



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Rock Island District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-Day Saints

Date: March 18, 2021

Expires: April 16, 2021

CEMVR-OD-P-2021-0367

Section 10

Joint Public Notice
US Army Corps of Engineers
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

1. **Applicant.** Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Mr. Jordan Bodily, P.O. Box 215, Nauvoo, Illinois 62354

2. **Project Location.** IL- Nauvoo USGS quad sheet, Section 35, Township 7 North, Range 9 West, Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois; Mississippi River, Datum NAD-83. UTM Zone 15, Northing: 14734412, Easting: 2087181, Latitude: 40.55910 Longitude: -91.39154.

3. **Project Description.**

a. Current Request. The applicant proposes to maintenance dredge the existing abandon quarry pit access channel in Nauvoo, Illinois:

(1) Material will be mechanically dredged from an approximately 800-foot-long by 25-foot-wide area in the existing channel. Purpose of the project is to maintain adequate water depth to fill the abandoned quarry during low water irrigation to maintain the grounds of the Nauvoo Illinois Temple. The area will be dredged to maintain a channel bottom elevation of 515 feet.

(2) The mechanically dredged spoils will be transported to a land fill for cover material. There will be no return water from the discharged material.

b. Permit Area. The permit area consists of the existing channel area.

4. **Agency Review.**

a. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers. The Department of the Army application is being processed under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers 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). Inquiries concerning IDNR/OWR jurisdiction and/or review of the activity should be directed to the Office of Water Resources at dnr.dwr@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>.

5. **Historical/Archaeological.** The District consulted with the Illinois geographic information systems archeological site and survey databases online and determined there one previously identified one historic property in the vicinity of the permit area. However, it is not located in the channel that will be dredged. The proposed action under the permit includes maintenance dredging to remove only recently accumulated sediments in the canal. Therefore, it is the opinion of the District there low to no potential for intact historic properties to be affected by the proposed action and there will be **no historic properties affected** by the issuance of the permit.

6. **Endangered Species.** 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 as occurring in Hancock County, Illinois: (<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/lists/illinois-cty.html>)

- Indiana bat. The endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) is considered to potentially occur in any area with forested habitat in any county in Illinois. Indiana bats migrate seasonally between winter hibernacula and summer roosting habitats. Winter hibernacula include caves and abandoned mines. Females form nursery colonies under the loose bark of trees (dead or alive) and/or cavities, where each female gives birth to a single young in June or early July. A single maternity colony may utilize a number of trees during the summer, typically a primary roost tree and several alternates. The species or size of tree does not appear to influence whether Indiana bats use a tree for roosting provided the appropriate bark structure is present.
 - Since no trees will be removed associated with this dredging project, there will be NO EFFECT to Indiana bats.
- Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid. The threatened eastern prairie fringed orchid (*Platanthera leucophaea*) may potentially be found in any Illinois county. It occupies wet prairie remnant habitat. There is no critical habitat designated for this species.
 - Since there is no wet prairie remnant habitat to be affected by the project, there should be NO EFFECT on the eastern prairie fringed orchid.
- Northern long-eared bat. The northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) is listed as threatened. It hibernates in caves and mines and swarms in surrounding wooded areas in autumn. It roosts and forages in upland forests and woods.
 - Since no trees will be removed associated with this dredging project, there will be NO EFFECT to northern long-eared bats.
- Higgins' Eye Pearly Mussel. The endangered Higgins eye pearly mussel (*Lampsilis higginsii*) is a freshwater mussel of larger rivers where it is usually found in deep water with moderate currents. The animals bury themselves in sand and gravel river bottoms with just the edge of their partially opened shells exposed.
 - NO EFFECT. Since previous and ongoing dredging activities are taking place within the permit area of this project, it is assumed that the Higgins eye pearly mussel species would not be present within the permit area.

- Sheepnose Mussel. The freshwater sheepnose mussel (*Plethobasus cyphus*) is a Federally Endangered species. The sheepnose is known to occur within the Mississippi River in Hancock County Illinois. The sheepnose mussel is primarily a larger-stream species occurring mainly in shallow shoal habitats with moderate to swift currents over coarse sand and gravel but includes mud, cobble, and boulders as well. This includes larger rivers with deep runs, while those specimens found in streams occur mainly in stable flow refuges with little sediment turbidity.
 - NO EFFECT. Since previous and ongoing dredging activities are taking place within the permit area of this project, it is assumed that the Sheepnose mussel species would not be present within the permit area.

