

FEDERAL AID SECTION 7 EVALUATION FORM**PHASE I: COMPLETED BY STATE**

For federal assistance programs administered by the USFWS (Division of Federal Aid.)

State: IllinoisAgency: Department of Natural ResourcesProgram: Boating Infrastructure Grant Program

Grant Proposal, Agreement, or Amendment

Title and Number: Illinois Tier 2 Intergovernmental AgreementGrant Period: 7/1/03 through 12/31/06**I. Species/Critical Habitat:** List species or critical habitat that occur within the action area¹.

This marina project will take place on the Illinois shore of the Mississippi River at Fulton in Whiteside County, Illinois. The main project site is currently occupied by a decrepit marina facility which will be removed to allow construction of a new facility. Federal endangered, threatened or candidate species known to occur or that may potentially occur in Whiteside County are Indiana bat and bald eagle. There are no records of the Higgins-eye pearly mussel from the Mississippi River adjacent to Whiteside County, but there are records from waters adjoining nearby counties and it is possible that Higgins-eye also occurs in the Whiteside County reach of the river. There is no designated or proposed critical habitat in or near Whiteside County.

II. Project Description: Describe project or, if referencing other documents (e.g. GP), prepare an executive summary.

Project will include demolition of buildings, earthwork, shoreline riprap, erosion control, pedestrian lighting, boat slips (includes electric, water, dock and anchoring system), service building (includes showers, laundry, lockers, boating supplies, office), asphalt seasonal trail, landscaping, floating fuel building, mobilization.

This project also requires dredging to provide access to the marina. Potential sites for disposal of dredged material include the Fulton Wastewater Treatment Plant, located just south of the marina site or the old City of Fulton landfill site, located approximately 1.75 miles northeast of the marina site.

For access and safety reasons, it is anticipated that four trees, each approximately 12 inches diameter at breast height will be removed from the bank of the Mississippi River. The project also includes the construction of a cross levee (berm) across the upstream end of the side channel on which the marina is located. Culverts will be installed in the cross levee to allow continued flow through the side channel.

¹Action Area = all areas potentially affected (directly or indirectly) by the proposed action (50 CFR 402.02)

III. State Review & Recommendation: Identify the effects of the proposed project on species/critical habitat occurring within the action area. Check (X) all applicable categories and list of species associated with each recommendation. (Note: Multiple recommendations on one form is acceptable.)

a) *"No Species/Critical Habitat Present"* This recommendation is appropriate when no listed/proposed/candidate species or designated/proposed critical habitat occur within the action area (no species list is required).

b) *"No Effect"* This recommendation is appropriate when the proposed project will not directly or indirectly affect (negatively or beneficially) individuals of listed/proposed/candidate species or designated/proposed critical habitat of such species. List species applicable to this recommendation (or attach list):

Indiana bat

c) *"Not Likely to Adversely Affect"* This recommendation is appropriate when the proposed action is not likely to adversely impact individuals of listed/proposed/candidate species or designated/proposed critical habitat of such species.

List species applicable to this recommendation and complete section IV (or attach list):

Bald eagle

Higgins-eye pearly mussel

d) *"Likely to Adversely Affect"* This recommendation is appropriate when the proposed action is likely to adversely impact individuals of listed/proposed/candidate species or designated/proposed critical habitat of such species.

List species applicable to this recommendation and complete section IV (or attach list):

IV. Documentation of State Recommendation: For each *"Not Likely to Adversely Affect"* and *"Likely to Adversely Affect"* recommendation, attach an explanation of such finding for all applicable species or critical habitat. Documentation should include a discussion of each of the following: (1) species status - population trends, distribution in action area, (2) habitat status - critical or noncritical, species use such as breeding/migrating, feeding in action area, and (3) impacts of action - how the proposed action will affect species/critical habitat (consider direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts).

If it is determined that four trees must be removed from the Mississippi River bank, those trees will be removed only during those months in which Indiana bats are not active in riparian areas. Removal will be within guidelines established for the protection of Indiana bats. This will preclude any adverse effect on Indiana bats and will also have no positive effect on the species.

Bald eagle use of the area is limited to the winter months when eagles forage and loaf along the Mississippi River. Removal of trees from the bank will reduce the number of trees available as potential perches, but that reduction will be negligible. Any use of trees at the marina site is probably limited because of the developed nature of the site and human activity within the City of Fulton. Adverse effects on bald eagles are very unlikely.

A survey of the aquatic portion of the project area was completed by Illinois Department of Natural Resources staff on April 27, 2004. That survey located only four common species of freshwater mussels (*Amblema plicata*, *Obliquaria reflexa*, *Quadrula pustulosa*, *Pyganodon grandis*). The low diversity of mussels found and the substrate characteristics at the site led to the conclusion that the presence of federal listed/proposed/candidate species is unlikely.

None of the federal endangered, threatened or candidate species known to occur or potentially occurring in Whiteside County are likely to occupy the two alternate sites for disposal of dredged material (wastewater treatment plant and old landfill site). Placement of the dredged material at either of these sites is not likely to affect species of federal concern.

State Signature: *(signature indicates impacts on all federally listed species within the applicable State have been considered and documented)*

State Endangered Species Coordinator: *Drew House* Date *5/11/04*

State Federal Aid Coordinator: *Tom P. Vohler* Date *5/12/04*