

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District

Applicant: CMC-Ottawa, LLC Date: October 3, 2018

CEMVR-OD-P-2017-1393 Sec

Date: October 3, 2018 Expires: November 1, 2018 Section 10

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

1. Applicant:

Bruce Oakley, Inc. c/o Mr. Tim Cummins PO Box 17880 3700 Lincoln, Avenue North Little Rock, Arkansas 72114

2. Project Location:

- IL- Ottawa USGS quad sheet
- Section 16, Township 33 North, Range 4 East
- La Salle County, Illinois
- Illinois River mile approximately 243.5
- Datum NAD-83. UTM Zone 15
- Northing: 4577413.736838, Easting: 351789.171223
- Latitude: 41.334587 Longitude: -88.771235

3. Project Description:

A. Previous Authorization. CEMVR-OD-P-2017-1393.

B. <u>Current Request</u>. The applicant proposes to modify the existing barge slip by widening the barge slip at the CMC – Ottawa, LLC in Ottawa, Illinois.

(1) Approximately 42,500 cubic yards of material will be mechanically excavated adjacent to the existing approximately 455-foot-long by 55-foot-wide barge slip.

(2) The dredge spoil material will be transported by truck to Landcomp Corporation landfill property at 2840 E 13th Road in Ottawa, Illinois. In addition, some of the material will be kept on site in the northern portion of the Oakley Ottawa facility.

c. <u>Permit Area</u>. The permit modification area consists of the approximately 455-foot-long by 30-foot-wide area immediately west and adjacent to the existing barge slip area.

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 Office of Water Resources at <u>dnr.dwrm@illinois.gov</u> or 217/782-3863. Information on the IDNR/OWR regulatory and other programs can be found at <u>http://dnr.state.il.us/owr</u>.

5. Historical/Archaeological:

A. The District consulted with the Illinois geographic information systems archeological site and survey databases online and determined there are previously identified historic properties in the vicinity of the permit area. Based on a review of historic and current aerial photos, topo maps it is the opinion of the District Archaeologist the permit area has the potential to contain historic properties that may be potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

B. 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.

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 Mason 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.

- <u>Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid</u>. 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.
- <u>Northern long-eared bat</u>. 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.
- <u>Decurrent False Aster</u>. Decurrent False Aster (*Boltonia decurrens*) is found on moist, sandy, floodplains and prairie wetlands along the Illinois River. It relies on periodic flooding to scour away other plants that compete for the same habitat.
 - There is no prairie wetland habitat in the project area his is a maintenance dredging project on the Illinois River, there will be NO EFFECT to Decurrent False Aster.
- <u>Leafy Prairie Clover</u>. Leafy Prairie Clover (*Dalea foliosa*) is found in prairie remnants along the Des Plains River in Illinois, in thin soils over limestone substrate. In Alabama and Tennessee it lives in prairie-like areas on the edges of cedar glades. It favors sites with a wet spring and fall and a dry summer.
 - There are no prairie remnants in the permit area so there will be NO EFFECT to Leafy Prairie Clover.

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: OD-PE (Brant Vollman), Clock Tower Building - Post Office Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004. For additional information you may contact <u>Mr. Brant Vollman (309/794-5380)</u> or email <u>brant.j.vollman@usace.army.mil</u>.

Attach Plan Ms. Donna M. Jones, P.E. Chief, Illinois/Missouri Section Regulatory Branch

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

NOTICE TO EDITORS: This notice is provided as background information for your use in formatting news stories. This notice is not a contract for classified display advertising.



