
Route 60 Bridge Replacement, Newport News, VA

Client: Moffatt & Nichol

Completion Dates: 11/2012 – 7/2014

REMSA provided environmental management for the U.S. Route 60 (Warwick Blvd.) bridge replacement, in Newport News, VA. The structurally deficient bridge was designed in 1937 and includes a high traffic corridor and flood zone within the Lake Maury watershed. Our efforts included an Environmental Assessment (EA) compliant with NEPA, natural resource surveys, a cultural resource and historical resource survey, a jurisdictional determination, and a full Joint Permit Application (JPA) culminating in a Nation Wide Permit (NWP). Projects of this nature fall under the jurisdiction of numerous state, local and federal agencies. This project contained a wide variety of regulatory roadblocks that were resolved on time and within budget. Natural resource management experience played a key role in the success of the project as the site straddled a complex ecosystem in an urbanized “green space” environment rich in species diversity and human interactions.



REMSA has performed the following services culminating in the issuance of a Nationwide Permit for the project:

- **Wetland delineation and Confirmation:** REMSA performed a complete wetland delineation of the proposed project site. Based on a small anatomical detail of a particular dominant plant species, large portions of the site were excluded from the wetland boundaries. This process removed approximately 1,200 sf of wetland area and saved an associated mitigation cost of \$38,000.
 - **Joint Permit Application:** Permits were required pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217) and Title 62.1 of the Code of Virginia. REMSA obtained the necessary permits on time and on budget.
 - **Threatened and Endangered Species Scope:** The REMSA’s initial natural resource scope identified the presence of 4 threatened / endangered species which complicated the permit process. REMSA performed habitat and T&E surveys for each of the four species including Virginia Long Ear Bat, Mabee’s Salamander, Least Tern, and the Canebreak Rattlesnake. By utilizing our extensive network of subject matter experts, including a renowned local wildlife professor on staff, we avoided costly and time consuming T&E mitigation.
 - **Botanical Survey:** The Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) requested a complete floristic survey of the project area. REMSA’s on staff botanist was able quickly complete the required task.
 - **Cultural and Historical Resources Survey:** The presence of an 18th Century Mill and Civil War fortifications triggered in-depth cultural resource and Archeological surveys. By working with State and Federal regulatory agencies we minimized impacts to these protected resources while minimizing construction costs.
 - **Water Quality Survey:** Impacts to water quality and other natural resources being a key concern of regulatory agencies, REMSA provided the necessary Natural Resource surveys to satisfy all regulatory requirements, including a wetland functional assessment, Hydrologic survey of the of the nearby watershed including projected changes to flow rates downstream.
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