US Army Corps of Engineers ®
St. Paul District

APPENDIX C: Scoping Document

Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam Section 216 Disposition Study

December 2020

Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
180 5th Street East, St. Paul, MN 55101

List of Revisions

Date of Revision	Version No.	Summary of Changes
5 FEB 2020	1	Incorporated comments from Bischoff, Stefanik
16 NOV 2020		Edits per Glomski review 11/16/20

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NOTICE: The following report reflects scoping activities for the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock Disposition Study to date. This report may be updated periodically as new scoping actions are realized.

Scoping Document

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1 Introduction

The Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam (USAF) Section 216 Disposition Study covers the uppermost lock and dam of the Corps of Engineer's (Corps) 9-Foot Navigation Channel Project for the Mississippi River. USAF is located on the right bank of the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minnesota, at Upper Mississippi River mile 853.9. USAF works as part of a system with two other locks on the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minnesota (Figure 1; Figure 2). Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam (LSAF) is located on the right bank of the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minnesota, at Upper Mississippi River mile 853.3. Lock and Dam 1 (L/D 1) is located on the right bank of the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minnesota at Upper Mississippi River mile 847.9.

Section 2010 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA 2014), dated June 10, 2014, directed the closure of USAF. WRRDA 2014 also does not prevent emergency lock operations at USAF as necessary to mitigate for flood damage. Prior to closure, all three sites operated as a system to support navigation on the upper reaches of the Mississippi River 9-foot navigation channel. Navigation ceased at USAF in June 2015. The closure of USAF has affected the demand for navigation at LSAF and L/D 1.

Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 (PL 91-611) authorizes the Secretary of the Army to review operations of completed projects, when found advisable due to changed physical, economic, or environmental conditions. Disposition studies are a specific type of 216 study with the intent to determine whether a water resources development project operated and maintained by the Corps should be deauthorized and the associated real property and Government-owned improvements disposed of. Disposition of one or more of the three sites may be warranted if the sites are deemed to not be fulfilling their authorized purposes and are therefore no longer serving a Federal interest. The current authorized purposes are navigation, flood risk reduction, and recreation.

Section 1168 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2018 (WRDA 2018), dated 24 October 2018, directed the Corps in carrying out a disposition study to consider removal of the project or a separable element of the project.

Section 1225 of WRDA 2018 directed that the disposition study at USAF be completed separately from a disposition study for LSAF and L/D 1, and that the USAF disposition study be completed first and that the study be expedited. Section 1225 also directed that the USAF disposition study consider measures that may preserve and enhance recreational opportunities and ecosystem health, and that may maintain the benefits to the natural ecosystem and the human environment. The direction to include an alternative for partial disposition while preserving property to maintain flood control was also include in Section 1125 of WRDA 2018.

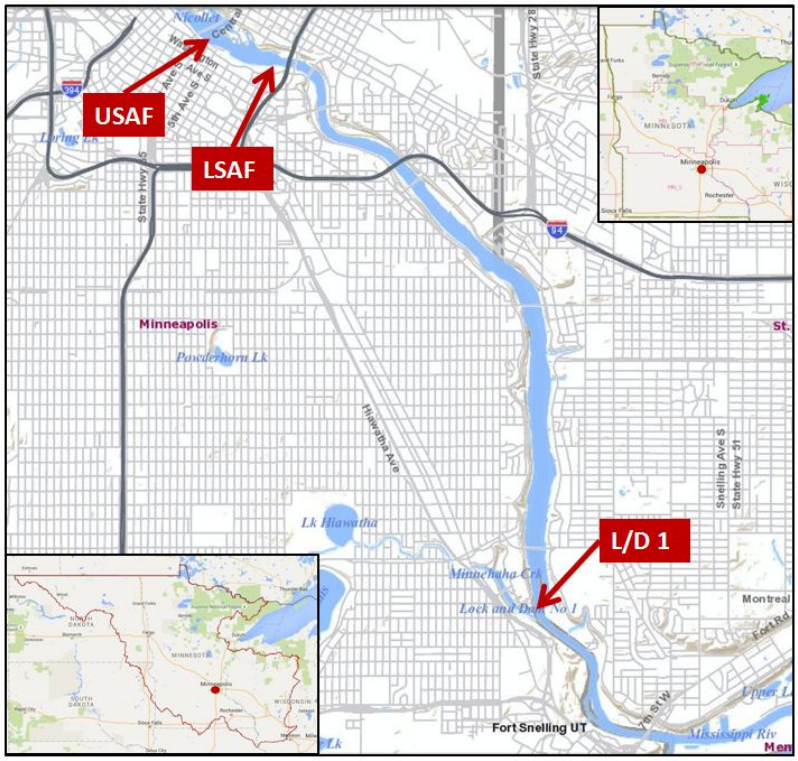


Figure 1. USAF, LSAF, and L/D 1 Disposition Study Area.

Figure 2. Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam.

1.1 Project Background

This Scoping Document was prepared to describe alternatives, issues, and other important information identified during scoping that pertain to the USAF Disposition Study (Disposition Study), Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. In the event that the scope of the study changes, additional scoping may be required and would supersede the information in this Scoping Document.

As directed by Congress, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District (MVP) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) under the terms of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the USAF Disposition Study. This study is authorized under Sections 1168 and 1225 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2018, which states:

"The Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is authorized to review the operation of projects the construction of which has been completed and which were constructed by the Corps of Engineers in the interest of navigation, flood control, water supply, and related purposes, when found advisable due [to] the significantly changed physical or economic conditions, and to report thereon to Congress with recommendations on the advisability of modifying the structures or their operation, and for improving the quality of the environment in the overall public interest."

The study will produce a decision document in the form of an integrated report and associated NEPA document in accordance with the Corps of Engineer's Planning Guidance Notebook (ER 1105-2-100), Interim Guidance on the Conduct of Disposition Studies dated August 22, 2016, and the Project Management Plan. The study will investigate measures regarding future use or disposition of USAF.

