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Mike Medsker  
Recorder of Deeds

(Space above reserved for Recorder of Deeds certification)

Title of Document: *Conservation Easement*

Date of Document: *May 10, 2017*

Grantor(s): *Scott & Vicki Westlake*

Grantee(s): *Midwest Mitigation Oversight Association, Inc.*

Mailing Address: *21301 Shelby Lane, Belton, Mo 64012*

Reference Book and Page:

Legal Description: *see last page*

If there is not sufficient space on this page for the information required, state the page reference where it is contained within the document

**Statutory Recorders Fees First Page of Each Document**

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User Fee – State	\$2.00
State Statutory Pool	\$2.00
County Employee Retirement Fund	\$7.00
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General Revenue- County	\$6.75

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Each additional page	\$3.00

**Mike Medsker**

Recorder of Deeds  
Cass County Courthouse  
102 E Wall St  
Harrisonville, Missouri 64701  
1-816-380-8118  
[mikem@casscounty.com](mailto:mikem@casscounty.com)

## CONSERVATION EASEMENT

**THIS DEED OF CONSERVATION EASEMENT** is given this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2017, by Scott & Vicki Westlake, having an address of 4731 Bonita Bay Blvd #1403, Santa Springs, FL 34134 ("Grantor") to Midwest Mitigation Oversight Association Inc, having an address of 21301 Shelby Lane, Belton, MO 64012 ("Grantee"). As used herein, the term "Grantor" shall include any and all heirs, successors, or assigns of the Grantor, and all subsequent owners of the Property (as hereinafter defined), and the term "Grantee" shall include any successor or assignee of Grantee.

### WITNESSETH:

**WHEREAS**, Grantor is the sole owner in fee simple title of certain lands situated in Cass County, Missouri, more particularly described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein ("Property"); and

**WHEREAS**, Department of the Army (DA) Regulatory Action No. NWK-2007-268 of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("Corps") (hereinafter referred to as the "Regulatory Action") authorizes certain activities by the permittee which affect waters of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, this Regulatory Action requires actions to preserve, enhance, restore, or mitigate streams, wetlands or uplands located on the Property; and

**WHEREAS**, Grantor, in consideration of compensation from the permittee and as an inducement to the authorization of the Regulatory Action, is willing to grant a perpetual Conservation Easement over the Property; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, in consideration of the above and mutual covenants, terms conditions, and restrictions contained herein, together with other good and valuable consideration, the adequacy and receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, Grantor hereby voluntarily grants and conveys a perpetual Conservation Easement for and in favor of Grantee upon the property, which shall run with the land and be binding upon the Grantor, and shall remain in full force and effect forever.

The scope, nature, and character of this Conservation Easement shall be as follows:

1. **Purpose:** The purpose of this Conservation Easement is to retain and maintain land or water areas on the Property in their natural, vegetative, hydrologic, scenic, open, or wooded condition and to retain such areas as suitable habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife. Those wetland or upland areas that are to be restored, enhanced, created, or preserved on the Property shall be retained and maintained in the restored, enhanced, created, or preserved condition as described in the Regulatory Action and/or in the associated compensatory mitigation plan for the Property.

2. **Rights of Grantee:** The following rights are conveyed to the Grantee and to the Corps by this easement:

a. The right to take action to preserve and protect the environmental value of the Property; and

b. The right to prevent any activity on or use of the Property that is inconsistent with the purpose of this Conservation Easement, and to require the restoration of areas or features of the Property that may be damaged by any inconsistent activity or use;

c. The right to enter upon and inspect the Property in a reasonable manner and at reasonable times to determine if Grantor is complying with the covenants and prohibitions contained in this Conservation Easement; and

d. The right to proceed at law or in equity to enforce the provisions of this Conservation Easement, and to prevent the occurrence of any of the prohibited activities hereinafter set forth.

