

**ILLINOIS BEACH STATE PARK, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
SECTION 204 BENEFICIAL USE OF DREDGED MATERIAL**

APPENDIX G – COORDINATION



September 2013



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CHICAGO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
231 SOUTH LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604**

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G1. SECTION 404(B)(1) EVALUATION

I. Project Description

a. Location

The study area is part of the Lake Michigan coastline and is located in northeastern Illinois within the northeast boundary of Lake County. The proposed restoration project is located in the North Unit of Illinois Beach State Park. The Illinois Beach State Park, Section 204 study area includes of the 2-mile shoreline of the North Unit, which consists of the fore dunes, beach, and lacustrine zone of Lake Michigan.

b. General Description

The Preferred Plan includes the following measure as detailed in the Detailed Project Report/ Regional Sediment Management Plan:

Nearshore Littoral Placement

Dredged material from the Waukegan Harbor Approach Channel would be transported via barge approximately 8-miles to the North Unit of Illinois Beach State Park. Using a bottom dump scow, the dredged sand would be placed into the nearshore zone of Lake Michigan at a depth of approximately 18-20 feet. The general placement area will be the northern extends of the IBSP North Unit just south of North Point Marina, though the specific locations will need to be determined prior to each dredging event. The deposited sand will gradually migrate south via longshore sediment transport where it will naturally be dispersed to sand starved reaches of shore. This placement procedure will be repeated annually resulting in a total placement volume of 800,000 cubic yards into the littoral zone of Illinois Beach State Park. This activity is expected to occur over ten dredging cycles though the specific timing and quantities of each placement cycle will be depending on maintenance dredging funding for Waukegan Harbor.

c. Authority and Purpose

This study is authorized under Section 204 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992, as amended (P.L. 102-980). Section 204 authorizes the Corps to carry out projects for structural and non-structural flood control, hurricane and storm damage reduction, and environmental protection and restoration, in connection with dredging for construction, operation, or maintenance of an authorized navigation projects.

For more than a century, a combination of stressors related to both anthropogenic influences and natural processes have led to the deterioration of nearly all coastal habitats within Illinois. Lacustrine processes of littoral drift and wave/current patterns have been altered from their natural state through shoreline development; the construction of harbors, break walls, jetties, piers, etc. Coastal habitat can no longer rely on the natural replenishment and movement of sand down the coast since these structure now intercept a great deal of the material. It is apparent that littoral drift sands accumulate where humans have built structures and erode away from natural areas where there are no effective structures.

Illinois Beach State Park represents one of the few remaining areas, which has not been heavily altered by urbanization and coastal engineering. The park supports 14 natural communities and provides habitat for more than 500 plant species and 300 animal species, including several threatened and endangered species. However, shoreline erosion continues to threaten the dune, beach, and lacustrine habitats of the park. Specific problems that need to be addressed are detailed in **Section 2.2** of the Detailed Project Report (DPR).

d. Proposed Fill Material

1) General Characteristics

Fill material consists of medium/fine littoral sands that are dredged from the Waukegan Harbor Approach Channel.

2) Quantity

Quantity will be somewhat variable and dependent on dredging quantities at the Waukegan Harbor Approach Channel. Average dredging quantities are expected to be approximately 80,000 cubic yards per year. Placement will occur over ten dredging cycles for a total quantity of approximately 800,000 cubic yards.

3) Source

Fill material consists of medium/fine littoral sands that are dredged from the Waukegan Harbor Approach Channel. The original source of this material is likely from the eroding beaches of Illinois Beach State Park.

e. Proposed Discharge Site

1) Location

Dredged material would be discharged offshore of the North Unit of Illinois Beach State Park into approximately 18-20 feet of water.

2) Size, Type, and Habitat

See **Section 2.1.2** of Detailed Project Report for habitat descriptions.

3) Timing and Duration of Discharge

Discharge is expected to occur over a 10-year period in conjunction with routine maintenance dredging operations at Waukegan Harbor. Dredging operations are expected to occur on a one to two year cycle, with each dredging and disposal cycle extending for several weeks during the late summer or early fall.

f. Placement Method

Sandy dredged material will be towed via barge from Waukegan Harbor and will be placed into 18-20 feet of water using a bottom dump scow.