MVP issued a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on July 18th, 2019.

1.2 Project Authorization and History

The Rivers and Harbors Act of July 1930 (PL 71-520) established the Upper Mississippi River 9-foot navigation channel project. The project purpose was expanded to include recreation under the Flood Control Act of 1944 (PL 78-534). The Rivers and Harbors Act of 1937 (PL 75-392) authorized USAF and LSAF and the Minneapolis Upper Harbor Project, which extended the 9-foot channel upstream to river mile 857.6.

Congress originally authorized the construction of L/D 1 on March 3, 1899. The project was re-authorized by the River and Harbor Act of 25 June 1910 (PL 61-264). The Rivers and Harbors Act of 1927 (PL 69-560) authorized a survey of the Mississippi River between the Missouri River and Minneapolis, Minnesota with a view to securing a channel depth of 9 feet. The Rivers and Harbors Act of 1930 included L/D 1 in its authorized 9-foot channel project.

Section 2010 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA 2014), dated 10 June 2014, directed the USAF Lock and Dam be closed within one year of the date of enactment of the Act. Section 2010 of WRRDA 2014 did not prevent emergency lock operations at USAF as necessary to mitigate for flood damage.

Under the current study, an Initial Appraisal (IA) was conducted in 2015 to determine if conditions exist which may warrant further analysis on a completed project as authorized by Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 (PL 91-611). The IA recommended investigation of the future use or disposition of USAF.

The Corps held a vertical team decision meeting on August 21, 2017 and the decision was made to proceed with the Disposition Study. An in-progress review meeting was held on June 25, 2018 confirming the scope of the study, applicable guidance, and the proposed Review Plan, and approval authorities.

The study's focus is on whether Federal interest exists to retain the project for its authorized purposes. The study will evaluate and compare the benefits, costs, and impacts (positive or negative) of continued operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and rehabilitation, or lack thereof, of the site, as well as evaluate whether de-authorization and disposal of the associated real property and Government-owned improvements is warranted.

The study will include an integrated EA and will examine three categories of alternatives: 1) No Action, 2) Full Deauthorization and Disposal, and 3) Partial Deauthorization and Disposal. These are generally described below. Additional details on these alternatives will be provided in the integrated report.

1.3 Other Federally-authorized Projects in the Study Area

Within the study area exists the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (MNRRA). MNRRA represents a nationally significant historical, recreational, scenic, cultural, natural, economic, and scientific resource that has a national interest in the preservation, protection and enhancement of these resources for the benefit of the people of the United States. MNRRA was designated by Congress in 1988 (Weller and Russell 2017)[1]. The National Park Service (NPS) has management oversight of MNRRA with the goal of "preserving unimpaired" its natural and cultural resources and values.

1.4 Definition of an Environmental Assessment

Unless significant impacts have been identified during the study, MVP anticipates that an Environmental Assessment (EA) applies to this study in accordance with NEPA. An Environmental Assessment or EA is a written document under NEPA that assesses the environmental consequences of a Federal action. The purpose of an EA is to determine the significance of the proposal's environmental outcomes, assess alternatives, and briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact (EIS) statement or a finding of no significant impact (FONSI). Typically EAs provides evidence and analysis for determining that an Environmental Impact Statement isn't necessary. When an EA shows that an EIS is not necessary, it results in a decision document referred to as a Finding of No Significant Impacts or FONSI.

[1] Weller, L. and T.A. Russell. 2016. State of the River Report 2016. National Park Service and Friends of the Mississippi River.

1.5 Definition of Scoping

No standard format for scoping exists. Agencies have wide discretion in conducting scoping, as long as they get the results needed to continue the NEPA process. Because of the strong public interest with this area, the Corps chose to hold meetings with other agencies and officials, and with the public. In addition, written comments were solicited through the Federal Register notice, announcements in local media, and MVP's web page.

Scoping is a vital part of the NEPA process and is one of the first steps undertaken when planning an EA. Scoping:

- …is an "…early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action" (40 CFR 1501.7).
- …provides agencies with a method to determine the scope of analysis in an EA, meaning the nature of the actions, the alternatives, and the impacts to be analyzed.
- …helps agencies to "…identify and eliminate from detailed study the issues which are not significant or which have been covered by prior environmental review" (40 CFR 1501.7).
- …involves Federal, State, and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, the proponent of an action, and other interested persons (40 CFR 1501.7).
- …is one of the 17 methods of reducing excess paperwork, and one of the 12 methods for reducing delay, as outlined in the regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1500.4 and 1500.5).

1.6 How this Scoping Document will be used

For a complex project such as the USAF Disposition Study, it is important to identify what specific environmental studies are available before a decision is made. This Scoping Document, based on oral and written input from Federal, State, and local agencies, and other interested persons, describes the scope of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be studied in the EA and identifies the environmental issues that will be studied in detail, as well as those that are not significant or that have been covered elsewhere.

1.7 Input Analyzed for this Scoping Document

Input analyzed for this Scoping Document came from three sources:

- Meetings with Federal, State, local agencies, Non-government organizations, and other entities.
- A series of public meetings held in August, 2019.

- Written comments submitted.

2 Scoping and Meeting Information

2.1 Purpose of Meetings

As part of the scoping process, MVP conducted a total of four meetings specific to audience type in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. These meetings were held in August, 2019 by MVP to facilitate public and agency involvement for the study.

The purpose of the August meetings was to introduce the study by describing the site under consideration, the study need, the Corps' Disposition Study process, and study timeline. MVP also provided details on how to submit comments. The audience was asked to help identify any issues associated with the alternatives under consideration. These meetings served to fulfill part of the Corps' scoping requirements under NEPA. In addition to accepting comment cards at the meetings, the Corps also accepted comments by mail and electronic mail (email).

