

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Paul Kile [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2022 7:14 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Minneapolis / St Paul Locks & Dams

To Whom It May Concern,

I understand public feedback is sought over the possible future of the "Lower St Anthony" lock & dam as well as Lock & Dam #1 (Ford Dam).

I have no special knowledge to contribute to the debate but personally feel they should be removed. As I understand it, removal would restore a much more rapid water flow and that flow would almost certainly benefit native fish while hindering invasive species.

In particular, Lock & Dam #1 had a historic purpose to generate electricity for a nearby Ford factory. But the factory has closed, and low-carbon electricity can (and should) be generated using technologies like rooftop solar.

Any thoughtful person will recognize there is a tremendous effort with dam removal, trying to ensure the environment is protected. In the final analysis, I feel that humans should stop trying to "play God" and instead let mother nature be mother nature; the existing hindrances to the free flow of water do not occur naturally.

Thank you for considering these thoughts.

Frederick Paul Kile
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Jeremy King](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Saturday, November 12, 2022 7:34:54 AM

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Jeremy King and I am from Minneapolis.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are: I have had the privilege to fish below the lock and dam for over 20 years. There is a very large and diverse fish population at this spot. I think the lock & dam should be left alone.

Sincerely,
Jeremy King



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Stuart Knappmiller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2022 8:06 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Stuart Knappmiller and I'm from St. Paul.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. I am a Ramsey Washington County Metro Watershed Water Steward.

My questions / comments are:

I support efforts to recreate a river, rather than the pools we have today. I grew up running across Stumptown creek to bring the cows home to milk each evening. That allowed me to see how rain storms could move the stream bed from one side of the valley to the other. Free flowing water is amazing to watch. Folks who build houses on the edge of a river (Mankato) or next to a lake may have missed that childhood lesson.

I'll look forward to continued information on this issue. Hopefully, I've a couple more decades to canoe the river.

Sincerely,
Stuart Knappmiller

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Please provide your Zip Code: [REDACTED]

- ☐ Communication/Coordination
- ☒ Cultural and Historic Resources
- ☐ Dam Removal
- ☐ Economics
- ☐ Environmental
- ☒ Future Use
- ☐ Flooding
- ☐ Hydropower
- ☐ Invasive Species
- ☐ Navigation

- ☐ Ownership
- ☒ Public Access
- ☒ Public Safety
- ☒ Recreation
- ☐ Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply
- ☐ Social concerns
- ☐ Study scope
- ☐ Other [please specify]

[illegible]

From: [Mary Knuteson](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 5:27:50 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Mary Knuteson



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Maxeem Konrardy [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2022 5:08 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

Hello, I am Maxeem from Minneapolis,

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

Please consult the rightful land managers: the Dakota and other relevant tribes/bands indigenous to the area. Our immigrant colony established itself and exploded their sacred monuments and pushed Dakota away and damaged the environment with our supposedly "superior" way of life.

I think the right thing to do here is to be humble and ask those we wrongfully disrespected, admit fault, and ask advice on all future management of this important waterway.

Thank you!
Maxeem

Sincerely,
Maxeem Konrardy
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Raleigh Koritz](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Thursday, December 15, 2022 12:32:34 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Raleigh Koritz



From: [Christopher Kornmann](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 9:31:34 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Christopher Kornmann



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Constantine Koutsouvas [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 23, 2022 11:37 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Dam Removal

I am a resident of the Highland neighborhood in St. Paul. I live about a mile from the river. I cycle, walk, go birding, and generally recreate along the river very often. I would love to see the dams removed and the river revert to a natural state -- i.e., that of a river. Please proceed with dam removal.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

Constantine Koutsouvas
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tallman, Clayton E CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Kurt Klussendorf [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 7, 2022 9:07 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

We are Kurt and Barb Klussendorf from St. Paul.

We are writing to support the further study and potential removal of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. Provided it is feasible, we would like to see a (more) free-flowing river through the cities and believe this would improve riverine habitat, increase parkland and provide more recreational opportunities.

Thanks!

Sincerely,
Kurt Klussendorf

[REDACTED]

From: [Jennifer Krinke](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 5:16:23 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Jennifer Krinke



From: [Richard Krueger](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 7:00:55 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Richard Krueger



Tallman, Clayton E CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 11:28 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] My comments on the future of the Twin Cities locals and dams

I support removing both Upper St Anthony lock and dam as well as the removal lock and Dam no 1, downstream near the old Ford plant site. The recent closure of the St Anthony site provides us the opportunity to return the falls area to a more natural state. I perceive the closed lock facility as a scar on a natural waterway that could be an increased asset to the area once removed.

I'm not as familiar with Lock and Dam No 1, but support full removal of that as well

Trace Krueger

[REDACTED]

Ella Krumm

Dam Removal Public Comment

As a student at Macalester College who lives within a mile and a half of the Mississippi river most of the year, I hope the Army Corps will consider my opinion whilst deciding the future of locks and dams in Saint Paul and Minneapolis. I have 3 main points that are most important to me in this process, those are: Indigenous justice and uplifting their culture, the ecological benefits of dam removal, and the recreational opportunities that this would provide. I hope you will consider my perspective while deciding the future of the Twin Cities locks and dams.

Indigenous Justice

The Dakota people called this area home first, settler colonialism forcibly took it away from them and drove them out of their homeland. During the Army Corps study, I hope that indigenous voices will be prioritized and listened to with the utmost respect. This river first belonged to the Indigenous people of the area, and during this process, while we are determining the future of the river, their perspectives should be respected and heard. Ongoing settler colonialism and racist social systems cause Indigenous people to face injustices daily. Giving this land back to the Indigenous people from whom it was taken would be a step towards justice and equity for the native peoples of the area.

Ecological Benefits

Removing the dams in the Minneapolis/Saint Paul area would provide many benefits to the ecosystem of the area. Reconnecting the river could help over 50 threatened or endangered species identified by American Rivers. Dam removal could also create new ecosystems that had been missing since the dam installation, these new ecosystems will increase biodiversity and make the whole ecosystem more resilient to threats like climate change or natural disasters.

Rivers are healthiest when they are free flowing, and the ecological benefits of dam removal should be considered heavily by the Army Corps during their study.

Recreational Opportunities

The new recreational opportunities that would emerge if the dam was removed are very intriguing to me as a Minnesota resident. The opportunity for whitewater on the Mississippi near the Twin Cities metropolitan area could draw people in for recreational experiences that are not commonly found in the Midwest region. Dam removal would also change the shorelines of the river which would give opportunities for new parks and places for people to recreate. The river would be much more dynamic and change with the seasons, this would change how people interact with and use the river depending on the water and the seasons. I am excited about the prospect of these opportunities to expand outdoor recreation in the Twin Cities and I think many others are as well.

Conclusion

Although I think there is much more information to be learned before making decisions, I am excited about the prospect of dam removal in the Twin Cities. I think there are many benefits to dam removal and being a US leader of dam removal within a metropolitan area may cause a chain reaction for many other places considering removal.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Brent Kudak [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 10:09 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Twin Cities Lock and Dam #1

Hello,

Although I realize that Lock and Dam #1 generates (a significant?) amount of power for the neighborhood, I would love to see that section of river returned to a more natural state - i.e. complete removal of the dam. Hopefully this would create a different sort of recreation area - whitewater - while allowing for increased natural diversity.

Thank you,
Brent Kudak
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Cooper Laikind [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2022 1:14 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Cooper Laikind and I am from Saint Paul.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions are:

What impacts would different outcomes have on our river environment, including water quality, wildlife populations, climate resilience, and more?

How much sediment is built up between Lower St. Anthony Falls and Lock & Dam No. 1 and is it polluted? What would happen to this sediment if the dams were removed? How much would it cost to address that?

How would this change citizen access to the river?

Sincerely,
Cooper Laikind

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Kirsten Lamppa](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Saturday, October 15, 2022 9:28:48 AM

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Kirsten Lamppa and I am writing to you with comments on the disposition study.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I row for the Minneapolis Rowing Club. More importantly I am a part of the MRC rowing community and USRowing community. We have created a community to teach, support development in and compete at the highest levels of rowing, foster a healthy lifestyle for our 340 plus members in addition to the hundreds we bring down to river through learn to row annually, are connected to the Longfellow community that surrounds us, and have a deep sense of stewardship for the river that makes this possible.

It's easy to create a false argument that appears to weigh the needs of a few rowers against the environmental and economic consequences of keeping a dam in place, but that's not fair. It is fair however to consider the impact removing the dam would have on the rowing community as one factor alongside everything else to consider.

What benefit does removing a single dam in a series of dams really have? What is the overall impact of creating a faster, shallower river through the gorge that has been so massively altered already that it will never "go back" to what it originally was? Does the massive cost in dollars, impact to the urban infrastructure built up around the gorge, and cost to the communities that depend on the river, outweigh the benefits of returning a small stretch of the river to a version of itself that never existed? We will never exactly replace the structure that created the rapids, the waterfalls along the gorge, or the islands that originally existed. Does that massive impact and cost outweigh a short stretch of faster, shallower water that is a new iteration of the river entirely?

While I understand that the focus of the disposition itself is far narrower than the arguments I make, ultimately these are the discussions we must have because each of the three outcomes the disposition can conclude will have a massive impact. Please consider maintaining the dam because it's worth goes far beyond that as a navigational tool for barges. A disposition study that concludes that the Army Corp should decommission the dam allowing it to be sold and possibly torn down would be devastating to our rowing community, and come at a huge cost in dollars, but what net gain do we really get on this small stretch of river?

If the Corp decides to maintain the dam, our community can continue to thrive, the park board can continue their work developing the gorge for greater community use, and Friends of the Mississippi and the environmental groups can continue to work on the health of the river.

Respectively,

Kirsten Lamppa

Sincerely,
Kirsten Lamma



From: [Lynn Lang](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Thursday, December 15, 2022 3:18:22 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

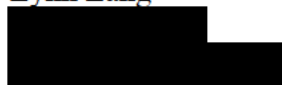
The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Lynn Lang



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Richard Langer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 4:03 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Richard Langer [REDACTED]. I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I am a member of Minneapolis Rowing Club (MRC), and I believe the dams should remain in place and that Pool 1 of the Mississippi maintained in its current configuration for the indefinite future. I concur with the comments of other concerning the risks of the flushing of sediment from this pool if the dams in question are removed.

The Upper Mississippi, even in its pre-Columbian state, was a mixture of quiet pools (e.g., Lake Pepin) and faster-flowing sections. I do not think it is correct to say that a quiet pool is, in itself, environmentally unfavorable.

Having a quiet pool in the middle of the Twin Cities serves both nature and the needs of the non-motorized water sports communities well. This pool is presently heavily used by MRC and the University of Minnesota's crew programs, as well as organized kayak programs and individual canoers and kayakers. The rowing programs have significant capital investments in their current locations. Destruction of the pool would also destroy these investments and materially harm the organizations that use them.

Thanks for your consideration and your work!

Sincerely,
Richard Langer

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Betsy Langowski [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2022 10:22 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Betsy Langowski and I'm from White Bear Lake

I am writing to you with comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. I strongly urge against their removal. In addition to the loss of community and hydroelectric power, the potential for the introduction of invasive species and pollutants, and many other dire consequences, the the Lock and Dams being studied are important historical artifacts. Meeker Dam (No. 2) was named a Historical Artifact by the National Park Service, and if Dam No. 1 were to be removed the tenor of that site would change dramatically. Not only that, Dam No. 1 plays an important role in the history of the Meeker Dam. Reading the NPS Historical Marker designation document (<https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/GetAsset/0564d3e0-d32b-4483-bbdc-23408bebf357/?branding=NRHP>) is like reading a work of fiction. It details two warring cities: Minneapolis and St. Paul each vying for trade routes. They undercut and bypassed each other before finally working together, like architectural Montages and Capulets. I'm astonished this fascinating piece of Minnesotan history is not more well-known, and it saddens me that the erasure of our story is something we're comfortable with. Please allow this piece of Minnesota history to remain untouched.

Sincerely,

Betsy Langowski
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Betsy Langowski [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2022 10:10 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Betsy Langowski and I'm from White Bear Lake.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. I strongly urge against the removal of the Lock and Dam. I row with the Minneapolis Rowing Club. We are privileged to row on the stretch of river between St. Anthony Falls and the Ford Dam. We share this space with countless kayakers, canoers, fisherman, pleasure boats, not to mention the University of Minnesota rowing teams and Macalaster Club Crew. This stretch of river draws countless people from all around the metro area for recreation and relaxation. To remove the locks and dams would massively diminish the opportunity to recreate in and near the Mississippi. The community that has been built over 100 years of a shared appreciation for water sports will evaporate. Please help us maintain this critical element of Minnesotan culture.

Sincerely,
Betsy Langowski

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Victoria Larson](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Friday, December 16, 2022 12:52:18 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
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3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Victoria Larson



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: pleete [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 6:06 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Minneapolis locks and dams disposition studies

Hi,

My name is Peter Leete and I'm a resident of St Paul (St Anthony Park Neighborhood). I've also lived most of my life near the river (Prospect Park), and went to school on its banks (Breck School - now south Minnehaha School campus) These are my thoughts for the study.

1) St Anthony Falls lock. I know there are several efforts underway on this. I don't have many comments to add, though I have attended forums by the 'friends of the falls' initiative. I support this effort as the best cooperative solution.

2) Lock and dams at lower St Anthony Falls and Ford Dam. This is the reach of river I am most familiar with. Some background from which I speak: I've lived most of my life near the river gorge (Prospect Park) and went to school on its banks (Breck School - now south Minnehaha campus). I remember the Corps filling in the last of the pencil Islands below Franklin avenue. The personal connection runs deep. I have memorials for my Dad and sister on the river bluffs (at Pelham and East River Road). I am retired now, but in my professional life, I was a DNR hydrologist. In this role I was Area Hydrologist for Ramsey and Hennepin counties, and the Transportation Hydrologist to MnDOT. Thus I also have an extensive knowledge of regulations and permitted actions in the river and MNNRA Corridor. I've seen and enjoyed the river from when it was 'dead' in the 60's (though it didn't stop me from playing in it) and its slow recovery till now. I still walk its shores several times a week and cross its bridges daily (I live about a mile away).

These are my thoughts for inclusion of the study, in no particular order. It's my opinion that the study should assume the dams will be removed. It's a question of when and how, not if. To that end, these are thoughts/questions. I suppose they can all be placed under questions for study under the dam removal option. Though for each item below, what would the cost of not doing it be?

- I think the bridges will be fine. They are built with piling structures that can handle a lowering of the water levels (or should of been). Though the new exposed areas would need some aesthetic attention. There will be costs and an engineering study needed for confirmation.
- Stormwater outfalls: There are lots of them, all set to the current pool elevation. The lower water level may allow for longitudinal stormwater basins for sediment (and maybe garbage collection to?) prior to entering the main flow of the river. They would be inundated during high flows, But thats OK and allowable. I've seen many stormwater facilities constructed in floodplains. You may want to include a quick look at contributing watershed areas to see if volume/pollution reduction measures could be put in place upstream of the gorge. It may be a stretch to link this with dam removal, but it would stormwater management be a tertiary factor for costs, or cost offset?. The study should take a peak at this.
- Open sewage discharge. The sewer separation efforts in the 60's and 70's was not 100% complete. Some storm sewers may still have sanitary discharge waters entering them. The MCES septic siphon upstream of Lake Street bridge is the one I know of. There may be more? I know this siphon gets overwhelmed during rain events on

downtown Mpls (the roof top drains enter the buildings septic system and not diverted to the stormwater system). When the siphon is overwhelmed, raw sewage may enter the river at the overflow pipe just upstream of the Mpls rowing club. This will need to finally be fixed (no more bandaids such as the 'aroma inhibitor building' does). It's not likely to be a cheap fix. What are those options/costs?

