



Public Notice

US ARMY CORPS
OF ENGINEERS
St. Louis District
Gateway to Excellence

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

Public Notice Number:
MVS-2010-79

Public Notice Date:
June 3, 2022

Expiration Date:
June 24, 2022

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

Interested parties are hereby notified that proposed plans have been received for a Department of the Army permit to establish a 12-barge fleeting facility in a navigable water of the United States, as described below and shown in the attachments.

COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Comments on the described work should reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice 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-OD-F (Charles Frerker)
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

APPLICANT: SCF Lewis & Clark Fleeting, LLC., Mr. Kenny Inman, 2801 Rock Road, Granite City, Illinois 62040.

LOCATION: The proposed fleet would be located at the former Casino Queen mooring area near the left descending bank of the Mississippi River, at approximate River Mile 179.9, in St. Clair County, Illinois. (See Attachments)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed fleeting includes installing three captive barges between two existing river cells to tie off a maximum capacity 12 barge fleet arranged in a 3-wide by 4-long configuration. The fleet would be held in place using 4-part wire ropes attached to the upstream and downstream captive barges using shackles and reinforced deck fittings to allow the fleet to slide up or down with changing river stages. The fleet would measure approximately 105 feet wide by 800 feet long, running parallel with the nearby riverbank, which is covered with existing stone revetment. No explosive or hazardous materials would be handled in the fleet. The applicant operates a tug in close vicinity 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The proposal is requested to provide barges to service the busy St. Louis Harbor river terminals.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information may be obtained by contacting the applicant at 618-876-1116 or Charles Frerker, PM, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at charles.f.frerker@usace.army.mil or 314-331-8583.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be processed under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

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 the range of the endangered Indiana bat (***Myotis sodalis***), pallid sturgeon (***Scaphirhynchus albus***), Illinois Cave amphipod (***Gammarus acherondytes***) and the threatened northern long-eared bat (***Myotis septentrionalis***), decurrent false aster (***Boltonia decurrens***) and the candidate monarch butterfly (***Danaus plexippus***). A preliminary determination, in compliance with the Endangered Species Act as amended, has been made that the activity is not likely to affect the listed species. An identical fleeting proposal at the same location was previously coordinated in public notice

P-2750, dated May 12, 2014. The US Fish and Wildlife Service provided comments for P-2750 concurring the proposed project is not likely to adversely affect any federally listed species. To further complete our evaluation, written comments are solicited by this public notice from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested agencies and individuals.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: Prior public notice coordination for the same fleeting proposal at the same location, resulted in the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA Log #014033110) determining, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4, no historic properties are affected with no objection to the undertaking proceeding as planned. Prior public notice tribal coordination resulted in the Cultural Preservation Office of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska informing us that the Winnebago Tribe has cultural properties in the project area. According to the oral tradition, the Winnebago Tribe has lived in the area in the pre-historic period. The tribe had lived in the area in the early years of the historic period before the depopulation of the tribe. The Winnebago Tribe concluded the project could proceed, but if there are any burial sites or other cultural properties discovered in the area, that their office immediately be notified. Based on the previous coordination with the state and responding tribal entities, the St. Louis District has determined the proposed activity should have no effect on cultural, historic, or prehistoric areas. The proposal involves no proposed land disturbance activities, requires no new mooring infrastructure, and only involves the mooring of floating barges in the Mississippi River in the same location where the Casino Queen gaming vessel operated from 1993 until 2007. The casino vessel was removed and auctioned in 2014. This office will evaluate any new or additional information provided by the State Historic Preservation Officer, Native American Tribes, and the public in response to this public notice.

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.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: 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 to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed activity. 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.

Robert S. Gramke

Robert S. Gramke
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Attachments

NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS: It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually placed for 30 days from the date of issuance of this notice.