The goals of the public involvement process are to inform and educate the audience and to solicit feedback through the study process. The methods used to achieve the goals include informing and educating the audience about the study in order to identify their concerns. This public involvement process also functions for NEPA scoping. Scoping requirements are quite specific as described in 40 CFR Section 1501.7. Of particular importance are the requirements to invite participation by affected Tribal, Federal, State, and local agencies, and other interested individuals or groups; to determine the scope and the significant issues to be analyzed in the EA.

2.2 Meeting Information

Two of the scoping meetings were public meetings, one was with Local Government Agencies and Non-Government Organizations (LGOs and NGOs, respectively), and one was with Federal and State government agencies (Table 1). In all, close to 200 people attended. For the LGO/NGO and agency meetings, a concurrent webmeeting was broadcasted for attendees that could not participate in person. All scoping meetings followed a similar format – a powerpoint presentation was given by MVP staff followed by a question and answer session. Additional details and information materials from these meetings are provided in Sub-Appendix A.

Table 1: 2019 Scoping Meetings for the USAF Lock and Dam Disposition Study.

Date	**Time**	**Location**	**Audience**	**Estimated # of Attendees**
August 13	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Mill City Museum, 704 South 2nd Street, Minneapolis	Public	80+
August 15	9:00 – 11:00 am	Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, 180 5th Street East, St. Paul	Agencies	30

August 15	1:00 – 3:00 pm	Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, 180 5th Street East, St. Paul	Local Government, NGOs	40
August 19	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, 180 5th Street East, St. Paul	Public	30

Native American tribes were offered the opportunity for a meeting; however, formal consultation was not initiated.

3 Scoping Summary

3.1 Geographic Scope of Analysis

The geographic scope of analysis for the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives encompasses the 500-year floodplain of the Upper Mississippi River (UMR), from river mile 853.6 to 857.6. This area of the river covers the upstream extent of the 9-foot navigation channel associated with USAF and includes areas of associated dredging. The geographic scope includes USAF and its subreach as described in Table 2. The sub-reach of the river is defined to include the extent of associated dredging activities that is needed to maintain downstream access to USAF and upstream access to the harbor (Figure 3).

Table 2: USAF Disposition Study – Site Description

Site	**Features**	**Extent of Site Reach (RM)**
USAF	Main lock, gravity walls, observation deck/visitor center, control stations, mooring dolphins, multi-use storage building, restrooms, parking lot; paved road, security fencing, guide walls, training dike, 9 acres of fee lands, easements, and Rights-of-Way	853.6 – 857.6

Figure 3: Geographic extent for the Upper St. Anthony Falls Dam site

3.2 Scope of Alternatives

3.2.1 Types of Alternatives

In addition to the no action, complete deauthorization/disposal, and partial deauthorization / disposal alternatives of USAF will be used to define the alternatives evaluated in the EA and their potential effectiveness discussed. This is in accordance with the Corps' guidance for Disposition Studies. The types of alternatives to be considered in the study for each site are:

1. **No Action:** This is the base condition upon which other alternatives are to be compared for the environmental assessment under NEPA. No action would mean the United States would continue to own the property at the site and MVP would continue standard operations with no deauthorization or disposal action taken. The project would continue to be operated with routine maintenance and occasional major maintenance as required for safety, to meet the authorized project purpose, and MVP would continue to grant temporary real estate permits for compatible uses (e.g., tours). The agreement between MVP and the NPS would be maintained and the cooperation with FERC would continue. This is the future without-project condition (FWOP).

2. **Complete Deauthorization/Disposal:** All activities associated with maintaining commercial navigation by the Federal government at the site would cease AND the site and all associated features would be turned over to a willing entity through the General Services Administration (GSA).

3. **Partial Deauthorization/Disposal:** Those features necessary to continue the flood mitigation function of the project would continue to be owned, operated and maintained by the federal government. All activities associated with maintaining commercial navigation by the Federal government at the site would be permanently suspended and selected site features would be left to deteriorate, or be turned over to a willing entity through the General Services Administration (GSA).

4. **Dam Removal**: As required by WRDA 2018 Section 1168, dam removal must be considered in all disposition studies.

Disposal is predicated on deauthorization, and would involve the transfer of ownership of USAF features or components to a willing entity under the assumption that there would be no significant repairs or rehabilitation prior to this transfer (i.e., "as is"). The new owner would be responsible for any immediate repair and rehabilitation costs and all future operation, maintenance, repair, restoration and rehabilitation expenses. The new owner would also assume all other responsibilities, risks, and liabilities of the site in its entirety (complete deauthorization/disposal) or portions thereof (partial deauthorization/disposal).

3.2.2 Key Assumptions

If deauthorization of all or some site elements is recommended, the Federal government will no longer own, operate, or maintain the identified physical properties or the associated 9-foot navigation channel. Under these deauthorization alternatives, a number of critical assumptions will inform the scope of analysis to evaluate, compare, and select a recommended plan:

- The Federal action is limited to immediate deauthorization of the site or portions thereof. The study will identify potential future owner(s) and generally describes potential future uses of the site, but does not evaluate potential impacts of future uses in detail as those are not within the Federal action. If deauthorization is recommended, future regulatory actions are required to ensure compliance with applicable laws and statutes, including evaluation of potential impacts of any future modifications to the site.

- The site or portions thereof will be disposed of in an "as is" condition, and no significant repairs or rehabilitation will occur prior to sale. Modifications or repairs may be a requirement for sale; however, the requirement for modifications has not been confirmed and costs of such repairs are not included in the economic evaluation used to inform selection of the recommended plan.

- Any boat traffic through the USAF's lock will not resume in the future.

- It is assumed that limited operations will continue for the sites until they are formally disposed of by the General Services Administration. If deauthorization and disposal is recommended, it is assumed that normal operations will continue for no more than two years and limited operations (i.e., caretaker status) will occur for no more than eight years.

- Hydropower operations will continue; FERC licenses will stay in place until the end of their term regardless of who owns and operates the locks. As long as hydropower operations continue, the dam must be in place as well.

- The existing recreation agreements with the National Parks Service will continue to be renewed every five years until the GSA sale occurs.

