and would be present and successful in any of the conditions, but some of the species would do better to establish and compete with the Reed Canary and non-native cattails that will inevitably start to encroach. For the cover/nurse crop, recommend a mix of Regreen, oats, annual rye, Riverbank Wild Rye, Canada Wild Rye. Additional plugs for quicker establishment along stream banks and steeper slopes would also be recommended. The species mix would be a smaller subset of the selected seed mix. Wouldn't add a lot of shrubs in this area as most won't survive the amount of moisture present.
 - ii. Native mix: Wet Prairie, Wetland Emergent, Sedge Meadow, Low Profile Moist, or Flood Plain Mix (Agrecol); additional plugs recommended
 - iii. Cover Crop: [Regreen 6 lbs, Oats 4 lbs, Riverbank Wild Rye 3 lbs, Canada Wild Rye 18 oz, Annual Rye 6 oz] per acre
 - iv. Shrubs: Very few (see RPBB below)
 - c. RPBB consideration
 - i. A lot of the RPBB flowering shrubs would likely not persist in a consistently wet or submerged state. Recommend placing any shrubs for RPBB intermediately between the Floodplain/Wetland area and the Upland transition. Below is a list of shrubs that would make sense and an additional willow tree species that was identified as existing in the surveyed area. **Salix** and **Prunus** are among the earliest flowering tree/shrubs species and would

provide that early season food source for many of our native bee species.

1. Shrub species list:
 - a. ***Amelanchier laevis***
 - b. ***Ceanothus americanus***
 - c. ***Physocarpus opulifolius***
 - d. ***Salix humilis***
 - e. ***Viburnum lentago***
 - f. ***Prunus americana***
 - g. ***Malus ioensis***
 - h. ***Cephalanthus occidentalis***
2. Tree species addition:
 - a. ***Salix amygdaloides***

Please let us know if there is anything else outstanding.

Thank you,

Kyle Neeve PE (WI), CFM
he, him, his

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From: Kovacevich, Caree C CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Caree.C.Kovacevich@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Friday, June 21, 2024 9:40 AM

To: Neeve, Kyle <Kyle.Neeve@aecom.com>

Cc: Von Holdt, Crystal L - DNR <Crystal.VonHoldt@wisconsin.gov>; Larson, Zach <Zachary.Larson@aecom.com>; Tkachuk, Tyler <Tyler.Tkachuk@aecom.com>; jschumac@epic.com <jschumac@epic.com>; Isaac Schrock <ischrock@epic.com>

Subject: RE: Epic Systems/West Road Verona: ERR Review?

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Hi Kyle,
Yes this should

suffice for a list of existing vegetation communities within the project area. Thanks for sending.

[Report Suspicious](#)

When you have proposed mitigative strategies/conservations measures for RPBB, please forward so I can then coordinate with the Service for impacts to RPBB.

In Service,

Caree Kovacevich
she/her
Senior Project Manager
Regulatory Division

Army Corps of Engineers
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

From: Neeve, Kyle <Kyle.Neeve@aecom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2024 9:34 PM
To: Kovacevich, Caree C CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Caree.C.Kovacevich@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Von Holdt, Crystal L - DNR <Crystal.VonHoldt@wisconsin.gov>; Larson, Zach <Zachary.Larson@aecom.com>; Tkachuk, Tyler <Tyler.Tkachuk@aecom.com>; jschumac@epic.com; Isaac Schrock <ischrock@epic.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Epic Systems/West Road Verona: ERR Review?

Caree,

I just want to make sure that you have the entire Heartland Wetland Delineation Report (Heartland Wetland Report_New Country View Rd_20231201.pdf). This is a large file that was broken up into 3 PDFs. It doesn't appear that all of these PDFs are on the WDNR website.

You will be receiving an email from Secure Share Proofpoint with the full report.

I think the full report will answer the majority of your questions below. Could you please let us know before we do any additional survey?

