



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Walla Walla District
201 North Third Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE NO: PM-EC 2017-0038

**Corps of Engineers Civil Works Action
Section 408 Permission for:**

**WEAVER BRIDGE LEVEE REPAIR
Wallowa River
Wallowa, Oregon**

**PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: February 28, 2018
COMMENTS DUE DATE: March 15, 2018**

15-day Notice

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Walla Walla District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is soliciting comments from the public regarding the Corps' proposal to grant permission pursuant to 33 United States Code (USC) Section 408 (Section 408) for alteration, occupation, or use of a Corps-constructed harbor or river improvement (public work). Section 408 authorizes the Secretary of the Army to grant permission for the alteration, occupation, or use of a public work if the Secretary determines that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the project.

LOCATION: The subject alteration is the repair of the Weaver Bridge levee and the abandonment of a portion of the right-of-way for the levee. The affected portion of the levee is located on the right bank of the Wallowa River immediately upstream of the Weaver Bridge. The bridge is on Lower Diamond Road, about 3.5 miles downstream of the City of Wallowa in northeastern Oregon (Figure 1).

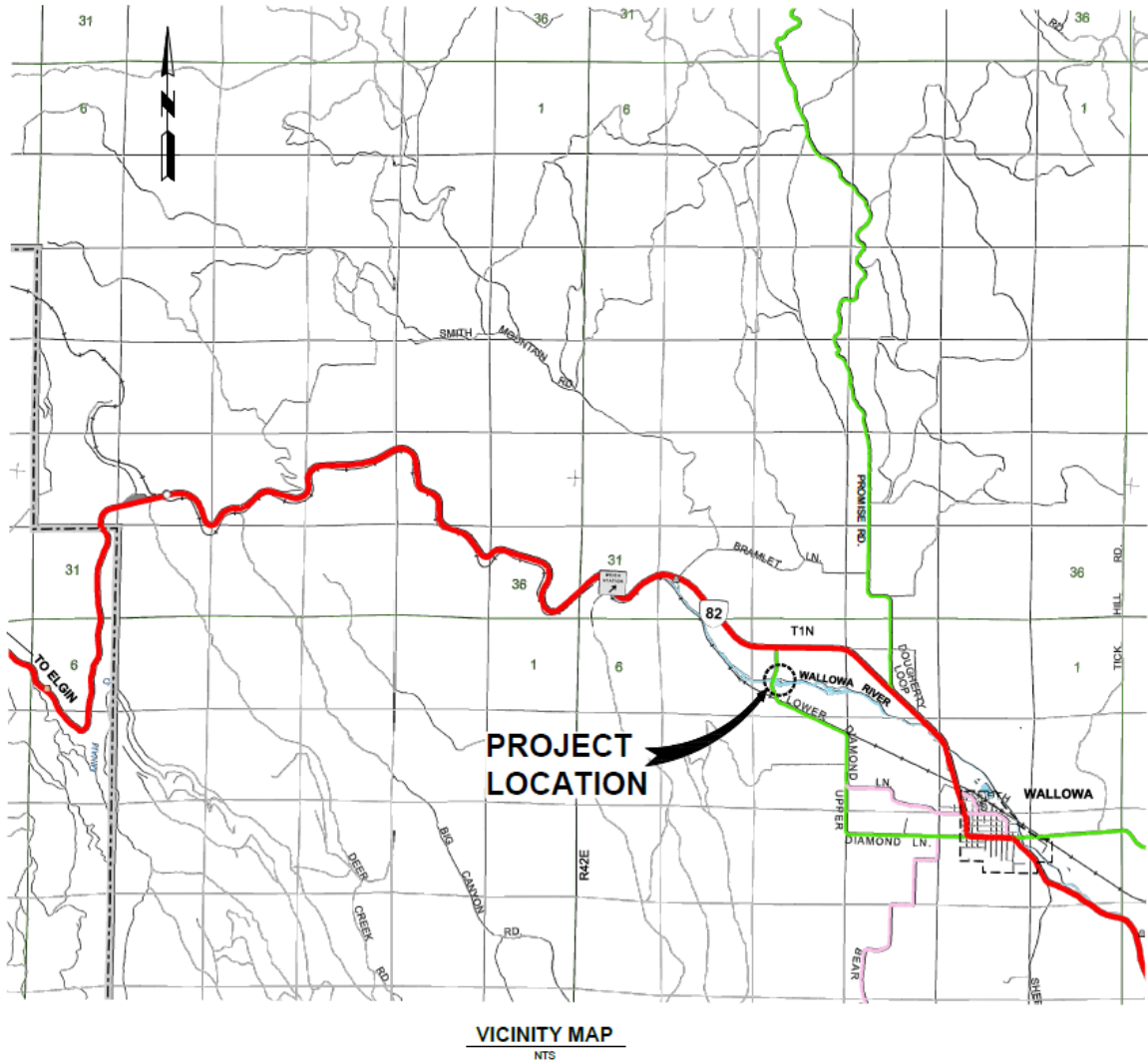


Figure 1. Location of Weaver Bridge levee

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Corps proposes to grant Section 408 permission to Wallowa County (County) for repair of the upstream end of the right bank levee and for abandonment of a part of the right-of-way for the levee. The levee was constructed by the Corps in 1960 as part of a project to protect the bridge abutment and reduce overbank flooding and erosion. The right bank levee was originally 692 feet long. However, the river has eroded about 180 feet from the upstream portion of the levee (Figure 2), leaving an exposed vertical embankment at the end of the levee. Most of the erosion appears to have occurred during high flows in 1964, but is still slowly progressing downstream towards the bridge.

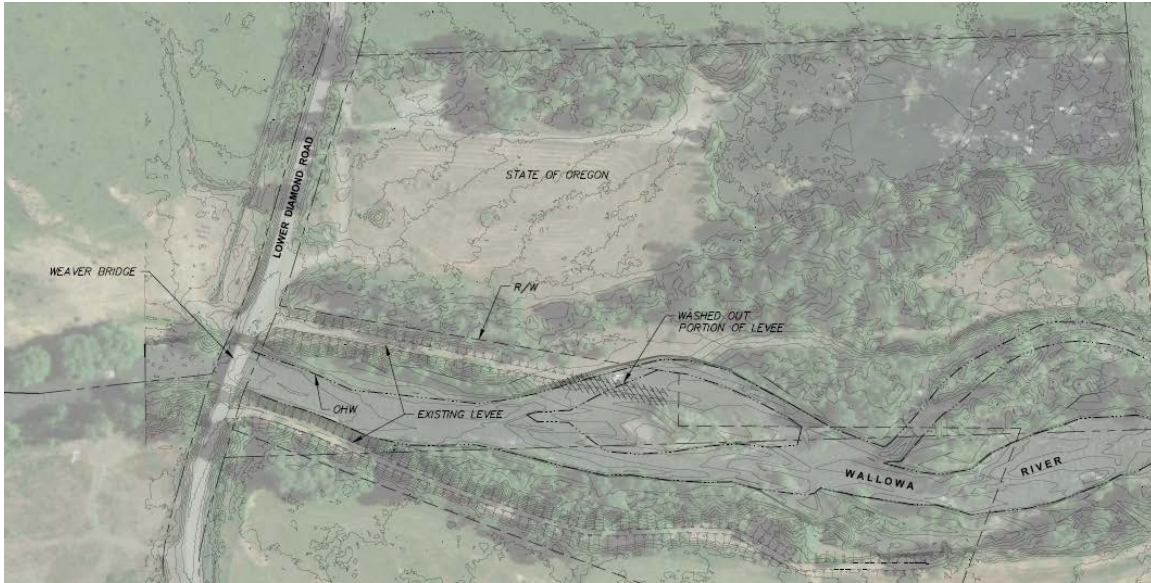
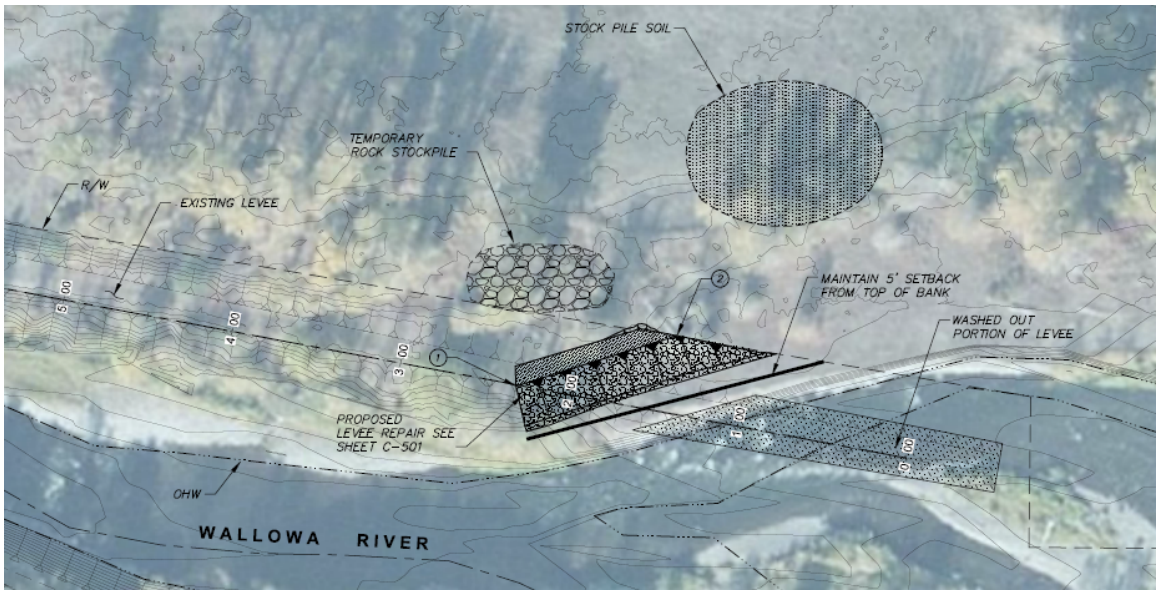


