



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Chicago Ecological Services Field Office
1250 South Grove Avenue, Suite 103
Barrington, Illinois 60010
Phone: (847) 381-2253 Fax: (847) 381-2285



IN REPLY REFER TO:
FWS/AES-CIFO/9-FA-0423 / SL-0358

July 28, 2009

Mr. Randolph J. Stowe
Biotechnical Erosion Control, Ltd.
10015 Wright Road
Harvard, Illinois 60033

Dear Mr. Stowe:

This responds to your letter dated June 3, 2009 requesting information on endangered or threatened species for the proposed Fearson Creek Dam Modification / Fish Passage Project located at T40N, R8E, Section 20 in or near the City of St. Charles, Kane County, Illinois as depicted on the maps you enclosed.

The proposed project site may encompass portions of Kane County Advanced Identification (ADID) site # 2091. ADID studies are conducted under the auspices of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to identify in advance of specific projects, those wetlands that are of the highest function and value. The results of ADID studies provide landowners and planners with information about the most important aquatic resources in a given area so that advance planning can take them into account.

ADID site # 2091 is determined to have high habitat value. High habitat value wetlands are characterized by having "high quality wildlife habitat, high floristic quality, or high quality aquatic habitat." High value habitat sites are considered "irreplaceable" and unmitigatable based on the fact that the complex biological systems and functions that these sites support cannot be successfully recreated within a reasonable time frame using existing mitigation methods. This ADID site supports floodplain forest habitat.

Based on the information provided in your submittal and a review of our records, we do not believe that any federally endangered or threatened species occur in the vicinity of the site. This conclusion is based on the best available information, including information in your submittal, the scientific and technical literature and our own files. Newer information based on updated

surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of listed species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change the conclusion. This could become more likely if projects experience significant delays in implementation. Feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential presence of federally listed species.

These comments only address federally listed species. Please contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for information on State-listed species. Also, we may have the opportunity to review the project for a broader range of fish and wildlife impacts if it requires a Section 404 permit. We are willing to work with you in advance of formal submittal if it would help streamline the approval process.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Cathy Pollack at 847/381-2253 ext. 20, or me at 847/381-2253, ext. 12.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karla J. Kramer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Karla J. Kramer
Acting Field Supervisor