Thank you,

Kyle Neeve PE (WI), CFM
he, him, his

Civil Engineering III, US West Water
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From: Kovacevich, Caree C CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Caree.C.Kovacevich@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2024 3:50 PM
To: Neeve, Kyle <Kyle.Neeve@aecom.com>; jschumac@epic.com <jschumac@epic.com>; Isaac Schrock <ischrock@epic.com>
Cc: Von Holdt, Crystal L - DNR <Crystal.VonHoldt@wisconsin.gov>; Larson, Zach <Zachary.Larson@aecom.com>; Tkachuk, Tyler <Tyler.Tkachuk@aecom.com>
Subject: RE: Epic Systems/West Road Verona: ERR Review?

Hi Kyle- thanks for the info. I am responding in red.

What is the status of the cultural resources survey that we have required?

- [Response: Arch/cultural resources survey started on June 10th and is expected to be completed over a couple of weeks due to the size of the survey.](#)
- Thanks- keep me posted

And for ESA, the area is located within the High Potential Zone for Rusty Patched Bumble Bee. I will have to conduct consultation with the USFWS for potential impacts. In the application, you state:

“Heartland Ecological Group, Inc. conducted a rare species and habitat survey in August and September of 2023. There were no observations of any of the plants identified in the assessment within the Study Area during the field assessment. There may be suitable habitat for the white lady’s slipper and eastern prairie fringed orchid within the moderate to high quality wetland communities in the Study Area. Mitigation of impacts to the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee are currently being evaluated. It is anticipated that some habitat will be impacted and mitigated. Additional surveys and further investigations are required for the rare plant species in 2024.”

- Please provide the entire report, including plant list, from the referenced Heartland rare species and habitat

survey. It seems only excerpts were included?

Response: Please see the attached Endangered Resources Habitat Assessment Report (ER Habitat Assessment_Dairy Ridge Rd_amended_20231002.pdf). This report was provided by Heartland Ecological Group, Inc.

1. The following species were outside the survey window when the assessment was done last year.
 1. Heartland will be going out soon to look closer at any sedge meadow or wet prairie areas that overlap with the potential impact areas for the following species.
 1. White Lady's Slipper – late May-early June [in wetlands] (relevant to the state)
 2. Eastern Prairie White Fringed Orchid - July [in wetlands] (federally-listed, relevant to the USFWS/Corps)
 2. In discussions with Heartland in June 2024, it was discussed that there is no suitable habitat in our project area and that they feel comfortable ruling the below species out.
 1. Prairie Parsley – early May-late August [in uplands] (relevant to the state)
 2. Prairie Bush-Clover – August [in uplands] (federally-listed, relevant to the USFWS/Corps, though only if occurring in wetlands)
 3. Good info to know, however it appears this habitat/rare plant survey and subsequent additions did not include the full stream restoration area to the southeast. Curious as to why you didn't field survey the entire stream restoration area?
- Please provide more detail regarding: "Mitigation of impacts to the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee are currently being evaluated. It is anticipated that some habitat will be impacted and mitigated."
 - Response: We are working with Epic's Horticulture team on determining the shrubs they recommend from the following link, https://www.xerces.org/sites/default/files/publications/22-021_01_NPPBI%E2%80%94GreatLakes_web.pdf. Ideally, a variety (covering all of the bloom times from spring to fall) of the "bumblebee plant" "shrubs" will be selected. We will provide a follow-up when we have further information.
 - Ok please provide your mitigation plan and/or conservation measures for the RPBB when ready. Here's the USFWS guide to RPBB and conservation measures. When I know what you propose to minimize impacts to the bee, then I can coordinate with the Service
 - https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ConservationGuidanceRPBBv1_27Feb2018_0.pdf
- A 'Wetland Community Descriptions' Table was included, but it's unclear what the wetland community IDs are referencing. From which delineation report?
 - Response: The Heartland Wetland Delineation Report includes the initial smaller wetland delineation (and report) done by AECOM plus delineation done by Heartland for the larger area covering all the alternatives. The attached file was not included in the initial permits submittal and may be the resolution to this question as well.
 - **The attached file here was the Habitat Assessment, not the full wetland delineation by Heartland. Only the maps from that 187 ac delineation were included in the application.**
 - **Question: If the above response doesn't answer the question, could you please clarify where the "Wetland Community Descriptions" Table is that you are referring to?**
 - **The Table I was referring to apparently was from the Habitat Assessment, since you sent me the whole report now. The 'wetland characteristics' would be helpful to me as a plant list, but they didn't survey the whole stream restoration area, as far as I can tell.**
- Ultimately I will need a vegetation list for the stream restoration area for consulting with USFWS for RPBB.
 - Response: See response above providing the link to the list for "bumblebee plant" "shrubs". We are currently working with Epic's Horticulture team and will provide a follow-up when we have further information.
 2. As mentioned above, Heartland will be going back out soon to look for White Lady's Slipper and Eastern Prairie White Fringed Orchid. We will provide a follow-up when we have further information.
 3. To clarify, I need a list of *existing* vegetation (for existing conditions, and to describe what you propose to impact in the stream restoration area) within the stream restoration area (and bridge area as well) for my coordination with the Service for impacts to the bee. Heartland could provide a plant list from the 187 ac wetland delineation.