- If disposal occurs, Federal property at the site(s) will remain in place and will not be removed. While dam removal is not within the scope of this study and may be recommended by potential future owners, it is assumed the USAF dam will remain in place in the future to prevent further upward head cutting of falls and maintain pool elevation for municipal water supply.

- Following deauthorization, the site would likely be disposed of to a willing entity. Disposition requires identification of a non-Federal or other Federal entity to take over the ownership of the project and pay for a share of any immediate repair and rehabilitation cost and all future operation, maintenance, repair, restoration and rehabilitation expenses and would incur all other responsibilities, risks and liabilities of the project.

3.3 Scope of Issues

The Corps has identified issues that would need to be addressed in the EA through input from scoping meetings held in 2019 with members of the public, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), local government entities, and government agencies. Many issues, such as cultural resources and relations with other nations, must be addressed due to some form of legal requirement (law, Executive Order, regulation, treaty or other agreement) and will be covered in the EA to the extent that these legal requirements are fully met. Examples include procedural

coordination concerning any identified threatened or endangered species and cultural resources.

Based on the scoping process and the analysis of written and oral comments received as part of the scoping meetings, the Corps has determined which issues will be evaluated and which will be summarized in the EA.

The Corps received a total of 23 letters, emails, or comment cards. In this section, the Corps summarizes the significant issue and provides information on the percent of respondents that identified with the issue of concern as part of their scoping comments. Some respondents covered several issues, therefore, the sum of the percent will be greater than 100%. Also included are selected excerpts believed to encompass the range in the type of comments submitted. The Corps acknowledges that there is substantial overlap between issues.

Below are the significant issues identified, from highest to lowest percentage.

3.3.1 Significant Issues to be Evaluated in the EA

3.3.1.1 Future Use

This issue identifies concerns with how the future use of the site would be affected. This issue is rather broad and touches on a number of other issues including recreation, hydropower, cultural resources, and infrastructure. One commenter indicated that the integrated report should describe and visually depict reasonably-foreseeable development concepts and how these depend on the Corps retaining property and/or sharing the site.

There were 18 comments made (78%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *The best outcome for that future is through partial disposition wherein the Corps continues ownership of parts of the lock needed for flood mitigation purposes and divests the rest to the City of Minneapolis, which has expressed a commitment to further the community's vision for continued use and enjoyment of the site.*

3.3.1.2 Recreation/Recreational Opportunities

This issue identifies concerns with how existing recreation would be affected. The existing conditions in and along the river support certain types of recreation that include rowing sport and club activities, canoeing, fishing, hiking, swimming, wildlife viewing. In addition, these dams enhance recreational access to the river.

There were 15 comments made (65%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *If physical facilities are not needed for Corps missions, a long-term use agreement should be made between the Corps and the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board to allow the MPRB to incorporate the lock into the now-under-construction Waterworks Park in some fashion to enhance the visitor recreation and cultural/historical experience as part of the Mill Ruins Park area.*

- *If the Corps disposed of the USAF Lock to an entity that ended or greatly reduced visitor access, this would adversely affect the visitor experience for local, national and international visitors.*

- *If the lock leaves federal ownership, the [Mississippi] NRRA will lose the special provisions and oversight granted to the park in its authorizing legislation. . .*

3.3.1.3 Cultural and Historic Resources

This issue identifies concerns with potential effects to cultural resources.

There were 13 comments made (57%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *The Upper Lock exhibits features that are consistent with criteria for its inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, including its age, its integrity and its historic role during the period of the timber and flour mills decline.*

- *If the USAF Lock is transferred out of federal ownership, we expect that the Section 106 review process would lead to a Memorandum of Agreement, under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, that would provide for a comparable level of review and protection to that had the sites remained under federal ownership for Section 106 matters.*

3.3.1.4 Flooding / Flood Fighting

This issue identifies concerns with flooding and the ability to fight flooding as it relates to operations at USAF.

There were 13 comments made (57%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *The corps needs to clearly define what it means by No Action. We are concerned that "no action" would lead to the steady deterioration of the site. We urge the corps to continue site maintenance for flood mitigation as well as general maintenance that does not interfere with the visitor services operation that led by the National Park Service.*

3.3.1.5 Hydropower

This issue includes concerns with how hydropower generation would be affected. Several comments were made against new hydropower at the site. Xcel Energy expressed concerns with the effects on their ability to generate hydropower.

There were 13 comments made (57%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *Development of a hydroelectric power plant is counter to the public interest.*

3.3.1.6 Public Access

Comments were made about concerns the future of public access at the site.

There were 12 comments made (52%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *Initiatives to activate the waterfront are ongoing and dynamic, as such, the Corps should work with the City and its partners, including the National Park Service and the Park Board, to ensure that any proposed disposition would support and enhance anticipated riverfront improvements, including access to trails surrounding the Upper Lock, fishing opportunities and other waterfront activation, water access and docking opportunities, and planned park develop*ment.

3.3.1.7 Environment

This issue identifies concerns with potential changes to the natural environment. There is interest in restoring the river to its natural state and improving water quality as much as possible.

There were 10 comments made (44%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *Restore natural state of river as much as possible.*

- *The study should analyze what the effect of not maintaining the channel or not dredging will have on the depth and condition of the pool.*

3.3.1.8 Infrastructure

Comments were made on the effects of disposition on the existing infrastructure. There are specific concerns about the city of Minneapolis' water supply. There are also concerns for maintaining structures needed for flood control. The University of Minnesota specifically identified concerns on its infrastructure (Elmer L. Andersen Library Caverns, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, storm sewer outfalls, and district energy and steam head production and distribution).