II. Factual Determinations

a. Physical Substrate Determinations

1) Substrate Elevation and Slope

The Low Water Datum (LWD) for Lake Michigan is 577.5 feet (International Great Lakes Datum 1985). Dredged material will be placed into the lake at a depth of 18-20 feet below LWD.

2) Sediment Type

Within the study area, the Lake Michigan lake bottom is comprised of glacial till covered by a thin layer of beach sand and gravel. Current lacustrine substrates that are transported through this drift cell include sands, cobbles and small boulders.

3) Material Movement

Material movement will naturally occur due to littoral and coastal processes – longshore and cross-shore sediment transport. Within this reach of Lake Michigan, the net direction of longshore transport is from north to south.

4) Physical Effects on Benthos

Benthic organisms are likely to be covered temporarily after sand placement. However, the physical substrate of the placement area is sand. Therefore, no major changes will occur within the physical benthic habitat except for the addition of more sand. No negative impacts are expected.

5) Other Effects

There would be no other significant substrate impacts.

6) Actions Taken to Minimize Impacts

No special measures would be taken to minimize the temporary or long-term impacts on physical substrates associated with the proposed activity since this project is both beneficial to ecology and water quality.

b. Water Circulation, Fluctuation, and Salinity Determinations

1) Water

The proposed fill activity would have no significant negative impacts to water chemistry, water clarity, color, odor, taste, dissolved gas levels, nutrients, or increased eutrophication as a result. Improvements in water clarity, color, dissolved oxygen levels, and levels of eutrophication will be noted in the long-term after placement of dredged material.

2) Current Patterns and Circulation

See **Section 2.1.1** of Detailed Project Report for descriptions of Coastal Geomorphology and Littoral Processes.

3) Normal Water Level Fluctuations

The proposed fill activity would have no impact on normal water level fluctuations of Lake Michigan.

4) Salinity Gradients

Not applicable to freshwater environments.

5) Actions Taken to Minimize Impacts

Material discharge will occur through a bottom dump scow to minimize sediment mixing and retention time. The purpose of the project is to take advantage of littoral currents to increase quantity and quality of coastal habitats.

c. Suspended Particulate/Turbidity Determinations

1) Expected Changes in Suspended Particulates and Turbidity in Vicinity of Fill

There would be minor increases in suspended particulates and turbidity levels in the immediate area of the proposed fill activity during construction.

2) Effects on Chemical and Physical Properties of Water Column

There would be negligible effects to light penetration or dissolved oxygen levels during construction. There are no known toxic metals, organics, or pathogens in the construction area. The placement of clean material will not introduce metal, organic, or pathogens to the project area.

3) Effects on Biota

Only beneficial effects on aquatic biota are expected to result from the restoration activities and minor increase in turbidity or suspended particulates associated with the proposed fill and sediment movement activity would be temporary and minor.

4) Actions Taken to Minimize Impacts

Material discharge will occur through a bottom dump scow to minimize sediment mixing and retention time. The purpose of the project is to take advantage of littoral currents to increase quantity and quality of coastal habitats.

d. Contaminant Determination

The proposed fill material would not introduce any new contaminants into Lake Michigan or release any significant amounts of existing contaminants (if any are present) into the lake. See Appendix E – Contaminant Determination for a complete discussion.

e. Aquatic Ecosystem and Organism Determinations

1) Effects on Plankton

Planktonic organisms may be impacted within the immediate vicinity of the placed sand. As the dredged material is placed nearshore, increased turbidity may impact some planktonic organisms from feeding. However, these increases in turbidity will be short lived and likely be similar to turbidity levels from a strong storm system. Therefore, any impacts to plankton will be minimal and have no significant impact.

2) Effects on Benthos

Benthic organisms within the drop zone of the dredged material are likely to be covered temporarily. Studies indicate that oligochaetes that live within the sand are the most abundant species in the area and will not be impacted. In the long term, more ecological benefits are expected to the surrounding ecosystem than the potential minor impacts to the benthos.

