## **APPENDIX 1**

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

**Department of Environmental Protection New Jersey Fish and Wildlife** 

**New Jersey State House Commission** 

Notice of Public Hearings on Proposed Sale of Property to Maurice River Township in Maurice River Township, Cumberland County

<u>Take Notice</u> that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 13:1D-51 through 58, the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection ("NJDEP"), will hold two **public hearings** to seek comments on a proposed sale of property to Maurice River Township in Maurice River Township, Cumberland County. The first public hearing will be conducted jointly with the State House Commission.

NJDEP proposes to sell approximately 5.8 acres of land to the Township for the sum of \$185,000. The property to be sold consists of portions of Block 316, Lots 44.01, 44.02, 44.03, and 44.04, and Block 294, Lot 1 (p/o) in Maurice River Township, Cumberland County. The street address is Matt's Landing Road. The land is currently part of the Heislerville Wildlife Management Area.

The property was purchased 1956 as part of a 2200+ acre acquisition using Hunter and Angler License funds (25%) and a federal grant under the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (enacted in 1937), also known as the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Program, which supports wildlife restoration, conservation, and hunter education and safety programs, including the purchase of land for conservation purposes (75%). At the time of acquisition, this strip of land contained several privately owned structures and commercial marinas, and was never suitable for public hunting, fishing, trapping, other wildlife related activities, conservation, and wildlife habitat. The proposed sale of property would remove the affected land from NJDEP ownership and allow Maurice River Township the opportunity to transform the property into a profitable commercial and recreational destination.

A copy of a report analyzing the proposed exchange, including maps, a more detailed description of the proposal, and the federal Environmental Assessment required under the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq., is available online at <a href="https://dep.nj.gov/otpla/public-notices/#PLA-NJDEP-property-conveyances">https://dep.nj.gov/otpla/public-notices/#PLA-NJDEP-property-conveyances</a>.

The hearings will be conducted remotely via Microsoft Teams. Members of the public may participate in the hearings via video conference or by telephone. Instructions for participating in the hearings can be found at: <a href="https://dep.nj.gov/otpla/public-notices/#PLA-NJDEP-property-conveyances">https://dep.nj.gov/otpla/public-notices/#PLA-NJDEP-property-conveyances</a>.

The **first public hearing** on the proposed exchange will be conducted jointly by the NJDEP and the State House Commission (pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:31-1.1) will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2022 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM or close of public comment (whichever is earlier). Members of the public who do not have internet access may participate in the hearing by calling (856) 338-7074 and using the Conference ID number 475956596#.

The **second public hearing** will be conducted by the NJDEP and will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM or close of public comment (whichever is earlier). Members of the public who do not have internet access may participate in the hearing by calling (856) 338-7074 and using Conference ID number 32049723#.

Interested persons may obtain additional information on this proposal from Mary Monteschio in New Jersey Fish and Wildlife (contact information below).

All comments must be in writing and submitted to both NJDEP and the State House Commission via email or US Mail, however, electronic submissions are preferred. Written comments may be submitted to Ms. Monteschio and Mr. Robert Shaughnessy of the State House Commission (contact information below) until 5:00 PM on Thursday, December 22, 2022 for the first public hearing and 5:00 PM on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 for the second public hearing. Persons wishing to make oral presentations at either of the public hearings are asked to submit a written copy of their comments for use by the NJDEP and the State House Commission. For comments submitted electronically, please include "Proposed Sale of Property to Maurice River Twp" in the subject line of the email.

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and

Robert J. Shaughnessy, Jr., Secretary
New Jersey State House Commission
c/o State of New Jersey, Department of Treasury
Division of Property Management & Construction
Office of Real Property Acquisition & Disposition
33 West State Street, 9th floor
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Trenton, NJ 08625-0229
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For the NJDEP:

DATE: October 13, 2022

Sean D. Moriarty, Deputy Commissioner Department of Environmental Protection For the State House Commission (as to the second public hearing only):

DATE: October 13, 2022 Robert J. Shaughnessy, Jr., Secretary State House

Commission