- Spectaclecase Mussel. The Federally Endangered spectaclecase mussel (*Cumberlandia monodonta*) is primarily a large river species occurring most often in riverine microhabitats sheltered from main currents. Substrates include mud to boulders in shallow riffles and shoals with slow to swift currents. Occurrences tend to be aggregated especially under slabs and bedrock shelves protected from the current. The spectaclecase mussel seldom moves and when found in streams, occurs mainly in flow refuges with little sediment turbidity.
 - NO EFFECT. Since previous and ongoing dredging activities are taking place within the permit area of this project, it is assumed that the Spectaclecase mussel species would not be present within the permit area.

The proposed project is being coordinated with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments it may have concerning Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat will be considered in the final assessment of the proposed project. Accordingly, our preliminary determination is subject to change should further information become available.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. **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.

10. **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 (Brant Vollman), Clock Tower Building - Post Office Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004. **Mr. Brant Vollman (309/794-5380) brant.j.vollman@usace.army.mil** may be contacted for additional information.

Attach
Plan

Mr. Trevor E. Popkin
Chief, Eastern Branch
Regulatory Division

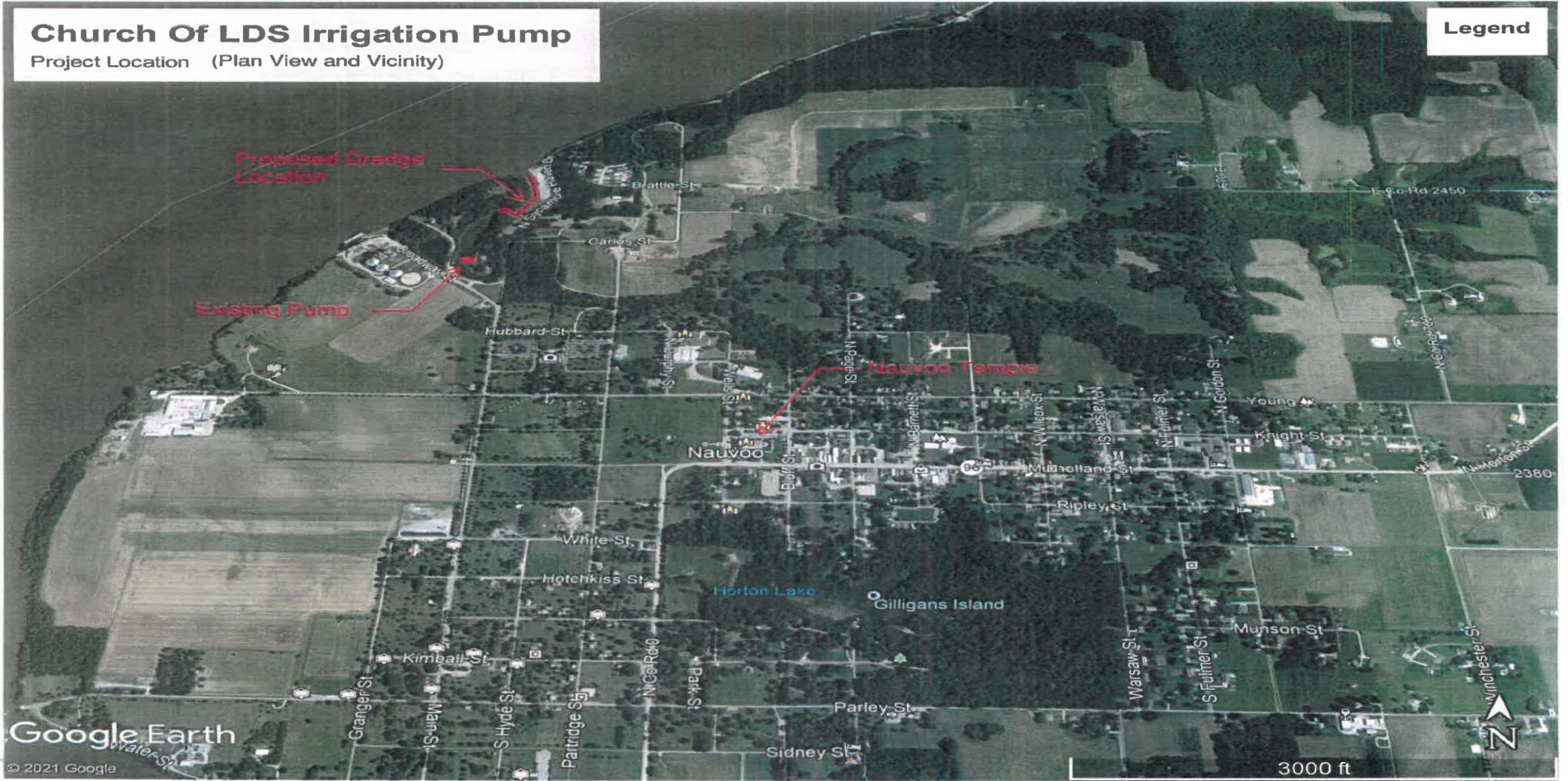
REQUEST TO POSTMASTERS: Please post this notice conspicuously and continuously until the expiration date specified at the top of page 1.

