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# Public Notice

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Reply To:  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Attn: CEMVS-OD-F  
1222 Spruce Street  
St. Louis, MO 63103-2833

Public Notice No.  
P-2677  
Public Notice Date  
May 23, 2008  
Expiration Date  
June 6, 2008

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**Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:**

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Interested parties are hereby notified that a request has been received for Department of the Army authorization to conduct **emergency** stabilization activities for certain work in waters of the United States, as described below and in the referenced web page link.

**COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Comments on the described work should reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers file number shown above and must reach this office no later than the above expiration date of the Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Comments should be mailed to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
ATTN: CEMVS-CO-F (Charles Frerker)  
1222 Spruce Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

**APPLICANT:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Project Management Branch, 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis Missouri 63103-2833, c/o: Mr. John Peukert (314-331-8039) or Dave Gordon (314-331-8039).

**LOCATION:** The emergency stabilization area is located along the upstream face of Lock and Dam Number 25. The Lock and Dam is located at Winfield, Missouri, 61.5 miles upstream from St. Louis and 241.5 miles above the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, in portions of Calhoun County, Illinois and Lincoln County, Missouri.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** During a hydrographic survey conducted in the spring of 2007, scour voids were found at and near the dam structure on the upstream side of Lock and Dam Number 25. Of particular concern were scour voids found under the upstream portion of five of the dam piers. Loss of soil support beneath these piers results in a calculated reduction of pile bearing capacity and exposes the timber piles to damage from river borne debris. Subsequent site investigations by the Corps' Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) determined that the exposed piles remain intact thus far with no noticeable damage. However, there is concern that without corrective actions the scour will worsen, resulting in increased pile exposure and a further reduction in pile bearing capacity. If not properly addressed this could lead to structural failure. During the original construction, sheet piling was installed along the length of the dam structure but was not extended around the upstream face of the piers. This leaves the piers, and the timber piles below, exposed to river forces with the likelihood of ongoing and worsening scour conditions. It is recommended that the voids beneath the piers be filled with sand. This will protect the pile from damage and will increase the pile capacity and factor of safety. The proposed scour repair design was based on modeling for similar dams located in the St Paul District. Expedited repair of upstream scour areas and protection of upstream piers has therefore been recommended.

The repairs involve establishing stone protection material for a distance of 125 feet from the face of the dam, with a 10 foot toe protection berm. The entire width of the gated dam, approximately 1300 feet, will be protected. In areas where the thickness of stone can be attained, a 12 inch layer of 3 inch bedding material, a 24 inch intermediate layer of Modified Graded Stone C, and a 60 inch top layer of Modified Graded Stone A, will be placed. Approximately 70,000 tons of rock will be placed in the river for the "rock blanket". No excavation work will be allowed. The void under the upstream

portion of the piers will be backfilled with sand around the wooden timber piles. Steel plate formwork will be placed around the pier to contain the sand during placement and to provide protection to the exposed piles. Installation of the form will be accomplished by divers. All work will be performed from barges.

The scoured areas are expected to be repaired as soon as funding becomes available. The current plan involves a systemic, multi-beam survey of the area upstream of the dam that would be performed on an annual basis until there is assurance that the stone protection repairs have stabilized the area, and then the surveys would be performed at five-year intervals.

The St. Louis District, Project Management Branch, prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed activities. These documents are available for electronic viewing at <http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/pm/LD25/LD25ScourRepairEA.pdf>. A hard copy of the EA related documents are also available for viewing at the St. Louis District Project Management Branch in the Robert A. Young Federal Building, at 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, Missouri. Further project details, including drawings, surveys and maps are available by viewing the above referenced EA webpage link.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Additional information may be obtained by contacting Mr. Charles Frerker, Regulatory Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at electronic mail address: [charles.f.frerker@usace.army.mil](mailto:charles.f.frerker@usace.army.mil)

**AUTHORITY:** The review will be processed under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:** By issuance of this public notice, the project plans are considered submitted to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Protection Program for state certification of the proposed work in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The certification, if issued, will express the Agency's opinion that the proposed activities will not violate applicable water quality standards. Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Missouri should be addressed to: Water Protection Program, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0176, with copy provided to the Corps of Engineers.

