



Draft Environmental Assessment

Wilawana Temporary Mobile Home Community Site

Athens Township, Bradford County, Pennsylvania

FEMA-4030-DR-PA

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FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency – Region III
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TERMS USED IN THIS DOCUMENT

Area of Potential Effect (APE) – the geographic area within which an undertaking may cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if such properties exist. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) – environmental protection practices applied to help ensure that projects are conducted in an environmentally responsible manner.

Commercial Park – an existing temporary housing site with established infrastructure, where FEMA leases individual pads for temporary housing units.

FEMA Floodway – the portion of the floodplain which is effective in carrying flow, within which this carrying capacity must be preserved and where the flood hazard is generally highest, i.e., where water depths and velocities are the greatest. It is that area which provides for the discharge of the base flood so the cumulative increase in water surface elevation is no more than one foot.

Floodplain – the lowland and relatively flat areas adjoining inland and coastal waters including, at a minimum, that area subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

Individual Assistance – Supplementary Federal assistance provided under the Stafford Act to individuals and families adversely affected by a major disaster or an emergency. Such assistance may be provided directly by the Federal Government or through State or local governments or disaster relief organizations.

Nonattainment Area – the geographic area designated by EPA at 40 CFR Part 81 as exceeding a National Ambient Air Quality Standard for a given criteria pollutant. An area is nonattainment only for the pollutants for which the area has been designated nonattainment.

Recreational Vehicle: (i.e. travel trailer or park model) - a vehicle built on a single chassis, 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection, designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck, and designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

Staging Area – an area where temporary housing units are stored when not in use.

Temporary Housing – temporary accommodations provided by the Federal Government to individuals or families whose homes are made unlivable by an emergency or a major disaster.

Temporary Mobile Home Community Site – a site provided by the Federal, State, or local government that accommodates two or more temporary housing units, and provides short-term temporary housing immediately following a declared disaster.

Temporary Housing Unit – a manufactured home, recreational vehicle, or other readily fabricated dwelling.

Utilities (for temporary housing) – Includes water, gas, electricity, heating oil, propane, and excludes non-essentials such as cable television, internet, telephone, etc.

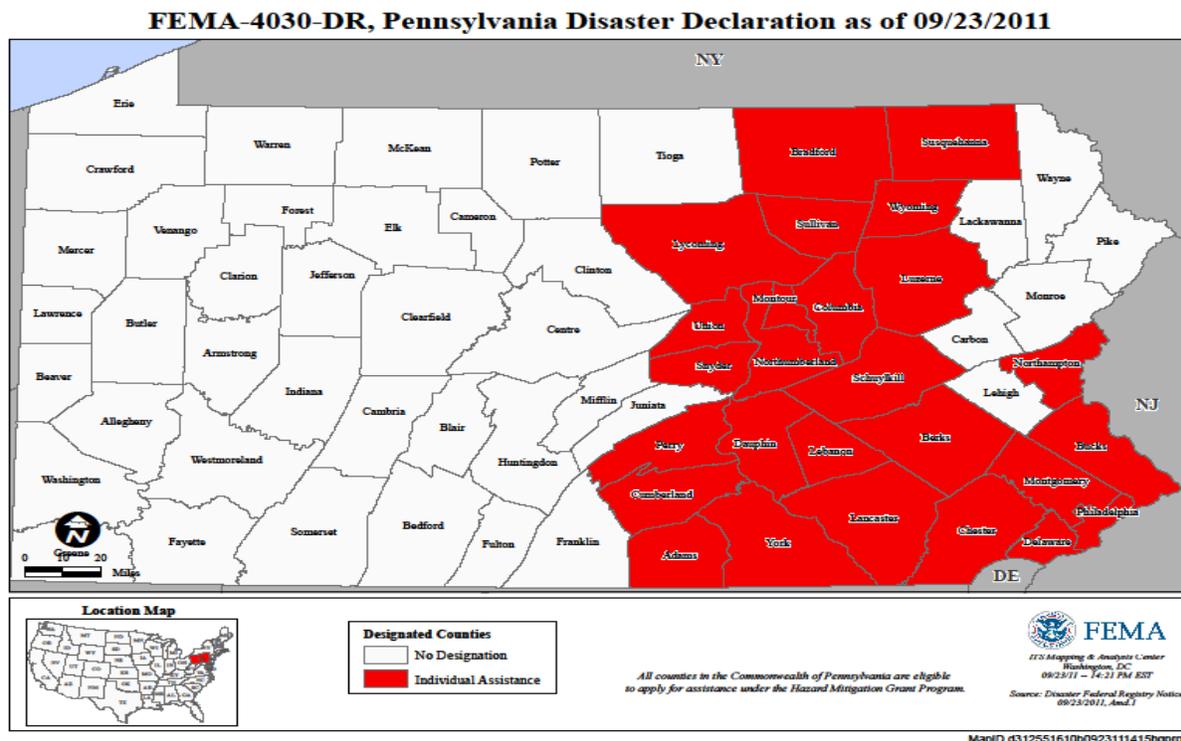
ACRONYMS USED IN THIS DOCUMENT

APE	Area of Potential Effect
BMP	best management practice
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
EA	environmental assessment
EIS	environmental impact statement
EO	(Presidential) Executive Order
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FPPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act
IA	Individual Assistance
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWI	National Wetland Inventory
PDEP	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
PEMA	Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REO	(FEMA) Regional Environmental Officer
ROW	right of way
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
THU	Temporary Housing Unit
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1973 (Stafford Act), as amended, provides federal assistance programs for both public and private losses sustained in disasters. FEMA provides assistance to eligible private citizens, public entities, and non-profit groups following declared disasters.