There were 5 comments made (22%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- The *navigation channel is one portion of the pool. Does the Corps have any long-term responsibility for the pool? Can the Corps walk away without considering the pool or reservoir it would leave behind? What impacts on infrastructure and resources does leaving the pools in place have under deauthorization and disposal? For example, what is the long-term effect of Pool 1 on bridges and other infrastructure through freeze-thaw action?*

- *We continue to advocate for the maintenance of river elevations necessary to ensure the drinking water supply for the City of Minneapolis as an important consideration.*

3.3.1.9 Human Environment

Comments were made about concerns of disposition on local communities.

There were 10 comments made (44%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *Human Environment: The Corps should make recommendations that enable future uses at the USAF Lock to improve the human environment by transforming underutilized property into additional economic and cultural assets and creating a world-class destination to activate the community's relationship with the river.*

3.3.1.10 Ownership

This issue identifies concerns about the future ownership of the entire site or portions thereof. There are concerns with the ability of potential new owners to operate and maintain the dam and the river as a resource. Concerns were raised that dams would fall under disrepair under a new non-federal owner. Some commented that the Corps is best equipped for maintaining dams.

There were 9 comments made (39%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *The Corps of Engineers continues to be the best option for maintaining and operating the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock. It should not be sold or leased or given to any private or corporate entity. The State and city also are not capable to operating or maintaining the lock. It should remain a federal property with the primary mission of flood control and, when necessary, emergency navigation.*

- *…without a committed level of funding need to maintain the lock's appearance and overall upkeep as it was as of June 9, 2015, there will be a gradual and steady deterioration of the site.*

3.3.1.11 Economics

This issue identifies the potential cost savings and economic value of the area as an issue.

There were 8 comments made (35%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *The Study should consider the economic value of the national park. Not only are America's national parks some of the most awe-inspiring places in the world, they are also huge economic generators for the local communities that surround them.*

3.3.1.12 Scope

This issue identifies the scope of the disposition study and the type of analysis that should be included in the associated NEPA document.

There were 7 comments made (30%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *The Scope of the Study should focus on partial disposition and reflect coordination with the City and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board ("Park Board") to further local adopted plans for the central riverfront.*

3.3.1.13 Social Concerns

This issue identifies concerns with social issues.

There were 5 comments made (22%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *We support a robust evaluation of the environmental, social and economic impacts all the alternatives and proposals that are investigated through the study. In conducting the disposition study and EA, Friends of the Mississippi River requests that the Army Corps of Engineers evaluate and report on . . .* [impacts on public interest, National Park, and human and natural environment]

3.3.1.14 Safety

This issue identifies concerns with human safety of the site with emphasis on emergency personnel services.

There were 5 comments made (22%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *The study should also include a review of public safety matters through consultation with the Hennepin County Water Patrol, Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Minneapolis and St. Paul Fire and Police Departments, and other relevant public safety agencies.*

3.3.1.15 Navigation

This issue identifies concerns with navigation.

There were 4 comments made (17%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *Navigation. If the Corps deauthorizes and/or disposes of its locks and dams, it is unlikely that a new entity would continue to operate them for navigation. If the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock No. 1 close, this would further segment the Mississippi River in the*

heart of the Twin Cities. The Lower St. Anthony Falls Pool and Pool 1 would become isolated from the rest of the river.

3.3.1.16 Communications

This issue identifies concerns with how the study will be communicated with stakeholders.

There were 4 comments made (17%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *The long history of Saint Anthony Falls dates far before Saint Anthony and includes a rich cultural history with Native American communities in the region. When inquiring about outreach to the Native American Communities during the public comment period, it was evident that more could be done to gain the support for the future plan of the falls and lock and dam from that community, especially concerning the potential rebuilding or commemoration of Spirit Island that was destroyed to put in the Dam. How is the Army Corps of Engineers continuing to engage with the Native American Communites to better this site for future generations?*

3.3.1.17 Invasive Species

This issue identifies concerns with invasive species.

There were 2 comments made (9%) on this issue.

Excerpts of Comments:

- *I would love to see the waterfall as it was before humans changed it. I know this probably won't happen. So the next best thing is to bring in native plantings, eliminate invasive species and maintain good to excellent water quality for everyone in the metro and areas along the rivers flow.*

4 Summary

In accordance with NEPA, the Corps completed scoping for the USAF Disposition Study. Meetings were held with the public as well as NGOs/LGOs and agencies during the summer of 2019. A summary and analysis of the scoping comments and meetings is provided in this document with the intension of identifying the major issues by stakeholders. Major issues include future use, recreation, cultural and historic resources, flooding, hydropower, access, natural and human environment, infrastructure, ownership, and economics. These issues will be addressed in the associated EA.

Appendix A:

Meeting Details and Additional Information Provided

A Notifications

A - 1 General Public

US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District

Public Notice

Project: Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam Disposition Study

Date: July 30, 2019
Expires: October 20, 2019

In Reply Refer to:
Regional Planning and Environment Division North

1. **Project Proponent.** St. Paul District, Corps of Engineers (Corps), 180 Fifth Street East, Suite 700, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1678.

2. **Project Authority.** The disposition study is authorized under the authority of Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 (PL 91-611) investigating the modification of completed projects or their operation when found advisable due to significantly changed physical or economic conditions and for improving the quality of the environment in the overall public interest.

3. **Project Location.** The study area for the proposed action includes Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam (USAF) and a portion of the associated 9-foot navigation channel of the Upper Mississippi River, Hennepin County, Minnesota (Figures 1 and 2).

Figure 1. Upper St. Anthony Falls Dam.

Figure 2. Upper St. Anthony Falls Disposition Study Area.

4. **Project Background.** The Corps operates the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock (USAF), located on the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Section 2010 of Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, Pub. L. 113-121, directed the Corps to close the lock to navigation operations, but to continue to carry out emergency operations necessary to mitigate flood damages. Navigation at the lock ceased on June 9, 2015. Prior to the closure of USAF, the lock operated as part of a system to enable navigation to access the upper reaches of the Mississippi River 9-foot navigation channel shown in Figure 2. With lockage through USAF now closed, the demand for both commercial and recreational lockage has decreased at Lower St. Anthony Falls (LSAF) and Lock & Dam 1 (LD 1).

