

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Section 594 New Marshfield Sewer Project Athens County, Ohio

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District (Corps) has conducted an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The Environmental Assessment (EA), dated April 2026, for the Section 594 New Marshfield Sewer Project, addresses the existing wastewater system which does not provide adequate service for individuals in Athens County, Ohio. The need for the sewer upgrades is to provide residents with reliable and safe wastewater infrastructure.

The draft EA, incorporated herein by reference, evaluated various alternatives that would provide residents with reliable and safe wastewater infrastructure in the study area. The recommended plan is the Proposed Action Alternative (PAA) and includes:

- Construction of a new sanitary sewer force main and associated lift station upgrades. This would include approximately 21,000 linear feet (LF) of 4-inch HDPE force main, 575 LF of 2-inch PVC force main, one (1) new lift station, associated air release valves, and existing lift station upgrades.

Under the No Action Alternative (NAA), the Corps would not provide funding for the project, and the Athens County Board of Commissioners would not upgrade its wastewater system. Section 2.0 of the draft EA discusses the proposed action and alternatives.

SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS:

For all alternatives, the potential effects were evaluated, as appropriate. A summary assessment of the potential effects of the recommended plan is listed in Table 1:

Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Proposed Action

Resource	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation	No effects
Land Use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Terrestrial Habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prime and Unique Farmland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Floodplains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic Habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wild and Scenic Rivers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tribal Trust Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Threatened and Endangered Species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Invasive Species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noise	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socioeconomics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation and Traffic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

All practical means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were analyzed and incorporated into the recommended plan. Best management practices (BMPs), as detailed in the EA, will be implemented, if appropriate, to minimize impacts. BMPs that would be utilized during construction of the PAA would include silt fencing to prevent runoff.

No compensatory mitigation is required as part of the recommended plan.

A 30-day public, state, and agency review of the draft EA will be completed. All comments submitted during the public review period will be responded to in the Final EA and FONSI.

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the Corps determined that the recommended plan may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, and American burying beetle. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with this determination on 19 March 2026.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Corps determined that the recommended plan will have no potential to affect historic properties.

All applicable environmental laws have been considered and coordination with appropriate agencies and officials will be completed. The Natural Resources Conservation Service indicated that the recommended plan is not subject to the Farmland Policy Protection Act on 19 December 2025.

Technical, environmental, economic, and cost effectiveness criteria used in the formulation of alternative plans were those specified in the Water Resources Council's 1983 Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies. All applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and local government plans were considered in evaluation of alternatives. Based on these reports, the reviews by other Federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, input of the public, and the review by my staff, it is my determination that the recommended plan would not significantly affect the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Date

[Redacted Signature]