- Rowing. The Minneapolis Rowing Club was not always at this location. It was previously at Bde Maka Ska. I think it was operating out of the Calhoun Beach Club?. Anyway, Minneapolis moved (enticed?) their operation to the river as the city developed the park system around Maka Ska. The study should look at costs to do that again (the UofM boathouse too). The logical area is to offer up / move the operations to the Mississippi Upper Terminal Harbor redevelopment area. There is also added club benefit that spectators could actually watch the regattas from the shores. This is currently not possible in a reasonable fashion (I always competed with zero spectators present along the course)..... Whats the cost/benefits for moving the rowing facilities?
- Trails. For safety and recreation, trail development options at the bottom should be looked at. It seems to me that there would be room one on each side from the river flats (or above) to Minnehaha/Hidden falls? Again, periodic flooding would occur, but thats OK I don't think it would need a bridge system such as what is in place from the UofM to Franklin. What's the cost/benefits for these facilities if they are included in dam removal plans...
- Ecology: There is no doubt in my mind that the gorges riffles were an important spawning area for the rivers fishes and other aquatic organisms. I am sure many will comment on this for the river itself. There is growing and global recognition of the value of ecological reconnections. Not just for the fish. I am not sure how to count the value of ecological reconnections in the study, but it should be a recognized component. Also, not removing the dams may have an ecological cost too (a negative one). Cost/benefit of rare species habitat enhancement vs species loss? Ditto for Game fish? Will the river loose species due to the dams continued presence? They have not been in place that long, what 90yrs?. I am sure there are fish in the river older than the dams? The old Meeker Dam was intended to get a river navigation depth of 3 or 4 feet. The current system is for 10ft. Returning its shallow riffles during normal flow would be beneficial in many ways, but how to put a dollar amount on that? I'll leave that up to you. Ditto for Aesthetic values...
- Sediment removal and channel development. I'm a proponent of letting a river do what it wants. IE take out the dam and give it room to find its own channel. It knows better than we do. We may think we know how to engineer natural geomorphological processes, Though I have no doubt the river can do it better, cheaper, and be more resilient in the end.... I am not convinced the sediments are polluted (core sample studies will need to be done to know for sure), but would a slow draw down and allowing natural channel forming reduce costs vs a single massive sediment removal and channel design project? Take a look at that. I imagine that the Saint Anthony Falls Lab would love to model it. I know they have done this type of thing before.....
- Retaining wall at Bohemian Flats. The steel sheetpile wall is in front of an older concrete dock wall. When the city first proposed the sheetpile wall, there was discussion to instead pull out the concrete wall and restore it to a naturalized shoreline. That didn't happen obviously. I recall the reason being that the soils behind it are contaminated. It used to be an oil storage facility. Maybe also linked to the nearby coal gasification

plant? Check that out. It could be that this site is the greatest contamination site in the gorge. Core sample studies would be a first step? Leaving the wall or not is a cost to identify.

- Underground UofM library. When constructed there was an unexpected amount of groundwater to contend with. Would lowering the river elevation ultimately alleviate ground water amounts at this facility? It would take a while even if so. I have no clue what the current status is with the facility. Ground water removal and treatment has a cost that may be changed (reduced?). The UofM has some tunnels under the river. Ditto for them too.
- Bluff stability. The bluffs naturally slough off from time to time. But has the raised water levels since dam creation exacerbated this? Beneath Fairview Hospitals and upstream of the Washington bridge on the east bank are two recent locations. Failed stormwater outfalls also result in bluff sloughing. Is it possible to determine a rate of sloughing vs keeping or restored water levels? If so, is there a dollar amount that can be included in the equations?

Thats my list for thought. But how would it all be coordinated? That's a big question in itself....

Peter Leete

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Denis Leschishin](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 10:09:48 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Denis Leschishin



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Shira Levin <shira1947@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 9:01 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is _____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are: My main concern is the issue of evasive Carp. It is vital that the best ways to deal with the problem of evasive Carp be considered.

Sincerely,
Shira Levin
2912 18th Ave N
Minneapolis, MN 55411

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: Ali Liddle affiliation (optional): _____

Please provide your Zip Code: ██████

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

We use the lock regularly in our boat.
Hoping that continues

From: [Joan Lindeman](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 12:14:10 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Joan Lindeman



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Dominique Lindquist [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 6:45 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] MPLS Locks Disposition - Dominique lindquist

Hello,

My name is Dominique Lindquist and I'm affiliated with mnwwp.com.

Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Category's: Communication/Coordination, Dam Removal, Economic, Environmental, Future use, Flooding, public access, public safety, Recreation, social concerns, Study Scope

Comments:

Would like to see the river open to more public access, and recreation with a possible whitewater park. This section of river has a one of a kind location, and geology to have one of the worlds best whitewater parks based on natural flow.

No matter the options considered for the dams/locks, whitewater recreation should play a large part in all of them.

See mnwwp.com (minnesotawhitewaterproject.com) for studies on similar whitewater parks, and the benefits they bring to the community.

Best,
Dominique

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: jemimah lindquist [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 4:33 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] MPLS Locks Disposition - Jemimah Lindquist

Hello,

My name is Mimah (mee-ma) Lindquist and I'm affiliated with mnwwp.com.

Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Category's: Communication/Coordination, Dam Removal, Economic, Environmental, Future use, Flooding, public access, public safety, Recreation, social concerns, Study Scope

Comments:

Would like to see the river open to more public access, and recreation with a possible whitewater park. This section of river has a one of a kind location, and geology to have one of the worlds best whitewater parks based on natural flow. No matter the options considered for the dams/locks, whitewater recreation should play a large part in all of them.

See mnwwp.com (minnesotawhitewaterproject.com) for studies on similar whitewater parks, and the benefits they bring to the community.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Best,
Mimah

From: [Brad Little](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Monday, April 6, 2020 2:58:57 PM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®. On a recent hike along the many flooded and disjointed trails within the river gorge, I was dreaming of the recreational, conservation, and economic opportunities that await this truly unique and wild urban river.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Brad Little

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Marta Ljungkull [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, December 18, 2022 8:14 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is _____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are: I'm aware that Dam#1 is deteriorating in the expected aging and wearing process. Take it down before it breaks during a major precipitation event.

Sincerely,
Marta Ljungkull
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Jesse Lorenz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 12:39 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] MPLS Locks Disposition

Hi,

I am a Minneapolis resident. I'd like to see the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock structure demolished. I'd like to see that area turned into a public park that reconnects the city with the river.

I'd also like to see the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, as well as Lock and Dam 1 eliminated so that the river could return to a more wild state. I understand that this will result in some loss of hydropower generation, and in some recreational uses - especially for the U of M's rowing club. These are real losses, so I'd like to hear more discussion around these topics.

Thank you,
Jesse Lorenz

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Gail Loverud [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 10:27 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is _____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I would like to know if the dam is removed, what will the water quality be like as that will in turn affect the fish, wildlife and people. This would be of utmost importance.

Sincerely,
Gail Loverud

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Michael Lukes [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:31 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments on Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Dam 1 Disposition Study by Michael Lukes 55114
Attachments: MS dam removal comments by Mike Lukes 55114.pdf

Comments on Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Dam 1 Disposition Study
by
Michael Lukes [REDACTED]

With the closing of the Upper St. Anthony dam's lock, and the loss of virtually all commercial river traffic upriver of the Mississippi and Minnesota river confluence, the navigational purpose of the reach from the falls to the confluence is now gone and the lock and dam structures have become useless. Because of this, I would recommend that that reach of the river would eventually return to a natural and unobstructed flow.

However, before that final goal, I would recommend the following:

- 1) De-water the pool upstream of the lower lock and dam as had been done as recently as October of 2020. This has been done for inspections in the past on a 5-year cycle.
- 2) De-water the pool upstream of Dam 1 which was partly done for the recovery of the drowning victims of the I-35 bridge collapse of 01 August 2007. At that time the pool was lowered about 2 feet to help in the recovery. It should be lowered to natural river levels of before dam construction.
- 3) Remove all in-channel water control structures (i.e., locks and dams) within the Mississippi river gorge as was partly done with the Meeker Island lock and dam (at river mile 850.5) and currently approved for the Klamath river in northern California.

Respectfully submitted

Mike Lukes
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Dale Lund](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Thursday, December 15, 2022 5:38:36 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Dale Lund



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Paul Lundquist [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, December 18, 2022 11:20 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Paul Lundquist and I'm from Minneapolis.

I am writing to you with comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My comments are:

Please remove the Ford Lock and Dam and Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam. Let the Mississippi run free. Also please do not allow for the increase building of wealthy people's hi-rise towers that will obviously occur as a result of the river running free. No, the wealthy do not "earn it". Let that sink in. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Paul Lundquist
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Michael Madden](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Thursday, October 8, 2020 1:07:35 PM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Michael Madden

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Steph, Ben Magras [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 6:11 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Support for a Native Mississippi River

Hello,

I support removing the locks and restoring the Mississippi river to its original condition. I believe this is the appropriate action because it allows the river to be in its native state and because it will support a vibrant downtown that attracts locals and visitors to the area.

Ben Magras
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Tuesday, August 6, 2019 10:43:52 AM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

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Sincerely,

Mike Majeski

[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Sharee Marcus [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 5:18 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is Sharee Marcu_____ and I'm from Minneapolis.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I am extremely concerned about the water levels to keep the rowing clubs: Minneapolis, U of M and St Paul rowing club. I have lived just blocks away from the river since 1987. I rowed with the U of M beginning in 1972 and have enjoyed being on the river since then .

With climate change the water levels are already dropping to record breaking low levels.

If the lock n dams are removed, won't this lower the water levels?

That is my major question.

Sincerely,

Sharee Marcus

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Bryer Marnin](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Wednesday, May 12, 2021 10:53:03 PM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Bryer Marnin

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Cathleen Marquardt [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 16, 2022 4:45 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: Cathleen Marquardt, Eagan

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I am concerned that the study consider the widest possible negative and positive effects on plants/trees, birds, mussels, fish, etc when considering the disposition of dams. What are the positive and negative effects on human use of the river? Minnesota has a lot of water for human recreation so I want the study emphasis put to the effects on non-human species.

I think the history of the Mississippi River needs to be considered. Will the removal of the dams return the river flow to similar to before dams were built?

Thank you

Sincerely,
Cathleen Marquardt

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Bischoff, Nanette M CIV USARMY CEMVP \(USA\)](#)
To: [Kendal Marsh](#)
Bcc: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Monday, March 30, 2020 11:44:00 AM

Good morning. I am responding to your below email.

The October 2018 America's Water Infrastructure Act directed us to expedite the study for the Upper St. Anthony Falls lock, so the study for Lower St. Anthony falls and Lock and Dam 1 has been put on hold. The LSAF and L/D 1 study will begin in approximately December 2020, with public meetings and a comment period in the spring of 2021.

Since your comments are related to the LSAF and L/D 1 study, we'll archive them and include them in the mix when that study begins. Please feel free to re-submit this comment during the LSAF and L/D 1 comment period, in case we lose track of it.

Thank you for taking the time to send us your comments.

Nanette M. Bischoff, P.E.
Project Manager/FERC Coordinator
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Kendal Marsh [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2020 10:36 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Kendal Marsh

[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Keith Marti [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 5, 2022 4:19 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] MPLS Locks Disposition

As a fellow kayaker and nature lover, I am in favor of removing the dam so that it will allow fish and wildlife the opportunity to flourish as it once did before the dam was put into place.

We as humans are stewards of our precious water resources (especially in the land of 10,000 lakes) and we owe it to all animals (great and small) to allow this part of the river to return back to its roots before we harnessed its resources and caused damage to this part of the rivers ecology.

To simply want the dam to remain for human recreational activities is selfish on our part.

I want to represent the silent voice of nature and allow nature it's vote.

Regards,
Keith Marti

From: [Katherine Mccarthy](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 11:35:29 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river. It is a natural and cultural treasure for all of us who live, work, play and visit this area.

Regards,
Katherine Mccarthy



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Seamus McCarthy [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 3:43 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Public Comment on Lower St Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam
1

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

I am a third-year student at Macalester College with a deep interest in Minnesota's environmental history as well as its environmental future. It is because of this background and the reasons below that I am strongly in favor of well-managed removal of the Lower St Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam 1. Included also are possible concerns and questions I find it necessary to ask should removal take place.

Biodiversity benefits

Restoring the river's natural flow locally will re-create ideal spawning habitat for native river species and consequently raise fish population and diversity. Transition from a quasi-lake environment to a moving river environment has been shown to increase aquatic vegetation and spawning ground environments for native river species in previous cases of dam removal. The oxygenation generated by this flow change will also serve to promote biological productivity; dammed rivers mix aquatic layers relatively little, slowing nutrient flow while encouraging the buildup of upriver pollutants due to slow flow rate. Faster river flow reduces water pollution, which in turn benefits the river biota and increases its productivity to the benefit of surrounding organisms and human recreation.

Recreation

The passage of the Water Conservation Act of 2018 directed the Army Corps of Engineers to prioritize recreation in the consideration of their analyses of these dams. The recreational potential for a free-flowing river in the twin cities is immense. Kayaking and tubing will become seasonal activities, and wildlife populations which benefit from a restoration of the river will increase tourism and recreational observation. The change in flow will prohibit the practical use of fishing boats, but offer more opportunity for shore fishing and greater diversity of fish species due to changes previously described. Will the land opened up by a reduced river level be converted into areas of public recreation and public benefit, or will land by this new shoreline fall into the hands of private developers and decrease accessibility to recreational land?

Major concerns.

Sediment has accumulated at the base of these dams since the first days of their completion. The composition of this sediment is unknown. Knowing the history of pollution in the Mississippi river, and knowing that this sediment, if dam removal should occur, will be removed one way or another, it is a necessity that samples be collected and analyzed for heavy metal contamination and other forms of pollutants. If contaminants are found, what process must be undertaken for the safe removal of this silt? Can a decontamination process be undertaken, and at what cost? Once removed, where would polluted silt go? If uncontaminated, will it have any commercial use which will ensure it is not placed in waste sites?

Flooding and the effect of dams on flooding has been a major concern in meetings with the public when considering the future of these dams. The dams were not put in place for flood prevention and do not significantly change the impact of floods in the Twin Cities area. What will be done to educate the public on this issue to ensure the residents of the Twin Cities understand the purpose of their infrastructure?