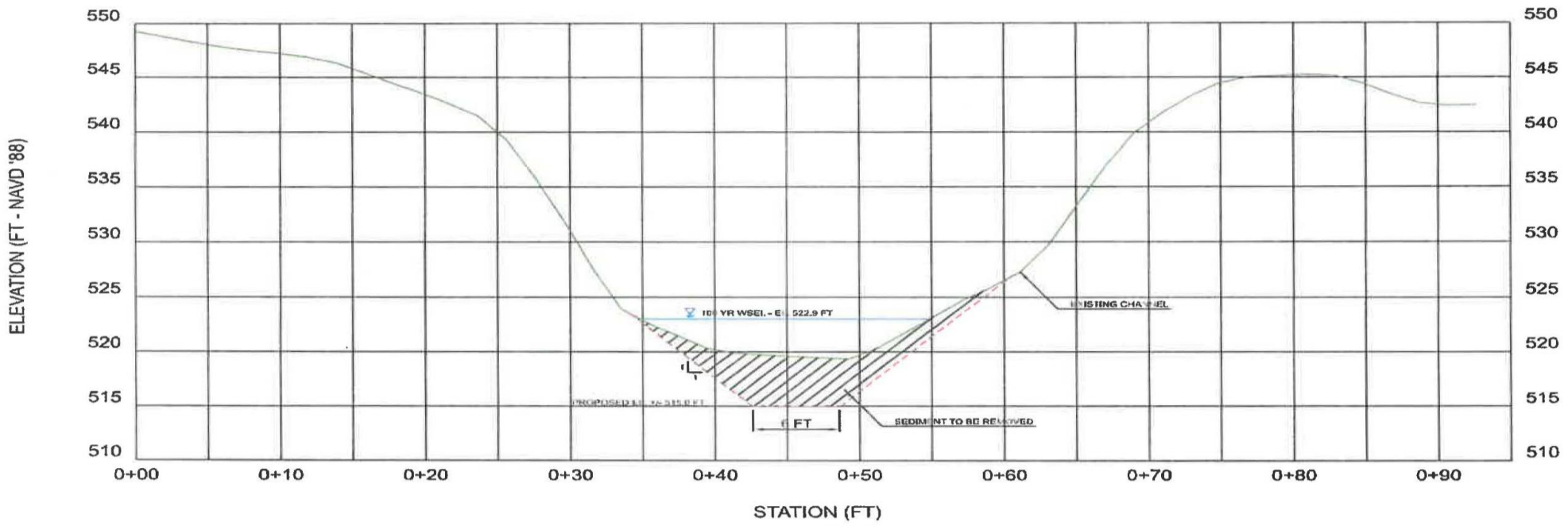
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Church Of LDS Irrigation Pump

Project Location (Plan View and Vicinity)

Legend





IRRIGATION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS
 CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
 PO BOX 215
 NAUVOO, IL 62354

PROJECT NO. 2020-0367
 DRAWING SHEET 2 OF 2
 SHEET 1

DATE: 10/20/20
 DRAWN BY: JAL/MLP
 CHECKED BY: JAL/MLP
 PROJECT: IRRIGATION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT NO. 2020-0367
 DRAWING SHEET 2 OF 2
 SHEET 1

PRELIMINARY
 NOT FOR
 CONSTRUCTION