**3. Prohibited Uses:** Except for restoration, creation, enhancement, preservation, maintenance, and monitoring activities, or surface water management improvements, required by the Regulatory Action, or required by the compensatory mitigation plan, or are otherwise approved by the Corps, the following activities are prohibited on the Property:

a. Construction of any structure or object (i.e., buildings, roads, above or below ground utilities, signs, billboards etc.) without written approval from the Corps of Engineers prior to construction;

b. Dumping or placing of soil or other substance or material as landfill, or dumping or placing of trash, waste, or unsightly or offensive materials;

c. Removal or destruction of trees, shrubs, or other vegetation, except for the removal of nuisance, exotic, or non-native vegetation in accordance with a maintenance plan approved by Corps;

d. Planting of nuisance, exotic, or non-native plants as listed by the State of Missouri;

e. Exploration for, or extraction of, oil or gas in such a manner as to affect the surface, or excavation, dredging, or removal of coal, loam, peat, gravel, soil, rock, or other material substance;

f. Use of motorized and non-motorized vehicles, the keeping or riding of horses, grazing, livestock confinement, or other surface use that may affect the natural condition of the Property, except for vehicle use for purposes of maintenance and upkeep;

g. Tilling, plowing, planting of crops, digging, mining, or other activities that are or may be detrimental to drainage, flood control, water conservation, water quality, erosion control, soil conservation, or fish and wildlife habitat preservation, including but not limited to ditching, diking, and fencing;

h. The extraction of water from the Property or the impoundment of water on the Property so as to affect the hydrology of the Property;

i. Acts or uses detrimental to the aforementioned retention and maintenance of land or water areas;

j. Acts or uses detrimental to the preservation of the structural integrity or physical appearance of sites or properties of historical, architectural, archaeological, or cultural significance.

4. **Reserved Rights:** Grantor reserves all rights as owner of the Property, including the right to engage in uses of the Property that are not prohibited herein, and that are not inconsistent with the intent and purposes of this Conservation Easement.

5. **Taxes:** Grantor shall pay any and all applicable real property taxes and assessments levied by competent taxing authority on the Property.

6. **Maintenance:** Grantor shall, at Grantor's sole expense, operate, maintain and keep up the Property consistent with the purpose of this Conservation Easement. Grantor shall remove from the Property any nuisance, exotic, or non-native plants as listed by the State of Missouri and shall maintain the hydrology of the Property as it currently exists or as otherwise required by the Regulatory Action or as required by the compensatory mitigation plan or as required by the Corps approved final mitigation banking instrument.

7. **Hazardous Waste:** Grantor covenants that if any hazardous substances or toxic waste exist or has been generated, treated, stored, used, disposed of, or deposited in or on the Property, or there are or have been any underground storage tanks on the Property, Grantor shall be responsible for any and all necessary costs of remediation.

8. **Public Access:** No right of access by the general public to any portion of the Property is conveyed by this Conservation Easement, and Grantor further covenants not to hold any portion of the Property open to general use by the public except with the written permission of the Corps and Grantee.

9. **Liability:** Grantor shall continue to retain all liability for any injury or damage to the person or property of third parties that may occur on the Property arising from ownership of the Property. Neither Grantor, nor any person claiming by or through Grantor, shall hold Grantee liable for any damage or injury that may occur on the Property.

10. **Recording Requirements:** Grantor must record this Conservation Easement in the official records of Cass County, Missouri, and shall re-record it at any time Grantee or the Corps may require to preserve their rights. Grantor shall pay all recording costs, fees and taxes necessary at any time to record this Conservation Easement in the public records. Grantor shall thereafter insert the terms and restrictions of this Conservation Easement in any subsequent deed or other legal instrument by which Grantor divests himself/herself/itself of any interest in the

Property, and shall provide a photocopy of the recorded Conservation Easement to the new owner(s).

11. **Enforcement:** The terms and conditions of this Conservation Easement may be enforced in an action at law or equity by the Grantee or the Corps against the Grantor violating or attempting to violate these Restrictions. Venue for any such action shall be in Cass County, Missouri. Enforcement of this Conservation Easement shall be at the reasonable discretion of the Grantee or the Corps, and any forbearance on behalf of Grantee or the Corps to exercise its or their rights hereunder in the event of any breach by Grantor shall not be deemed or construed to be a waiver of rights. Any costs incurred in enforcing, judicially or otherwise, the terms, provisions, and restrictions of this Conservation Easement, including without limitation, the costs of suit, and attorney's fees, shall be borne by and recoverable against the non-prevailing party in such proceedings, except that such costs shall not be recoverable against the Corps. In addition, if the Grantee or the Corps shall prevail in an enforcement action, such party shall also be entitled to recover that party's cost of restoring the land to the natural vegetative and hydrologic condition existing at the time of execution of these Restrictions or to the vegetative and hydrologic condition required by the Regulatory Action and/or as required by the associated compensatory mitigation plan.

