



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

April 23, 2014

District Engineers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District
Clock Tower Building
P.O. Box 2004
Rock Island, IL 61204-2004
ATTN: Regional Planning and Environmental Division North (Charlene Carmack)

Project Name

Marseilles Lock and Dam - Permanent Repairs

Dear Ms. Carmack:

In reference to the above mentioned project, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (Department) has reviewed the letter dated March 24, 2014 explaining plans to permanently repair the Marseilles Lock and Dam. The Department understands that a drawdown is not anticipated to complete these repairs. If it is later determined that a drawdown is necessary, a well-organized mussel salvage event should be coordinated between the agencies. Nearly 15,000 mussels representing 23 species were salvaged last year during the drawdown for emergency repairs. This event also led to the discovery of a federally endangered scaleshell (*Leptodea leptodon*) mussel, which has not been found alive in the Illinois River for over 100 years. More time and manpower would have produced even more impressive results. Please inform the Department at the earliest opportunity if a drawdown will be needed.

The Department has no objections to the work required to permanently repair the Marseilles Lock and Dam. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please contact me at 217-524-0501 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Nathan Grider
Biologist
Impact Assessment, OREP

This recommendation regarding the issuance/denial of the US Army Corps of Engineers permit by the IDNR, Office of Realty and Environmental Planning does not preclude permit decisions made by the IDNR, Office of Water Resources under the Illinois Rivers, Lakes, and Streams Act.