Conclusion

Full removal of Lower St Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam 1 will promote river health through an increase in spawning habitat, oxygenated waters, and reduced pollution. This increase in river health, as well as change in river level, will promote immense seasonal recreation opportunities in the form of tubing, kayaking, fishing, and park development on newly surfaced land. Given the emphasis placed on recreation by the Water Conservation Act of 2018, and given my own interest as a citizen in the long-term health and recreational utility of the upper Mississippi, I reaffirm my support for a complete removal of these two dams by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Sincerely,
Seamus McCarthy

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Evelyn McChesney [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 9:39 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Unknown][Non-DoD Source] MPLS Locks Disposition

Your Name: Evelyn McChesney
Affiliation: mnwwp.com
Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Category's: Communication/Coordination, Dam Removal, Economic, Environmental, Future use, Flooding, public access, public safety, Recreation, social concerns, Study Scope

Comments: Would like to see the river open to more public access, and recreation with a possible whitewater park. This section of river's one-of-a-kind location and geology has the potential to have one of the worlds best whitewater parks based on natural flow.

No matter the options considered for the dams/locks, whitewater recreation should play a large part in all of them.

See mnwwp.com (minnesotawhitewaterproject.com) for studies on similar whitewater parks and the benefits they can offer the community.

Thanks,
Evelyn McChesney

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Michael McDonough [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, October 15, 2022 11:22 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Comments for Twin Cities Lock and Dam Study

1. I strongly support removal of the Ford Dam on the Mississippi River to restore a natural flowing river in the only gorge on the Mississippi. The environmental benefits would be tremendous. Including water quality, aquatic habitat and wildlife habitat. It would restore miles of free flowing river and all the associated benefits. I think the restored river would provide improved recreation opportunities over a stagnant flat water pool. In addition to ecological restoration, it would improve and expand recreation opportunities including implementing the previous proposed white water kayak course that was proposed downtown. See the feasibility on the MN DNR web site at: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/aboutdnr/reports/whitewaterpark.html> (I was the DNR project manager at the time for the study so can provide more information if desired. This area of the river is a National Park Unit and it should be as natural as possible with abundant but sensitive nature based recreation.

- All of the costs of removal and restoration should be paid by the Federal government. Minnesotans pay in way more than comes back to the state unlike many states that get a big boost from government spending in them.

- It would be important ongoing to have continued Corp involvement including funding as the gorge is restored for better ecology and recreation.

- The Corp should have ongoing responsibility for maintain some the the remaining infrastructure including the massive retaining wall it created on the west side of the dam.

- It seems to me the most financially responsible course would be to remove the dam to reduce long term maintenance costs of a facility that isn't providing its original purpose of passing barges.

- The loss of the environmental benefit of hydro power at the ford dam is small compared to the large environmental benefit that would be gained from its removal.

2. I do not have as strong of an opinion about removing the Lower St. Anthony Falls dam. Generally my preference would be to remove it to add more free flowing river but I think the benefit of the hydro power is more of an issue here. Its removal would only allow a short piece of the river to be restored as compared to the long stretch in the gorge. It may also have some benefit as a back up to the upper dam should there ever be a breach of it.

Thanks to the Corps staff for the thoughtful presentation of materials on the issue.

Happy to discuss my comment if desired Michael McDonough [REDACTED]

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: Barbara McKernan affiliation (optional): _____

Please provide your Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input type="checkbox"/> Other [please specify] |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

① I am concerned about CARP. Whether or not the Carps continues, all parties need to work with the MN DNR to control carp.

② If the dams are gone, private developers will build on the piers. My concern is the size and nature of the buildings — TOO TALL? No, no, no! TOO EXPANSIVE? No, no, no!

Developers have a way of convincing cities they will adhere to guidelines, but in my experience, they do not do so.

And what is the environmental impact of building right on the river bank?
Where are cars/garages going to be built?
How accessed? How will trash be handled?
Etc.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Kelly McNerney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 6:11 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Unknown][Non-DoD Source] MPLS Locks Disposition

Would like to see the river open to more public access, and recreation with a possible whitewater park. This section of river has a one of a kind location, and geology to have one of the worlds best whitewater parks based on natural flow. No matter the options considered for the dams/locks, whitewater recreation should play a large part in all of them. See mnwwp.com (minnesotawhitewaterproject.com) for studies on similar whitewater parks, and the benefits they bring to the community.
Thanks. Kelly McNerney

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: dwight mcnicholl [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, December 18, 2022 10:33 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Category's: Communication/Coordination, Dam Removal, Economic, Environmental, Future use, Flooding, public access, public safety, Recreation, social concerns, Study Scope

Dwight McNicholl

Would like to see the river open to more public access, and recreation with a possible whitewater park. This section of river has a one of a kind location, and geology to have one of the worlds best whitewater parks based on natural flow. No matter the options considered for the dams/locks, whitewater recreation should play a large part in all of them.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: David Meier [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 1:22 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Dave and I'm from Minneapolis

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I think the Army Corps should study dam removal's potential impacts on improving ecosystem health - whether the sediment that has gathered above the structures might be toxic trouble, and to consider how an undammed lower river might offer a better landscape for people, wildlife and other forms of recreation than are currently available. Right now the only community that I can think of that truly benefits are the rowing teams.

Sincerely,
David Meier

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Austin Meyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 3:45 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Austin and I'm from Minneapolis.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

- I think the Army Corps should study dam removal's potential impacts on improving ecosystem health.
- I think that the indigenous people who were here first should have a major voice in how we move forward, since this is stolen land
- How might this project interact/interact with potential future changes at St. Anthony Falls?

Sincerely,
Austin Meyer

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

December 18, 2022

District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
St Paul District
Attn: Regional Planning and Environment Division North
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to offer scoping suggestions for the Lower St Anthony Falls (LSAF) Lock and Dam disposition study. I have lived near this facility for over 20 years, and I have hiked the nearby trails extensively. Before barriers were erected after the 9/11 terrorism event, this included a corridor between the LSAF Lock and Dam fence and the canyon wall. As a former University of Minnesota (UM) employee I also walked to and from work along the river banks on the opposite side of the Mississippi from the LSAF Lock and Dam.

I have three concrete scoping recommendations for your disposition study:

1. *Hold an open house at the LSAF Lock and Dam.* The Army Corps open house events in the fall of 2022 were centered around Lock and Dam #1 near the Ford Avenue Bridge. The public was not given an opportunity to see the property associated with the LSAF Lock and Dam nor did they get to experience what it's like to be near the river and inside the river canyon at that location. The Corp cannot expect to get useful public input without opening the grounds of this facility for inspection, and people have the right to see this governmental property first hand before it is potentially given to a private entity.
2. *Take a holistic approach that considers the entire Mississippi River corridor containing the LSAF Lock and Dam.* We are now in a period of profound change for the stretch of the Mississippi River from the Stone Arch Bridge to the 35W Highway Bridge. In addition to the potential elimination of locking operations at the LSAF Lock and Dam, other de-industrialization taking place in this area includes the cessation of the Corp's dredging storage and trucking operations on the east bank, and the elimination of coal as the primary fuel source at the UM Steam Plant (potentially also including the retirement of their coal bunker and coal conveyor system). What the Corps decides to do on its side of the river can either speed up or stall these environmentally positive trends along this section of the Mississippi.

3. *Consider scenarios that include constructive participation by other Mississippi River stakeholders.* Building on the proceeding point, the Corp should entertain actions that might result in complimentary positive movement by another interested party. For example, if the Corp decided to provide public access to some portion of its property at the LSAF Lock and Dam site it could be done with the mutual understanding that the UM agrees to make all or part of its riverside land accessible to the public. The goal would be to create a riverside corridor, on both sides of the river, from downtown Minneapolis to the UM campus. While it is natural for the Corps to focus on its own interests when performing the disposition study, the Corps actions can influence the behavior of others with an interest in this section of the river.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer input as the Corps begins its disposition study.

Sincerely,



Gary W. Meyer

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Garrett Miedema [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 1:40 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Garrett Miedema and I'm currently from Maple Grove, but I used to live in Minneapolis on the Mississippi when I rowed for the University of Minnesota crew team. My son is now a student at the University of Minnesota and he is also on the crew team.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My question is, if the dam is removed, how will you ensure that the river remains fit for the recreation, sports, and shipping that currently depend on the dam being in place? If there can be no assurance, then I would like to see the dam stay in place.

Thanks.
Garrett Miedema

Sincerely,
Garrett Miedema
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Sawyer Miedema](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Friday, November 11, 2022 1:30:51 AM

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Sawyer Miedema and I'm writing from Como, Minneapolis.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I'm worried about the future of rowing on the Mississippi. The men's crew team at the University of Minnesota has been rowing on the river since the fifties, and taking out the dams along the Mississippi gorge could make that impossible. As a rower and the son of a rower, I'd like to see the crew team continue to be able to row and to continue to be able to row myself in the future. Without the dams keeping the water level, I'm worried that would be impossible.

Sincerely,
Sawyer Miedema



From: [Ann Mongeau](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 10:00:36 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Ann Mongeau



From: [Margot Monson](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Saturday, June 12, 2021 8:12:32 AM

I am an entomologist with research experience studying the biodiversity of aquatic invertebrates, especially those bioindicators of water quality. I see first hand the changes taking place in the health of aquatic systems in MN. This is an important opportunity to make significant improvements to Mississippi River health. Please support the removal of Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

THANK YOU

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Margot Monson

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and any accompanying text or contact information.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: teresa morrow [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 10:48 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments on Mississippi Lock & Dams in Twin Cities

Thank you for the opportunity to share my feedback for the study of the Lock & Dams.

I feel blessed to know the river better than many. Over the past 35 years, I have rowed nearly 13,000 miles on that section of the river as a long-standing and active member of the Mpls Rowing Club (MRC). This year's flooding reduced my time on the water, yet I still managed to row over 600 kilometers. There are few river sections in the country so conducive for rowing. It is home to not only the MRC's nearly 400 members, but also the U of M's Top 10 rowing team, and smaller club programs for the University of St. Thomas and Macalester College.

In arguments for the removal of the dams, I've repeatedly heard, "the removal would create rapids that would be a kayaking paradise and a sporting delight." But what about the rowing paradise that would be removed? Currently, we also host a 'Kayak Share' station at our boathouse. A wild river would be too dangerous for many of the recreational kayakers I see out enjoying a paddle on this section of the pool.

In theory, I like the idea of a 'wild' river, and understand there are costs associated with keeping the dams in place that the Corps must shoulder. However, I have a number of concerns (beyond the fact that removal would destroy that section of the river for rowing) they include:

- What are the Environmental effects of removal? I am fearful of the volume of toxic silt that may be released downriver.
- Hydropower plants currently provide clean energy – a resource we need more of, not less.
- If the dams are removed, will that also result in decreased barriers to invasive carp? I see this not only as a threat to the river, but to Minnesota's famous lakes where ecosystems could be destroyed if the carp are permitted to go North.

I have attended Corps-supported public meetings on this project, taken a boat tour with the National Parks Service, and taken advantage of presentations by Friends of the Mississippi. I look forward to continued updates from the Corps on their go-forward plans. Thank you!

Teresa Morrow
Chief Engagement Officer | **ELEVATION** Communications
direct (651) 261-5483 | teresa@elevationmn.com

From: [REDACTED]
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Tuesday, August 6, 2019 9:52:39 AM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Dan Mossing

[REDACTED]

From: [Dan Mossing](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 10:39:57 AM

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Dan and I am from Minneapolis and I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are: I feel the dam and lock should be removed and if water level or sediment removal is an issue, a rock arch rapid should be installed to allow natural flow, fish passage and recreational access. The river should be restore to its natural form as closely as possible if the lock and dam are no longer necessary or functional. This would make the river area more welcoming for people to recreate and increase useable park land for both Minneapolis and St. Paul. The area would benefit from more use out of the river and the economic benefits associated with that.

Sincerely,
Dan Mossing



From: [Matthew Mueller](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 9:40:59 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Matthew Mueller



Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: Gretchen Muscant affiliation (optional): _____

Please provide your Zip Code: ██████████ _____

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

I am concerned about wing dams and hope they
will be looked at in this study. I understand that
there are wing dams in the Twin Cities portion of the
River

My preference would be to eliminate them along with
the locks and dams.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Sharon Natzel [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, December 18, 2022 5:52 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

Hello, my name is Sharon Natzel and I am writing you from Park Rapids, MN.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1.

My questions / comments are:

I recently toured the UMN St. Anthony Falls Propulsion Laboratory on the Mississippi River as they are involved in studies that help our healthy northern MN lakes. For example, a wave study related to man-made waves but also wind created waves. I wonder how they would continue to conduct studies if the river was modified?

Sincerely,
Sharon Natzel

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Tuesday, July 9, 2019 11:31:37 PM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

DuRon Netsell

[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: nathanial niska [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 9, 2022 3:17 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Nathanial and I'm from Minneapolis

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. I have been doing a research project at my highschool about the Mississippi river drought and I've learned that taking out the dam would decrease water levels more than they already are.

My questions are: How will taking down the bridge affect the Mississippi river ecosystems and how will it affect our drinking water?

Sincerely,
nathanial niska

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Connie Nunemaker [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, December 18, 2022 3:30 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Connie Nunemaker

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Mathew Olech](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Monday, April 6, 2020 10:01:17 AM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Mathew Olech

From: [Sarah Orvi](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Saturday, June 27, 2020 5:43:08 PM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Sarah

From: [Larry Osteraas](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 10:07:51 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Larry Osteraas



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Roger Otstot [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 1:54 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [EEMSG-SPAM: Suspect] [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Roger Otstot and I am from Woodbury, Minnesota at [REDACTED]. I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1.

My first question concerns how the cost and benefits of disposition considered. For example, what is the time period considered for operations and maintenance of the lock and dams versus removal or new ownership? Given that the locks are seldom used, and only for recreation, what level of maintenance is necessary to maintain the structures? Will that level of maintenance sustain the structures, or allow them to deteriorate them further? If the structures are not removed, is there certainty that they will not get to a point that they need to be removed anyway due to lack of maintenance?

I am also concerned about the issue of sedimentation. What is the amount of sedimentation and what potentially toxic chemicals and substances are in the sediment? How will the sediment be dealt with? Will it be allowed to flow down river or will it be dredged and stored elsewhere? Is sedimentation something that will eventually have to be mitigated anyway? It would seem that sometime in the future the sediment will need to be dispensed. Is that a cost that will be included with not removing the structures?

I am particularly interested with the issue of hydroelectric power. What is the present arrangement with the hydroelectric power plant owners and the Corps of Engineers? Does the United States receive a benefit or compensation from the power plant owners? The Corps of Engineers have provided the real estate and drop in elevation to provide the ability to produce hydroelectric power. It seems that the United States should receive at least some benefit, as they do with many if not most of the hydroelectric dams built by the United States. If the dams remain, will the United States be compensated for providing the ability to produce the hydroelectric power? If the dams are removed, how will the loss of electric power be accounted for? It seems that the plants at the two facilities are relatively small and would have a small impact compared to the the total power grid.

Thank you for the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments. I appreciate that this is a very complex and large undertaking. I know that you also must address many other issues as well. Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Roger Otstot

Sincerely,
Roger Otstot
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Abby Petersen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 7, 2022 7:55 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

Hi! I'm Abby, and I'm from Minneapolis.

