



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

Bruce Rauner, Governor
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Acting Director

August 24, 2015

Frank Jakubicek
IDNR-Fisheries
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62701 1787

**RE: Channel Lake Low Dose Chemical Treatment 1601185 &
Mechanical Removal 1601182 – Cosentino Residents
Project Number(s): 1600561 & 1601182
County: Lake**

Dear Mr. Jakubicek:

This letter is in reference to the above project recently submitted for consultation. The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT identified protected resources in the vicinity of the proposed action. The Department has evaluated this information and makes the following recommendations:

The applicant proposes to treat 80 feet lakeward, which exceeds the 75 feet rule in Part 895.50(d)5. The treatment should be limited to 75 feet unless the applicant can justify the larger treatment area for maintenance of navigation channels, piers or other facilities used by organizations or the public, including commercial facilities...

Records of the state-threatened blackchin shiner (*Notropis heterodon*) and Iowa darter (*Etheostoma exile*) occur within Channel Lake. Channel lake is also designated as an Illinois Natural Area Inventory site. To mitigate potential impacts, the Department recommends the use of spot treatment whenever feasible and no herbicide treatment from June 15 to August 1 to protect the spawning season of these fishes. The Department also recommends strict adherence to Part 895.50(b) regarding reduced application rates with a not-to-exceed dosage limit.

The Department has also reviewed the proposal to conduct mechanical removal of aquatic vegetation in the same project area using a Truxor with rake attachment. Due to the likelihood of taking state-listed fishes using this method, the Department recommends a condition be included that the applicant execute an Incidental Take Authorization for blackchin shiner and Iowa darter with the Department's Office of Resource Conservation. All matters pertaining to ITA should be directed to Jenny Skufca (Jenny.Skufca@illinois.gov).

Further, the Department is concerned about potential negative impacts to the lake bottom due to the operation of the tracks on the amphibious Truxor machine. Overall, mechanical removal using this vehicle should be avoided, if possible, in Channel Lake due to the existence of rare

and protected natural resources.

Consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 is terminated. This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathan Grider".

Nathan Grider
Division of Ecosystems and Environment
217-785-5500

cc: Jenny Skufca - IDNR