Activities occurring in Illinois shall be reviewed by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for water quality certification, or waiver thereof, for the proposed activity in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Certification or waiver indicates that IEPA believes the activity will not violate applicable water quality standards. The review by the IEPA is conducted in accordance with the Illinois water quality standards under 35 Illinois Administrative Code Subtitle C. The water quality standards provide for the IEPA to review individual projects by providing an antidegradation assessment, which includes an evaluation of alternatives to any proposed increase in pollutant loading that may result from this activity. The "Fact Sheet" containing the antidegradation assessment for this proposed project may be found on the IEPA's web site, at [www.epa.state.il.us/public-notice/](http://www.epa.state.il.us/public-notice/). In the event that the IEPA is unable to publish the "Fact Sheet" corresponding to the timeframe of this Joint Public Notice, a separate public notice and "Fact Sheet" will be published by the IEPA at the web site identified above. You may also obtain a copy of the "Fact Sheet" by contacting the IEPA at the address or telephone number shown below. Written comments specifically concerning possible impacts to water quality should be addressed to: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Water, Watershed Management Section, 1021 N. Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276, with copy provided to the Corps of Engineers.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources shall evaluate the activity for state approval of the proposed work in accordance with "an Act in relation to the regulation of the rivers, lakes and streams of the State of Illinois" (Ill. Rev. Stat.; Chap. 19, par 52 et seq.). Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Illinois should be addressed to Mr. Mike Diedrichsen, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, One Natural Resource Way, Springfield, Illinois, 62702-1271, with copy provided to the Corps of Engineers.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Request for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding the public hearing.

**Endangered and Threatened Species:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) have indicated the following species may occur in the project area.

Name	Federal Status	Illinois Status	Missouri Status	Habitat
Indiana bat ( <i>Myotis sodalis</i> )	E	E	E	Hibernacula = Caves and mines; Maternity and foraging habitat = small stream corridors with well developed riparian woods; upland forests
Spectaclecase mussel ( <i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i> )	C	E	S3	Mississippi River
Butterfly mussel ( <i>Ellipsaria lineolata</i> )	n/a	T	n/a	
Eastern prairie fringed orchid ( <i>Platanthera leucophaea</i> )	T	E	SH	Mesic to wet prairies
Prairie bush clover ( <i>Lespedeza leptostachya</i> )	T	E	n/a	Dry to mesic prairies with gravelly soil
Bald eagle ( <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> )	D	T	E, S3	
Lake Sturgeon ( <i>Acipenser fulvescens</i> )	n/a	E	E	Near lock and dams

E = Endangered, T = Threatened, C = Candidate, D = delisted, S3 = rare or uncommon, SH = Historical occurrence, n/a = not in project area or not listed,

Coordination with the IDNR indicated the reported occurrence of two Illinois state listed mussel species: the butterfly (*Ellipsaria lineolata*) – threatened, and the spectaclecase (*Cumberlandia monodonta*) – endangered. Those mussels were reported in 1999 and 1988 respectively. In addition, the state endangered lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) may be present as well in the project area. The IDNR also noted the presence of the Batchtown mussel bed upstream of the project area.

The MDC indicated that the State endangered ebonyshell (*Fusconaia ebena*), lake sturgeon, and bald eagle may occur in the project area. Other species of conservation concern that may occur in the project area include the ghost shiner (*Notropis buchmanii*), western sand darter (*Ammocrypta clara*), rock pocketbook (*Arcidens confragosus*), mooneye (*Hiodon tergisus*), hickorynut (*Obovaria olivaria*), river darter (*Percina shumardi*), paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*), and wartyback (*Quadrula nodulata*). The Sandy Island Conservation Area is also located upstream one-half mile.

Three species that are federally listed as endangered or threatened in either Lincoln County, Missouri, or Calhoun County, Illinois may occur in the project area: Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), eastern prairie fringed orchid (*Platanthera leucophaea*), and prairie bush clover (*Lespedeza leptostachya*). Of the three federally listed species, only the Indiana bat was addressed in the FWS's biological opinion in 2000. Two other federally important species include the spectaclecase mussel (*Cumberlandia monodonta*) which is a Federal candidate species and the recently delisted bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). A Tier II Biological Assessment (BA) is further detailed in the above referenced EA webpage link (<http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/pm/LD25/LD25ScourRepairEA.pdf>). In general, the Indiana bat, Eastern prairie fringed orchid, and prairie bush clover would not likely be affected because construction will be taking place in the river and no land areas will be cleared.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES:** The project site is underwater and was previously disturbed during original project construction. No cultural resources should be affected. However, the St. Louis District will evaluate information provided by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the public in response to this public notice and we may conduct, or require a reconnaissance survey of the project area, if warranted.

**EVALUATION:** The decision whether to authorize the activity will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the described activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which may reasonably be expected to accrue from the described activity must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the described activity will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion, and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of these proposed activities. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny authorization for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of Statement of Findings and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

In accordance with 33 CFR 325.3, it is presumed that all interested parties and agencies will wish to respond to public notices; therefore, a lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the proposed project.



DANNY D. MCCLENDON  
Chief, Regulatory Branch



Attachments

**NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS:**

It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually placed for **15** days from the date of issuance of this notice.