I am writing to you with comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. I really want the lock and dam to be removed because it will increase the water quality as well as restore the health of the river and wildlife in the river.

Sincerely,
Abby Petersen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: MARIE PETTINGILL affiliation (optional): _____

Please provide your Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

I WANT TO RESTORE THE RIVER TO ITS NATURAL STATE, USING THE PERSPECTIVES OF THE NAKOTA & ANISHINABE. I WANT THE LOCKS REMOVED (IF POSSIBLE) TO RESTORE THE FLOW & WILDLIFE TO A HEALTHIER STATE. I DO NOT THINK THERE IS ENOUGH POWER GENERATION TO MAKE DECISIONS TO KEEP HYDRO POWER FUNCTIONAL. I AM NOT IN SUPPORT OF HUGE CEMENT STRUCTURES ON THE RIVER NEEDING MAINTENANCE WITHOUT ANY PRACTICAL USE. I WANT THE OWNERSHIP OF THE LOCK & DAMS TO BE HELD BY ENTITIES THAT PUT ECOLOGICAL PRIORITIES OVER ANY OTHER CONSIDERATION. I DO NOT SUPPORT CEDING OWNERSHIP TO A COMMERCIAL ENTITY THAT WILL ECOLOGICALLY IMPACT THE RIVER. I WANT US TO MAKE THE RIVER HEALTHIER, NOT MAKE IT WORSE OR EVEN KEEP THE STATUS QUO. CAN WE UNDO THE DAMAGE FROM THE PAST? THAT IS MY HOPE.

From: [Alva Pingel](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 3:22:44 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Alva Pingel



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Christine Popowski [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:14 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is Christine Popowski_____ and I'm from Minneapolis .)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions/comments are: What impact would different outcomes have on the river environment, such as water quality, wildlife populations, and climate resilience? Also, I think the Army Corps should study the geology of the river corridor to make sure it would be stable if these structures were moved.

Sincerely,
Christine Popowski
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Betsey Porter](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 11:11:47 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Betsey Porter



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Malcom Potek [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 2, 2022 6:51 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is _____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

My name is Malcom potek and I live in NE Minneapolis

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

What considerations are being made to improve water quality and offer recreational opportunities?

Thanks.

Sincerely,

Malcom Potek
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Greg Pratt [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 11:31 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments on Lower St. Anthony Falls and Lock & Dam 1 alternatives study

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. This section of the Mississippi between the Upper St Anthony Dam and downstream past Lock and Dam #1 continues to have multiple uses including rowing, canoeing, kayaking, hydropower production, tourism, etc. The river has been significantly changed over more than a century to accommodate those uses (as well as past commercial navigation). In its current state the river is not a natural system that provides habitat for wildlife and nature as it did before modifications. Species like aquatic vegetation, fish, invertebrates, waterfowl, reptiles, amphibians and others do not find natural or optimum conditions in the current altered state of the river.

I would like to see a more natural ecosystem along this section of my neighborhood. Balancing that with the ongoing uses involves difficult choices that affect multiple partners. My suggestion is the following. I believe we should explore the possibility of restoring more natural flows before making final decisions. One way to accomplish that goal would be to allow this section of the river to revert to a more natural flow during times of the year when other uses are minimal or not available, i.e., opening these locks/dams during the winter months. Exploring this option would give us an idea of how things might be (and once were) under a scenario of dam removal without making irreversible changes. We may find that in the long term the ecological benefits of natural flow outweigh the benefits of the current uses, but let us do the test first and gather information to make a more informed decision.

Best regards,

Greg

Gregory Pratt
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Greg Pratt [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:07 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Follow-up to last night's open house

I have a couple of questions that I was not able to ask last night, and I'm hoping you can provide some information.

1. What is the ongoing cost to the Corp of the lock and dam system, including operation/upkeep/maintenance/repair costs, annualized over the last 10 years or so.
2. Do the companies operating the generating facilities at the dams return some of their revenue to the Corp? If so, how much does that amount to? I saw figures on the amount of power generated, but do we know the revenue accrued by the companies from sales of the power?

Thank you for your help. When I have a little more information in hand, I will provide comments.

Best regards,

Greg

Gregory Pratt
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Cora Preston [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2022 2:32 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Cora Preston and I'm from St. Paul.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

-Please engage with the Native American tribes that have historically and continue today to view and use the Mississippi River Falls and the confluence with the Minnesota River as sacred and significant cultural sites. Their needs and beliefs should be front and center to this process.

-I am excited about the prospect of returning to a more natural flow of the Mississippi River and would like that option to be fully considered. However, it should not come at the expense of equitable access or justice for communities in North Minneapolis that have been disenfranchised from river access.

- Wildlife and native plant ecosystems should be fully considered as important stakeholders. Please consider the expansion of invasive species and weigh it against increased habitat and restoration for native species.

- What impacts could this project have to mitigate or exacerbate climate change?

- It is imperative that active, culturally relevant outreach is done to have robust community engagement to lead this project exploration, especially from Native and disenfranchised communities.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Cora Preston

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet - October 2022

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Name: Steve Prieve affiliation (optional): USFS Retired Forester

Please provide your Zip Code: _____

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | <u>WL</u> |

It seemed like there are many good reasons to keep the dam and locks (even if the locks are no longer used for navigation. Hydro power is always needed, even small plants as this one, to help reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. It was stated that the locks area could be revamped into more power generation. The need for storage for release during critical downstream drought negatively impacting barge traffic was also brought up & should be considered. Even if a small amount when ~~no~~ cumulatively added to other dams upriver it all helps. The amount of sediment released if the dam were removed would negatively affect water quality. It was pointed out that many structures above the dam could be negatively impacted if the river upstream was lowered 3.5' with removal of the dam. The high, high cost of removal and hauling it all out on existing roads would have many negative impacts beside the high cost. I and many others use the area for recreation, we loved watching the peregrine falcons this year (3 fledglings in and around the nesting box adjacent to the locks). Eagles and osprey are

Comments can be handed in during the meeting, mailed to the address shown, or emailed to MplsLocksDisposition@usace.army.mil. We would appreciate your comments by November 25, 2022.

(cont.) common, along with blue herons, egrets, & many ducks & geese. A family of raccoons even had a den in one of the storm sewer drains near the Falcon ~~the~~ box. I've also seen the river otters at locks #1 & beaver just upstream from the dam. I enjoyed visiting with the staff hosting the open house at the dam & locks #1, they were very professional & easy to talk to. Good luck as you proceed through the grinding NEPA process. Thanks for fox & coyotes.

-----fold-----

-----fold-----

Steve Prime
4621 Shelling Ave., 325
Mpls, MN 55406

MINNEAPOLIS MN 553

19 OCT 2022 PM 2 L



US Army Corps of Engineers
332 Minnesota St, Ste E1500
St Paul, MN 55101-1323
Attn: Regional Planning and Environment Division North



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Josh Pusch [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2022 1:33 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

Hello,

My name is Josh Pusch, and I'm from Minneapolis, Minnesota.

I am writing to you with a brief comment for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. In short, I understand that the study is complex and not straightforward, but I strongly believe that any step that would bring more biodiversity and stability to the river ecosystem is the step that should be taken.

Thank you for your consideration,
Josh Pusch

Sincerely,
Josh Pusch
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: Loni Rathjorn affiliation (optional): none

Please provide your Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s (Check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

I'm very concerned that the Army Corps could desire to sell the locks & dam to a private corporation or individual with whom intended for us citizens of Mpls. & St. Paul. They could ~~then~~ make drastic changes, like removal without proper studies on how the sediment could threaten a quality life & make more problems costing us taxpayers, such as increased dredging.

Should the Army Corps decide to remove the dam, please do a thorough study on the amount of sediment & study the sediment for toxic waste/chemicals & cost of remediation before moving. In general, I'm in favor of removing the dam's, let the river be free, let aquatic/river life return to its natural state, if possible.

Pls. to conference to invite the public for Q&A's & tours. We are very concerned about the decision as it will affect the river for the next millennium.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Sarah Risser [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2022 6:15 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Sarah Risser and I live in St. Paul, Minnesota. The Mississippi River has been an important part of my life in so many ways. I've spent countless hours sitting by and walking along the river. My favorite birding spots are along the river. I've rowed out of both the Minnesota Boat Club in St. Paul and also the Minneapolis Rowing Club in Minneapolis.

I believe that the ACOE should remove as much lock and dam infrastructure as possible and move ahead with that as aggressively, assertively, and quickly as possible. I am aware that there will be issues - some of the unforeseen - to be dealt with, but I believe removing dams will ultimately save taxpayer money and improve the river's natural habitat. I would love to see a more diverse population of fish and know that the mussels are thriving. Healthy ecosystems have wide-ranging benefits that are too numerous to name. And healthy ecosystems encourage a diversity of recreation. In this case enhanced fishing, birding, kayaking, and more.

I am well aware that the rowing community, most particularly the Minneapolis rowing community feels entitled to row on the river gorge and I understand how much they love their rowing venue. It is a beautiful spot. Please keep in mind that the Minneapolis rowing community is - overall and on balance - a very wealthy and privileged group. Moreover, having studied and published articles on the history of rowing in Minnesota, I can assure the ACOE that Minneapolis' first rowing club, the Lurline Rowing Club, trained and raced on Lake Calhoun (not the Mississippi River). Moreover there are three active rowing clubs that have spun off from the Minneapolis Rowing Club and are now thriving on lakes: 612e trains on Lake Nokomis, the Long Lake Rowing Crew trains on Long Lake, and Twin Cities Youth Rowing trains on Bryant Lake. Another group spun off from the Minnesota Boat Club, Lake Phalen Rowing, and trains on Lake Phalen. Yet another group trains on Lake Elmo. Minnesota has many lakes. Should the river gorge be transformed into an unrowable series of rapids the athletes of the Minneapolis Rowing Club will be left with many other options to continue rowing.

If the river gorge were the only place to enjoy rowing in Minneapolis I would be far more sympathetic to what comes across as blatant entitlement to the River Gorge by the Minneapolis Rowing Community. But it's not. And for those who love to row on the Mississippi River, the Minnesota Boat Club on Raspberry Island will surely welcome new members as they have been doing since 1870.

The river belongs to all of us. It should also belong to the non-human species and communities that the dams have displaced.

Please remove lock and dam infrastructure and let the river heal.

Sarah Risser
[REDACTED]

Sincerely,
Sarah Risser

From: [Anthony Roberts](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Friday, November 11, 2022 10:08:10 AM

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

Tony from Saint Paul MN

I am writing to you with comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My comments are:

The dams should be removed in order to return the river to it's original state. Doing so would add hundreds of new acres of valuable river front land for recreational purposes, as well as for the growth and health of the wildlife in the area.

The U of M rowing team can go find a different spot of calm water to play around in, they have the money for it. Their complaints should not outweigh the financial and ecological benefits of removing the dams.

In the long run, properly disposing of the dams will be cheaper than maintaining them in a dormant state, or dealing with a disaster resulting from their failure.

Any private ownership of them is unlikely to benefit the public.

Sincerely,
Anthony Roberts



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Marc Robins [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 3:07 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Marc Robins and I live in Minneapolis close to the Mississippi River Gorge. The river is part of my life and I visit it almost every day. The disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. is of great interest to me.

I'm concerned about the impact of dam removal on water recreation between Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. Pool 1 is an ideal environment for many recreational activities. The calm waters and low boat traffic make it possible for people of all ages and abilities to participate in activities like rowing, kayaking and canoeing. As a rower myself, I can attest to the positive social impact of water sports in the local community. I think the Army Corps should study dam removal's potential impacts on water recreation.

Best Regards,
Marc Robins
[REDACTED]

Sincerely,
Marc Robins
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Marc Robins [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 3:14 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Marc Robins and I live in Minneapolis close to the Mississippi River Gorge. The river is part of my life and I visit it almost every day. The disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. is of great interest to me.

I think the Army Corps should study dam removal's potential impacts on invasive carp. Based on my conversations with experts on the subject, the invasive carp could have serious consequences for the economy and ecology of the Upper Mississippi River and Lake Superior. There are not many barriers left along the Mississippi River to prevent invasive carp from swimming upstream and gaining a foothold in Lake Superior. How would invasive carp impact commercial fishers? What dangers could they pose to the environment? Would there be anyway to stop the spread of invasive carp if these dangerous fish were to have free passage up the Mississippi Gorge?

Best Regards,
Marc Robins
[REDACTED]

Sincerely,
Marc Robins
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Marc Robins [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 3:21 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Marc Robins and I live in Minneapolis close to the Mississippi River Gorge. The river is part of my life and I visit it almost every day. The disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. is of great interest to me.

I am concerned about the pollutants in the sediment behind Lower St. Anthony Falls Dam and Dam No. 1. For many decades, industrial pollution and storm drain runoff has poisoned the river and its ecosystem. Recent conservation efforts have gone a long way towards improving the water quality and restoring riparian habitats, but there could still be dangerous pollutants in the sediment behind the dams. I want the Army Corps to conduct scientific studies on this sediment and consider the environmental impacts if the dams are removed.

Best Regards,
Marc Robins
[REDACTED]

Sincerely,
Marc Robins
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Jean Ross](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Saturday, December 24, 2022 7:25:19 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Jean Ross



From: [REDACTED]
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Wednesday, July 31, 2019 5:16:30 PM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Lilli Ross

[REDACTED]

From: [Andrea Rugg](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 1:23:38 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Andrea Rugg



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Deanpaul Russell [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 2:37 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Unknown][Non-DoD Source] MPLS LOCKS DISPOSITION

Hi, my name is Deanpaul Russell. I reside in Marcy Holmes neighborhood of Minneapolis near the Stone Arch Bridge, and am a whitewater kayaker. I'm part of mnwwp.com

[REDACTED]

Category's: Communication/Coordination, Dam Removal, Economic, Environmental, Future use, Flooding, public access, public safety, Recreation, social concerns, Study Scope

Comments:

I would like to see the river open to more public access, and recreation with a world class whitewater park. This section of river has a one of a kind location, and geology to have one of the worlds best whitewater parks based on natural flow.

Regardless of the options considered for the dams/locks, whitewater recreation and access should play a large part in all of them.

See mnwwp.com (minnesotawhitewaterproject.com) for studies on similar whitewater parks, and the benefits they bring to the community.

Thank you! Please reach out if you have other questions!

Deanpaul Russell

Deanpaul Russell | Congruent, Inc. | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Patricia Ryan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 3:55 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Pat Ryan and I live in St Paul, MN.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the study of the possible removal of Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1.

I am most concerned about 2 issues: the effects of the dams removal on water quality (and thus on the ecosystem and all animals); and the issue of the sediment built up over years which is of unknown quantity, composition, and level of contamination. The effects of this presumably contaminated sediment should be thoroughly studied with removal and containment the obvious wise choice, since you cannot "take it back" once it is released downstream.

Sincerely,
Patricia Ryan

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Anderson, Ryne (HHT) [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 1:21 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Cc: danderson13501@gmail.com
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dams - Resident Concern

As a resident of Minneapolis and prospective home buyer, I am writing to express my concern regarding the future of the St. Anthony Falls Dam. Although I am thrilled the Corps of Engineers plan to do a comprehensive study on the dams at St. Anthony Falls, my main concern lies with the potential sale of the property/structures to private entities.