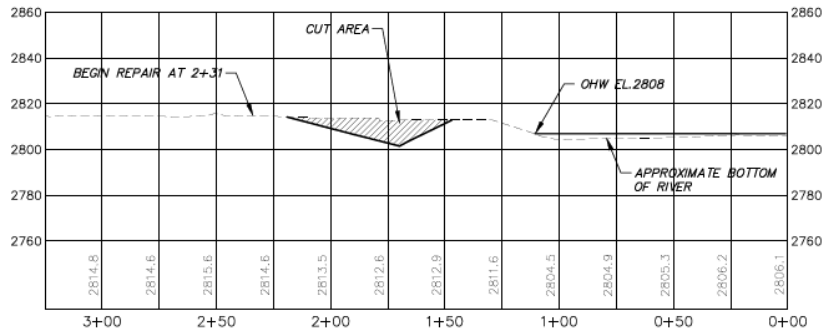
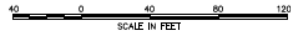
Figure 2. Location of Weaver Bridge levee

Wallowa County is proposing to add rip rap armoring to the upstream end of the levee as it currently exists to prevent further erosion (Figures 3 and 4). The County would excavate a trench at an angle across the levee to create a slope. The landward side of the trench would tie in to the adjacent high ground. The County would armor the slope with rip rap, then backfill the trench. All construction would take place in the dry as the County would set back the trench to leave a berm between the trench and the river.

The County proposes to perform the levee repairs in the spring of 2018.



