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U S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE COMMENTS ON  
PERMIT 13041-87-0851 FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION NWS EARLE NJ  
5/24/1988  
U S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

P.O. Box 534  
705 White Horse Pike  
Absecon, New Jersey 08201  
(609-646-9310)

May 24, 1988

Colonel Marion L. Caldwell, Jr.  
District Engineer, New York District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
26 Federal Plaza  
New York, New York 10278-0090

Dear Colonel Caldwell:

This is in reference to the Department of the Navy's letter of April 28, 1988 to the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) responding to our September 30, 1987 comments about the Navy's application for after-the-fact authorization of fill placed in wetlands adjacent to Hockhockson Brook, Naval Weapons Station Earle, Monmouth County, New Jersey (Public Notice 13041-87-0851-J1). A copy of the Navy's transmittal to the Service (April 27, 1988) is enclosed for your convenience.

These comments are provided in accordance with the requirements of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661-667e) and are to be used in your determination of Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines compliance (40 CFR 320.4) in regard to the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their supporting habitats.

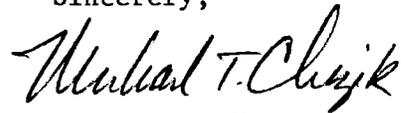
The Service is generally satisfied with the Department of the Navy's response to the Service's September 30, 1987 letter to the Corps which expressed our concerns about the proposed action. Specifically these concerns related to:

- 1) the existence of acid-forming soil materials at Naval Weapons Station Earle;
- 2) information regarding specification for actual construction and final inspection of the proposed wetland complex;
- 3) additional species of plant materials for the proposed wetland complex;
- 4) the need to demonstrate an ability to manipulate water levels in the wetlands complex; and,
- 5) the inclusion of selected soil parameters in the monitoring plan.

We would like to acknowledge the efforts of both the Department of the Navy and the U.S. Soil Conservation Service in the design of the proposed wetland creation. The design, construction and monitoring plan reflects a high level of interagency coordination and attention to detail. We believe that their efforts have resulted in a mitigation proposal having good chance for success.

The Service has no objection to the issuance of an "after-the-fact" permit provided the permit is conditioned to require immediate and complete implementation of the proposed wetland creation and submission of the annual monitoring reports for the period specified in the Final Mitigation Plan. Should you consider not incorporating these recommendations into the permit, please contact Flavia Rutkosky at this office.

Sincerely,



Michael T. Chezik  
Acting Supervisor