12. **Assignment of Rights:** Grantee shall hold this Conservation Easement exclusively for conservation purposes. Grantee will not assign its rights and obligations under this Conservation Easement, except to another legal entity qualified to hold such interests under applicable state and federal laws and committed to holding this Conservation Easement exclusively for the purposes stated herein. Grantee shall notify the Corps in writing of any intention to reassign this Conservation Easement to a new grantee at least sixty (60) days in advance thereof, and the Corps must accept the assignment in writing. The new grantee shall then deliver a written acceptance to the Corps. The assignment instrument must then be recorded and indexed in the same manner as any other instrument affecting title to real property and a copy of the assignment instrument shall be furnished to the Corps. Failure to comply with the assignment procedure herein stated shall result in invalidity of the assignment. In the event of dissolution of the Grantee or any successor, or failure for 60 days or more to execute the obligations of this Conservation Easement, the Grantee shall transfer this Conservation Easement to a qualified and willing grantee. Upon failure of the Grantee or any successor to so transfer the Conservation Easement, the Corps shall have the right to sue to force such an assignment to a grantee to be identified by the Court.

13. **Successors:** The covenants, terms, conditions, and restrictions of this Conservation Easement shall be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective personal representatives, heirs, successors, and assigns, and shall continue as a servitude running in perpetuity with the Property.

14. **Notices:** All notices, consents, approvals, or other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed properly given if sent by United States certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the appropriate party or successor-in-interest.

15. **Severability:** If any provision of this Conservation Easement or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is found to be invalid, the remainder of the provisions of this Conservation Easement shall not be affected thereby, as long as the purpose of the Conservation Easement is preserved.

16. **Alteration or Revocation:** This Conservation Easement, granted in perpetuity, may be amended, altered, released, canceled, or revoked only by written agreement between the parties hereto or their heirs, assigns, or successors in interest, which shall be filed in the public records of Cass County, Missouri. No action shall be taken, however, without advance written approval thereof by the Corps. Corps approval shall be by letter attached as an exhibit to the document amending, altering, canceling, or revoking the Conservation Easement, and said letter shall be informal and shall not require notarization. It is understood and agreed that Corps approval requires a minimum of sixty (60) days written notice, and that the Corps may require substitute or additional mitigation, a separate conservation easement or alternate deed restrictions, or other requirements as a condition of approval. Any amendment, alteration, release, cancellation, or revocation together with written Corps approval thereof shall then be filed in the public records of Cass County, Missouri, within 30 days thereafter.

17. **Controlling Law:** The interpretation and performance of this Conservation Easement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Missouri.

**GRANTOR FURTHER COVENANTS** that Grantor is lawfully seised of said Property in fee simple; that the Property is free and clear of all encumbrances that are inconsistent with the terms of this Conservation Easement and that no mortgages or other liens exist; that Grantor has good right and lawful authority to convey this Conservation Easement, and that it hereby fully warrants and defends the title to the Conservation Easement hereby conveyed against the lawful claims of all persons whomsoever.

**TO HAVE AND TO HOLD**, the Grantor covenants that he, she, or they are vested with good title to the easement area and will warrant and defend the same on behalf of the Grantee against all claims and demands. The Grantor covenants to comply with the terms and conditions enumerated in this document for the use of the easement area and adjacent lands for access, and to refrain from any activity not specifically allowed or that is inconsistent with the purposes of this easement deed. The covenants, terms, conditions, restrictions, and purpose imposed with this Conservation Easement shall be binding upon Grantor, and shall continue as a servitude running in perpetuity with the Property.

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2017

Grantor(s): Scott Westlake  
Print Name

Scott Westlake  
Signature

Signature(s) continued:

Vicki Westlake  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

Vicki Westlake  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

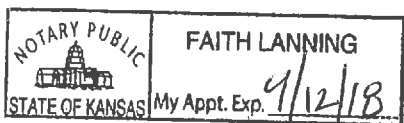
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF KANSAS

COUNTY OF JOHNSON

On this 10th day of May in the year 2017, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Scott & Vicki Westlake known to me to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that he/she/they executed the same for the purposes therein contained. In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.