From September 4, 2011 through September 11, 2011 heavy rainfall from Tropical Storm Lee caused flooding in eastern and central Pennsylvania. Rainfall for this period ranged from 5.5 to 15 inches in a 48-hour period. Major rivers and their tributaries overflowed their banks inundating hundreds of communities in the Susquehanna and Delaware River watersheds for nearly a week.

On September 12, 2011, President Obama declared a major disaster for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and authorized the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide federal assistance in designated areas. The President's action made federal funding available to affected individuals in 26 counties.



Individual assistance provides financial assistance and, if necessary, direct services, to individuals and households in the State who, as a direct result of a major disaster, have necessary expenses and serious needs, and are unable to meet such expenses or needs through other means. At the time of the preparation of this environmental assessment (EA), over 16,000 individuals have registered statewide for individual assistance. Over 68 million dollars have been disbursed to affected individuals.

Through the Individual Assistance program, FEMA has identified the need to provide direct housing to individuals who have been affected by the disaster. Section 408 of the Stafford Act authorizes FEMA to provide emergency and temporary housing for eligible disaster victims whose homes are uninhabitable or destroyed as a result of the declared event.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 1500 through 1508) direct FEMA and other federal agencies to take into consideration the environmental consequences of proposed federal actions. In compliance with NEPA and its implementing regulations, FEMA prepared this environmental assessment (EA) to analyze potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and other reasonable alternatives that would meet the purpose, need, and objectives of the project as well as a No Action Alternative. The No Action Alternative also serves as an environmental baseline against which other alternatives can be compared.

FEMA will use the findings in this Draft EA and public input to determine whether to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS). If the Proposed Action is determined not to significantly affect the quality of the human environment, then FEMA will issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) rather than prepare an EIS.

The CEQ and FEMA regulations (44 CFR Section 10) that implement NEPA require NEPA documents to be concise, focus on the issues relevant to the project, and exclude extraneous background data and discussion of subjects that are not relevant or would not be affected by the project alternatives. Accordingly, the following subjects are not evaluated in detail for the following reasons:

Subject	Analysis
Air Quality	Construction would create dust and vehicle emissions; however, the impacts would be minor and temporary. Air quality impacts associated with traffic from temporary housing residents is not expected to increase above current levels in the County since the residents are from within the County. Bradford County is not in a designated nonattainment area per the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
Climate & Climate Change	Minor and temporary construction-related impacts (see the description of the Proposed Action in Section 3.3 of this EA) would contribute a negligible amount to climate change or greenhouse gases.
Coastal Zone Management Act	The project location is not in the state's coastal zone management program.
Fish & Wildlife and	The project would require clearing a portion of a corn field, which does

T&E Species	<p>not provide natural habitat, although various species that are accustomed to human presence could be present at various times. Water bodies are not present on the site, therefore no fish habitat exists. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service lists the Indiana Bat, an Endangered Species, as occurring in Bradford County. However, the small grove of trees on the site would not be removed for the temporary housing project and no other potential habitat is present. Therefore, no effect is anticipated to threatened or endangered species or their habitat as a result of site development and occupancy.</p>
Geology and Soils	<p>The proposed project would result in construction-related impacts to soils, which are Alton gravelly sandy loam, Braceville silt loam, and Rexford silt loam. The topography is relatively flat at the project location, and soil is gravelly with high permeability, thus construction impacts to geology and soils are expected to be minor. The soils are classified as prime farmland; however, although the land is under cultivation for corn, it has been zoned for residential development, and is considered “converted” because of its urban designation.</p>
Hazardous Materials	<p>A search of available and reasonably ascertainable government records was conducted (EDR 20011) to evaluate environmental risk associated with the proposed site, and a radius of up to one mile. One historical landfill within approximately .5 miles NE of the proposed site was identified. The EDR report indicates that groundwater from the landfill flows in the opposite direction from the proposed site, and no well water is proposed for use on the site. Therefore, it is unlikely that the landfill would have an adverse impact on the proposed site.</p> <p>Naturally occurring radon is present in most of Pennsylvania. Temporary buildings will be above ground with natural ventilation between the concrete pad and the living space which would minimize potential exposure. Since grading is anticipated to occur approximately 8 inches below surface level, and the community site is temporary, radon is unlikely to pose a health hazard.</p> <p>A separate search of the National Priorities List website (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2011) revealed a superfund site, Bell Landfill, approximately 27 miles from the proposed site. Due to the distance from the proposed site and the cleanup efforts, it is unlikely for leachate to reach the housing site. Lastly, since the most recent land use on the proposed site was farmland for raising corn, the potential exists for relatively low concentrations</p>

