

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: Mar-Ops South LLC

CEMVR-RD-2022-0863

Issued: October 26, 2022 Expires: November 24, 2022

Section 10/404

US Army Corps of Engineers

- 1. **Applicant:** Mar-Ops South LLC, Darrel Marquis, 10000 Marquis, Hennepin, IL 61326. **Agent:** Mar-Ops South LLC, Mike Verardo, 7416 West Power Plant Road, Hennepin, IL 61326.
- 2. **Project Location**: The proposed project is located on the Illinois River approximately 1.2 miles north of Hennepin, Illinois, near the intersection of IL Highway 1 and 1150 N Road. On the Illinois River, left descending bank, mile marker 208.8 in Section 4, Township 32 North, Range 2 West, Putnam County. Datum NAD-83. UTM Zone 16. Latitude: 41.27350, Longitude: -89.33908.
- 3. **Project Description and Purpose**. The applicant is proposing to install a replacement dock and one dolphin along the east bank of the Illinois River. The dock will be approximately 700' long (wall facing river) with a wing on the south end and a wing going back into the bank on the north end. Approximately 6,500 cubic yards of clean aggregate fill will be placed behind river facing wall. The dolphin will be installed approximately 155' south of the replacement dock. Mechanical dredging, excavating with a crane and clam shell bucket, will remove approximately 30,000 cubic yards of material which will be trucked to upland area. Roads to the existing dock will remain the same but new gravel or pavement will be placed prior to operation. The project will impact approximately 0.13 acres of forested wetland, trees will be removed on the southern end of the bank where the replacement dock will be located. The purpose of the project is to provide an area to facilitate loading and unloading of dry and liquid commodities on the Illinois River near Hennepin, Illinois.
- 4. **Avoidance and Minimization Statement**. The applicant has provided an alternative analysis for this project. Multiple alternatives will be considered including a no action alternative. Evaluation of alternatives will be limited to a range of reasonable alternatives that met the purpose and need for the proposed project. Impacts to forested wetland will be mitigated through purchasing credits from an approved mitigation bank.

5. Agency Review.

- a. <u>Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers</u>. The Department of the Army application is being processed under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) and Section 10 of the River and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).
 - b. State of Illinois.
- (1) The project plans have been submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for review.

- (2) The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources (IDNR/OWR) is a participant in the joint application process and requires that IDNR/OWR permits be obtained for construction within floodways; construction and other activities within public bodies of water; and construction, operation and maintenance of dams pursuant to the State of Illinois Rivers, Lakes, and Streams Act (615 ILCS 5).
- (3) Inquiries concerning IDNR/OWR jurisdiction and/or review of the activity should be directed to the Office of Water Resources at dnr.dwrm@illinois.gov or 217/782-3863. Information on the IDNR/OWR regulatory and other programs can be found at http://dnr.state.il.us/owr.
- 6. Water Quality Certification. The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification Rule (Certification Rule, 40 CFR 121), effective September 11, 2020, requires certification for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that may result in a discharge. The scope of a CWA Section 401 certification is limited to assuring that a discharge from a Federally licensed or permitted activity will comply with water quality requirements. The applicant is responsible for requesting certification and providing required information to the certifying agency. The applicant submitted a certification request to the IL EPA with copy to the Corps on September 21, 2022. In accordance with Certification Rule part 121.12, the Corps will notify the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator when it has received a Department of the Army (DA) permit application and the related certification. The Administrator is responsible for determining if the discharge may affect water quality in a neighboring jurisdiction. The DA permit may not be issued pending the conclusion of the Administrator's determination of effects on neighboring jurisdictions.

7. Historical/Archaeological.

- a. The District consulted with the Illinois online geographic information systems archeological site and survey databases. The review indicates that permit area has not been previously surveyed and historic properties have been identified within the vicinity of the project area.
- b. Based on the presence of known historic properties in the vicinity of the project area, it is the opinion of the District Archaeologist the project area has the potential to contain historic properties that may be potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The District will require the applicant to submit two (2) copies of a Phase I archaeological survey and geomorphological evaluation report covering the permit area. Geomorphological investigation must extend at least 50 centimeters below the proposed depths of soil disturbance or to a depth below which no possibility of historic properties exists. The applicant, in addition to this Phase I report, may be required to conduct additional Phase II test excavations to evaluate sites for eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP as well as other studies, site avoidance, or data recovery as may be the case.

8. Endangered Species.

- a. District staff have performed a preliminary review of this application for the potential impact on threatened or endangered species pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. The following threatened or endangered species are listed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on the IPaC website as occurring in Putnam County, Illinois:
 - Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis)
 - Northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis)
 - Eastern prairie fringed orchid (Platanthera leucophaea)
 - Decurrent false aster (Boltonia decurrens)

- b The proposed project is being coordinated with the FWS through this public notice. Any comments concerning Federally listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat will be considered in the final assessment of the proposed project.
- 9. **Public Interest Review**. The decision whether to issue the Corps permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.
- 10. Who Should Reply. The 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 this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the 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 the 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. These statements should be submitted on or before the expiration date specified at the top of page 1. These statements should bear upon the adequacy of plans and suitability of locations and should, if appropriate, suggest any changes considered desirable.
- 11. **Public Hearing Requests**. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. A request may be denied if substantive reasons for holding a hearing are not provided.
- 12. **Reply to the Corps of Engineers**. Comments concerning the Corps permit should be addressed to the District Engineer, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, ATTN: RD-E (Wendy Frohlich), Clock Tower Building Post Office Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004. For additional information contact Mrs. Wendy Frohlich at 309-794-5674 or email: wendy.m.frohlich@usace.army.mil.

Attach Plans Mrs. Wendy Frohlich Project Manager, Eastern Branch Regulatory Division





