



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

**ISSUE DATE: 25 March 2025**

**EXPIRATION DATE: 10 April 2025**

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Memphis District**

#### **U.S.C. Chapter 33, Section 408 Permission Evaluation**

**TITLE:** Section 408 Permission Evaluation for construction of a pedestrian bridge along grade structures within the Wolf River in Shelby County, TN.

**INTRODUCTION:** The authority to grant permission for temporary or permanent alterations of any U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) federally authorized civil works project is contained in Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and codified in 33 USC 408. Barge Design Solutions is requesting permission to construct a pedestrian bridge that will allow connectivity to existing trails on the north side of the Wolf River. The authorized federal project being altered is the ecosystem restoration project of the Wolf River, authorized by Section 101(b)(25) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000. The project provides for construction of six rock weirs over a 2.5-mile reach of the main river channel with lengths ranging from about 230 to 400 feet and heights ranging from about 3 to 6 feet; eighteen tributary and overbank grade stabilization weirs ranging from about 24 to 90 feet in width and about 9 to 19 feet in height; two earthen berms on the main channel to prevent additional channel cutoffs; an approximately 7.8-mile-long and 6-foot-wide hiking trail system; a wildlife corridor averaging 3,000 feet wide and encompassing about 2,088 acres in the Wolf River floodway; and three boat ramps.



Figure 1. Location of proposed construction in Shelby County, TN.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Section 408 authorizes USACE to grant permission for the alteration or occupation or use of the project if USACE determines that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the project. The pedestrian bridge would connect the Collierville trail system to the Chickasaw Basin Authority/Shelby County Wildlife Area. This multimodal bridge facility project will consist of approximately 600-700 linear feet of ADA accessible pathway including a 12-foot-wide walkway width along a 270-foot-long bridge spanning the

Wolf River. The proposed site is located at a rip rap grade control structure and bank armoring in the Wolf River.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:** A decision on a Section 408 request is a federal action, and therefore subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental compliance requirements. The scope of analysis for the NEPA and environmental compliance evaluations for the Section 408 review should be limited to the area of alteration and those adjacent areas that are directly or indirectly affected by the alteration. Barge Design Solutions has requested a Section 408 evaluation on the proposed action from the Memphis District, and the environmental compliance branch is currently conducting a preliminary determination by reviewing the proposed work of the footprint of this project that may affect USACE interests.

A list of potential threatened or endangered species possibly in the project area was created on 18 March 2025 utilizing the Information for Planning and Consulting (IPaC) tool provided by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The proposed Section 408 alteration was determined to have the following effects on threatened or endangered species or their critical habitats in the project area, pursuant to the Endangered Species Act:

Common Name	Binomial	Status	Effect Determination
Tricolored Bat	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Proposed Endangered	No effect
Northern Long-eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Endangered	No effect
Alligator Snapping Turtle	<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>	Proposed Threatened	No effect
Monarch Butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Proposed Threatened	No effect

The USACE Memphis District Archaeologist has determined that the proposed activities would cause no effects to known historic properties, pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The area has been previously surveyed and there are no known properties within the project area or surrounding areas.

The decision on this Section 408 request is being analyzed in accordance with NEPA and is limited to the Section 408 boundaries described herein.

**PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW:** The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. Comments received within 15 days of this publication would be used in the evaluation of potential impacts of the proposed action on important resources. All comments would be considered in preparing environmental documentation pursuant to NEPA. USACE has jurisdiction under 33 USC 408, only over the specific activities that have the potential to alter existing USACE projects. Please limit comments to the area of the alteration and those adjacent areas that are directly or indirectly affected by the alteration to the federally authorized civil works project described herein. **Comments may be submitted to [robert.w.prebeck@usace.army.mil](mailto:robert.w.prebeck@usace.army.mil) and should be received by 10 April 2025.**

Sincerely,

Mark R. Smith

Chief, Environmental Compliance Branch  
Regional Planning and Environmental Division South