In Service,

Caree Kovacevich
she/her
Senior Project Manager
Regulatory Division

Army Corps of Engineers
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

From: Neeve, Kyle <Kyle.Neeve@aecom.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 5:07 PM

To: Kovacevich, Caree C CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Caree.C.Kovacevich@usace.army.mil>; jschumac@epic.com; Isaac Schrock <ischrock@epic.com>

Cc: Von Holdt, Crystal L - DNR <Crystal.VonHoldt@wisconsin.gov>; Larson, Zach <Zachary.Larson@aecom.com>; Tkachuk, Tyler <Tyler.Tkachuk@aecom.com>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Epic Systems/West Road Verona: ERR Review?

Caree,

Please see below for initial responses to your questions in [blue](#). We will follow up with the other information as it comes in.

Reach out if there are any further questions.

Thank you,

Kyle Neeve PE (WI), CFM
he, him, his

Civil Engineering III, US West Water
M +1 (608) 312-1117

kyle.neeve@aecom.com

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From: Kovacevich, Caree C CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Caree.C.Kovacevich@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 11:34 AM

To: Neeve, Kyle <Kyle.Neeve@aecom.com>; jschumac@epic.com <jschumac@epic.com>; Isaac Schrock <ischrock@epic.com>

Cc: Von Holdt, Crystal L - DNR <Crystal.VonHoldt@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: Epic Systems/West Road Verona: ERR Review?

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Hi Kyle/Jim/Isaac:

A few questions related to Section 106 and ESA.

[Report Suspicious](#)

What is the status of the cultural resources survey that we have required?

- [Response:](#) Arch/cultural resources survey started on June 10th and is expected to be completed over a couple of weeks due to the size of the survey.

And for ESA, the area is located within the High Potential Zone for Rusty Patched Bumble Bee. I will have to conduct consultation with the USFWS for potential impacts. In the application, you state:

“Heartland Ecological Group, Inc. conducted a rare species and habitat survey in August and September of 2023. There were no observations of any of the plants identified in the assessment within the Study Area during the field assessment. There may be suitable habitat for the white lady’s slipper and eastern prairie fringed orchid within the moderate to high quality wetland communities in the Study Area. Mitigation of impacts to the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee are currently being evaluated. It is anticipated that some habitat will be impacted and mitigated. Additional surveys and further investigations are required for the rare plant species in 2024.”