Most dams today are owned by private entities, and we have ample evidence of the expensive cost of dam maintenance, repairs, upgrades, and private companies' inability to foot the bill for the critical services involved in operating a dam. This cost of ownership may be feasible or pose lesser risk in rural areas, but this dam is in proximity to hundreds of thousands of people at any given second and as a resident of Minneapolis I do not trust this responsibility for the safety, health, and environmental protection in the hands of private companies whose bottom-line time and time again do not match the surrounding communities.

Therefore, I implore the Corps of Engineers to diligently consider the risks associated with selling the dam to a private entity. Simply relinquishing responsibility to the highest bidder will not be supported by the Minneapolis community and greater community of the upper Mississippi watershed.

In-addition, I would greatly appreciate the Corps of Engineers to also properly considered the potential positive and negative impacts associated with removing the dam. Please take the time to hear Minneapolis residents' opinions, wants, and needs. Though it has not been true of the past, as we move forward it is important to most Minneapolis residents to make decisions that are equitable to our entire community. All voices should be heard, not just the loudest and I appreciate any time the Corps of Engineers take to listen to our community.

Thank you,

Ryne

To: Army Corps of Engineers
From: Lia Sanchez Valles
Date: October 19, 2022
Subject: Mississippi River Disposition Study

General Comments

As a student and an Environmental Studies major at Macalester College, I strongly support the Army Corp's consideration of Lock and Dam #1 and the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, as candidates for dam removal. The current disposition studies addressing concerns about the future of the dams and the health of the Mississippi River and the ecosystems it sustains are vital in making this decision. I would like to address three proposed areas of study and stress some elements that merit further consideration.

1: Economic Concerns

These dams were first built to aid in navigation for the commercial transport of goods.¹ Today, however, commercial transport has largely ceased on the Mississippi, and maintenance of the locks totals \$2.4 million a year.² Dam removal will require a sizable up-front cost, but it will end up saving taxpayers more money in the long term.

2: Environmental Concerns

When we consider what dam removal might mean, we cannot simply think about it in terms of economic cost; we must consider what it means for the surrounding environment and the species that call the Mississippi River home.

Ecological Restoration

The Army Corps has cited, "Potential opportunities for the locks and dams to serve a new purpose such as ecosystem restoration" as an alternative to dam removal. However, while dams do provide many benefits, we cannot ignore the detrimental impacts they have on ecosystems. Dams alter the natural flow of rivers, trap sediment upstream, diminish water quality, and block access to breeding grounds for many organisms.³ The best means for restoring these impacted ecosystems, as previous dam removals have shown, is by removing dams. When dams were removed upstream, endangered paddlefish, sturgeon, and catfish began recovering their

¹ "Mississippi River Reservoir Dam System." MNopedia. Accessed October 19, 2022.
<https://www.mnopedia.org/thing/mississippi-river-reservoir-dam-system>.

² "Opinion Exchange: How about a Wilder River? Imagine This Mississippi." Star Tribune. Star Tribune, June 13, 2015.
<https://www.startribune.com/how-about-a-wilder-river-imagine-this-mississippi/307262171/>.

³ "Dam Removal Brings 'River Giants' Back to Minnesota Waterways." Friends of the Mississippi River, December 17, 2021.
<https://fmr.org/updates/land-use-planning/dam-removal-brings-river-giants-back-minnesota-waterways>.

populations.⁴ Removal of these three dams may provide native fish and mussel species with the opportunity to recover their populations as well.

3: Social Concerns

It is important to consider the four Dakota Tribes of Minnesota to whom the land on which the St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam once belonged.⁵ St. Anthony Waterfall was and remains a sacred place that was desecrated by settler colonialism and industrialization.⁶ Transfer of ownership, or removal and transfer of the land, could be a real effort towards reconciliation with the Dakota tribes from whom this land was stolen. I urge the Army Corps of Engineers not only to give this issue their fullest consideration but also to work with the Dakota tribes in determining the fate of the dams.

Conclusion

The dams do not produce sufficient benefits to justify the cost of maintenance. Dam removal will prove costly in the short term, but will be the most economically viable option long term for taxpayers. The overall health of the ecosystems post-dam-removal has seen positive impacts, namely the restoration of vulnerable and endangered populations of native fish species. When considering the prospects of ecological restoration, we cannot forget the cultural desecration that preceded ecological degradation. The lands on which these dams now reside are sacred sites that belonged to the Dakota tribes. No informed decision can be made about the dams without consulting with the Dakota. I strongly urge the Army Corps to consider these concerns in their disposition study.

⁴ "Dam Removal Brings 'River Giants' Back to Minnesota Waterways." Friends of the Mississippi River, December 17, 2021.

<https://fmr.org/updates/land-use-planning/dam-removal-brings-river-giants-back-minnesota-waterways>.

⁵ Stevens, Olivia. "Mississippi Riverfront Project Aims to Represent Native American History." The Minnesota Daily. Accessed October 16, 2022.

<https://mndaily.com/268489/uncategorized/mississippi-riverfront-project-aims-to-represent-native-american-history/>.

⁶ Compiled by Dr. Roopali Phadke, Alexandra Jabbarpour. "Upper Mississippi River: Disposition," ArcGIS StoryMaps. Esri, July 21, 2021.

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/9b26ad80592a4dbea4c7092c2349c5be>.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Claire Sand [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 2, 2022 7:59 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Claire Sand and I'm from Minneapolis)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I am concerned on how moving to a lower depth river may increase the concentration of chemicals (from upstream pollution and from Agricultural runoff) on the banks and in the water. A study on the water height and its impact on increased concentrations of harmful chemicals in an urban area is needed

I am also concerned about how stagnant warmer (lower depth) water would increase the prospect of harmful microbial growth and disease. A study on the impact of lower river height and warmer water on microbial growth is warranted.

I am concerned about the long term impact of removing a potential water source from an urban population as other water sources decline or become contaminated. I long term projection on water use and replenishment is warranted.

Sincerely,
Claire Sand

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Emily Santoni [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 3:53 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Emily and I am from Minneapolis, MN

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

How is this going to impact the local parks surrounding the dam area from downtown to the locks?

It is my understanding that this change the River enough so the Minneapolis rowing club won't be able to exist at this location. As a proud member of MRC we are stewards of not only the River but the community. And to lose this area would be a huge loss. I encourage the army corps of engineers to fix what needs to be fixed but not to change the landscape of the river.

Sincerely,
Emily Santoni

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Richard Sathre [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2022 5:48 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Removal of Mississippi River Dams

I hope your study will consider the potential loss of the limestone layer behind the dam. My engineering professor at the U of MN indicated that the limestone shelf ends not far north of the dam. Once eroded by the river, the falls would be lost as the sandstone beneath the limestone is easily cut. The rapids thus formed by nature could endanger bridges, pipelines, etc. upstream from the Ford Dam.

I have no doubt that the U.S. Army C of E knows how critical the dam is, but the news article author makes no mention of the geology of the river valley.

To see an example of the potential upstream migration of the limestone ledge please visit Minnehaha Falls where erosion moved the falls west to the present location.

Rick Sathre
Retired professional engineer

Sent from my iPhone

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Ken Schauer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 8:35 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Unknown][Non-DoD Source] Mpls Locks Disposition

My name is Ken Schauer and I am affiliated with rapidariders.org and am an avid whitewater kayaker. I live in St. Paul and I have been hopeful for plans for dam removal for years. This section of river is unique in its location and geology and would make the twin cities a unique place with world class whitewater flowing through a urban area. I truly hope that whitewater recreation plays a large role in any future plans.

Thank you! Ken

From: [Ann Schley](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Sunday, November 20, 2022 2:07:30 PM

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Ann Schley and I am live in the River Corridor in Saint Paul, MN.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

1. I have rowed and coached rowing in the Mississippi River Gorge for the last 36 year. Over this time, I have observed the water quality improve and watched the birds return, first the Blue Herons, and later the Bald Eagles. The ecosystem seems to have stabilized. What would happen if the Ford Dam were removed? Would the eagles and herons still have fish to eat? Would they leave the gorge? Would they remain? What would replace them? (In the last couple of years I see eagles and their offspring almost everytime I am on the water, typically 4 times a week)
2. I understand the original river bottom had large blocks of rock and boulders. In in order to make the river navigatable before the dams were built, dynamite was used to clear a path through the rock. Is this true? Has anyone mapped the bottom of the existing pool to know what remains? Will removing the dam really return the river to its former self?
3. Asian carp is still a concern for the upper Mississippi. Wouldn't removing the Ford Dam allow the carp to move up the river further and quicker?
4. There are currently 4 rowing clubs/teams that row in the Mississippi Gorge from March through October. The Minneapolis Rowing Club alone has over 350 members ages 13-years and up to 80! Macalester College has a team, and the University of Minnesota has two teams, the Women's Varsity Team and the Men's Club Team. Overall, I would guess approximately 500 rowers are on the river several days a week during their particular rowing seasons. We often see kyakers, fishermen, pleasure boaters, and others in Pool 1. What will happen to recreation on the river if the Ford Dam is removed? Will water levels be high enough during the summer to support this amount of recreation?
5. I am also understand there is a significant amount of sediment in front of the dam. How deep is this sediment? Does it contain toxins? If yes, will it need to be dredged and removed prior to dam removal? Is it currently a danger to the fish and birds in the area? Will it be if it is disturbed?
6. The Ford Dam is currently providing electricity to the new Highland Bridge Development. My understanding is that is will power the infrastructure. If this "clean" power is removed from the grid, what will replace it? Now, and in the future?

Thank you for allowing me to ask my questions.

Ann Schley

Sincerely,
Ann Schley



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Konrad Schmidt <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 9:41 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Konrad Schmidt and I'm from St. Paul.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1.

I am a retired MN DNR fish biologist and now one of the authors working on the Fishes of Minnesota. One of my tasks has been compiling a distribution database for the book's species accounts. My question for this disposition study is what, if any, fish surveys will be scheduled in the Mississippi River above US Lock and Dam 1 (USLD 1)? I believe knowing the species present from USLD 1 to the tailwaters of the lock and dam at Upper St. Anthony Falls (USAF) is one of many essential components needed to make informed decisions and recommendations on the disposition of the structures at USLD 1 and Lower St. Anthony Falls (LSAF). Queries of my database indicate in Pool 2 (below USLD1), returned over 3000 records reporting 83 native species. Of these, two have protected status as state listed threatened species (i.e., black buffalo and paddlefish). Four additional species with limited distributions in Minnesota are listed in a "watch" status of special concern. From USLD 1 to the tailwaters of Lower St. Anthony Falls (LSAF), the query returned far fewer records of about 200 and reported almost half the native species including just one threatened and one special concern species. From LSAF to the tailwaters of USAF, there are only 72 records that accounted for 32 native species. None of which are not assigned to any protected or rare status.

The existing data suggest the locks and dams have had a major, negative environmental impact on fish communities and aquatic habitats. However, the reach above USLD 1 has never been adequately surveyed and additional effort should be considered as part of this disposition study. This effort should include multiple types of sampling gear to capture the bulk of species present in this reach. The results will be useful in the analysis of costs and benefits to keep or remove the lock and dams.

Sincerely,
Konrad Schmidt
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Martin Schoen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 3:43 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] The future of two Twin Cities locks and dams

Hello,

I was born in St. Paul and have always lived in the Twin Cities and I am writing to express my opinion on the future of two Twin Cities locks and dams.

Please proceed with studies and eventual plans to remove all the locks and dams!

This will produce an unprecedented opportunity for recreation, tourism, and environmental stewardship!

Thank you!

Martin Schoen
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [James Schoettler](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Saturday, November 12, 2022 11:37:05 AM

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is _Jim Schoettler_____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

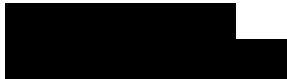
There are a number of storm sewer (and possibly other) outfalls along this stretch of the river that can deliver materials which at best smell bad and can be toxic from emergency sewage discharges, fertilizers, and a myriad of other materials that find there way into the streets and gutters.

What are you doing to monitor, identify, analyze flow, quantify obnoxious and dangerous materials and determine the impact on river water quality under both low-flow and high-flow conditions? What about the "first flush" characteristics of these water sources?

What will be done to extend these outfalls into the new main channel?

What about on-going monitoring of river quality?

Sincerely,
James Schoettler



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: James Schoettler [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 3:02 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is ___James Schoettler_____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

Keep the dam and powerhouse; eliminate the locks, if necessary.

People love seeing the water impoundment behind the dam; they will not love seeing a trickle of water flowing through a rapidly growing floodplain forest, with foul storm sewer outflows being the main source of water. Yet this is what is likely to happen every summer during a prolonged dry spell. It will be very disappointing and very expensive.

Sincerely,
James Schoettler

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Anthony Schollmeier <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 8:32 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Tony and I'm from Minneapolis

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

- How will the different options impact recovery of native endangered and threatened Mussels?
- How will the different options impact the populations of uncommon riverine fish, specifically River Redhorse, Blue Sucker, Black Buffalo, Paddlefish and Lake Sturgeon
- How will the different options impact access for shore fishing?
- Would this create an increase in habitat for spawning fish, especially catostomids? Would that increase foraging options for fish-eating birds like Eagles and mammals like Otters?

Sincerely,
Anthony Schollmeier

[REDACTED]

From: [Nathan Scott](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 8:31:57 AM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Nathan Scott

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: Lovise M. Segreto affiliation (optional): _____

Please provide your Zip Code:

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

The segment of the Mississippi River between Lower St. Anthony Falls and Lock + Dam #1 is VERY IMPORTANT to the Twin Cities HERITAGE + history. The Disposition study should EXPLORE OPTIONS that INCREASE WATER QUALITY, INCREASE recreational opportunities (Fishing, pleasure boating, KAYAKING/CANOEING) + INCREASING wildlife habitat.

Option analysis to achieve the ABOVE GOALS must include both Flood resilience and environmental impacts.

In the interim, re-authorization of maintaining the 9' navigation channel should be explored ASAP.

Hydro-electric plant STAKEHOLDERS s/b ENGAGED AS to determine whether OR NOT continued generation of clean energy can continue + be incorporated INTO the FINAL disposition recommendation.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Barry Shillingford [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:03 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Barry Shillingford and I'm from Eagan, MN.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I would like to see the removal of as many locks and dams as feasible, so that the river would be more natural. I think this would be good for the environment and for tourism to the Twin Cities.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Barry Shillingford
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Judith Sibert [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 4, 2022 5:41 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Mississippi River @ Minneapolis-St. Paul

Hello,

Lock 1 has been reduced to very limited hours especially for paddlers. Due to the unique location of Lock 1 (down in the gorge) there is no easy way to portage this structure especially for through paddlers. It is really important to keep the water way open to paddlers by either establishing a portage at lock 1 or remove it entirely.

Thank you,

Judith Sibert

--

Sent from Gmail Mobile

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Erik Skjon [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, October 22, 2022 12:29 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Future of locks and dams

Hello,

I was born and raised in St. Paul and came back to settle here twelve years ago. I fully support current studies on the locks and dams in the Twin Cities, and would support their eventual removal if feasible. I think it would be great to have a wild river running through our cities.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Erik Skjon
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Blake Slette <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, December 18, 2022 6:37 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments concerning the scope of the Minneapolis Locks Disposition Study

Hello,

My name is Blake Slette - I'm a resident of Minneapolis. I am writing to you with comments and questions regarding the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1.