	<p>of residual herbicide/pesticides typical of agricultural to be present.</p> <p>No environmental conditions such as distressed vegetation and historical soil contamination were observed during field reconnaissance. As a result of the field visit and results of the data search, no on-site soil sampling was deemed necessary.</p>
Land Use and Socioeconomics	<p>Land use, including housing, public services and utilities, and socioeconomic impacts are not expected because the proposed use is compatible with the zoning of the area and utilities and public services are available within a reasonable distance.</p>
Migratory Bird Treaty Act	<p>The potential for construction-related impacts to migratory birds is minimal because no trees would be removed by the project, the nesting season is largely over at this point and the project, because of the urgency to provide housing, is of short duration and will be completed before the next nesting season begins.</p>
Noise	<p>Site preparation activities are expected to take place for approximately 3 weeks. Because of the extraordinary need for temporary housing, and weather constraints as the end of the construction season approaches, activities would likely take place 16 hours a day. Although construction related noise would be temporary, the residents on the north side of the property are close by and would hear the construction activity. Noise associated with occupancy of the site and traffic would be expected to increase above current levels although not all residents would have vehicles. The number of temporary mobile homes that would ultimately be needed is unknown at this time and is estimated to be between 50 and 100. Thus it is difficult to predict the increase in noise above current levels. The project is temporary, and would be removed after 18 months. The site is zoned for residential development.</p>
Safety and Security	<p>No site safety or security concerns were observed during site reconnaissance. Temporary mobile home community sites are fenced.</p>
Traffic	<p>Construction-related traffic would be temporary, and expected to last from 30-45 days. Vehicular traffic in the vicinity of the project would increase for the 18 months that residents occupy the temporary mobile home community site, although not all residents would have vehicles. The number of temporary mobile homes that would ultimately be needed is unknown at this time and is estimated to be between 50 and 100. Thus it is difficult to predict the increase in traffic above current levels. The project is temporary, and would be removed after 18</p>

	months. The site is zoned for residential development.
Vegetation	The project site is primarily a corn field. The small wooded area would be avoided and not affected by construction.
Visual Quality	Part of the site, which is currently a corn field, would be replaced with temporary housing units, changing views from a corn field to mobile homes. As proposed mitigation, a privacy fence will be constructed between the residents on the north side of the property and the temporary mobile home community. A buffer strip of open land would be provided between the residences on the north of the site and the temporary mobile home community.
Water Quality	Construction activities, such as grading, have the potential to temporarily increase sedimentation. However the potential to impact water quality would be reduced by the mitigation measures, including BMPs, described in the Project Description. An NPDES permit would be required.

2.1 PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the Stafford Act is to provide a wide range of federal assistance for states and local governments significantly impacted by disasters or emergencies or both. The purpose of the Individual and Households Program is to expeditiously provide temporary housing assistance for individuals and households who are displaced from their primary residences or whose primary residence is rendered uninhabitable as a result of damage caused by a major disaster.

Direct housing assistance involves the provision of a manufactured housing unit on an available private, commercial park, or community site location in Bradford County. The need for direct housing assistance is urgent. Emergency shelters have closed; many individuals are staying in damaged homes or other insecure situations. When possible, FEMA places a mobile home on an applicant's private site if the site is located outside a floodplain, or provides a mobile home on a pad leased in a commercial park. Based on lack of suitable private sites and the lack of commercial trailer parks in Bradford County, FEMA anticipates that many applicants will require direct housing, resulting in the need to develop a temporary mobile home community site.

2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

In order to meet the urgent needs of disaster victims in need of temporary housing, FEMA has implemented an expedited environmental review process. The purpose of this document is to assist FEMA in fulfilling its environmental review responsibilities under NEPA and to document compliance under other applicable environmental laws. Laws and Executive Orders addressed through this EA include: the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice).

The scope of FEMA's environmental review includes evaluating project alternatives, characterizing the affected environment, identifying potential environmental impacts, and outlining ways to reduce or minimize adverse affects. This EA examines the site-specific environmental impacts associated with building a proposed temporary mobile home community site on privately-owned land under a no-cost license and use agreement.

This EA was prepared based on site evaluations, research of available published information, and resource agency information. The Draft EA will be provided to the public, including interested agencies during the public comment period. The public participation period will be brief, as necessitated by the emergency circumstances. Agency coordination and consultation will be deemed complete at the end of the public comment period. FEMA believes that this process will

allow for sufficient action analysis and meet the goal of providing timely federal assistance to disaster victims.