- Please provide the entire report, including plant list, from the referenced Heartland rare species and habitat survey. It seems only excerpts were included?
Response: Please see the attached Endangered Resources Habitat Assessment Report (ER Habitat Assessment_Dairy Ridge Rd_amended_20231002.pdf). This report was provided by Heartland Ecological Group, Inc.
 1. The following species were outside the survey window when the assessment was done last year.
 1. Heartland will be going out soon to look closer at any sedge meadow or wet prairie areas that overlap with the potential impact areas for the following species.
 1. White Lady’s Slipper – late May-early June [in wetlands]
 2. Eastern Prairie White Fringed Orchid - July [in wetlands]
 2. In discussions with Heartland in June 2024, it was discussed that there is no suitable habitat in our project area and that they feel comfortable ruling the below species out.
 1. Prairie Parsley – early May-late August [in uplands]
 2. Prairie Bush-Clover – August [in uplands]
- Please provide more detail regarding: “Mitigation of impacts to the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee are currently being evaluated. It is anticipated that some habitat will be impacted and mitigated.”
 - Response: We are working with Epic's Horticulture team on determining the shrubs they recommend from the following link, https://www.xerces.org/sites/default/files/publications/22-021_01_NPPBI%E2%80%94GreatLakes_web.pdf. Ideally, a variety (covering all of the bloom times from spring to fall) of the "bumblebee plant" "shrubs" will be selected. We will provide a follow-up when we have further information.
- A ‘Wetland Community Descriptions’ Table was included, but it’s unclear what the wetland community IDs are referencing. From which delineation report?
 - **Response:** The Heartland Wetland Delineation Report includes the initial smaller wetland delineation (and report) done by AECOM plus delineation done by Heartland for the larger area covering all the alternatives. The attached file was not included in the initial permits submittal and may be the resolution to this question as well.
 - **Question: If the above response doesn't answer the question, could you please clarify where the "Wetland Community Descriptions" Table is that you are referring to?**
- Ultimately I will need a vegetation list for the stream restoration area for consulting with USFWS for RPBB.
 - Response: See response above providing the link to the list for "bumblebee plant" "shrubs". We are currently working with Epic's Horticulture team and will provide a follow-up when we have further information.
 2. As mentioned above, Heartland will be going back out soon to look for White Lady's Slipper and Eastern Prairie White Fringed Orchid. We will provide a follow-up when we have further information.

Let me know if you have any questions- thanks

In Service,

Caree Kovacevich

she/her
Senior Project Manager
Regulatory Division

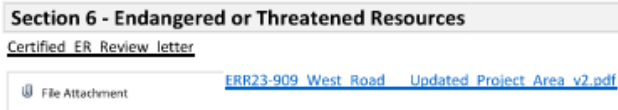
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332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500
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From: Neeve, Kyle <Kyle.Neeve@aecom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2024 11:39 AM
To: Kovacevich, Caree C CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Caree.C.Kovacevich@usace.army.mil>;
jschumac@epic.com
Cc: Isaac Schrock <ischrock@epic.com>; Bliesner, Brian <Brian.Bliesner@aecom.com>; Billmeyer, Jess
<Jess.Billmeyer@aecom.com>; Tkachuk, Tyler <Tyler.Tkachuk@aecom.com>; Larson, Zach
<Zachary.Larson@aecom.com>; Von Holdt, Crystal L - DNR <Crystal.VonHoldt@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Epic Systems/West Road Verona: ERR Review?

Caree,

I appreciate you reaching out. It is my understanding that this document was not uploaded online due to it being confidential information.

The document that was attached to the application can be found attached to this email.



Thank you,

Kyle Neeve PE (WI), CFM
he, him, his

Civil Engineering III, US West Water
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kyle.neeve@aecom.com
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From: Kovacevich, Caree C CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Caree.C.Kovacevich@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2024 11:15 AM
To: Neeve, Kyle <Kyle.Neeve@aecom.com>; jschumac@epic.com <jschumac@epic.com>; Isaac Schrock
<ischrock@epic.com>; Bliesner, Brian <Brian.Bliesner@aecom.com>; Billmeyer, Jess
<Jess.Billmeyer@aecom.com>
Subject: Epic Systems/West Road Verona: ERR Review?

Hi Jim, Kyle, et al,

I see an ERR review was checked as included in your original application but I don't see the actual attachment in the application nor in the WiDNR application files online. Please could you forward?

Thanks-

In Service,

Caree Kovacevich
she/her
Senior Project Manager

Regulatory Division

Army Corps of Engineers
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101