The Corps requested a disposition study due to the lack of activity at these three lock sites. Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 authorizes the Secretary of the Army to review operations of completed projects, when found advisable due to changed physical, economic, or environmental conditions. Disposition studies are a specific type of Section 216 study with the intent to determine whether a water resources development project operated and maintained by the Corps of Engineers should be de-authorized and the associated real property and Government-owned improvements disposed of. A precursor to a disposition study is an Initial Appraisal (IA) conducted within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine if conditions exist which may warrant further analysis on a completed project. The IA recommended investigation under this authority regarding the future use or disposition of USAF.

The Corps began the disposition study for USAF, LSAF, and LD 1 in early 2018 with the intent that the combined three sites would be studied and presented in one report. Public scoping meetings for the combined study were held in July 2018. This was put on hold following passage of the Water Resources Development Act of 2018 (WRDA 2018).

The WRDA 2018 bill contained two sections pertinent to the scope and timing of the disposition studies: Section 1168, entitled "Disposition of Projects" and Section 1225, entitled "Upper Mississippi River protection"[1]. Following passage of WRDA 2018, the Corps of Engineers solicited input to and published implementation guidance for WRDA 2018, Sections 1168 and 1225[2].

In accordance with the WRDA 2018 and implementation guidance, a disposition study for LSAF and LD 1 will be conducted separately from the disposition study for USAF, and will follow a similar public scoping procedure. The LSAF and LD 1 disposition study is scheduled to begin in early 2021.

[1] The full version of the WRDA 2018 may be found here: *https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3021/*.

[2] The implementation guidance to Sections 1168 and 1225 of WRDA 2018 may be found here: *https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/Legislative-Links/wrda_2018/wrda2018_impguide/*.

5. Summary of the Proposed Action.

The USAF Disposition Study will analyze three types of alternatives at the USAF site: (1) the no action; (2) complete de-authorization by Congress of the Federal missions at the site and disposal of the federally-owned properties; and (3) partial de-authorization and disposal. In addition, the study will examine opportunities to augment these three alternatives by considering measures which: (1) preserve recreational opportunities; (2) enhance recreational opportunities; (3) preserve health of the ecosystem; (4) enhance health of the ecosystem; (5) maintain benefits to the natural ecosystem; and (6) maintain benefits to the human environment. The partial disposition alternative will maintain the flood control capability of the structure. If the Corps of Engineers determines that Federal interest no longer exists, it must consider, and may recommend, removal of the project or separable elements of the project under existing authorities. The Corps will finalize the disposition study report and transmit it to the Corps of Engineers' Headquarters Office for review and processing of recommendations. Complete de-authorization (alternative 2) and partial de-authorization (alternative 3) would require Congressional Approval.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this study is anticipated and will be prepared by the Corps. The Corps is soliciting public comments on the scope of the EA and significant issues that should be addressed. The Corps will also accept comments related to potential new ownership and management measures

For scoping, the study will include outreach to stakeholders and interested parties, including federal and state agencies and representatives, Native American groups, cultural resources representatives, local governments and non-governmental organizations, as well as the public. To that endeavor, the Corps invites interested parties to attend public meetings in August 2019 as indicated below:

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday, August 13	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Mill City Museum 704 South 2nd Street Minneapolis 55401
Monday, August 19	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Michael Dowling School 3900 West River Parkway Minneapolis 55406

The purpose of these outreach meetings is to discuss background of the study, identify the properties and structures that are the subject of the study, discuss the federal disposal process, instruct parties on how to document their interest in future ownership, provide an opportunity to submit comments, and identify issues that should be addressed in the anticipated EA.

In accordance with NEPA, results from these scoping meetings will be compiled in an integrated preliminary draft report and EA anticipated to be released for public review and comment in the Spring of 2020. The final report may be the basis for Congressional action to de-authorize the

project or its separable elements. Unless otherwise directed by Congress, property disposal is managed by the General Services Administration as governed by federal law.

6. **Schedule.** Scoping comments are due by October 20, 2019. A preliminary draft report is anticipated to be completed by Spring of 2020 and a final report by Fall of 2020.

7. **Permits/Coordination.**

a. General. Concurrent with public meetings, the proposed action will be coordinated with agencies that include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Protection Agency, National Park Service, Coast Guard, Housing and Urban Development, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, General Services Administration, Department of Transportation, Geological Survey, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

b. Federal. A draft EA will be prepared and coordinated in accordance with NEPA. Coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will occur during the planning process.

8. **Report.** A preliminary draft EA that describes the project and the potential environmental impacts of the proposed Federal action is anticipated for public review in the Spring of 2020. This report will include letters of coordination provided from government agencies.

9. **Comment.** If you have any comments regarding the scope of the EA for the USAF Disposition Study, they should be provided before the expiration date of this notice. Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available for public review, to include the possibility of posting on a public website. Personal contact information will not be redacted. Comments by mail should be submitted to: District Engineer, St. Paul District, Corps of Engineers, ATTN: Regional Planning and Environment Division North, 180 Fifth Street East, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1638. Comments by email should be submitted to *MplsLocksDisposition@usace.army.mil*. There will also be an opportunity to submit comments at the public meetings. General questions on the study can be directed to Nan Bischoff, Project Manager, at 651-290-5426 or Nanette.m.bischoff@usace.army.mil. Additional details on the Disposition Study are available at: http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/MplsLocksDisposition/.

Kari Hauck

Kari Hauck
Acting Deputy Chief, Regional Planning and
Environment Division North

NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS **BUILDING STRONG®**

For Immediate Release:
Aug. 2, 2019
News Release No. MVP-PA-2019-075

George Stringham: 651-290-5201, 651-262-6804, george.e.stringham@usace.army.mil
Shannon Bauer: 651-290-5108, 612-840-9453, shannon.l.bauer@usace.army.mil

Public meetings scheduled for Upper St. Anthony Falls lock disposition study

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, will host two public meetings to brief the public and gather input for a study focusing on the future disposition of federal property at Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam in Minneapolis.