3.1 SITE SELECTION PROCESS AND ALTERNATIVES

NEPA requires investigation and evaluation of reasonable project alternatives as part of the project environmental review process. At a minimum, FEMA's NEPA implementing regulations require the No Action and Proposed Action be evaluated. The Stafford Act and its implementing regulations provide for a wide range of federally assisted housing options. This includes minor home repairs, rental assistance and installing a mobile home or Park model on a private site or in an existing mobile home park. When these options are exhausted or unavailable, a remaining alternative is to build a temporary mobile home community site.

In order to expedite the temporary mobile home community site selection process, FEMA is working closely with local officials to identify potential sites followed by a cursory site reconnaissance and research to determine suitability. During the initial screening, factors considered include:

- demand for temporary housing in the area,
- community acceptance,
- proximity of community services (schools, police, fire, public transportation, etc),
- engineering and construction feasibility,
- access to utilities,
- land use compatibility,
- property owner terms,
- costs to develop and maintain the site, and
- environmental and cultural resource constraints.

Nineteen sites were screened in Bradford County. The Wilawana site was identified for further analysis because it meets the basic site feasibility and selection criteria. FEMA continues to evaluate alternative sites in Bradford County, and other counties in Pennsylvania. Although various alternatives have been and continue to be identified, the extraordinary amount of needed housing has limited this EA to analysis of one suitable site alternative at this time.

3.2 Alternative 1- No Action Alternative

Under the No Action alternative, FEMA would not develop a temporary mobile home community site for this area. Displaced residents would continue to stay with relatives/friends, in hotels, or other temporary locations until they resolve their own long-term housing needs.

3.3 Alternative 2 – Develop the Wilawana Site for Temporary Community Housing (Proposed Action)

The Proposed Action would provide temporary housing for eligible disaster victims. Disaster victims would be temporarily relocated to the site with an expected occupancy up to 18 months

while they resolve their permanent housing solution. Section 408(B)(ii) of the Stafford Act does not permit temporary housing assistance beyond 18 months from the declared disaster date except for extraordinary circumstances in which an extension would be in the public interest.

Project Location and Site Description

The proposed site is located on Wilawana Road, Athens Township, Bradford County, Pennsylvania (Latitude 41.99473, Longitude -76.56979). It is bordered on the north by residences on Wilawana Road, on the south by the Masco manufacturing plant, on the east by soccer fields, and west by undeveloped land. (See the site vicinity map in Appendix A)

The available land on the site consists of approximately 48 acres, and is primarily a corn field. The land is currently zoned “residential suburban district” under the Athens Township zoning code. The landowner has submitted plans to local government to develop the site as a subdivision and states that he has received most of the required permits. However, the landowner has offered the land to FEMA for a temporary mobile home community site.

Project Description

The project description is based on the site preliminary design completed on October 4, 2011 (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2011). The Proposed Action would involve the construction of a temporary mobile home community site. Because the exact number of individuals and households in the area needing direct housing is not known, the site would be developed in phases. The site can accommodate at least 100 units (See the preliminary site design in Appendix A); however a possible scenario is to build the site in phases of 50 units for the first phase, followed by 25 units per phase until sufficient units have been provided for residents needing temporary homes.

Below is a photo of a typical example of manufactured homes (these have not been installed):



Site preparation would include clearing and grading a portion of the corn field to prepare it for the temporary mobile home community site. The size of the site would depend on the ultimate number of individuals and households that require direct housing assistance. The design of the site includes the following considerations:

Grading of the site would take place to a depth of 6 inches to 12 inches. Utilities would be installed in trenches ranging in depth of 2 feet in most places to 8 feet in a few places. Utilities including water, and sewer would be installed below ground and connected to existing utilities on the north side of the property. Electrical lines would be installed below or above ground.

Access to the site is available from two locations off of Wilawana Road (a third access route may be available if needed). Stormwater drainage will be designed to direct drainage to existing stormwater drains on the north side of the property.

Interior roadways and pads would be constructed primarily of gravel.

Uniform Federal Accessibility Standard features would be provided as required by law.

The entire temporary mobile home community site would be fenced; and privacy fencing would be provided between the site and neighboring residences.

When the temporary housing need has ended, the mobile homes would be removed from the site. The temporary mobile home community site would then be reasonably restored to its previous condition in a manner consistent with local zoning and as agreed upon with the landowner.

MITIGATION

As described under the Proposed Action, the project includes construction of a temporary mobile home community site. The project will be designed to meet all local, state and federal requirements.