I believe that it is imperative for us to take steps toward lessening the adverse impacts that the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock & Dam and Lock & Dam No. 1 have had on the Mississippi River Gorge and Saint Anthony Falls. This disposition study presents a critical opportunity to do so in a meaningful and significant way.

However, I am concerned about the potential for this study to prioritize a complete and absolute approach to either fully maintaining or removing these locks and dams without adequately studying alternative possibilities for partial removal, preservation, and adaptive reuse of their structures. Such possibilities have the potential to lessen our impact to the River and improve its health while minimizing disruption to its ecosystem and reducing unnecessary material waste and resource extraction. They can also benefit future generations by maintaining publicly legible signs and lessons of the irreversible impacts that these structures have had, and will continue to have, long after they have been decommissioned.

As many in our community know but can't easily visualize, the initial construction and ongoing operation of these two locks and dams (and those that preceded them) for over a century has had a dramatic impact on the Mississippi River Gorge and Saint Anthony Falls. These structures are major pieces of a system of infrastructure and physical alterations that has irreversibly impacted the ecological health, structure, and integrity of this unique and significant stretch of the River.

The initial construction of these locks and dams was highly disruptive to the River ecosystem. Their demolition has the potential to be equally as disruptive - an action that I believe should avoid repetition. These structures also constitute a significant use of material resources. These materials are already in place and have the potential to be repurposed, rather than go to waste or require the use of further resources. By leaving as many pieces in place as possible while drawing down the navigation pools and improving the health of the River, we might have the opportunity to minimize further and unnecessary ecosystem disruption while also lessening unnecessary waste and resource extraction.

By nature of their extensive impact, the effects of these two locks and dams won't disappear upon their removal, but will continue to define the Gorge and the Falls for countless generations to come. A complete removal of these structures is also a removal of the most visible and publicly legible signs pointing to the irreversible long-term impact they have had. Such an action has the potential to foster a false understanding of the River in the future as being free of this impact - losing sight of the truth of the place and valuable lessons to be learned from it.

In sum, I think that this study should not only consider, but actively prioritize the study of alternative possibilities for partial removal, preservation, and adaptive reuse. Such an approach has the potential to lessen our impact to the River and improve its health while minimizing disruption to its ecosystem and reducing unnecessary material waste and resource extraction. It can also benefit future generations by maintaining publicly legible signs and lessons of the irreversible impacts that these structures have had, and will continue to have, long after they have been decommissioned.

In addition to these comments, I have the following questions:

- Can the study explore partial removal, preservation, and adaptive reuse possibilities and alternatives? These alternatives may include removing modify the critical damming structures while preserving and repurposing some or all of the remaining structures for other uses or to safely deteriorate by erosion over time (as was done with the piers of the former Tenth Avenue Bridge). Examples of these possibilities might include repurposing the piers of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam to support a pedestrian connection across the River below the bluffs, reusing decommissioned lock walls as foundations to reintroduce island habitat for wildlife, or leaving the underlying supports of Lock and Dam No. 1 in place while allowing the River to flow freely around them.
- Will the study explore options for permanently lowering or drawing down pool levels prior to removal or if removal isn't feasible?
- Will the study assess the impact of removal on the dredge material "disposal areas" within the Mississippi River Gorge, many of which have since become public parkland?
- Will the study consider the impact of removal on the remaining Meeker Island Lock and Dam and original Lower Saint Anthony Falls Dam structures?

Thank you,

Blake Slette

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Stephen Smith MD [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, October 22, 2022 6:02 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] I strongly support removal of the Ford Dam on the Mississippi River

To US Army Corps of Engineers:

I am a former board member of the Mississippi Whitewater Development Corporation. As you know, that project could never be completed, in spite of extensive design plans. That was initially due to some political obstruction, and then later due to a change in national water priorities.

However, we now have a great opportunity to restore the Mississippi. I have copied Michael McDonough's excellent email here because I have little to add EXCEPT that such dam removal may provide a fantastic whitewater experience for the Twin Cities. Maybe.

I strongly support dam removal, as expressed below.

Stephen W. Smith, MD

1. I strongly support removal of the Ford Dam on the Mississippi River to restore a natural flowing river in the only gorge on the Mississippi. The environmental benefits would be tremendous. Including water quality, aquatic habitat and wildlife habitat. It would restore miles of free flowing river and all the associated benefits. I think the restored river would provide improved recreation opportunities over a stagnant flat water pool. In addition to ecological restoration, it would improve and expand recreation opportunities including implementing the previous proposed white water kayak course that was proposed downtown. See the feasibility on the MN DNR web site at: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/aboutdnr/reports/whitewaterpark.html> (I was the DNR project manager at the time for the study so can provide more information if desired. This area of the river is a National Park Unit and it should be as natural as possible with abundant but sensitive nature based recreation.

- All of the costs of removal and restoration should be paid by the Federal government. Minnesotans pay in way more than comes back to the state unlike many states that get a big boost from government spending in them.

- It would be important ongoing to have continued Corp involvement including funding as the gorge is restored for better ecology and recreation.

- The Corp should have ongoing responsibility for maintain some the the remaining infrastructure including the massive retaining wall it created on the west side of the dam.

- It seems to me the most financially responsible course would be to remove the dam to reduce long term maintenance costs of a facility that isn't providing its original purpose of passing barges.

- The loss of the environmental benefit of hydro power at the ford dam is small compared to the large environmental benefit that would be gained from its removal.

2. I do not have as strong of an opinion about removing the Lower St. Anthony Falls dam. Generally my preference would be to remove it to to add more free flowing river but I think the benefit of the hydro power is more of an issue

here. Its removal would only allow a short piece of the river to be restored as compared to the long stretch in the gorge. It may also have some benefit as a back up to the upper dam should there ever be a breach of it.

Thanks to the Corps staff for the thoughtful presentation of materials on the issue.

Stephen W. Smith

Faculty Emergency Physician, Hennepin Healthcare (HCMC, downtown campus)
Professor of Emergency Medicine, University of Minnesota School of Medicine
HCMC ER, R-2

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

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Name: Peter Sorenson affiliation (optional): _____

Please provide your Zip Code: ██████████

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

Looking to the future, I believe the best use for the upper river in MSP would be restore it to its original pre-settlement condition to the extent possible. This would entail dam & sediment removal and restoration of flt & wildlife for all to enjoy. Of course, invasive species (ie. carp) will need to be addressed to the south. The best bet is to consider the river all the way south to Lake Pepin. This approach will be enjoyed by most folks and should address the ~~current~~ challenges of climate change best (and at least not over a long run).

From: [Rosa Sousa](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Saturday, August 8, 2020 6:46:46 AM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Rosa Sousa

From: [TRISTEN SPONSLER](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Sunday, November 20, 2022 11:22:54 AM

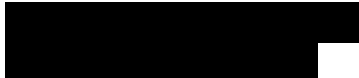
Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is __tristen____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

Keep the lock and dams at minimum and potentially reopen the locks for commerce. The dams are a very important staple of the Minneapolis waterfront that draw much attention and current/future business. Removal would see the downfall of Minneapolis losing its “mill city” culture. There should be actions to help stop the invasive species in which the locks were originally closed and removing the dams would not solve that environmental issue. If anything there should be additional repairs made to Saint Anthony Falls including exposing and developing more of the historic ruins along both banks.

Sincerely,
TRISTEN SPONSLER

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [William Steele](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 12:38:59 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

As a resident of rural northern Minnesota, I care a lot about the Mississippi River, not just up here near Grand Rapids, where I live, but throughout its length. We Minnesotans have a responsibility to do whatever it takes to restore and revitalize the river as it is a national natural resource.

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
William Steele



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Kathryn Steinberger [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 8:49 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

. My name is __Kathy Steinberger____ and I'm from Minneapolis

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

What impact would the various scenarios have on water quality and invasive species, i. e. carp?

Sincerely,
Kathryn Steinberger
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Kathleen Stenersen [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 9, 2022 8:15 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Kathleen Stenersen and I'm from St. Paul.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

- 1) I view the pool created by the Lower St. Anthony and Ford Dams as a park, similar to the many parks found throughout the Twin Cities area. It is a natural area that is used by hundreds of people every day in the warmer months through rowing, canoeing, kayaking and has maintenance costs similar to many of the larger parks found throughout the metro area. In 2022, the Minneapolis Parks budget was over \$70 million and the Saint Paul Parks budget was over \$40 million. Viewed through this lens and understanding the way that this pool is used today should be considered. I believe letting this area 'go wild' through dam removal would diminish the accessibility for many people, just as letting a park like Theodore Wirth 'go wild' by removing paths and park structures would diminish the use of that park. In particular, the many rowing clubs using this pool impact over 500 people within the Twin Cities community, including youth and community programs.
- 2) I have many concerns about the environmental impact and cost of removing the dams. I applaud efforts to do a thorough study to understand this cost in all facets and for the many years such costs would be incurred.
- 3) Now is not the time to remove sustainable power generation in the form of hydroelectric power coming off the dams.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Stenersen

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Norris Stenstadvold [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2022 10:20 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Norris Stenstadvold, I live in Minneapolis, MN

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. As a retired boater, 32 years in Pool 2, I am very disappointed that the Corps has decided to close the Upper Mississippi North of Pool 2 to navigation. Transportation by river barge is by far the most economical way to move product.

My main concern is the possible removal of Lower St Anthony and Lock 1. Has there be any kind of study regarding the river levels downstream from the Ford Lock and Dam? Also, the additional tons of sediment could reek havoc on backwater areas downstream.

"Sedimentation behind the Ford Dam would be one of the major challenges to more intensive river restoration efforts by dam removal (Scot Johnson, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, personal communication)".

Thank you,

Norris (Jerry) Stenstadvold

Sincerely,
Norris Stenstadvold

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Jason Stenvold](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 10:11:32 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Jason Stenvold



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Tudor Stiharu [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 2, 2022 9:40 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

Tudor stiharu from Minneapolis

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

- Concerns about losing MRC and UMN rowing programs, as well as the social impact of losing community associated with rowing.
- Concerns about unearthing pollutants in sediments and the effects on the environment.
- Concerns about invasive carp reaching the Upper Mississippi River.
- Concerns about the loss of renewable energy from hydroelectric plants.
- Concerns about the cost of dam removal.
- Concerns about transfer of property to a private interest.

Sincerely,
Tudor Stiharu

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Tudor Stoharu <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2022 12:11 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is ____tudor. Minneapolis. _____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

Concerns about losing MRC and UMN rowing programs, as well as the social impact of losing community associated with rowing.

Concerns about unearthing pollutants in sediments and the effects on the environment.

Concerns about invasive carp reaching the Upper Mississippi River.

Concerns about the loss of renewable energy from hydroelectric plants.

Concerns about the cost of dam removal.

Concerns about transfer of property to a private interest.

Sincerely,
Tudor Stoharu

[REDACTED]

From: [Margaret Stoney](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:56:09 PM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Margaret Stoney

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Matt Sturgeon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 3:28 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Unknown][Non-DoD Source] MPLS Locks Disposition

Your Name: Matthew Sturgeon

Affiliation: mnwwp.com

Zip Code: 55444

Category's: Communication/Coordination, Dam Removal, Economic, Environmental, Future use, Flooding, public access, public safety, Recreation, social concerns, Study Scope

Comments:

Would like to see the river open to more public access, and recreation with a possible whitewater park. This section of river has a one of a kind location, and geology to have one of the worlds best whitewater parks based on natural flow.

No matter the options considered for the dams/locks, whitewater recreation should play a large part in all of them.

See mnwwp.com (minnesotawhitewaterproject.com) for studies on similar whitewater parks, and the benefits they bring to the community.

Thanks

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Jessica Sumba <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, December 9, 2022 10:10 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Jessica and I'm from Minneapolis.

I'm writing to voice my concern about the dam and its effect on the American paddlefish. The paddlefish used to swim throughout all of the River Basin, but with the construction of modern dams and overfishing, its habitats and populations have declined.

I think we should remove the dam so that paddlefish can return to the habitat that they once had access to. I realize that there are negative effects of removing the dam, but I think the pros outweigh the cons.

Thank you for your consideration , Jessica

Sincerely,
Jessica Sumba

[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Kathy Swenson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, October 15, 2022 3:34 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Kathy Swenson and I'm from Minneapolis, MN.

I am writing to you with comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

First I want to comment about the Upper St. Anthony Falls lock and dam. I think the ACE should maintain this property. The Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam ensures drinking water for close to a million people in the metro area and needs a Federal agency with a diversity of resources to maintain this property. No one city or local agency has the resources to maintain this property and water supply.

Lower St. Anthony lock and dam- I'm fairly neutral on this staying or going. It might be one to remove as it's sandwiched between 2 others and presumably the impact of removal would be less.

Lock and Dam #1- I am in favor of this dam staying. I think the lake-like river gorge created by the dam offers access and recreation to more people than a free flowing river would. At this point restoration of a free flowing river are too uncertain to offer any benefit to wildlife. I'd be in favor of re-visiting this topic at some later date.

Sincerely,
Kathy Swenson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Deborah Swenson-Klatt](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Saturday, November 19, 2022 1:08:31 PM

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: Hello -- My name is Deb Swenson-Klatt and I'm a resident of Minneapolis. I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. My questions / comments are:

What impacts would different outcomes have on our river environment, including water quality, wildlife populations, climate resilience and more?

How much sediment is built up between Lower St. Anthony Falls and Lock & Dam No. 1 and is it polluted? What would happen to this sediment if the dams were removed? How much would it cost to address that?

Will any bridges or other structures be jeopardized if one or both of these dams is removed?

I'm concerned about the water quality in the river if we do not see an increase in the diversity of wildlife in and around the river.

I think the Army Corps should study dam removal's potential impacts on improving ecosystem health and help our communities understand the costs of removal.

I think the Army Corps should study the geology of the river corridor to make sure it would be stable if these structures were removed.

I think the Army Corps should include a robust study of the specific impacts on marginalized communities along the river. This part of the study should use best practices in racial equity analysis to explore these impacts.

Sincerely,
Deborah Swenson-Klatt

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: Mary Theresa Downing affiliation (optional): _____

Please provide your Zip Code: _____

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

Since barges no longer go up the river past St. Paul, the ~~dam~~^{lock} has outlived its usefulness. If the dam contributes to energy production it should remain. It would also contribute to control of the Asian carp. But maintenance of the lock is expensive and if it's removed the dam wouldn't work unless it's extended. Removal of the lock is also expensive, but returning this part of the river to its natural state would provide a bit more habitat for migrating birds and species that remain all year.

From: [Jennifer Therkilsen-Gebhard](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 11:37:27 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Jennifer Therkilsen-Gebhard



From: [Tess Thomas](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 9:39:20 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Tess Thomas



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Marilyn Torkelson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:46 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Marilyn Torkelson from Eden Prairie, Minnesota.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I understand the dams are being used for hydroelectric power. Will this be replaced by solar or other renewable non polluting energy source?