3) Effects on Nekton

Periods of dredging most often occur during the late summer and early fall, however dredging schedules can vary frequently. Many species of Great Lakes fishes spawn in the spring and fall seasons. If a majority of the dredging occurs during the summer and early fall, fish species that spawn in the spring will not be impacted. However, fall spawning fish may see some minor impacts. Any impacts observed will mostly be short-term, minor and will likely stem from being smothered. These impacts will only occur within the proposed sand placement areas and therefore only impact nekton within the immediate area. Increased turbidity caused from sand placement could impact larval fishes that depend on sight for feeding. But once again these will be short term impacts with similar turbidity levels to a strong thunderstorm and will improve as water clarity increases post sand placement. An important note to make is that no major tributaries are found immediately south of the proposed project area. Tributaries are a major source of spawning activity and suggest that the project should not have any major impacts on nekton within the project area.

4) Effects on Aquatic Food Web

Similar to previous statements, only short-term and minimal impacts are expected to occur to the food web. These impacts may be limited to sight feeding organisms as short term increases turbidity may minimize feeding behavior. These short-term disturbances in feeding behavior should not have any major impacts on the aquatic food web. As water clarity increases in the following days, feeding behavior should return to normal.

5) Effects on Aquatic Sites

- a) Sanctuaries and Refuges – none present; no significant impact
- b) Wetlands – preserves important coastal wetland pockets
- c) Mud Flats – none present; no significant impact
- d) Vegetated Shallows – none present; no significant impact
- e) Coral Reefs – not applicable to freshwater environments
- f) Riffle and Pool Complexes – none present; no significant impact

6) Threatened and Endangered Species

Implementation of the proposed project would only benefit endangered or threatened species if they colonize the project site. Currently, one Federally endangered bird, Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) is found within the project area. In addition, numerous state listed species have been recorded. The project will help preserve critical coast habitat, restore littoral function, and perhaps maintain habitat used by common tern (*Sterna hirundo*) and Forster's tern (*Sterna forsteri*) as well as the longnose sucker (*Catostomus catostomus*) and lake herring (*Coregonus artedii*). Several state listed plant species were recorded within the project area, which include: marram grass (*Ammophila breviligulata*), Kalms' St. John's-Wort (*Hypericum kalmianum*), Bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) Creeping Juniper (*Juniperus horizontalis*), Northern Cranesbill (*Geranium bicknellii*) and beach rocket (*Cakile edentula*). USACE has determined that there would be no adverse affects, temporary or minor, to threatened and endangered species.

Coordination with the U.S. FWS was commenced on 26 July 2011 with a project scoping letter. Upon review of this document, the U.S. FWS concluded that the project is not likely to adversely affect federal or state listed species, and their letter dated 21 September 2011, precluded the need for further consultation on the ISBP Section 204 study as required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

7) Other Wildlife

No other wildlife would be significantly impacted by the proposed activity.

8) Actions Taken to Minimize Impacts

A bottom drop scow will be used to minimize turbidity.

f. Proposed Discharge Site Determinations

1) Mixing Zone Determination

A mixing zone is not applicable to this project as no violation of applicable water quality standards is expected during construction.

2) Determination of Compliance with Applicable Water Quality Standards

The proposed activity would not cause significant or long-term degradation of water quality within Lake Michigan and would comply with all applicable water quality standards.

3) Potential Effects on Human use Characteristics

No significant impacts to municipal and private water supplies, water-related recreation, aesthetics, recreational, or commercial fisheries are expected. No known National Parks, National and Historic Monuments, National Seashores, Wilderness Areas, Research Sites, and Similar Preserves are present. There are no significant adverse effects expected.

g. Cumulative Effects on the Aquatic Ecosystem

The proposed project would restore aquatic habitat structure and function. There are no significant adverse effects expected. See **Section 4.5** of Detailed Project Report for Cumulative Effects Assessment.

h. Secondary Effects on the Aquatic Ecosystem

No significant impacts on the Lake Michigan or ravine ecosystems are expected as a result of the proposed activity.

