



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

January 2, 2015

Soren Hall
USACE, Chicago
231 S. LaSalle St, Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60604

Quarystone Breakwater 55 South Deere Park Drive
Project Number(s): 1507371 [LRC-2014-00840]
County: Lake

Dear Mr. Hall:

This letter is in reference to the above mentioned project involving construction of a breakwater along Lake Michigan at 55 S. Deere Park Drive in Highland Park, IL. This office previously commented on this project through the Office of Water Resources permit application process in a letter dated December 10, 2014. The same comments are provided to your office below:

The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT identified protected resources that may be in the vicinity of the proposed action. The Department has evaluated this information and concluded that adverse effects are unlikely. However, the Department recommends the following measures be considered to improve habitat for aquatic organisms in Lake Michigan:

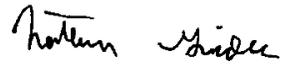
- Quarried stone is planned to construct a breakwater. The Department recommends softball to bowling ball sized stones be incorporated where possible to create interstitial spaces for aquatic life. This habitat has been shown to produce more invertebrate prey organisms (e.g., scuds, chironomid larvae, and crayfish) for fishes than larger boulders. The assortment of interstitial spaces will also provide a range of habitat for the state-threatened mudpuppy (*Necturus maculosus*) present in Lake Michigan.

Given this recommendation is considered; the Department has no objection to issuance of a USACE permit. The Department requests notification if the applicant plans to modify the proposed action to accommodate this recommendation 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this review.

Sincerely

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

Nathan Grider
Biologist
Impact Assessment,
217-524-0501

cc: Jim Casey – IDNR, OWR