If islands and shorelines are exposed, will effort be made to restore the appropriate native plants to the area before buckthorn and other invasive plants take over?

On the other hand if islands disappear, will effort be made to restore habitat for wildlife?

What will happen to the sediment that has built up behind the dam? This needs to be disposed of in a way that is not harmful to water quality or wildlife, whether or not it contains harmful substances. Excess sediment is still harmful.

Can we ensure that invasive fish and other aquatic species don't spread unchecked up the Mississippi Watershed?

Are there enough intact natural flood plains to handle flood waters downstream from the dams given bigger rain events that are predicted with climate change?

I am a whitewater kayaker and have paddled through the lock and dam to experience the beauty of the river gorge through Minneapolis. I would love to see the dams removed if it can be done in a way that enhances this INVALUABLE wildlife corridor, and provides

Sincerely,
Marilyn Torkelson
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Thomas Torkelson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:50 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Tom Torkelson from Eden Prairie, Minnesota.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I understand the dams are being used for hydroelectric power. Will this be replaced by solar or other renewable non polluting energy source?

If islands and shorelines are exposed, will effort be made to restore the appropriate native plants to the area before buckthorn and other invasive plants take over?

On the other hand if islands disappear, will effort be made to restore habitat for wildlife?

What will happen to the sediment that has built up behind the dam? This needs to be disposed of in a way that is not harmful to water quality or wildlife, whether or not it contains harmful substances. Excess sediment is still harmful.

Can we ensure that invasive fish and other aquatic species don't spread unchecked up the Mississippi Watershed?

Are there enough intact natural flood plains to handle flood waters downstream from the dams given bigger rain events that are predicted with climate change?

Thank you.

Tom Torkelson

Sincerely,
Thomas Torkelson
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Lyndon Torstenson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:30 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Lyndon Torstenson, a resident of Minneapolis' Longfellow neighborhood along the river gorge near Lock & Dam #1. I'm a long time user of the river gorge, a volunteer for river restoration/conservation activities, and former educator who used the river gorge for conducting science and history lessons for over 25 years.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

The Mississippi River is inherently a public resource, as well as a national park. As such, public interests are paramount. If either lock & dam is turned over to a private entity, how would the public's interest be represented and ensured?

Since these facilities are currently federal property, as such they belong to all U.S. citizens; the public deserves continued control over infrastructure that impacts the river's ecology, history, culture and recreation. Whatever the future of these sites and facilities, the public's interest does not stop if the Army Corps is no longer involved. How can public control be best preserved?

In this critical area at the center of the only national park focused on the Mississippi River, the future disposition of these facilities should consider how to utilize these places for education as well as recreation, after first considering ecological impacts. How would any future disposition impact public access and educational opportunities? Could new opportunities be created to enhance public access, education, and recreation?

For the past 100+ years, the river's ecology has been impacted by these facilities. The opportunity to restore the river's natural ecology can now be anticipated. How can these sites become places to conduct and study river restoration?

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Lyndon Torstenson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Adam Tross](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Friday, November 18, 2022 5:24:14 PM

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

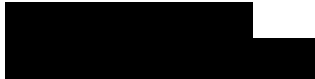
My name is Adam Tross and I live in South Minneapolis.

I am writing to you with comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My comments are:

Please remove the Ford Parkway Lock and Dam #1. I live within walking distance of this structure and believe the river would become a much more loved and used public resource if this dam were removed. Restoring this section of the Mississippi to its more natural flow would encourage many of us to use it for recreation and enjoy the newfound beauty that tearing out the dam would open up. I implore this committee to recommend full removal of the dams. There are many more stakeholders who would benefit from its removal, then the few boaters who use it currently.

Thank you

Sincerely,
Adam Tross



Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: Katie Tuma "We Are Still Here Minnesota" affiliation (optional): _____

Please provide your Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | <u>NATIVE VOICES</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

St. Anthony Falls and the Upper locks
and Dams are collaborating with NACDI
Native American Community Development Institute.
There is so much to be gained by including
A Native Voice on anything water related
and environmental. This much needed voice
and input will only grow stronger
and stronger by 2025. I sure hope
it is included on these DAKOTA lands.
(for this group)
Perhaps even consider a land Acknowledgement
at meetings -- I know this ~~may~~ might be
a stretch but it is important to
pass this truth on. Many many
organizations are standing true on
this! Thank you so much
A Native Voice would be rich, for enlightening & helpful!!

From: [Colin Turner](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] inquiry re: Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock
Date: Monday, November 15, 2021 2:36:35 PM

Hello,

I'm interested in the 'disposition' of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock.

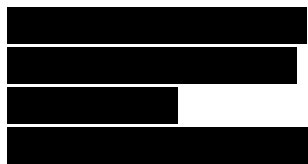
We are a nonprofit organization (established in 1977) and would like to know more about the facility, it's current and/or future plans and if it may have potential as a home for our organization.

Can you give me any information on its current status or direct me to a contact person for more information?

Thanks,

-Colin

Colin Turner
Executive Director
Midwest Art Conservation Center



www.preserveart.org

The Midwest Art Conservation Center is a non-profit organization for the preservation and conservation of art and artifacts, providing treatment, education, and training for museums, historical societies, libraries, other cultural institutions, artists, and the public.

Confidentiality Notice:

This e-mail and any attachments may contain confidential information intended solely for the use of the addressee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, any distribution, copying, or use of this e-mail or its attachments is prohibited. If you received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by e-mail and delete this message and any copies.

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: brandon turner [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 1, 2022 1:15 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Brandon Turner and I am from Minneapolis.

I am writing to you with comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My comments are:

The river should be slowly returned to a more natural state - ultimately the river is priceless in natural form, and I wish to see the falls at St Anthony restored to its prior glory - a very rare attraction for a major city, and the entire reason the city exists.

There is of course commercial value in tourism and city beautification. But the main reason is simply that we only get one river and while the city may change, nature must remain the cornerstone, because once lost, it is lost for good. It may be expensive to remove the overengineering done over the last century, but it will only become increasingly expensive. And if we can agree it is inevitable that the river must return to its natural state - in 20 years, 100 years, 500 years? - it makes sense that we do it now when we can afford it vs delay costs to snowball into the future.

On a personal note, I grew up going to watch the boats go up and down in the Lock, it was fun, but a waterfall at the center of a majestic riverside park and improved views from the stonearch Bridge would be far better and something I would personally visit over the next 50 years and will take my son to as he grows up - his understanding of our interaction with the natural world is and will be informed by what happens to the lock; and I personally owe it to him to teach him that it is wrong to destroy the world around us. We owe it to future generations and the Earth to remove a clear example of destroying nature for profit.

Sincerely,
brandon turner

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Ella Vadnais](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Thursday, November 17, 2022 3:54:25 PM

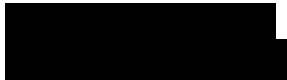
Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is Ella Vadnais and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. I am curious as to how removing the dam will impact the river, and if it will cause wide spread erosion, or release pollution into the river that may have settled behind the dam as sediment. If there is a lot of pollution in sediment behind the dam, will it be cleaned before the dam is removed? I think that removal of the dam could be very beneficial for the river, but pollution levels need to be considered. I also am curious as to how the dam removal would impact the river levels. Would it damage the river banks? If the dam is not removed, who would gain control of it or have the ability to buy it?

Thanks,
Ella V.

Sincerely,
Ella Vadnais



From: [Michele Vaillancourt](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 11:06:53 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Michele Vaillancourt



Tallman, Clayton E CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Stewart Van Cleve [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 10:29 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [EEMSG-SPAM: Suspect] [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Dam Study in the Twin Cities

Hello,

I'd like to share my input on the dam disposition study in the Twin Cities. I would like to see both dams decommissioned and removed to allow the Mississippi River's natural rapids to emerge again.

Thank you,

Stewart

--

Stewart Van Cleve, M.U.S., M.L.I.S.

Author, [*Land of 10,000 Loves: A History of Queer Minnesota*](#)

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Nathan Van Wylen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 11:33 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Nathan and I am from Minneapolis,

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

1. I would like the study to examine the feasibility of recreating some of the islands that previously existed in the gorge.
2. I would like the study to examine adaptive reuse of the existing structures around the locks and dams into recreational spaces.
3. I would like the study to analyze how much additional land will be provided with lower water levels and what potential recreational benefits this might have.

Sincerely,
Nathan Van Wylen
[REDACTED]

From: [Nicholas Vorpahl](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 9:40:14 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Nicholas Vorpahl



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Ramier Villarama [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 11:10 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Mississippi River Deposition Study
Attachments: Public Comment - Villarama, Ramier.pdf

To: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
From: Ramier Villarama
Date: October 18, 2022

General Comments

As a student at Macalester College and a young resident of Minnesota, I find the disposition of the three locks and dams located within the city of Minneapolis very risky. I am concerned with the economic and environmental burdens/issues that may arise and present a serious threat to me and future generations. Though the locks and dams no longer serve their original authorized purpose, I feel that it is in the federal government's best interest for the Corps to continue operating and owning them. We should rather focus on trying to see what can be improved and think about our relationship with the river now, not reimagine what it could be. Yes, it gives us this opportunity to change the future of the Mississippi River, but is it a risk really worth taking? I have listed my concerns in order of topics and presented some possible solutions.

Economic Concerns

The proposed disposition of the three locks and dams would be very expensive and may be economically costly. The overall costs of this project and who would pay these costs are not very clear. How much would all this cost and where would the funds come from? Without a committed level of funding, there will be a gradual and steady deterioration of the site. If dam removal were to become a priority, would other needs in the communities not get enough funding or attention? Though Congress approves and funds any changes to the structures and its ownership, the Corps continues to be the best option for maintaining and operating the three locks and dams. It should not be sold or leased to any private or corporate entity. It should remain a federal property with the primary mission of flood control.

Environmental Concerns

Environmental risks that clearly demonstrate the danger of this action to not only ecosystems but to people are very present. The Mississippi River supplies millions of people, such as those in the Twin Cities, with fresh drinking water, however, it seems as if water safety and flooding are not priorities in this disposition study. People dam rivers usually to help manage flooding, but dam removal would change water levels and patterns and would impact surrounding infrastructure. Failure to maintain sufficient dam pool elevations would then impact the ability to withdraw water from this sustainable source. We need to ensure that drinking water supply is an important consideration, especially as these locks and dams are still used for water supply management and hydropower generation.

Next Steps

The most immediate course of action would be to reject the disposition of the three locks and dams. What we choose to do here will affect the Twin Cities and its communities. It may even have a larger ripple effect than we can foresee, especially as dam removal has never been done in an urban setting. We should rather focus on sustaining and stewardship while also trying to enhance visitor recreation opportunities and cultural/historical experiences of the locks and dams. I urge the Corps to take action and continue site management and maintenance for flood mitigation. If we can improve public access along the line, more funding for it may come

in as well. Humans have done too much damage to nature and it is not the time to possibly create more. I hope you can take these recommendations into consideration as they enable future uses of the locks and dams and can improve the community's relationships with the river.

Closing

In retrospect, the economic and environmental impacts of the proposed disposition of the three locks and dams present too great a risk for this project to move forward. We know that the Corps is the only entity that can manage these structures with its expertise that considers its impacts so we must not make decisions that fail to account for future generations. As I have attempted to show, the Corps should continue operating and owning the locks and dams. If you think about it, they were built in the first place because the community advocated for them to be built, so why do we not advocate for a better future? There is no guarantee that we will end up in a better place, but again, I urge the US Army Corps to really think about this study and think about what the public has to say. What should happen to the locks and dams is really important, and I hope my comments have been of use.

Thank you very much.

--

Ramier Villarama (He/Him/His)

Environmental Studies & Studio Art Major, Food, Agriculture, & Society Concentration

[Redacted signature line]



From: [Amy Walsh](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Wednesday, November 17, 2021 7:37:50 PM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Amy Walsh

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Joseph Walton](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Saturday, November 19, 2022 9:32:26 AM

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is _____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

I think that remo being this lock and dam is the right thing to do for the river.

I also think that regardless of whether the dam get removed or not, we need to do more to try to prevent invasive/Asian carp from spreading up the river.

Please inform me what steps are being taken to prevent the spread of invasive/Asian carp.
Thank you!

Sincerely,
Joseph Walton

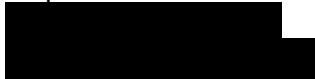


From: [Stephen Wanca](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 10:33:13 PM

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

Hello, my name is Stephen Wanca and I live in the North Loop neighborhood of Minneapolis, one block off the riverfront. I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are: how is the structural integrity of this dam doing? I have heard there are possibilities of submerged rock/dam parts that have been eroded/otherwise decaying over the years, but they are underwater and it is therefore difficult if not impossible to get structural integrity info about them. I'm extremely concerned that this could turn into a catastrophic urban environmental disaster if we keep kicking the can down the road on this. These locks need to be either properly maintained or removed entirely. With no more commercial boat traffic coming this far up the river anymore, Im not sure it makes economic sense to spend all the money rehabbing or maintaining this dam into perpetuity. I know the costs associated with this removal would be absolutely massive, but the costs of perpetual maintenance or cost of recovering from a dam failure are far far greater. Please, I think the right solution here is removing this dam!

Sincerely,
Stephen Wanca



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: ping wang [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 8:43 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is _____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

The present river supports so many communities and provides such an important ecosystem for so many species and cultures.

Please keep the river as it is. Do not destroy the river culture by removing the dam.
thank you.

Sincerely,
ping wang
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: wendy ward [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 10:22 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

Hello

My name is wendy and i live in marien on st croix, on teh st croxi river , one of the mississippi major tributaries.

I am writing to you with a comment for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. Take it down. bring these natural systems back to where they should be.

Thank you

Wendy

Sincerely,
wendy ward

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Jessica Wardlaw](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Thursday, December 15, 2022 6:38:27 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Jessica Wardlaw



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: John Welsh [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 8:35 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Public comment regarding Twin Cities Lock and Dam studies

To whom it may concern:

I have lived on Mississippi River Boulevard in St. Paul for 12 years. The area of the Mississippi River under consideration is a precious resource that has been under appreciated by our community for too long. Dam removal must be strongly considered. Returning the river to a more natural setting will unleash an amazing natural response that will leave citizens spellbound. Let it happen.

John Welsh
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Joseph Wenzel](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Thursday, December 22, 2022 7:24:12 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Joseph Wenzel



From: [Stephen Wernersbach](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 10:29:28 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Stephen Wernersbach



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: tim westland <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 9:42 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Unknown][Non-DoD Source] MPLS Locks Disposition

Your Name: Timothy Westland
Affiliation: mnwwp.com, Rapids Riders Canoe and Kayak Club
Zip Code: 55432

Category's: Communication/Coordination, Dam Removal, Economic, Environmental, Future use, Flooding, public access, public safety, Recreation, social concerns, Study Scope

Comments:

Would like to see the river open to more public access, and recreation with a possible whitewater park. This section of river has a one of a kind location, and geology to have one of the worlds best whitewater parks based on natural flow.

No matter the options considered for the dams/locks, whitewater recreation should play a large part in all of them.

See mnwwp.com (minnesotawhitewaterproject.com) for studies on similar whitewater parks, and the benefits they bring to the community.

