



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

August 27, 2014

Keith Wozniak
United States Army Corps of Engineers
Senior Project Manager, Chicago District
231 S. LaSalle St, Suite 1500
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Re: McNamee and John Hill Parks Improvements, Carpentersville, IL
Project Number(s): 1501951 (USACE, LRC 2014-00434)

Dear Mr. Wozniak:

In reference to the above mentioned project, The Department received a letter dated August 11, 2014 from Jeffrey Mengler of Hey and Associates, Inc. requesting consultation relevant to issuance of a USACE permit. The project involves the addition of new picnic tables, bike racks, benches, trash receptacles, and fishing access points. The project also includes bank stabilization work with boulder toe protection and native plantings. Work is planned below the OHWM, but will most likely be conducted during low flow and “in the dry.”

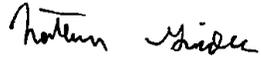
The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT identified the state-threatened river redhorse (*Moxostoma carinatum*) as occurring in the project vicinity. The Department has reviewed the information and concluded that negative impacts to the river redhorse are unlikely as long as work is conducted in the dry and standard erosion control measures are implemented. If work must be done “in the wet,” please contact the Department for further guidance to prevent impacts to the river redhorse. The Department has no objections to issuance of a USACE permit.

Also, the Department recommends the project managers consider planting American water-willow (*Justicia americana*) at water’s edge, below the boulder toe to increase habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms. It is the Departments understanding that native Fox River, American water-willow plugs are available through local distributors.

Please note that this review 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, please contact me at 217-524-0501 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan Grider". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N'.

Nathan Grider
Biologist
Impact Assessment, OREP

cc: Jeffrey Mengler, Hey and Associates, Inc.