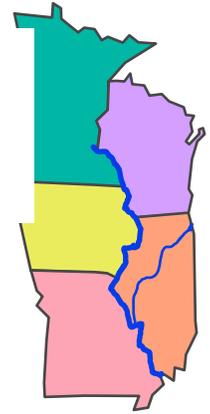




US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Rock Island District

UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER SYSTEM - NAVIGATION AND ECOSYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM



INFORMATIONAL PUBLIC MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR LOCK AND DAM 22

July 2008

In September 2004, the US Army Corps of Engineers completed the Final Integrated Feasibility Report and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Upper Mississippi River – Illinois Waterway (UMR-IWW) System Navigation Feasibility Study, which examined system needs over the next 50 years. The Water Resources Development Act of 2007, passed by the US Congress in November 2007, provided construction authorization. On June 4, 2008, the Record of Decision for this report was signed, which completes the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.

The Corps of Engineers has now completed a draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the impacts of the proposed design and construction of a new lock at Lock and Dam 22. The conclusions presented in the SEA show that the anticipated impacts for this project are less than were assumed in the System Feasibility Study. This SEA will tier from the System Study because this project has unique project features and site-specific characteristics (e.g., footprint area, topography and hydraulic conditions, associated biota, etc.) that were not addressed in the System Study. The tiering intent is to focus on the relevant issues at each level of environmental review. The SEA has been placed on the Lock 22 project website, which is part of the Upper Mississippi River

System - Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP) website, at <http://www2.mvr.usace.army.mil/UMRS/I1/default.cfm> and can be found by clicking on the Reports link.

You are invited to attend an afternoon and/or evening informational public meeting on Tuesday, July 29, 2008, where Corps of Engineers representatives will present the findings in the SEA. (Note: Public meetings were held in May 2005 and May 2006 to discuss the status of potential plans for the design and construction of a new lock.)

The informational public meetings will be held at the Hannibal Inn & Conference Center, 4141 Market Street, Hannibal, Missouri. Two identical meetings will be held:

July 29, 2008:

- Afternoon:
 - 2:00 p.m. – doors open – speak informally to members of the project team; view displays
 - 2:30 p.m. – formal presentation
 - 4:00 p.m. – meeting concludes
- Evening:
 - 6:00 p.m. – doors open – speak informally to members of the project team; view displays
 - 6:30 p.m. – formal presentation
 - 8:00 p.m. – meeting concludes

Public comments on the SEA are welcome and will be accepted in writing. Comments may be left at the meeting or mailed to the following address: US Army Engineer District, Rock Island; ATTN: CEMVR-PM-A (Jackson); Clock Tower Building – PO Box 2004; Rock Island, IL 61204-2004. **The public comment period will end on August 15, 2008.**

All interested persons are invited to attend an informational public meeting. If you are aware of someone who has an interest in this project and did not receive an announcement, please encourage him/her to attend. Technical questions about the Draft SEA may be directed to Mr. Michael Tarpey, Lock 22 Project Manager, at 309-794-5179, or Mr. Lonm McGuire, Lock 22 Project Biologist, at 309-794-5709. If you have questions about the meeting logistics, please call Ms. Sue Simmons, Public Involvement Specialist, at 309-794-5573.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON JULY 29TH!