III. Findings of Compliance with Restrictions on Discharge

a. No adaptation of the Section 404(b)(1) guidelines was made for this evaluation.

b. No practical alternatives are available that produce fewer adverse aquatic impacts than the proposed plan.

c. The proposed project would comply with applicable water quality standards.

d. The project is in compliance with applicable Toxic Effluent Standards under Section 307 of the Clean Water Act; with the Endangered Species Act of 1973; with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966; and with the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972.

e. The proposed fill activity would have no significant adverse impact on human health or welfare, including municipal and private water supplies, recreational and commercial fisheries, plankton, fish, shellfish, or wildlife communities (including community diversity, productivity, and stability), special aquatic sites, or recreational, aesthetic, and economic values.

f. Typical erosion control measures would be taken to minimize construction impacts other than selection of the least environmentally damaging construction alternative.

g. On the basis of the Guidelines, the proposed site for the discharge of fill material is specified as complying with the requirements of these guidelines with the inclusion of appropriate and practical conditions to minimize pollution or adverse impacts to the aquatic ecosystem.

G2. DRAFT FONSI

Finding of No Significant Impact Illinois Beach State Park, Section 204 Beneficial Use of Dredged Material

Background

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources requested that the Chicago District, USACE initiate a study to ascertain the feasibility of utilizing dredged material from the Waukegan Harbor Approach Channel for ecosystem restoration at Illinois Beach State Park.

This study is authorized under Section 204 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992, as amended (P.L. 102-980). Section 204 authorizes the Corps to carry out projects for structural and non-structural flood control, hurricane and storm damage reduction, and environmental protection and restoration, in connection with dredging for construction, operation, or maintenance of an authorized navigation project.

The Preferred Plan includes littoral restoration of the Illinois Beach State Park (IBSP) coastal zone. Lacustrine, beach, and dune habitat is currently threatened by shoreline erosion caused by sand starved conditions in the littoral drift system. Without stabilization, coastal habitats within the North Unit of IBSP will continue to erode at a rate of more than 1 acre per year. With the implementation of the Preferred Plan, Waukegan Harbor Approach Channel dredged material will be supplied to the littoral drift system at an expected rate of 80,000 cubic yards per year – the estimated sediment deficit of the littoral system. Stabilized coastal conditions would improve the richness and abundance of native floristic species currently residing in project area.

Under the Preferred Plan, dredged material from the Waukegan Harbor Approach Channel would be transported via barge approximately 8-miles to the North Unit of Illinois Beach State Park. Using a bottom dump scow, the dredged sand would be placed into the nearshore zone of Lake Michigan at a depth of approximately 18-20 feet. The general placement area will be the northern extends of the IBSP North Unit just south of North Point Marina, though the specific locations will need to be determined prior to each dredging event. The deposited sand will gradually migrate south via longshore sediment transport where it will naturally be dispersed to sand starved reaches of shore. This placement procedure will be repeated annually resulting in a total placement volume of 800,000 cubic yards into the littoral zone of Illinois Beach State Park. This activity is expected to occur over ten dredging cycles though the specific timing and quantities of each placement cycle will be depending on future operations and maintenance funding for Waukegan Harbor.

c. Authority and Purpose

This study is authorized under Section 204 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992, as amended (P.L. 102-980). Section 204 authorizes the Corps to carry out projects for structural and non-structural flood control, hurricane and storm damage reduction, and environmental protection and restoration, in connection with dredging for construction, operation, or maintenance of an authorized navigation project.

Over the past several centuries, a combination of stressors related to both anthropogenic influences and natural processes have led to the deterioration of nearly all coastal habitats within Illinois. Lacustrine processes of littoral drift and wave/current patterns have been altered from their natural state through shoreline development; the construction of harbors, break walls, jetties, piers, etc. Coastal habitat can no longer rely on the natural replenishment and movement of sand down the coast since these structures now intercept a great deal of the material. It is apparent that littoral drift sands accumulate where humans have built structures and erode away from natural areas where there are no effective structures.

Illinois Beach State Park represents one of the few remaining areas, which has not been heavily altered by urbanization and coastal engineering. The park supports 14 natural communities and provides habitat for more than 500 plant species and 300 animal species, including several threatened and endangered species. However, shoreline erosion continues to threaten the dune, beach, and lacustrine habitats of the park. Specific problems that need to be addressed are detailed in **Section 2.2** of the Detailed Project Report (DPR).

