



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

November 19, 2014

Kirsten Brown
Rock Island USACE
P.O. Box 2004
Rock Island, IL 61204 2004

RE: Growmark, Inc. Dredging, Seneca Terminal
Project Number(s): 1505906 (P-2013-153)
County: LaSalle

Dear Ms. Brown:

This letter is in reference to the above mentioned project involving dredging using mechanical methods at the Growmark, Inc. facility in Seneca, IL. The project will be completed in two phases with phase one removing 2,000 cubic yards and phase two removing 11,000 cubic yards of material. Dredging will then continue as needed approximately every 2-3 years. The dredge spoils will be disposed of in an upland field and seeded.

The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT identified recent records of the state-threatened banded killifish (*Fundulus diaphanus*) in the vicinity of the proposed action. The Department recommends no dredging operations occur between April 15 and July 31 to avoid impacts during the primary spawning season of the banded killifish and other fishes.

Recent records of the state and federally-endangered scaleshell mussel (*Leptodea leptodon*) also exist in the project vicinity. The Department recommends a mussel survey be conducted by a qualified biologist to determine if state or federally-listed mussel species occur in the project area and the likelihood of impacts. The primary investigator should obtain the appropriate permits from the Department.

Given these recommendations are adopted; the Department has no objection to issuance of a USACE permit. The Department requests notification if Growmark, Inc. plans to modify the proposed action to accommodate these recommendations or proceed as originally planned.

Please note that this review by the IDNR, Impact Assessment Section does not preclude permit decisions made by the IDNR Office of Water Resources under the Illinois Rivers, Lakes, and Streams Act.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Nathan Grider
Division of Natural Heritage
217-785-5500

cc: Doug Carney (IDNR)
Jon Duyvejonck (USFWS)