



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Philadelphia District

Public Notice

Public Notice No.
CENAP-PL-E-05-07

Date
17 June 2005

Internet Homepage <http://www.nap.usace.army.mil>

In Reply Refer to: Environmental Resources Branch

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Philadelphia District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a hydrologic deficiency project at Prompton Dam and Lake. Prompton Dam, which is operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District (USACE), is located in the Lackawaxen River Basin, Wayne County in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Prompton Dam is one-half mile upstream of the village of Prompton on the West Branch of the Lackawaxen River (Figure 1). The project is 31 miles upstream of the Lackawaxen River's confluence with the Delaware River. The dam is a zoned earth and rock fill embankment, 1230 ft long, and 140 ft high.

Prompton Dam was authorized in House Document 113, 80th Congress, 1st Session, and was completed in 1960 with flood control as its sole purpose. Prompton Dam is part of an integrated reservoir flood control system for the Lackawaxen River. In conjunction with the General Edgar Jadwin Reservoir, the system provides flood protection, in varying degrees, to the boroughs of Prompton, Honesdale, and Hawley and to smaller communities along the Lackawaxen River.

A Draft Environmental Assessment was prepared in accordance with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The EA assesses conditions at the project site and evaluates the potential impacts of the project on existing resources in the immediate and surrounding areas to include: physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem; endangered and threatened species; hazardous and toxic materials; aesthetics and recreation; cultural resources; and the general needs and welfare of the public.

All practicable means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects have been incorporated into the project plan. The project is being coordinated with the Delaware River Basin Commission, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 3, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Game Commission, and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

The Draft Environmental Assessment has shown that the proposed activity is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any species or the critical habitat of any fish, wildlife or plant, which is designated as endangered or threatened pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended.

Work in waters of the United States, including wetlands, must be in compliance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Instream work within the stilling basin of the dam will be performed within the waters of the United States. A review of impacts associated with the potential discharge of fill material has been performed as per Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act. No significant impacts were identified. The requirements of Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, are therefore met.

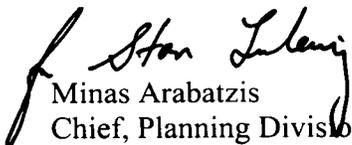
The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires a 401 State water quality certification for any work, which may affect water or waterways in the state. As a result, a water quality certificate from the Commonwealth is required and will be secured prior to construction activities commencing.

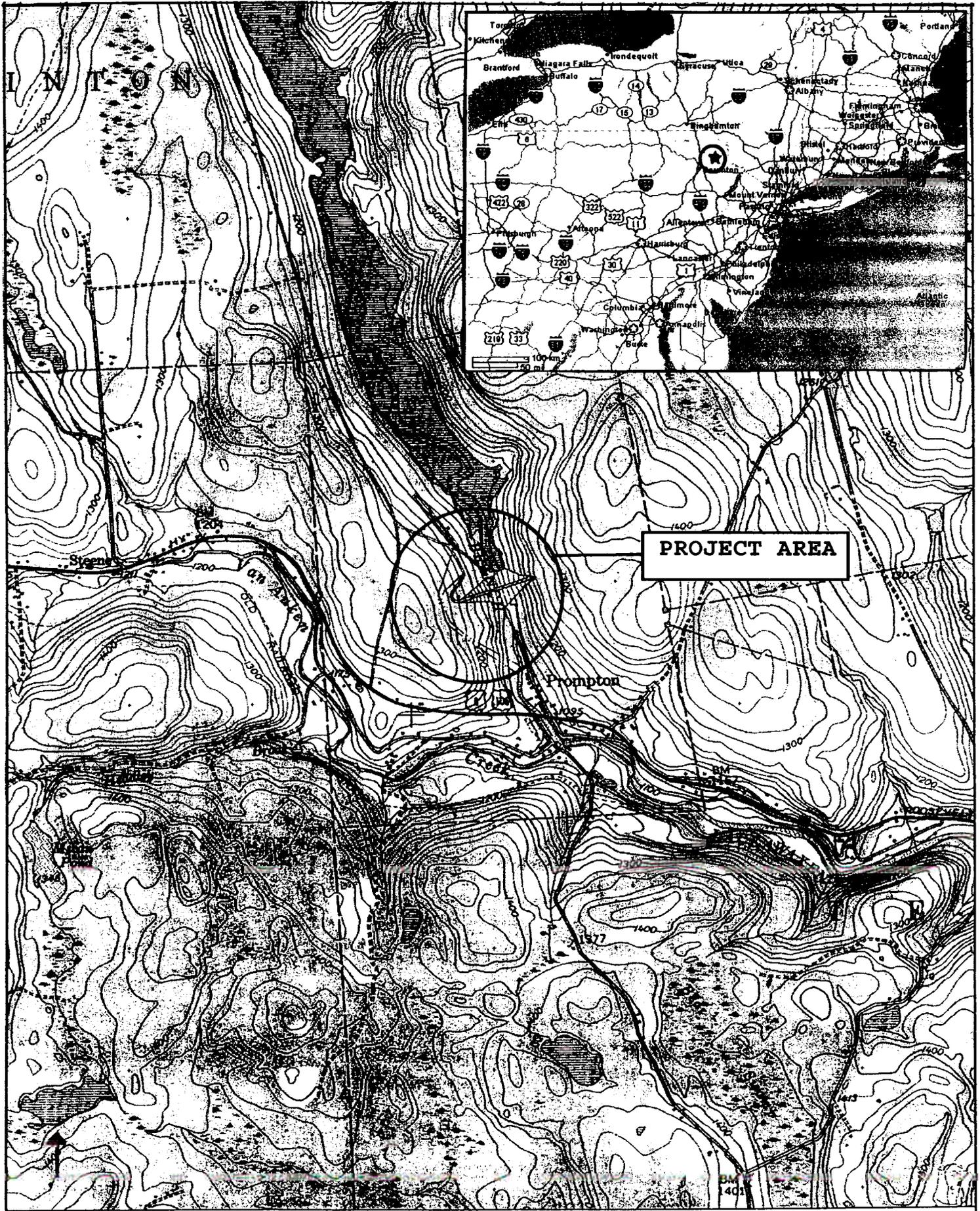
In accordance with guidelines established under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, coordination with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is ongoing in regard to any potential effects on archaeological sites or historic structures.

The decision whether to accomplish the work proposed in this public notice is based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed work on the public interest. The decision will reflect the national concern for the protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonable foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, will be considered. Among those are conservation, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, general environmental concerns, economics, historic values, navigation, energy needs, recreation, safety, water quality, food production, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The public and all agencies are invited to comment on this proposal. Copies of the Draft Environmental Assessment are available upon request by calling (215) 656-6561. The public notice and Draft Environmental Assessment are available for review on the Philadelphia District web page at www.nap.usace.army.mil.

Any person may request, in writing, to the District Engineer, within the comment period specified in this notice (**17 June through 17 July**) that a public hearing be held to consider this proposal. Requests for a public hearing shall state, in detail, the reasons for holding a public hearing. All comments on the work described in this public notice and/or in the Draft Environmental Assessment should be directed to Mr. Minas Arabatzis, Chief, Planning Division, ATTN: Environmental Resources Branch, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3390 by **17 July 2005**.


Minas Arabatzis
Chief, Planning Division
Philadelphia District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



PROJECT AREA

<Default> - 1 Markers, Length = 0 feet

Prompton Dam - 041° 35' 20.5" N, 075° 19' 41.0" W