



Illinois Department of
Natural Resources **MEMORANDUM**

To: Director Wayne Rosenthal
From: Director Rafael Gutierrez, OLE *RFM 353*
Date: 07/09/15
Subject: Conditions on the Middle Fork (Vermillion River) In Vermillion County

Conservation Police Region 3, District 19, Supervisor John Williamson reported rising flood waters, dangerous currents, floating and submerged debris, and sharp turns in the course of the river have created conditions significantly hazardous for navigation on the Middle Fork River from the north boundary of Potomac City Park to the south boundary of Kickapoo State Park. The conditions also make it treacherous for emergency response personnel who are called upon to respond to and rescue persons involved in boating mishaps. Vermillion County Emergency Management Agency concurs with the assessment.

The Middle Fork of the Vermillion River level above Oakwood, IL is 5.7 feet with a discharge of 2,940 cfs at 9:45 a.m.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has authorization to designate Restricted Boating Areas during hazardous conditions as cited in the following:

Section 2030.80 Hazardous Navigation Conditions - Designated Restricted Boating Areas

In the event that the Department of Natural Resources determines the presence of conditions that make navigation of a body of water significantly dangerous to the public, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources may, in coordination with the federal government, designate Restricted Boating Areas on any affected body of water within the jurisdiction of the State of Illinois. This designation shall be made by public announcement in local media and by posting at local public boat launches and marinas, and the restricted area shall be physically marked by buoys, signs, manned watercraft or yellow police tape. This designation will remain in effect until the Director of the Department of Natural Resources determines that navigation is no longer significantly dangerous to the public, but in no case shall the designation remain in effect longer than 90 days. Recision of the Restricted Boating Area designation shall be publicly announced in local media and posted at local public boat launches and marinas and any markings shall be removed.

(Source: Added at 29 Ill. Reg. 15550, effective September 27, 2005)

I recommend that the Middle Fork (Vermillion River) from the north boundary of Potomac City Park to the south boundary of Kickapoo State Park be designated as a Restricted Boating Area effective July 09, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. If you approve, please sign below and the Conservation Police will coordinate the Restricted Boating Area with the local authorities.


Approved By Director Wayne Rosenthal *7-9-15* Date