The meetings for the Upper St. Anthony Falls disposition study will be:

Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2019 – 6-8 p.m. – Mill City Museum, 704 S. 2nd St., Minneapolis

Monday, Aug. 19, 2019 – 6-8 p.m. – Michael Dowling Urban Environmental magnet school, 3900 W. River Pkwy, Minneapolis.

Both meeting venues are wheelchair accessible. If you need sign language interpretive services, please call 651-290-5426 or email MplsLocksDisposition@usace.army.mil by Thursday, August 8, for the first meeting or Wednesday, August 14, for the second meeting.

During the meetings, which will include a presentation on the purpose and scope of the study, residents will have the opportunity to provide official comments and stakeholders may express their interest in owning any of the federal properties. Federal property disposal is carried out by the General Services Administration, according to federal law.

Comments concerning the scope of the study may also be submitted to: District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, ATTN: Regional Planning and Environment Division North, 180 Fifth Street East, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1638.

The St. Paul District held similar meetings in July 2018, when three twin cities locks and dams were to be the subject of the study. America's Water Infrastructure Act, passed Oct. 24, 2018, directed the Corps to do a separate study for Upper St. Anthony Falls. A second study focusing on the disposition of Lower St. Anthony falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 is anticipated to start late 2020. Additional public meetings for that study will be held in 2021.

– 30 –

ABOUT US: The nearly 650 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, employees working at more than 40 sites in five upper-Midwest states serve the American public in the areas of environmental enhancement, navigation, flood damage reduction, water and wetlands regulation, recreation sites and disaster response. Through the St. Paul District Fiscal Year 2018 $106 million budget, nearly 1,700 non-Corps jobs were added to the regional economy as well as $163 million to the national economy. Learn more at www.mvp.usace.army.mil or visit our social media sites at:

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – ST. PAUL DISTRICT
180 5th St. E, St. Paul, MN 55101

The TTY number for further information is: 1–800–877–8339. When the operator answers the call, let him or her know the agency is the Department of Defense and the point of contact is Daniel Weinstein at 571–672–6105.

Jennifer Lee Hawes,

Regulatory Control Officer, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.

[FR Doc. 2019–15255 Filed 7–17–19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft NEPA Document for the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam Disposition Study, Hennepin County, Minnesota

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent to initiate public scoping and prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA).

SUMMARY: The St. Paul District, Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is conducting a study regarding the disposition of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam (USAF) located at river mile 853.9 on the Upper Mississippi River, in Hennepin County, Minnesota. The study will include an environmental assessment and consider modifications that could improve the overall quality of the environment in the public interest, including removal of federally-owned facilities. The study will evaluate three types of alternatives: (1) No action; (2) de-authorization and disposal of all federally-owned and operated facilities; and (3) partial de-authorization and disposal of features or separable elements not required for flood mitigation operations. The study will also explore opportunities to improve the overall quality and health of the environment and/or enhance recreation. It is anticipated that a preliminary draft report of the integrated Disposition Study and Environmental Assessment (EA) will be available for a minimum 30-day public comment period in the Spring of 2020. The St. Paul District of the Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting public comments on the scope of the proposed study and significant issues that should be analyzed in the EA.

DATES:

Scoping Meetings: The Corps will hold public scoping meetings at the following times and locations during the scoping period:

- Tuesday, August 13th, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Mill City Museum, 704 South Second Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401.
- Monday, August 19th, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Michael Dowling School, 3900 West River Parkway, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55406.

At the scoping meetings, the public is encouraged to submit resource information, and identify topics to be considered in the development of the EA. Public meetings will include a presentation and question and answer session. The Corps will require formal comments to be provided in writing, which will be accepted at the meetings or may be submitted at any time during the comment period.

Comments: The Corps will accept comments received or postmarked on or before October 20, 2019. Any comments received after the closing date may not be considered.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

Email—Written comments should be sent to: *MplsLocksDisposition@usace.army.mil.*

Mail/Courier—Written comments should be sent to: District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, ATTN: Regional Planning and Environment Division North, 180 Fifth Street East, Suite 700, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101–1678

Comment Card—Comment cards provided as part of the public meetings will be collected at the end of the meeting or can be mailed to the address in the MAIL/COURIER section above.

If submitting comments by email, the following should be included in the subject line or first line of the message "USAF Disposition Study Comments".

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To have your name added to a mailing list for notices related to the preliminary draft report and EA or additional public meetings, submit an email request to *MplsLocksDisposition@usace.army.mil.* General questions about the study may be directed to Nan Bischoff, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, 180 Fifth Street East, Suite 700, St. Paul, MN 55101–1678; telephone (651) 290–5426; email: *Nanette.m.bischoff@usace.army.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Corps operates USAF, located on the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Section 2010 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, Public Law 113–121, directed the Corps to close the lock to navigation operations but to continue to carry out emergency operations necessary to mitigate flood damages. Navigation at the lock ceased on June 9th, 2015. Prior to the closure of USAF, the lock operated as part of a system to support navigation on the upper reaches of the Mississippi River 9-foot navigation channel. With the lock at USAF now closed to navigation, the demand for both commercial and recreational lockage has decreased at Lower St. Anthony Falls Dam (LSAF) and Lock and Dam 1 (LD 1). A disposition study for LSAF and LD 1 will be conducted separately from the disposition study for USAF, and will follow a similar public scoping procedure. The LSAF and LD 1 disposition study is scheduled to begin in early 2021.

Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 authorizes the Secretary of the Army to review operations of completed projects, when found advisable due to changed physical, economic, or environmental conditions. Disposition studies are a specific type of Section 216 study with the intent to determine whether a water resources development project operated and maintained by the Corps of Engineers should be de-authorized and the associated real property and Government-owned improvements disposed of. An Initial Appraisal (IA) was conducted by the Corps in 2015 to determine if conditions exist which may warrant further analysis on a completed project as authorized by Section 216. The IA recommended investigation under this authority regarding the future use or disposition of USAF as well as LSAF and LD 1.

