

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: Holiday Harbor Inc.

Date: September 30, 2021

Expires: October 28, 2021

0409 Section 10

CEMVR-RD-2021-0409

US Army Corps of Engineers

1. **Applicant**: Mr. Richard Hamm-Holiday Harbor Inc.,17012 Holiday Harbor Lane, Rome, Illinois 61562.

2. Project Location:

- IL-Chillicothe USGS quad sheet.
- Section 5, Township 28 North, Range 3 West.
- Chillicothe Island, Chillicothe, Peoria County, Illinois 61523
- Datum NAD-83. UTM Zone 16, Northing: 4532000.28, Easting: 291021.42.
- Latitude: 40.912426. Longitude: -89.481443. Illinois River mile 180-180.7.

3. Project Description.

- a. Previous Authorization: No known previous authorizations at this location that we are aware of.
- b. <u>Current Request</u>: The purpose of the project is barge mooring and fleeting. The proposed work consists of placing 9 concrete block anchors on land, 300 feet apart, along the length of the barge fleeting area, with cables attached to the blocks for the barges to tie up to. The barge fleeting area will be 2500 feet long and 140 feet wide along the west side of Chillicothe Island, but outside of the navigation channel, from mile marker 180 to mile marker 180.7. The maximum number of barges to be moored at any given time is 32. The barges would be arranged in various configurations but would not be more than 4 barges wide and would not impede the navigation channel. No dredging or fill is required to complete this requested activity. The concrete anchors would be buried along the left descending riverbank with an excavator. Anchor chains will attach to the concrete anchors and run down towards the river, connecting to a shock absorbing system that connects to a steel cable extending out to a floating buoy. Any areas disturbed will be restored after work is completed.
- c. <u>Permit Area</u>: The permit area consists of the proposed barge fleeting/mooring area an area approximately (2500 feet by 140 feet) which will accommodate 32 barges. The average water depth is 2.5 feet to 4 feet.

4. 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 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 OWR 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.
- 5. **Historical/Archaeological**: The District consulted with the Illinois geographic information systems archeological site and survey databases online and determined there are multiple surveys in the area, but no previously identified historic properties in the vicinity of the permit area. In addition, the Corps consulted "An Investigation of Submerged Historic Properties in the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway" (October 1997) prepared by American Resources Group, Ltd., for the Corps (Contract No. DACW25-93-D-0012, Delivery Order No. 37). There are no shipwrecks indicated in the vicinity of the current permit. Therefore, it is the opinion of the District there are 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.

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 as occurring in Peoria County, Illinois:

(http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/lists/illinois-cty.html)

- Indiana bat. The Federally 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.
 - O Since no trees will be removed associated with this fleeting/dredging project, the Corps has determined there will be no effect on the Indiana bat.
- Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid. The Federally 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.
 - O Since there is no wet prairie remnant habitat to be affected by the project, the Corps has determined there should be no effect on the eastern prairie fringed orchid.
- Northern long-eared bat. The Federally threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) is considered to potentially occur in any area with forested habitat in any county in Illinois. It hibernates in caves and mines and swarms in surrounding wooded areas in autumn. It roosts and forages in upland forests and woods.

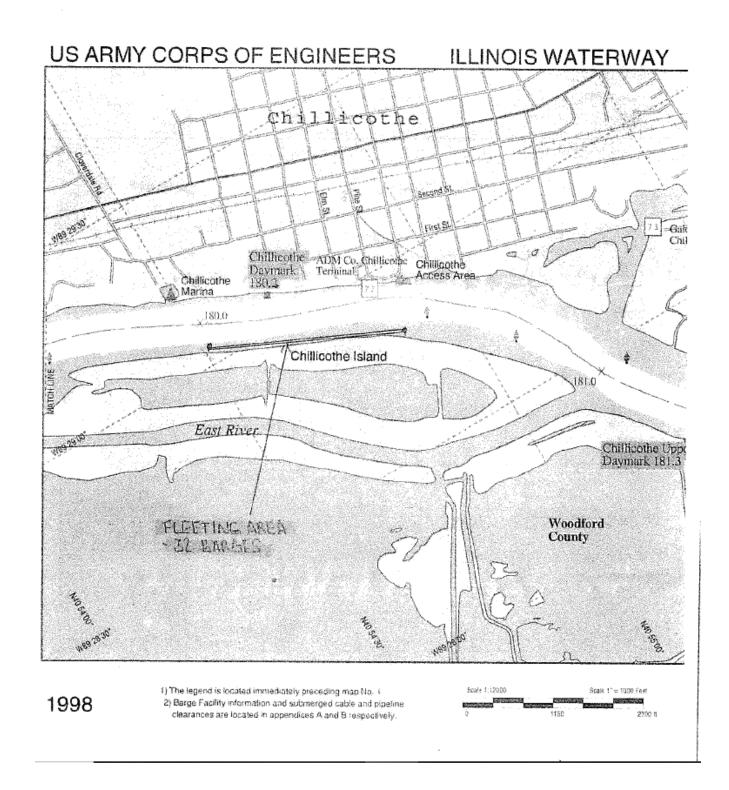
- O Since no trees will be removed associated with this fleeting/dredging project, the Corps has determined there will be no effect on the northern long-eared bats.
- Decurrent false aster. The Federally threatened decurrent false aster (*Boltonia decurrens*) is known to occur on recently disturbed alluvial soils in the Illinois River in Peoria County, Illinois. There is no critical habitat designated for this species.
 - O Since there is no disturbed alluvial soil habitat to be affected by the project, the Corps has determined there should be no effect on the decurrent false aster.
- Rusty patched bumble bee. The Federally endangered rusty patched bumble bee (Bombus affinis) is found in grasslands with flowering plants from April through October, underground and abandoned rodent cavities or clumps of grasses above ground as nesting sites, and undisturbed soil for hibernating queens to overwinter. There is no critical habitat designated for this species.
 - O Since there is no grasslands with flowering plant habitat or rodent cavities or clumps of grass above ground, or undisturbed soil habitat to be affected by the project, the Corps has determined there should be no effect on the rusty patched bumble bee.
- b. Based upon the information provided and available at this time, our preliminary determination is that the proposed activity would have **no effect** on the following federally listed species:
 - Indiana bat
 - Northern long-eared bat
 - Eastern prairie fringed orchid
 - Decurrent false aster
 - Rusty patched bumble bee
- c. While informal consultation has been initiated with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) at this time, we are further coordinating this application with the FWS and the respective resource agencies through this public notice. Any comments they 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**. For additional information and comments concerning the Corps permit should be addressed to Mr. James Kelley by telephone 309-794-5373 or by e-mail: james.c.kelley@usace.army.mil.

Attach Plan

Mr. James C. Kelley Project Manager Eastern Branch Regulatory Division



CEMVR-RD-2021-0409 Sheet 1 of 2 Location Map

