



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CHICAGO DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
231 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET, SUITE 1500
CHICAGO IL 60604

April 09, 2020

Planning Branch
Planning, Programs and Project Management

Dear Recipient:

The U.S Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District (Corps) will be preparing a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document on the impacts associated with restoring stream, riparian, wetland and buffering plant communities to provide habitat for migratory birds and local fish and wildlife at Dutch Gap in Antioch, Lake County, Illinois.

The natural resources in the Dutch Gap project area were impacted by decades of intensive agriculture. Impacts include the installation of extensive drain tile networks, which altered site hydrology, the excavation of drainage ditches, stream channelization and disturbance of native soils. The 785 acre study area is located south of the Illinois-Wisconsin state border line, north of West Pedersen Drive, east of US-45 N, and west of North Crawford Road. Project boundaries are shown in Enclosure 1.

The Lake County Forest Preserve District is working with the Corps to reestablish natural hydrologic and hydraulic parameters and native plant communities to support critical wetland and riparian habitats within the Dutch Gap natural area.

As part of the NEPA scoping process, the Corps would appreciate any comments or concerns you might have about any potential impacts from this proposed project. This could include impacts to various habitats, threatened and endangered species, or cultural and social resources. After receiving the scoping input and conducting its impact assessment, the Corps will release a draft NEPA document for a formal public review. Enclosure 2 is a list of State and Federal Agencies, Tribal Nations and general public receiving this request.

In light of the COVID-19 shelter-in-place orders in the State of Illinois, USACE is asking that comments be submitted electronically by May 11, 2020 to Mr. Robbie Sliwinski, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at robbie.sliwinski@usace.army.mil. Questions should be directed to Mr. Sliwinski at (312) 846-5486.

Sincerely,

Susanne J. Davis
Susanne J. Davis, P.E.
Chief, Planning Branch

Enclosures