Brief Summary of Findings

The Environmental Assessment (EA) identified direct, indirect and cumulative effects of a set of measures that were part of three alternative plans: 1) No Action, 2) Littoral Nearshore Placement, and 3) Direct Beach Placement. The Littoral Nearshore Placement Plan would provide for the placement of dredged sand into shallow water areas along the Illinois Beach State Park shoreline, while the Direct Beach Placement Plan would result in the dredged sand being spread directly onto the beach of the park. The National Ecosystem Restoration (NER) and the Preferred Plan is the Littoral Nearshore Placement Plan.

No Action Plan

Under the future without project conditions or No Action Plan, lacustrine, beach, and dune habitat of the Illinois Beach State Park North Unit is expected to further decline due to continued shoreline erosion caused by highly impaired littoral processes. The 2-mile shoreline of the park's North Unit, which has historically experienced the most severe erosion in Illinois, is expected to continue eroding at a rate of more than 1-acre per year. The State of Illinois will likely continue to engage in ad hoc nourishment activities similar to those conducted over the past decade, though no long-term coastal restoration plan is expected to occur.

The NER/Preferred Plan

The National Ecosystem Restoration (NER) Plan is the Preferred Plan, which is the Littoral Nearshore Placement Plan. Dredged material from the Waukegan Harbor Approach Channel would be transported via barge approximately 8-miles to the North Unit of Illinois Beach State Park. Using a bottom dump scow, the dredged sand would be placed into the nearshore zone of Lake Michigan at a depth of 18-20 feet. The general placement area will be the northern extends of the IBSP North Unit just south of North Point Marina, though the specific locations will need to be determined prior to each dredging event. The deposited sand will gradually migrate south via longshore sediment transport where it will naturally be dispersed to sand starved reaches of shore. This placement procedure will be repeated annually resulting in a total placement quantity of 800,000 cubic yards into the littoral zone of Illinois Beach State Park. This activity is expected to occur over ten dredging cycles though the specific timing

and quantities of each placement cycle will be depending on future maintenance dredging activities at Waukegan Harbor.

Discussion of Environmental Compliance

The NER/ Preferred Plan presented is in compliance with appropriate statutes and executive orders including the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended; the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1934 as amended; Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice); Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands); Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management); and the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 as amended; the Clean Air Act of 1970 as amended and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as amended.

Mitigation

No mitigation is required for this project.

Environmental Justice E012898

To the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law, and consistent with the principles set forth in the report on the National Performance Review, each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States and its territories and possessions, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands. The preferred plan would not have any adverse effects to any populations including minority and low-income populations.

Clean Air Act

Due to the small scale, short duration and relatively unpolluted nature of the restoration project, it is assumed that the project is below the de minimis level of PM 100 tons per year. As a reference, other USACE projects that are much grander in scale and earthwork have General Conformity Act emissions well below the PM 100 tons per year.

Section 401 & 404 of the Clean Water Act

A Section 404 analysis was completed for the Preferred Plan. Features addressed by the 404 include the dredged sand for restoring natural littoral drift. No adverse effects to water quality or aquatic habitat were determined.

The Waukegan Harbor Approach Channel maintenance dredging and disposal currently operates under permit 2005-LM-2830 from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and permit LM2005003 from Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IL DNR). The permits were received in 2005, and modified in 2008 and 2009. The existing permits expire in 2014, however new permits will be applied for in order to continue maintenance of the federal channel. The activities described for the Preferred Plan will be conducted under these permits.

USFWS Coordination

Coordination with the U.S. FWS and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) was commenced on 26 July 2011 with a project scoping letter. Upon review of this document, the U.S. FWS concluded that the project is not likely to adversely affect federal or state listed species, and their letter dated 21 September 2011 as required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Instead the letter states that the project will likely benefit the Federally Endangered Piping Plover. However, USFWS stated they would like to assess the dredged material to ensure that it is not contaminated.

State of Illinois Historic Preservation Act

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 4701) and 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the staff of the Illinois State Historic Preservation Officer (Illinois SHPO) has conducted an analysis of the materials dated 26 July 2011. Based upon the documentation available, the staff of the Illinois SHPO has identified that no historic properties are affected in letters dated 8 August 2013 and 8 August 2011.

Public Interest

An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared for the project and sent to Federal, State and local agencies along with the general public for review. A 30-day Public Review period was held from **__ November 2013 to __ December 2013** for the Environmental Assessment. Significant comments from the Federal, State or local agencies or the public were addressed and are attached to this FONSI. All comments and correspondence are attached to this FONSI.

