



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers** ®  
Memphis District

**ISSUE DATE: February 4, 2026**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**EXPIRATION DATE: March 6, 2026**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**And**  
**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**TITLE:** To conduct routine navigation channel maintenance dredging within the Mississippi River within the Memphis District's area of responsibility in the State of Missouri to maintain a navigable channel for commercial navigation to move unimpeded.

**AUTHORITY:** The Memphis District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), hereby gives notice pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1344) **and** Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. §403). The purpose of this public notice is to solicit comments from the public regarding the work described below:

**LOCATION:** The project would affect navigable waters of the United States associated with the Mississippi River. The project is located between approximate Mississippi River miles 927.5 and 838.5 as well as the New Madrid City Harbor, New Madrid County Harbor, and Pemiscot County (Caruthersville) Harbor as shown on Figures 1 through 5.

**PURPOSE:** The project would affect navigable waters of the United States associated with the Mississippi River. Dredging would occur at various locations on the Mississippi River, between River Miles 927.5 and 838.5 Above the Head of Passes (AHP) in the State of Missouri, as shown on the attached Location Maps. Maintenance dredging will also be performed in the New Madrid City Harbor, New Madrid County Harbor and Pemiscot County (Caruthersville) Harbor.

**AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION:** The Corps of Engineers will only dredge the minimum amount required to maintain the authorized channel. No mitigation is proposed for this maintenance dredging project.

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** Dredging is conducted on an as-needed basis to maintain the minimum project channel dimensions at any river stage. Mississippi River channel maintenance dredging is done by use of dustpan hydraulic dredges. The dustpan dredges operate by making a series of relatively narrow, adjacent parallel cuts, discharging the material overboard in the same pattern as the dredge cuts and at a distance of approximately 800 feet perpendicular to the direction

of the cuts. The material may be discharged to either side of the dredge cut and is transported from the cut area to discharge area through a pipeline supported by pontoons.

Table I lists location by name and river mile and approximate annual quantities of material dredged in recent years. Due to the amount of bedload movement and the continual migration of sand bars, it is not possible to predict exact locations where dredging and associated discharge will be required. The anticipated discharge areas have been previously covered by earlier water quality certifications.

Designation of the proposed disposal sites for dredged and fill material associated with this federal project shall be made through the application of guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in conjunction with the Secretary of the Army. The Administrator, EPA, has not previously designated the areas as disposal sites. A Section 404(b)(1) evaluation will be prepared at the close of the comment period.

**Table I. Current Dredging Sites Between Mississippi River Miles 927.5 and 838.5 AHP.**

<b>Crossing Name</b>	<b>River Mile</b>	<b>Quantity Dredged (Cubic Yards)</b>
Williams	927.5	195,192
Beckwith	925.5	205,118
New Madrid Bend	890	215,505
New Madrid Harbor, Mile 889	889	8,402
New Madric County Harbor	885	29,720
Caruthersville Harbor	849.5	65,851
Linwood	838.8	176,672
Boothpoint	838.5	130,165

**PEMISCOT COUNTY HARBOR:** The proposed work will provide annual maintenance dredging activities in the Mississippi River and Pemiscot County Harbor (Caruthersville Harbor). The proposed work will allow maintenance dredging to be performed at the mouth of the harbor and extend approximately 4,680 feet with a 300-foot diameter turning basin. Approximately 65,851 cubic yards of material will be deposited in an upland disposal area with the effluent returning to the river or dredged material deposited directly back to the river.

**NEW MADRID HARBOR, MILE 889 and NEW MADRID COUNTY HARBOR:** Located at approximately Mississippi River Mile 889 and Mile 885, the proposal would allow maintenance dredging at the mouth of the New Madrid Harbor, Mile 889 and extend 9,400 feet in length and New Madrid County Harbor 1,500 feet in length. The work will be accomplished with a 27-inch cutterhead dredge. Dredged material will be returned to the river.

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:** The Memphis District is requesting water quality certification for the above-described activity from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Comments should be sent to the MDNR by email to 401@dnr.mo.gov.

## **SECTION 404 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT AND SECTION 10 OF THE RIVERS**

**AND HARBORS ACT:** The impact of the activity on the public interest is being evaluated in accordance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** Navigational dredging within the Mississippi River is conducted under the terms of a Biological Opinion for the Channel Improvement Program, Mississippi River and Tributaries Project Lower Mississippi River, dated 12 December 2013. This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments they have submitted regarding endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our evaluation of the described work.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES:** The Corps is evaluating the undertaking for effects to historic properties as required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This public notice serves to inform the public of the proposed undertaking and invites comments including those from local, State, and Federal government Agencies with respect to historic resources. Our final determination relative to historic resource impacts may be subject to additional coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer, federally recognized tribes and other interested parties.

**PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW:** The purpose of this public notice is to advise all interested parties of the proposed activities and to solicit comments and information necessary to evaluate the probable impact on the public interest.

The decision to proceed with this project will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The potential benefits that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the activity must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the activity will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state and local agencies and officials; Native American Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed activity. Comments are used in preparation of the final environmental assessment and/or draft environmental impact statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Any person may request in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this proposed project. Requests for a public hearing shall clearly state the reason for holding a public hearing. The District Engineer

will determine if the issues raised are substantial and whether a hearing is needed in order to reach a decision on the project.

**COMMENTS OR REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Send comments to the Corps of Engineers, Memphis District. Comments may be sent via mail or E-mail to the following:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Memphis District  
167 North Main Street, Room B-202  
Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894  
E-mail: [CEMVMRegulatory@usace.army.mil](mailto:CEMVMRegulatory@usace.army.mil)  
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