The following mitigation measures will be employed and are included as part of the Proposed Action (additional mitigation measures may be identified as conditions of permits and approvals by agencies with jurisdiction):

Resource	Mitigation
General	<p>Construction and clearing limits will be clearly marked on the ground and will not extend beyond the minimum area required to complete the work. Sensitive areas, if any, will be flagged to delineate no-work zones.</p> <p>No machinery or equipment will access areas outside the construction limits.</p> <p>All mitigation measures will be clearly stated in the construction contract specifications.</p>
Vegetation	Vegetation beyond the clearing zone will not be removed or damaged.
Water Quality and Soils	<p>All disturbed ground will be reclaimed using appropriate best management practices. The measures described below will be maintained until the grade is stable and vegetation is re-established to prevent sedimentation.</p> <p>Sediment and erosion control will be implemented to prevent or reduce non-point source pollution and minimize soil loss and sedimentation in drainage areas. These practices may include, but are not limited to, silt fence, filter fabric, check dams, straw wattles, in-stream sediment mats, and seeding/mulching of exposed areas.</p> <p>Regular site inspections will be conducted to ensure erosion control measures are properly installed and functioning effectively.</p> <p>Equipment, materials and procedures necessary to prevent and respond to hazardous spills will be maintained on-site at all times</p>

SECTION 4

Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences

This section discusses the existing condition of affected resources and the potential effects of the No Action and Proposed Action alternatives.

The proposed Wilawana temporary mobile home community site is located approximately 10 – 15 minutes from the flooded areas of Athens and Sayre. The location is outside the Athens and Sayre Borough limits and in the Athens Township. The location is within the Athens School District and shopping, gas stations, and other community services are within a 5-10 minute drive. The site is currently being farmed with the most of the 48 acres planted with corn.



The land owner has drawings for future residential development of the site, including roads, lots, etc. The land owner reports that he has already obtained many of the local permits needed for this development from the Athens Township. The owner has two different right of ways identified for ingress/egress to the site. A public sewer line runs along the northern boundary of the property and the other existing properties along Wilawana Road. Approximately 17 homes are located along the border of the property (built by the land owner). Through a study performed for the landowner, a delineation of wetlands was performed and these wetlands have been identified on the drawings provided. The wetlands identified are relatively small in size and are contained within a border of trees that allow this area to be clearly visible on the property. These wetlands would be avoided if the temporary housing site were constructed.

4.1 FLOODPLAINS (EO 11988) AND WETLANDS (EO 11990)

Executive Order (EO) 11988 (Floodplains) requires federal agencies to reduce the risk of flood loss, minimize the impact on human health, safety, and welfare, and restore the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains. Under FEMA's implementing regulations at 44 CFR Part 9, FEMA must evaluate the potential effects of any actions it may take in a floodplain and consider alternatives to avoid adverse effects. Similarly, EO 11990 (Wetlands) requires that federal agencies take action to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands, and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial effects of wetlands. Federal agencies, in planning their actions, are required to consider alternatives to wetland sites and limit potential damage if an activity affecting a wetland cannot be avoided. Federal agencies are also required under 44 CFR Part 9 to provide public notice and review of plans for actions in floodplains and wetlands. The public notice for this disaster and public review of the Draft EA meet FEMA's public notice and review requirements.

Floodplains

The No Action and Proposed Action alternatives would not take place in FEMA-designated floodplains. The project area is on Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panel #4209760005B, dated April 1, 1980. The area is in a Zone C, is not in a 100-year floodplain, and has low flood hazard potential.

The project could result in short term construction-related impacts; however, impacts such as water quality impacts to the floodplain would be avoided and/or minimized with construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) described under the Project Description.

Wetlands

Based on the National Wetland Inventory and field observations, the No Action and Proposed Action alternatives would not take place in or affect wetlands. The landowner of the project site had a wetland report prepared, and a wetland was identified and delineated in the wooded area on the east side of the project site. The wetlands and wooded area would be avoided. A vegetated buffer of at least 25 feet would be required from the nearest edge of the wetland, as specified in the Athens Township Zoning Ordinance (2010).

4.2 HISTORIC, ARCHAEOLOGICAL, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

The area of potential effect (APE) for this project includes the surrounding structures within the viewshed of the proposed community site and the areas of ground disturbance caused by its construction. A query of the Pennsylvania and Historic and Museum Commission's Cultural Resources Geographic Information System (CRGIS) indicates no known historic properties in the APE. There are no structures over 50 years old in the vicinity of the project. However, the

CRGIS query indicates that there have been three archeological investigations in the vicinity of the Wilawana site. None of the three investigations resulted in the finding of a Historic Property although there was evidence of scattered archeological fragments.

Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

Under this alternative, the project would not be funded and there would not be a potential to affect archaeological, cultural, or historical resources. The current property owner, however, could proceed with his proposed subdivision project at some point in the future, resulting in similar or greater potential impacts as the proposed temporary mobile home community.

Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would result in ground disturbance from grading of 6 to 12 inches in depth, and excavation of trenches, ranging in depth from 2 feet in most areas to 8 feet in some areas, for utilities.

Past archeological investigations indicate that ground disturbing activity could result in effects to unknown historic properties. As requested by the State Historic Preservation Officer, a pedestrian survey was conducted by a Secretary of the Interior qualified archaeologist on October 4, 2011 and it was determined that there would be no effects to Historic Properties.

FEMA has made a determination of No Historic Properties Affected as outlined in 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1) and the SHPO has concurred. (McLearen. 2011. Personal Communication).