Notary Public  
Residing at 13451 Buvar Leawood, KS 66209



My Commission Expires 9/12/18 Faith Lanning

ACCEPTANCE BY GRANTEE:

I James D. Drake (print name), President (title), being the duly authorized representative of the Grantee, do hereby accept this Conservation Easement Deed with respect to the rights and duties of the, Grantee.

Dated this 28 day of December, 2017.

James D. Drake  
Signature

President  
Title



Bridget Braden  
12/28/17



## LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROTECTED "PROPERTY"

All that part of the Southeast Quarter of Section 22, together with all that part of the Southeast and Southwest Quarters of Section 23, together with all that part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 26, together with all that part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 27, all in Township 46 North, Range 31 West, Cass County, Missouri, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 26; thence North 87°33'51" West, coincident with the North line of said Northwest Quarter, 20.00 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence departing said North line, South 66°05'57" West, 780.99 feet; thence South 45°26'45" West, 399.97 feet to a point 20 feet north of the South line of the North half of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 26; thence North 87°44'46" West, coincident with a line 20 feet north of and parallel with said South line, 1,671.85 feet to a point on the East line of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 27; thence coincident with said East line, North 00°02'08" East, 43.60 feet; thence departing said East line, North 57°01'23" West, 55.51 feet; thence North 21°24'09" West, 196.34 feet; thence North 33°52'06" West, 185.80 feet; thence North 43°20'17" West, 155.07 feet; thence North 52°29'24" West, 197.44 feet; thence North 56°23'38" West, 41.64 feet to a point on the South line of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 22; thence continuing North 56°23'38" West, 34.74 feet; thence North 02°17'48" East, 952.02 feet; thence South 87°33'50" East, 387.12 feet; thence South 58°27'51" East, 214.27 feet to a point on the West line of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 23; thence continuing South 58°27'51" East, 374.77 feet; thence North 00°22'02" East, 615.59 feet to a point 20 feet south of the North line of the South half of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 23; thence South 87°37'11" East, coincident with a line 20 feet south of and parallel with said North line, 1,069.41 feet; thence North 02°19'30" East, 20.00 feet to a point on the South line of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 23; thence North 02°19'30" East, coincident with a line 40 feet east of and parallel with the West line of the Northeast Quarter of said Southwest Quarter, 40.00 feet; thence South 89°54'46" East, 467.42 feet; thence South 42°27'47" East, 82.79 feet to a point on the North line of the South half of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 23; thence continuing South 42°27'47" East, 198.46 feet; thence South 01°50'30" East, 616.17 feet; thence North 81°37'03" East, 364.63 feet; thence North 47°00'50" East, 320.28 feet to a point on the West line of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 23; thence continuing North 47°00'50" East, 301.97 feet; thence North 02°58'36" East, 244.56 feet to a point on the South line of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 23; thence continuing North 02°58'36" East, 283.84 feet; thence North 28°54'05" East, 115.03 feet; thence North 01°07'45" West, 82.83 feet; thence South 89°51'20" East, 35.16 feet; thence South 01°28'22" East, 93.45 feet; thence South 28°34'23" West, 125.89 feet; thence South 02°26'44" West, 232.59 feet; thence South 25°49'44" East, 36.26 feet to a point on the North line of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 23; thence continuing South 25°49'44" East, 125.34 feet; thence South 86°25'00" East, 659.00 feet; thence South 06°22'59" West, 180.41 feet; thence South 54°31'38" East, 407.68 feet to a point 20 feet west of the East line of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 23; thence South 02°26'36" West, coincident with a line 20 feet west of and parallel to said East line, 260.29 feet; thence South 39°17'56" West, 561.03 feet; thence North 87°35'46" West, 976.62 feet to a point on the East line of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 23; thence continuing North 87°35'46" West, 20.00 feet to a point 20 feet west of said East line; thence South 02°23'37" West, coincident with a line 20 feet west of and parallel to said East line, 85.99 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 142.707 acres, more or less.