Conclusion

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and Section 122 of the River and Harbor and Flood Control Act of 1970, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has assessed the environmental impacts associated with this project. The purpose of this integrated Feasibility Study and Environmental Assessment is to evaluate the impacts that would be associated with restoration and preservation for 30 acres of lacustrine habitat. . The proposed project has been determined to be in full compliance with the appropriate statutes, executive orders and USACE regulations.

The assessment process indicates that this project would not cause significant effects on the quality of the human environment. The assessment process indicates that this project would have only beneficial impacts upon the ecological, biological, social, or physical resources of this area, and would provide environmental benefits to the Lake Michigan coastal zone and the Great Lakes as a whole. The findings indicate that that the proposed action is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, I have determined that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

Frederic A. Drummond Jr.
Colonel, U.S. Army
District Commander

Date: _____

G3. Agency Coordination

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Environmental Review Branch
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77 West Jackson
Chicago, IL 60604

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Chicago Illinois Field Office
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Attn; Louise Clemency

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1 Old State Capitol Plaza
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Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
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Citizen Potawatomi Nation
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Forest County Potawatomi Exec. Council
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Crandon, WI 54520

Nottawaseppi Huron Potawatomi Tribal Office
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Fulton, MI 49052

Hannahville Potawatomi Comm., Council
N 14911 Hannahville Road
Wilson, MI 49896-9728

Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Council
16281 Q RD
Mayetta, KS 66509

Pokagon Band of Band of Potawatomi Indians
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CHICAGO DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
111 NORTH CANAL STREET
CHICAGO IL 60606-7206

Planning Branch
Environmental Formulation Section

Kenneth Westlake, Chief
Environmental Review Branch
U.S. EPA ME-19J
77 West Jackson
Chicago, IL 60604

7/26/11

Dear Mr. Westlake:

The Chicago District is preparing a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document on impacts of an ecosystem restoration project utilizing dredged material at Illinois Beach State Park, Lake County, Illinois. As part of the scoping process the Chicago District would appreciate your comments. A map of the project area is enclosed.

The project area is comprised of the Lake Michigan shoreline of Illinois Beach State Park. Clean dredged material will be brought from the approach channel of Waukegan Harbor and redistributed at Illinois Beach State Park for beach renurishment.

I am particularly interested in your comments regarding impacts to aquatic habitat and threatened or endangered species. Please reply within 30 days, marking your reply to the attention of Mr. Peter Bullock, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 111 North Canal Street, Suite 600, Chicago, Illinois 60606. Questions may be directed to Mr. Bullock at 312/846-5587, or at peter.y.bullock@usace.army.mil. Your assistance is appreciated.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure

MFR: Routine scoping letter as required by NEPA.

07/26/11
Bullock PM-PL-E 11/3
Fleming PM-PL-E 7/26/11
Roach PM-PM 7/26/11 RL
Davis PM=PL-E 7/26/11

Bullock, Peter Y LRC

From: Shawn_Cirton@fws.gov
Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2011 9:59 AM
To: Bullock, Peter Y LRC
Cc: Kristopher_Lah@fws.gov; Edward_Karecki@fws.gov
Subject: Scoping comments for the Illinois Beach State Park project

Peter,

We believe the Illinois Beach State Park ecosystem restoration project can benefit wildlife resources in the shoreline area. In particular, the project could benefit the federally endangered piping plover. However, we have concerns about the use of dredged material from the approach channel of the Waukegan Harbor.

We look forward to reviewing your NEPA document to assess whether the dredged material is not contaminated and to assess the benefits to wildlife resources.

Shawn

Shawn Cirton
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
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(847)381-2253 xt.19
Wednesdays and Fridays - USACOE - (312)846-5545 <http://midwest.fws.gov/chicago>

The mission of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

<<http://midwest.fws.gov/chicago>>



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

AUG 10 2011

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

E-19J

Peter Bullock
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Chicago District
111 North Canal Street, Suite 600
Chicago, Illinois 60606-7206

RE: Illinois Beach State Park (IBSP) Nourishment with dredged material from approach channel of Waukegan Harbor, City of Zion, Lake County, Illinois

Dear Mr. Bullock:

Thank you for your letter of July 26, 2011 requesting comments regarding impacts to aquatic habitat and threatened or endangered species. The request was associated with a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) proposal to dredge the approach channel of Waukegan Harbor and redistribute the dredged material at the Illinois Beach State Park (IBSP) North Unit in Zion, Illinois. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed your correspondence as well as additional information on the proposal (USACE's Determination of Federal Interest (DFI) Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) Fact Sheet) received electronically via e-mail from you on August 5, 2011.