4.3 SOCIOECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EO 12898)

Executive Order (EO) 12898, Environmental Justice, directs federal agencies to identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations in the U.S. resulting from federal programs, policies, and activities. FEMA, as part of the Department of Homeland Security, is participating with other federal agencies in a Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice to promote the principles of EO 12898. This includes making commitments regarding federal agency environmental justice strategies, public input, and annual reporting.

The population within the 18840 zip code in Athens Township is comprised of about 1 percent African American, 96 percent Caucasian, and approximately 14.8 percent of the families are living below the poverty level. See Table 1, below, for a comparison of demographics in the 18840 zip code, Bradford County and State of Pennsylvania.

SECTION 4

Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences

Table 1: Minority and Low Income Populations Summary Statistics

Subject	18840 Zip Code	Bradford County	Pennsylvania
Demographics			
Caucasian	96	97.5	83.8
African American	1	.6	4.7
Other	3	1.9	11.5
Families below poverty	14.8	11.2	8.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010

The Proposed Action is not expected to pose disproportionately high and adverse public health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations. The availability of Federal assistance, including temporary housing for displaced individuals, is consistent with EO 12898. All forms of FEMA disaster housing assistance are available to any affected household that meets the conditions of eligibility and demographics are not among the eligibility requirements.

The specific demographics of community site occupants are not available at this time because specific individuals or families are in the process of being identified for this site. However, the demographic makeup of the future community housing residents is expected to be similar to the community as a whole. Further, the availability of temporary housing would result in a positive impact to displaced individuals, regardless of whether they are minority and/or low income.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Cumulative effects or impacts are defined as “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 other actions” (40 CFR 1508.7). Cumulative effects are determined by combining the effects of an action with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. Currently there are no other active proposals for development in the vicinity of the Wilawana site (Smith. 2011. Personal Communication).

Due to the limited scope of work and proposed mitigation (see the Project Description), the contribution of noise and of dust from equipment and vehicle emissions during installation of the manufactured homes would not result in a measurable contribution to cumulative impacts on air quality to greenhouse gases, or to climate change.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public involvement is being performed in compliance with NEPA, FEMA’s regulations implementing NEPA at 44 CFR 10.9(c), and Executive Orders 12898, 11988, and 11990. A Public Notice was published in The Morning Times and The Daily Review. Due to the emergency nature of this action, the public comment period will be brief, from October 6, 2011 to October 8, 2011. The Draft EA is available for public review at the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC), Towanda Fire Hall, 101 Elm Street, Towanda, PA 18848. The DRC hours are 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, Monday through Saturday. Comments on the Draft EA will not be taken at the DRC, however. The Draft EA is also available on FEMA’s website at:

<http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/index.shtm> under Region III.

Comments on the Draft EA can be faxed to 717-651-4586 or verbal comments can be provided by calling 717-671-3617.

If no substantive comments are received relative to the Proposed Action’s environmental effects, the Draft EA will become final and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued for the project.

CONCLUSION

This Draft EA evaluated the potential environmental effects of the No Action and Proposed Action. Based on findings to date, if the Proposed Action were implemented with the mitigation measures and Best Management Practices (BMPs) identified in this Draft EA and conditions of other agency approvals, no significant environmental impacts were identified that would warrant the need to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS).

SECTION 6

Agencies and Persons Consulted & References

AGENCIES AND PERSONS CONSULTED

Athens Township: Robin Smith, Secretary to the Board of Supervisors.

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection: John Twardowski, Permitting and Technical Services Manager

Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development: Ed Geiger, Director

Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office: Douglas McLearen, Division Chief, Archaeology and Protection, Bureau for Historic Preservation

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service: Michael Hanawalt.

REFERENCES

Athens Township, Bradford County, PA. 2010. Zoning Ordinance:

<http://athenstownship.org/downloads/zoningOrdinance.pdf>. Queried on 10/1/11.

Bradford County, PA, Website: 2011. <http://www.bradfordcountypa.org/>

Council on Environmental Quality. 2010. Memorandum for Heads of Federal Departments and Agencies. Draft NEPA Guidance on Consideration of the Effects of Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions. 12 p.

Environmental Data Resources Inc. October 3, 2011. The Environmental Data Resources Radius Map Report with Geocheck.

Hanawalt, Michael. October 3, 2011. Personal Communication. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

McLearen, Douglas. September 29, 2011. Personal Communication. Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation.

Smith, Robin. October 3, 2011. Personal Communication. Athens Township.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2011. National Priorities List, Mid-Atlantic Superfund, Bell Landfill: <http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/allnpl.htm>. Queried on 10/4/11.

