AUTHORITY: Pursuant to 33 CFR 325, as published in the Federal Register dated November 13, 1986, this notice announces an application submitted for a Department of the Army permit under Section 10 of the Rivers & Harbors Act.

APPLICANT:
Mr. Donnie Holland
Commonwealth of Kentucky
Department of Parks
2 Hudson Hollow Road, Unit 1
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

PURPOSE: The purpose of the project is to moor and fleet barges (see attached maps).

LOCATION: The project site is located along the left descending bank of the Mississippi River near River Mile 937, north of Columbus, Kentucky, at Lat. 36.7721° and Long. -89.1137°, as shown on the Arlington, Kentucky 1:50,000 quadrangle map (see attached maps 1-2).

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant proposes to lease a 250 foot-1000 foot section along the Mississippi River for barge mooring belonging to the Columbus Belmont State Park. Deadman are in place on adjacent property. The applicant proposes to moor/fleet up to 40 barges (35 feet wide x 200 feet long) within this reach.

AVOIDANCE/MINIMIZATION: Avoidance measures are not feasible where the moorings are to be located. The specific locations has been used as a barge mooring area before and is a disturbed site.

MITIGATION: The applicant did not propose compensatory mitigation.

ENDANGERED SPECIES - This notice is being coordinated with the USFWS. A review of the USFWS, ECOS species by county report indicates that several endangered species that may occur in the project area. These include the Least tern (Sterna antillarum), Pallid sturgeon (scaphirhynchus albus), Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis), and the Northern Long-Eared Bat (Myotis septentrionalis). Any comments USFWS, or other interested parties, may have regarding these or other endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat, will be considered in our evaluation of the described work.

CULTURAL RESOURCES - The Memphis District archeologist has determined that the project has no potential to cause effect to historic properties.
FLOODPLAIN: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Floodplain Management and Use), Participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a floodplain development permit is required. Floodplain administrators should review the proposed public notice and notify this office of any floodplain development permit requirements.

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW: The purpose of this public notice is to advise all interested parties of the activities for which a permit is sought, to solicit comments and information necessary to evaluate the probable impact on the public.

The decision whether to issue a permit 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 benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, 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; federally recognized Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and 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 application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reason for holding a public hearing. The District Engineer will determine if the issues raised are substantial and whether a hearing is needed for making a decision. If a public hearing is held, it will be for the purpose of obtaining additional information that we could not otherwise obtain through a public notice process; not to inform the public about the specific details of the project in greater detail than what is found in this notice. This is not a Corps of Engineers project. We are not a proponent nor are we an opponent of the project. We are merely the permitting authority of Section 404 and Section 10 permits required by our office.

COMMENTS OR REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Send comments to the Corps of Engineers, Memphis District. Comments must be received by the expiration date listed on page one of this notice and may be sent via mail or e-mail to the following:

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers – Memphis District
ATTN: Randy Clark
167 N. Main Street, Room B-202
Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894
E-mail: james.r.clark@usace.army.mil
Phone: (901) 544-0735 Fax (901) 544-0211
Fax: (901) 544-0211

For Final Individual Permits actions in the Memphis District, go to the following link: http://geo.usace.army.mil/egis/?p=340:2:0::NO:RP. Using the Filter by District drop down box, select MVM-Memphis District, then select the year and month (information will populate in the table below). All pending individual permits can be located by selecting the “Pending IP” tab above. All of the environmental documents and statements of findings supporting issuance or denial of the permit decisions are available upon written request and where applicable, upon the payment of administrative fees. They are also available at the Memphis District, Regulatory Branch office for examination.

/Signature
Gregg W. Williams
Chief
Regulatory Branch

Attachments