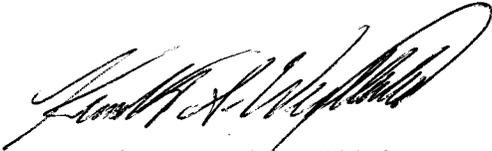
Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, EPA reviews and comments on major federal actions. Typically, these reviews focus on Environmental Impact Statements, but we also have the discretion to review and comment on other environmental documents prepared under NEPA, if interest and resources permit.

EPA is cognizant that the most severe shoreline recession along the Illinois coast occurs in the North Unit of IBSP and that since the late 1980s, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has used beach nourishment as the primary means of managing ongoing shore erosion. IDNR has determined that sand captured by USACE's annual maintenance dredging at the entrance to Waukegan Harbor is nearly all derived from erosion along the IBSP shoreline. Once this sand is dredged at the Waukegan Harbor entrance, returning this sand by barge to the updrift beach or shallow nearshore at the north end of the IBSP (a sand management technique called "backpassing") is an efficient means to conserve sand resources along the state park shore and manage the long-term erosional trends. Further, in discussions with Michael Chrzastowski, Ph.D., Senior Coastal Geologist for the Illinois State Geological Survey, EPA has learned that the State of Illinois needs this sand to assist in working toward a balanced sediment budget along the IBSP shoreline.

EPA has determined that there are no significant concerns to aquatic habitat or threatened or endangered species that merit comment at this time. However, we recommend that during barge transport from Waukegan Harbor to IBSP, that the barge attempt to release the dredged material as close into shore as feasible so that the sand is most accessible to wave action and downdrift (southward) transport.

Please send us future NEPA documents on this project as they become available. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Liz Pelloso of my staff at 312-886-7425 or via email at pelloso.elizabeth@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth A. Westlake". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Kenneth A. Westlake, Chief
NEPA Implementation Section
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance



**Illinois Historic
Preservation Agency**

FAX 217/782-8161

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1512 • www.illinois-history.gov

Lake County
Zion
1 Lake Front Drive
COEC
Ecosystem restoration - Illinois Beach State Park, Lake Michigan shoreline

PLEASE REFER TO: IHPA LOG #006080111

August 8, 2013

Peter Bullock
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District
231 S. LaSalle St., Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Mr. Bullock:

We have reviewed the documentation submitted for the referenced project(s) in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4. Based upon the information provided, no historic properties are affected. We, therefore, have no objection to the undertaking proceeding as planned.

Please retain this letter in your files as evidence of compliance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. This clearance remains in effect for two (2) years from date of issuance. It does not pertain to any discovery during construction, nor is it a clearance for purposes of the Illinois Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act (20 ILCS 3440).

If you are an applicant, please submit a copy of this letter to the state or federal agency from which you obtain any permit, license, grant, or other assistance.

Sincerely,

Anne E. Haaker
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer



Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1512 • www.illinois-history.gov

Lake County
Zion

PLEASE REFER TO: IHPA LOG #006080111

1 Lake Front Drive
Ecosystem restoration - Illinois Beach State Park, Lake Michigan shoreline

August 8, 2011

Peter Bullock
Department of The Army
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Chicago District
111 North Canal Street, Suite 600
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Mr. Bullock:

We have reviewed the documentation submitted for the referenced project(s) in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4. Based upon the information provided, no historic properties are affected. We, therefore, have no objection to the undertaking proceeding as planned.

Please retain this letter in your files as evidence of compliance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. This clearance remains in effect for two (2) years from date of issuance. It does not pertain to any discovery during construction, nor is it a clearance for purposes of the Illinois Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act (20 ILCS 3440).

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Sincerely,

Anne E. Haaker
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Preservation Officer