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FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

**SUGAR CREEK BANK FAILURE REPAIR
NEAR MISSISSIPPI RIVER MILE 768.9L ABOVE HEAD OF PASSES
TIPTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Memphis District, intends to stabilize approximately 300 feet of the left descending bank at the mouth of Sugar Creek with stone near Mississippi River Mile 768.9L above head of passes (AHP) in Tipton County, Tennessee. During the fall of 2022, the Mississippi River was at a record low stage. During this time a significant rainfall event occurred in the project area with excessive runoff. This runoff created a head cut at the confluence of Sugar Creek and the Mississippi River, causing significant bank erosion along the west (left descending) bank of the mouth of Sugar Creek. The bed elevation in this area of the creek was reduced by 10 feet and over 15 vertical feet of scour occurred along the bank, threatening the integrity of the existing Richardson Landing Revetment along the banks of the Mississippi River.

The proposed work will consist of placing approximately 4,800 tons of bank paving using Graded Stone C (400 pounds max stone size) for approximately 300 feet along the bank. This stone will overlap the existing revetment by 20 feet and 280 feet will be placed on a previously unprotected bank of Sugar Creek. Stone paving will be a minimum of 6 feet thick, placed no steeper than 1.5H:1V, and extend from top bank to the toe of the slope without encroaching on the approximate centerline of Sugar Creek to ensure adequate protection against future head cutting.

A draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to determine the potential impacts of the proposed work on terrestrial resources and wildlife; wetlands; threatened and endangered species; cultural resources; socio-economic resources; environmental justice; air quality; water quality and hydrology; aquatic resources and fisheries; greenhouse gases; navigation; hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste (HTRW); cumulative impacts; and the human environment.

The proposed action would have no effect on the federally endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) as determined using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. The proposed activities are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the proposed endangered tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), proposed threatened alligator snapping turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*), or candidate monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexipus*). Requirements of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act have been fulfilled. Investigations into HTRW activities near the project area revealed that no known HTRW sites would be impacted by the proposed project. Pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act the proposed rock placement is within the limits of the terms and conditions of Nationwide Permit 13 for bank stabilization, and a general aquatic resources alteration permit (ARAP) which serves as the Section 401 water quality certification was received from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation on September 7, 2023. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1), the District Archaeologist has determined that this project has no potential to cause effects to historic properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Thus, no further Section 106

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(National Historic Preservation Act) consultation is required. However, if prehistoric or historic artifacts, human bones, or other archaeological materials subject to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) are found during construction, all activities would cease immediately in that area and the Memphis District Archaeologist would be contacted. State Historic Preservation Office and tribal NAGPRA representatives, the local sheriff, etc., would be contacted as required by state and federal law.

A public notice and Draft Environmental Assessment describing the proposed actions were posted on the Memphis District's website (<http://www.mvm.usace.army.mil/About/Offices/Regulatory/PublicNotices.aspx>) and distributed to a wide list of interested parties including appropriate state and federal agencies.

After review of the documentation, I have determined this project is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the human environment nor does it indicate significant new circumstances or information relative to environmental concerns or bearing on the proposed action or its impacts. Therefore, I have determined that an environmental impact statement is not required.

Date

Brian D. Sawser
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Commander