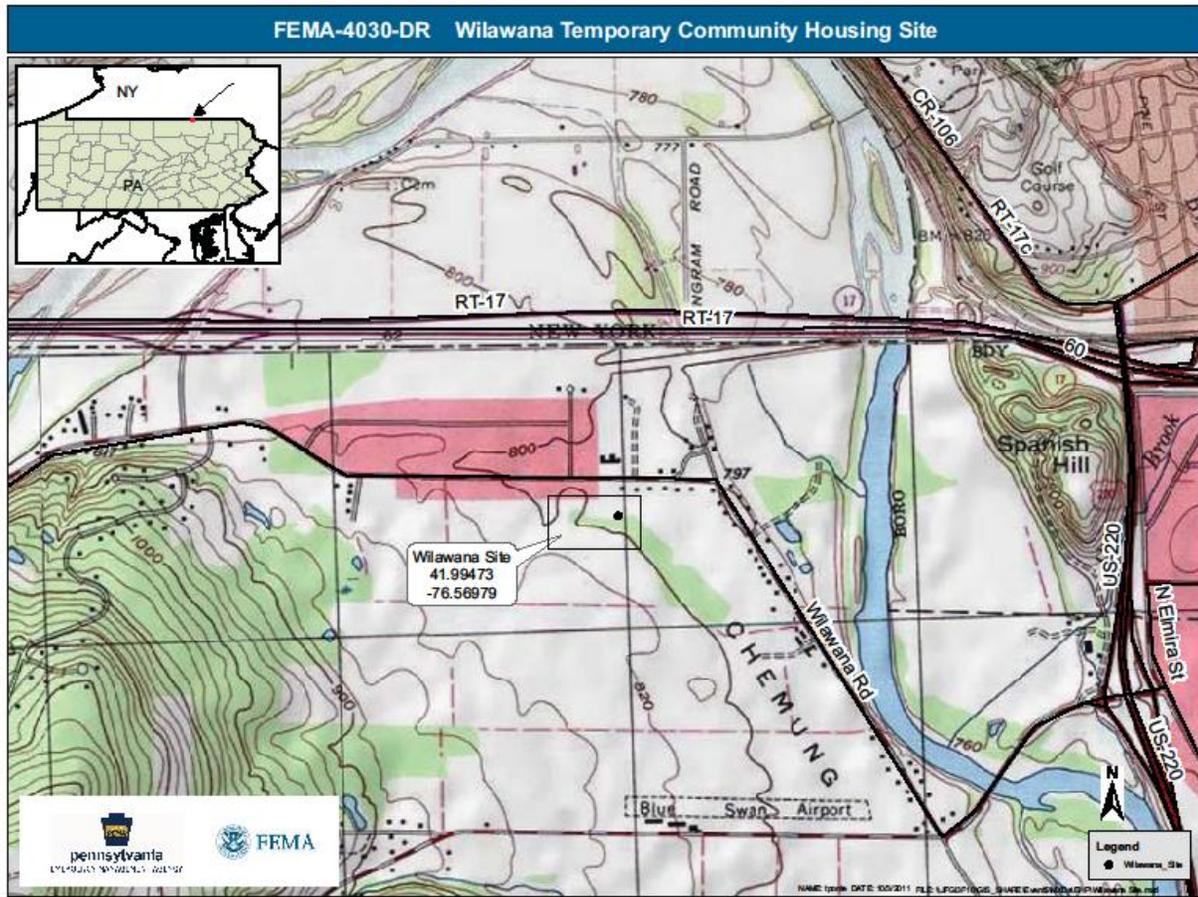
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2011. Nonattainment Areas Map – Criteria Air Pollutants: <http://epa.gov/airdata/nonat.html?st~PA~Pennsylvania>. Queried on 9/30/11.

