

Koontz, Joshua MVM

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] New Madrid Floodway Levee Project and St Johns Basin Project.
(UNCLASSIFIED)

Sir,

I write on behalf of the Bird Conservation Network, a coalition of 18 groups, ornithological societies and other conservation organizations, mainly located in the Chicago metropolitan area but with membership statewide, including Southern Illinois. Individual members of the 18 BCN member groups aggregate in excess of 35,000 people. BCN's mission: The conservation of birds and the habitats they need to survive.

BCN urges the cancellation of the New Madrid Floodway Levee Project and St Johns Basin Project. Approving these projects will effectively sever the last remaining connection between the Mississippi River and its floodplain in Missouri. The EPA has found almost 50,000 acres of wetlands in the New Madrid Floodway, which will be lost if this project proceeds.

Sincerely

Donnie Dann
Past President and Advocacy Chair
Bird Conservation Network
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