PLAN



PROFILE

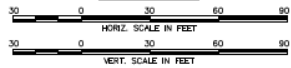


Figure 3. Levee repair plans

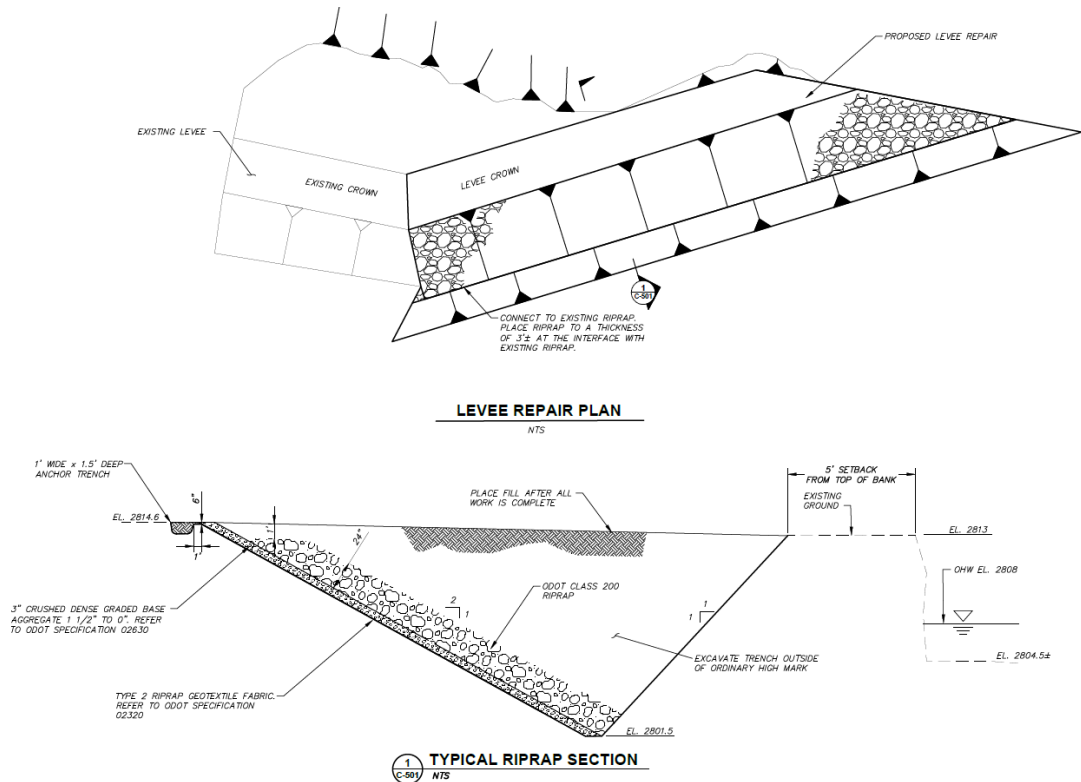


Figure 4. Details of trench through levee

The County also proposes to abandon the right-of-way for the upstream portion of the original footprint of the levee (Figure 5). The County does not plan to reconstruct any of the 180 feet of levee that has eroded and therefore does not need the associated right-of-way. The County would retain the right-of-way for the portion of the levee remaining after the repairs are complete.

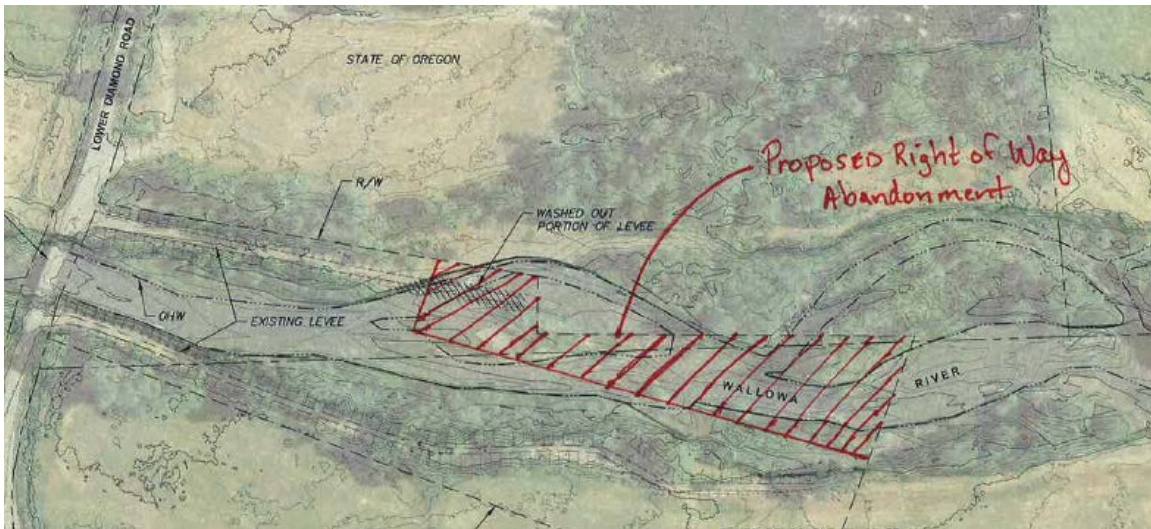


Figure 5. Proposed right-of-way abandonment

COMMENTS: Interested parties are invited to provide their comments on the proposed Corps action. The Corps is particularly interested in your opinion on issues and environmental effects the Corps should consider when evaluating the County's request for Section 408 permission to repair the levee and abandon the upstream right-of-way.

COMMENT PERIOD: Comments must be submitted online, e-mailed or postmarked no later than March 15, 2018. You may submit comments online at <http://www.nww.usace.armymil/EnvironmentalComplianceComment/> or via e-mail to NEPANWW@usace.army.mil and inserting "Weaver Bridge Levee Repair 408" in the subject line.

You may also mail comments to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District
CENWW-PPL-C
Weaver Bridge Levee Repair 408
201 N. 3rd Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Should you need additional information or have any questions, please contact Ms. Sandy Shelin at (509) 527-7265.

Michael Francis
Chief, Environmental Compliance Section