DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW YORK DISTRICT
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK NEW YORK 10278-0090

April 22, 2020

John A. Bonafide
Director, Technical Preservation Services Bureau
Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
New York State Division for Historic Preservation
Peebles Island State Park
P.O. Box 189
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

Project Ref: 18PR07469

Dear Mr. Bonafide:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (District) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) are preparing to release the Final Hudson River Habitat Restoration (HRHR) Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment. The District has been working to advance the design of the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP), which is now being referred to as the Recommended Plan. The Recommended Plan consists of restoration measures at Henry Hudson Park, Schodack Island State Park, and Moodna Creek (Enclosure 1 – Project Plans). Please note that, following additional analysis, two sites have been removed from the project, these are Binnen Kill and Rondout Creek. The measures proposed at the remaining three sites have not changed.

In 2019 the District prepared a report, entitled *Preliminary Historical and Archaeological Assessment for the Hudson River Habitat Restoration Project, Hudson River Basin, New York,* which looked at the proposed alternatives at each of the six sites to identify potential adverse effects to cultural resources. That report, along with a draft Programmatic Agreement, was submitted to your office in March of 2019 for comment in accordance with NEPA, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Guidelines for the Protection of Cultural and Historic Properties (36 CFR Part 800). The report and draft PA were also provided to the Stockbridge Munsee Community, the Delaware Nation, and the Delaware Tribe of Indians for review and comment. In addition, the tribes were invited to participate in the PA as consulting parties. The report and draft PA were also made available to the public for comment as part of the NEPA review of the draft feasibility report in June of 2019.

Thank you for providing comments on the draft PA. The District has also received a response from the Stockbridge Munsee Community who have decline to participate in the agreement but wish to be notified in the event of unanticipated discoveries (Enclosure 2 – Comments). No additional comments on the PA or regarding effects to cultural resources were received by the District. The PA has been updated to include

the revised plan and to incorporate the comments received from your office (Enclosure 3 – Programmatic Agreement). This revised draft is being provided once again to all parties for a final review prior to execution of the agreement.

Please review the final PA and provide any additional comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you or your staff require additional information or have any questions, please contact Ms. Carissa Scarpa at (917) 790-8612. Thank you for your assistance with this project.

Sincerely,

WEPPLER.PETER.M.1228647353

Digitally signed by WEPPLER.PETER.M.1228647353
Date: 2020.04.22 14:52:13 -04'00'

Peter M. Weppler
Chief, Environmental Analysis Branch

Enclosures