

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS St. Louis District Gateway to Excellence Reply To: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Attn: Matthew Collins (OD-F) 1222 Spruce Street St. Louis, MO 63103-2833

Public Notice No **P-2910 & P-2911**

Public Notice Date Nov 26, 2014

Public Notice

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

Expiration Date Dec 17, 2014

File Number: MVS-2014-761

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit to establish two fleeting areas in the Kaskaskia River as described below and shown on the attached figures.

<u>COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u>: Comments on the described work should reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice Numbers shown above and must reach this office no later than the above expiration date 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-OD-F (Collins) 1222 Spruce Street St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

APPLICANT: Kaskaskia Regional Port District, ATTN: Mr. Ed Weilbacher, 336 North Main St, Red Bud, IL.

LOCATION: The two proposed fleeting areas are located along the left descending bank of the Kaskaskia River at approximate river mile 9.95 and 10.05, in Randolph County, Illinois. (See Attached Figures).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Kaskaskia Regional Port District requests authorization under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act to establish two fleeting areas, within an approximate 1,000-feet-long project area, which is located along the left descending bank of the Kaskaskia River. The northern limit of the 1,000-foot project area is located approximately 1100-feet downstream of the IL-3 Bridge in Evansville, Illinois. Each fleet would be moored to concrete deadmen structures, to be installed in the riverbank. Anchor chain and wire rope would be used to anchor each proposed fleet to the concrete deadmen structures. The purpose of the project is to expand current fleeting capability along this area of the Kaskaskia River. Each proposed fleeting area has been assigned a pending individual permit number to allow specific comments for each activity site. See the attached figures for additional information

The upstream fleet is assigned pending permit number **P-2911**. The upstream fleet would begin at the northern limit of the project area and extend approximately 400-feet downstream. The upstream fleet would contain up to 4 barges in a 2-barge-wide by 2-barge-long configuration, measuring approximately 70-feet-wide by 400-feet-long.

The downstream fleet is assigned pending permit number **P-2910**. The downstream fleet would begin approximately 200feet below the upstream fleet, ending at approximate river mile 9.95. The downstream fleet would contain up to 4 barges in a 2-barge-wide by 2-barge-long configuration, measuring approximately 70-feet-wide by 400-feet-long.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information may be obtained by contacting the applicant, Mr. Ed Weilbacher at 618-282-3807 or ed@kaskaskiaport.com; or Mr. Matthew Collins, Regulatory Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (314) 331-8626 or at electronic mail address: mathew.p.collins@usace.army.mil

AUTHORITY: This permit will be processed under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act.

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 SPECIES: The proposed project is within range of the endangered Indiana bat (<u>Myotis sodalis</u>), Northern Long Eared Bat (Myotis septentrionalis), Pallid Sturgeon (<u>Scaphirhynchus albus</u>), Least Tern (Sterna antillarum), Small Whorled Pagonia (Isotria medeoloides). A preliminary determination, in compliance with the Endangered Species Act as amended, has been made that this proposed activity is not likely to affect species designated as threatened or endangered, or adversely affect critical habitat. In order to complete our evaluation, comments are solicited by this public notice from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested agencies and individuals.

<u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: 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.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit 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 that 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 a permit 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 an Environmental Assessment 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: Site Map

NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS: It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually placed for 21 days from the date of this issuance of this notice.

