



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 11th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1102

| August-27, 2015

Mr. Steven Westerman, Director
Facilities, Planning and Construction
Tennessee Department of Correction
Rachel Jackson Building
320 Sixth Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37243-0645

RE: NRS 09.009- Bledsoe County Correctional Complex
Compensatory stream and wetland mitigation compliance

Dear Mr. Westerman:

The division conducted a review with you of the compensatory mitigation site on August 24, 2105 to determine compliance with permit NRS. 09.009. While site performance appears generally favorable, several areas were observed to be in non-compliance. These are listed below. Also included are activities which the division recommends in order to bring the mitigation area into full compliance.

Tree/Shrub Survival and Unauthorized Mowing

Tree and shrub survival remains low along Stream3 due to heavy competition from sod-forming grasses and forbs. Mowing incursions along the west side of Stream 1, south side of Stream 2, and along both buffer areas of Steam 3 have further reduced stocking densities. . In other areas, density meets performance criteria, but not the requirements that no one species exceed 20% of the total. Please note that the division shall allow some inclusion of volunteer tree species in determining tree/shrub performance criteria.

To bring these riparian zones into compliance, it is not feasible to replant because of the heavy growth of herbaceous species. Therefore, the division request that the buffer areas be increased from 25- feet to 50- feet on both sides of Stream 3, west side of Stream 1 and south side of Stream 2.

Signs shall be installed at least every 300 feet along these areas clearly stating that no mowing or disturbance is allowed. Prior to the placement of signs, these areas must be flagged so that the proper locations of the signs occur.

In addition to the unauthorized mowing of buffer areas along Streams 1, 2, and 3, upper segments of Wetland Enhancement Area U have also been impacted. In order to bring these areas into compliance mowing should cease immediately and signs should also be erected in the manner described above.

The division believes that the enhancement areas are meeting all performance criteria and no further monitoring is required. Monitoring of the creation area shall continue.

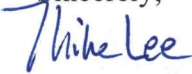
The area to the northwest of the mitigation site, between its upper limits and the fence along the northern line that contains Wetland T and the hydrologic splitter that was installed to distribute water across the mitigation site, should be included within the compensatory mitigation area. Signs shall be placed around it as well. In addition, some treatment or control of the reed canary grass shall occur. A brief discussion of the plant community composition within Wetland T should be provided in next year's monitoring report.

You are hereby authorized to proceed with these remedial activities.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or the regulatory authority of this office please contact me at (615) 532-0712 or mike.lee@tn.gov.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the site and provide these comments.

Sincerely,



Mike Lee
Natural Resources Unit

CC: File Copy.
Mark Carnes-COE/ Nashville
Ron Dow- EnSafe/ Nashville
Jimmy Groton, EnSafe/ Knoxville
Paul Durr, Water Resources LLC/ Knoxville