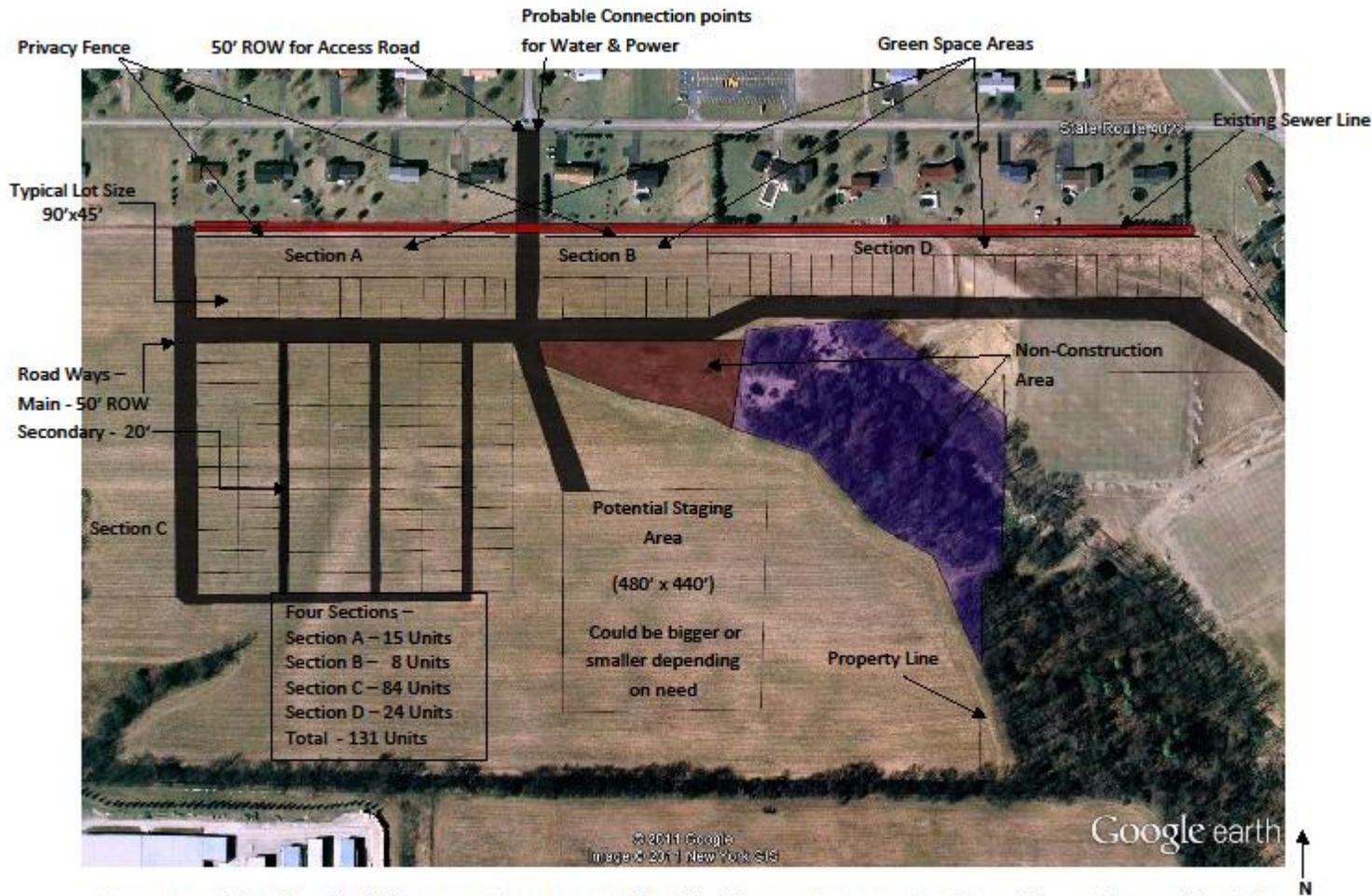
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2011. Northeast Region Endangered Species. Pennsylvania: http://www.fws.gov/northeast/endangered/species_listing_pa.html. Queried on 9/30/11.

SECTION 6

Agencies and Persons Consulted & References

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2011. iPAC: Information, Planning, and Conservation System, Natural Resources of Concern – Bradford County:
<http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/wizard/pdf/trustResourceListAsPdf!prepareAsPdf.action>





Conceptual Design for Wilawana Temporary Mobile Home Community Site, Athens Township, PA

10/4/11



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Wilawanna Site

Official Species-list: *Wilawanna Site*

Pennsylvania Ecological Services Field Office

Following is an official U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service species-list from the Pennsylvania Ecological Services Field Office. The species-list identifies listed and proposed species and designated and proposed critical habitat that may be affected by the project "Wilawanna Site". You may use this list to meet the requirements of section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA).

This species-list has been generated by the Service's on-line Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) decision support system based on project type and location information you provided on September 30, 2011, 2:32 PM. This information is summarized below.

Please reference our tracking number, 52420-2011-SLI-1303, in future reference to this project to assist in expediting the process.

Newer information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of listed species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact the office(s) identified below if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential presence of federally proposed, listed, or candidate species, or proposed or designated critical habitat. Please note that under the ESA, a species-list is valid for 90 days. Therefore, the Service recommends that you visit the IPaC site at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species-lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive this list. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

This list below only addresses federally proposed, listed, or candidate species and federally designated critical habitat. Please contact the appropriate State agencies for information regarding State species of special designation. Also, please feel free to contact the office(s) identified below if you would like information on other important trust resources (such as migratory birds) in your project area.

This Species-list document is provided by:

PENNSYLVANIA ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE
315 SOUTH ALLEN STREET, SUITE 322
STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801
(814) 234-4090
<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/pafo/>

TAILS consultation code: 52420-2011-SLI-1303

Project type: Development

Project Description: Potential temporary housing site

Project counties: Bradford, PA

Endangered Species Act Species-list

Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*)

Listing Status: Endangered

The following conditions and measures shall be followed:

- The applicant shall obtain all required local, state, and federal permits and approvals prior to implementing the Proposed Action Alternative and comply with any and all conditions imposed.
- The applicant is responsible for selecting, implementing, monitoring, and maintaining best management practices to control erosion and sediment, reduce spills and pollution, and provide habitat protection.
- Any change to the approved scope of work will require re-evaluation for compliance with NEPA and other laws and Executive Orders.
- In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, if unanticipated historic or cultural materials are discovered during construction, all construction activities shall immediately cease construction and the contractor shall notify the State Historic Preservation Office and FEMA.