Thanks,
Tim Westland

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: David Wheaton affiliation (optional): —

Please provide your Zip Code: ██████

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s (Check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

Since the spillway for hydro power already exists,

would the removal of the navigation locks all for

more power generation by extending the spillway to the

west in the vacated lock space.

Many of the comments in the Star Tribune article focused

on the fact the basic power generation infrastructure is already

in place. Is it wise to dismantle that infrastructure

as we migrate away from fossil fuel power generation?

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Thomas Wilkens [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 6:41 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Tom Wilkens. I live in Inver Grove Heights, MN within the boundary of MNRRA.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

What are the possible consequences to the community concerning water supply considering drought, climate change and dam removal.

I believe I would rather see the dams, riverbeds and shoreline stay in public ownership than pass to private ownership.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Thomas Wilkens

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Andrew Willman [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 7:06 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is _____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are: it will take a while, but these dams need to be removed. They separate native species of fish and impact biodiversity. A plan does need to be made to prevent invasive carp from spreading, but overall, dams are a bad idea for ecology.

Sincerely,
Andrew Willman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: ML Wilm <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:45 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

PLEASE EDIT: INCLUDE NAME AND CITY (e.g. My name is _____ and I'm from St. Paul.)

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. My questions / comments are:

How much sediment is built up between Lower St. Anthony Falls and Lock and Dam No. 1? Is it polluted?
I urge thorough study to learn whether the bridges and other river corridor structures will be jeopardized by the removal of one or both of these dams.

Of particular concern:

The current willful ignorance of the decades long mess under the 3rd Av. Bridge due to the haphazard development of the flour mills, dams,RRs, roads etc. around the unstable geology of the St. Anthony Falls. Will the bridge and our potable water supply be threatened?

Thank you for your thorough attention,

MaryLou Wilm

Mpls MN

Sincerely,

ML Wilm
[REDACTED]

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet - October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: Lily m winter affiliation (optional): _____

Please provide your Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

Native F36

PLEASE ~~REMOVE~~ REMOVAL DAM

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: Tyler J Winter affiliation (optional): Native fish
for tomorrow

Please provide your Zip Code: _____

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | <u>Native fish</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

The River Between L&D #1 and Lower
St. Anthony falls is important & unique habitat
for Native fish. The Dam doesn't provide
significant benefits to offset the loss
of the gorge.

Please Remove Lock Dam #1

Tyler Winter

From: [Leila Wolfert](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Restore the Mississippi River Gorge
Date: Thursday, September 2, 2021 11:39:24 AM

I am writing to express support for removing Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 on the Mississippi River to restore aquatic habitat.

On the Upper Mississippi River, habitat is degrading faster than it can be rehabilitated through existing conservation programs, and the river's dams are a primary cause of declining aquatic habitat. Saint Anthony Falls and its downstream cataract were one of four big river rapids on the Upper Mississippi. Today there exists only a remnant of the Saint Louis Chain of Rocks rapids. Consequently, the aquatic species that needed these big river rapids to complete parts of their lifecycles are under threat, including sturgeon, paddlefish and freshwater mussels—the most endangered group of animals in North America.

The dams in the Mississippi River Gorge were developed to support industrial and shipping activity that no longer exists. While the Gorge's bluffs have been mostly restored to parkland, the river infrastructure remains, limiting public access while the Pool 1 reservoir fills with sediment. Additionally, continuing to operate and maintain this infrastructure costs federal taxpayers millions annually.

Due to the severe impact that these dams are having on the river and the potential to make a major difference for future river sustainability, American Rivers has named the Mississippi River Gorge one of this year's America's Most Endangered Rivers®.

The time is ripe to take a bold step forward towards a new vision of the Gorge that removes the environmentally damaging features of a 150-year-old industrial plan, restores the natural flow and character of the river, rehabilitates habitat for fish and wildlife, and promotes compatible recreation and business opportunities. Please restore the Mississippi River by recommending to Congress that they authorize the removal of the Lower Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1, and call for habitat rehabilitation on the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Leila Wolfert



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: charles wolff [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 10:58 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Minnesota Mississippi River locks & dams

To whomever,

I recommend keeping at least the St Anthony Falls dam in place to keep the invasive carp from reaching the northern Minnesota streams and lakes.

Regards,
Chuck Wolff
Burnsville, MN

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Gwen Wooten [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2022 11:38 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Disposition on the Mississippi

To: US Army Corps of Engineers
From: Gwen Wooten
Date: 10/17/2022
Subject: Public Comment regarding the Removal of Lock and Dam 1

The proposal by the United States Army Corps of Engineers prompts many questions about the seen and unseen consequences that could affect the length of the Mississippi, north and south of the dam. These include ecological concerns as well as concerns for the demolition process and the upkeep of the river. As an environmentalist, a student at Macalester College, and a young person in this metropolitan area, I care deeply about the health and sustainability of this river and these cities.

As with any process that changes the natural environment, there come threats of disturbing the natural homeostasis of the said environment. Because a majority of this damage was done roughly 100 years ago, we can only work to rectify but with a goal to proceed as ethically as possible. The largest concern that most people have with the demolition of Lock and Dam 1 is the 1.5 million cubic yards of built up sediment [1] that has accumulated behind the dam wall. What is in the sediment? There is a good chance that it holds some sort of toxic waste or other minerals that could cause damage downstream. How far downstream would this sediment go, how quickly and how poorly would it affect the habitats there? To add to the sedimentary concern, how would the removal commence? There are multiple methods to demolition and they all have some repercussions [2]. Who would be responsible for choosing the method? And how is it gone about?

It is true that the removal of the dam would be beneficial to many species of fish that require migrations to spawn. As well, the increase of biodiversity, including 50+ rare or endangered species, would be great for the health of the river both north and south of the dam [3]. Another issue though that is apparent to the Friends of the Mississippi River is the presence, or lack thereof, of invasive carp [3]. These fish, both the bighead and silver carp, are filter feeders and would be responsible for the eventual collapse of the river ecosystem [4]. On top of this, the removal of this dam would connect the carp to the great lakes which would, in turn, lead to more ecological damage.

Lastly, I have some questions about the path of the river. According to Harold Fisk and his work on the *Meandering Mississippi* [5] and nature, rivers are constantly changing. Because this stretch of the Mississippi has carved a gorge into the land, there are steep sides to the river basin. And because the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul have built infrastructure and recreational areas so close to the edges, would there be concern of damage to both personal and public property as the river moves over time?

To conclude my comment, I think that the overall benefits of the demolition process outweigh the concerns, but in order to keep my support, the process must be done with the utmost caution.

Citations:

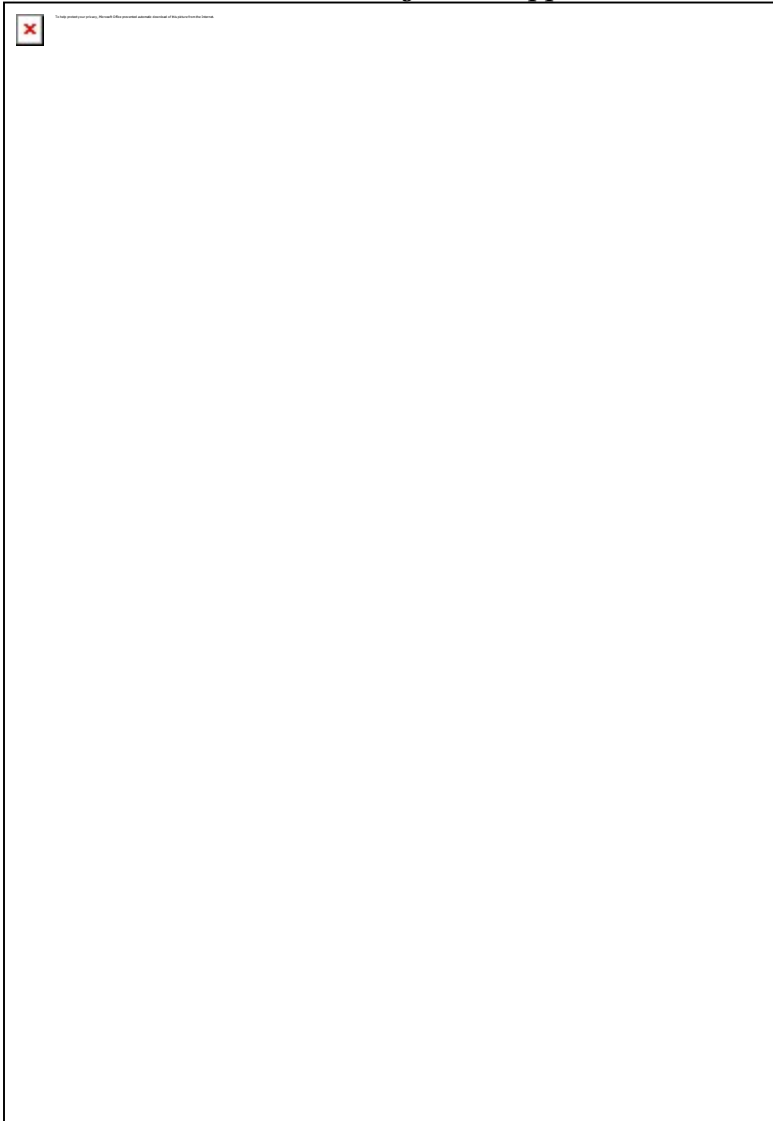
[1] National Parks Conservation Association <https://www.npca.org/advocacy/107-reimagining-the-mississippi-river>

[2] American Rivers <https://www.americanrivers.org/threats-solutions/restoring-damaged-rivers/how-dams-are-removed/>

[3] Friends of the Mississippi River <https://fmr.org/updates/land-use-planning/case-and-against-lock-and-dam-removal>

[4] Science.org
[https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.292.5525.2250#:~:text=Bighead%20and%20silver%20carp%20pose,ponds%20and%20lakes%20\(3\).](https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.292.5525.2250#:~:text=Bighead%20and%20silver%20carp%20pose,ponds%20and%20lakes%20(3).)

[5] Harold Fisk, the *Meandering Mississippi*



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Thanks,
Gwen Wooten
She/Her/Hers

Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Bryan Wyberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2022 10:19 PM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Bryan Wyberg and I'm from Roseville, Minnesota.

I am writing to you with questions and comments for the disposition study of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1. I am concerned that we get things right for the health of the Mississippi River and the wildlife that lives in and near the river.

My questions / comments are:

1. How will we ensure that invasive species such as the Asian Carp do not gain access to the River above the lock and dam? Operation of the locks was stopped in order to ensure the Falls remained a barrier to the expansion of the carp from the upper reaches of the Mississippi.
2. What is the financial benefit or risk of continued operation of the lock and dam?
3. Can we restore St. Anthony Falls as part of the project to remove the lock and dam? I believe that the removal of the unnatural dam and cement spillway is an attractive and environmentally favorable option.
4. Could we restore the islands below the falls that were removed in the course of controlling the falls and building the navigation channel/lock and dam? Please study the feasibility and value of this restoration.
5. Can a white water rafting/kayaking recreational area be included in the end state of the lock and dam removal project?
6. Will indigenous voices be included in the analysis and the preferences of the indigenous peoples of the area be given serious, fair and balanced consideration in this process?

Thank you for the consideration of my comments for inclusion in the analysis conducted by the Corps.

Sincerely,
Bryan Wyberg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet – October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: Nikola Yager affiliation (optional): _____

Please provide your Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s [Check all that apply]:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

The ~~falls~~ ^{use} locks + dams replaced a beautiful waterfall that was used as a ceremonial center for the Dakota + Anishinabe people.

As the ACoE modifies/removes the dams, the story of this waterfall and its significance to native people should be told.

Rarely do we have such tangible, accessible examples of the costs of ~~colonization~~ — and with the river interfacing with literally everyone in Minneapolis + St. Paul, this is an important educational opportunity.

Recommendation: plaque/memorial/imagery of what the waterfall used to look like pre-dam installation (e.g. the Henry Lewis painting of it)

From: [Steven Young](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Thursday, December 15, 2022 9:05:17 PM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Steven Young



Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

From: Russell Yttri [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 11:35 AM
To: DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments for the Army Corps disposition study for Twin Cities locks and dams

Dear Army Corps of Engineers Disposition Study,

My name is Russell you treat a live in Minneapolis.

I am In favor of the removal of the two dams and lox in the Mississippi river gorge in the Twin Cities. They no longer serve a function and interrupt natural cycles in the river. This is a start towards a healthier river. Thank you

Sincerely,
Russell Yttri

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Pat Zalusky](#)
To: [DLL-CEMVP MPLS LOCKS Disposition](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ensuring the best possible future for Mississippi River
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 9:39:07 AM

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer St. Paul District,

The study for the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock and Dam #1 should be comprehensive so we have the best available information to advance the best possible outcome for the Mississippi River and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

We understand that the Army Corps will consider many alternatives in the study, including dam removal. Much has changed since the locks were built. Please analyze and consider the following areas of concern:

1. Behind the structures are years of built-up sand and silt. Please analyze what is in that sediment and where it would go if one or both locks and dams are removed.
2. The Mississippi River was home to more than 90 fish species before the structures were built. Today we have fewer than 30 species and only in small numbers. Please analyze how removal could improve the restoration of native species in the river and whether there would be any impacts on the spread of invasive species.
3. Lock and dam removal will change how the river flows through this section and more shorelines and islands could emerge. Please analyze how removal could change recreational activities on the river, including current and potential new uses.

Thank you for ensuring this critical study helps advance the best possible future for the river.

Regards,
Pat Zalusky



Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 Disposition Study Public Comment Sheet - October 2022

Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available to the public, to include the possibility of posting on a publicly accessible website. Commenters are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses, in their comments unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. These comments will be used to prepare a preliminary draft Disposition study report and environmental scoping document, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Name: David Zumeta affiliation (optional): Longfellow Community Council
Environment and Mississippi
River Gorge Committee

Please provide your Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Please check the category/ies below that best represent the nature of your comment/s (Check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Historic Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Water Quality/Water supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Social concerns |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Study scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydropower | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | |

1 ☒ Birds of the Mississippi River Gorge

1. Study needs to address potential impacts of each alternative considered in the disposition study on riparian and aquatic ecosystems, including fish, wildlife, and plants. My particular interest and expertise relates to birds of the Mississippi River gorge (list of 192 species observed between Lock & Dam #1 and the light rail/walking bridge ^{connecting} the East Bank/West Bank U of MN campuses can be accessed at fmr.org/birds-mn. List updated in July 2022, includes 59 confirmed or likely breeding species on the west side of the river only).
2. Major concerns ^{regarding the alternative of} potential dam removal need to be addressed, especially:
 - a) release of polluted sediment from river bottom impacts of water quality;
 - b) potential ~~invasive~~ invasive carp to advance up the river to central and northern Minnesota.
3. Potential impacts (positive and adverse) ^{of different alternatives} on outdoor recreation (different types of boating, fishing, wildlife observation, hiking, biking) and the tourism economy.
4. Initial cost of dam removal vs. long-term savings in eliminating dam operational costs (\$2.4+ million per year).
5. Potential impacts of different alternatives on flooding and impacts of flooding.