The Corps began a disposition study for USAF, LSAF, and LD 1 in early 2018 with the intent that all three sites would be studied and presented in one report. Public scoping meetings for a combined study were held in July 2018. The combined disposition study was put on hold following the enactment of the Water Resources Development Act of 2018 (WRDA 2018). WRDA 2018 contains two sections pertinent to the scope and timing of the disposition studies: Section 1168, entitled "Disposition of Projects" and Section 1225, entitled "Upper Mississippi River protection". The full version of the WRDA 2018 may be found here: *https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3021/.*

Following enactment of WRDA 2018, the Corps of Engineers solicited input and published implementation guidance for WRDA 2018, Sections 1168 and 1225. Input was provided by U.S. Senators Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith of Minnesota, the National Park Service, the Friends of the Lock and

Dam and the city of Minneapolis. The implementation guidance to Sections 1168 and 1225 of WRDA 2018 may be found here: *https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/Legislative-Links/wrda__2018/wrda2018__impguide/.*

The USAF Disposition Study will analyze three types of alternatives at the USAF site: (1) The no action; (2) complete de-authorization by Congress of the Federal missions at the site and disposal of the properties; and (3) partial de-authorization and disposal. In addition, the study will examine opportunities to augment these three alternatives by considering measures which: (1) Preserve recreational opportunities; (2) enhance recreational opportunities; (3) preserve the health of the ecosystem; (4) enhance the health of the ecosystem; (5) maintain the benefits to the natural ecosystem; and (6) maintain the benefits to the human environment. The partial disposition alternative will maintain the flood control capability of the structure. If the Corps determines that Federal interest no longer exists, it must consider, and may recommend, removal of the project or separable elements of the project under existing authorities.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this study is anticipated and will be prepared by the St. Paul District. The Corps is soliciting public comments on the scope of the EA and significant issues that should be addressed. The Corps will also accept comments related to potential new ownership and management measures.

The Disposition Study ends when the final report is transmitted to the Corps of Engineers' Headquarters Office for review and processing of recommendations. Complete and partial de-authorization would require Congressional Approval.

Two public scoping meetings are planned as discussed in the **DATES** section above. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss background of the study, identify the properties and structures that are the subject of the study, discuss the Federal disposal process, instruct parties on how to document their interest in future ownership, provide an opportunity to submit comments, and identify issues that should be addressed in the anticipated EA. While comments and questions will be entertained at the public meetings, the meetings will not be recorded nor minutes prepared. All formal comments will be requested to be provided in writing. Written comments will be accepted at the meetings. Comments can also be submitted by the methods listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Once the draft EA is complete and made available for review, there will be additional opportunity for public comment through the NEPA process.

Persons needing reasonable accommodations in order to attend and participate in the public scoping meetings should contact the person listed under the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section as soon as possible. In order to allow sufficient time to process requests, please make contact no later than one week before the public meeting.

Written comments, including email comments, should be sent to the Corps at the address given in the **ADDRESSES** section of this Notice. Comments should be specific and pertain only to the issues relating to the action and the anticipated EA. The Corps will include all comments in the project record.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information- will be publicly available. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, the Corps cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

All submissions from organizations or businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be available for public review to the extent consistent with applicable law.

Dated: July 2, 2019.

Kari Hauck,

Acting Deputy Chief, Regional Planning and Environment Division North.

[FR Doc. 2019–15298 Filed 7–17–19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3720–58–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Collier County Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Feasibility Study

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Intent/NEPA Scoping meeting and public comment period.

SUMMARY: In accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) plans to prepare a Feasibility Study with an integrated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate environmental impacts from reasonable project alternatives to protect nearshore areas of Collier County, Florida, from hurricanes and other storms with their associated wind, storm surge, and coastal flooding.

DATES: Scoping comments may be submitted until August 23, 2019.

ADDRESSES: The public is invited to submit NEPA scoping comments to Mr. David Schulte, Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District, Fort Norfolk, 803 Front St., Norfolk, VA 23510 or via email: *David.M.Schulte@usace.army.mil.* The project title and the commenter's contact information should be included with submitted comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Schulte, (757) 201–7007.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Applicable laws and regulations are section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4321–4370, as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500–1508). The study authority is Section 4033 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Pub. L. 110–114), whereby the Secretary shall conduct a study to determine the feasibility of carrying out a project for hurricane and storm damage reduction and flood damage reduction in the vicinity of Vanderbilt, Park Shore, and Naples beaches, Collier County Florida. The primary problem is that existing protection is not adequate to prevent excessive storm damage and flooding from occurring during major coastal storms. Coastal flooding is worsening due to climate change induced sea level rise, which is also amplifying storm surge height. These trends are expected to continue and worsen due to sea level rise accelerating over time, a trend already observed in recent decades. Measures being considered include beach berms and dunes, floodwalls with gates, storm surge barriers, groins, seawalls, buyouts/elevations of buildings, wet and/or dry flood-proofing of buildings, and nature-based features potentially including mangrove restoration, oyster and/or coral reef restoration, and seagrass restoration.

USACE is the lead federal agency and Collier County will be the non-federal sponsor for the study. The Study/EIS will address the primary problem of the increasing storm damage and flooding occurring and expected to increase in the area by studying all reasonable alternatives and determine the Federal

A – 2 Non-Government Organizations / Local Government Organizations:

From: Potter, David F CIV USARMY CEMVP (US)
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2019 10:50 AM
To: Andrea Burke (andrea.burke@minneapolis.mn.gov); Andrew Caddock (caddock@umn.edu); Andy Davis (andrew.davis@brookfieldrenewable.com); Angela Conley (angela.conley@hennepin.us); Audubon Society (audubonminnesota@audubon.org); Barbara Haake (trubador2@msn.com); catherine sandlund (catherine.sandlund@minneapolismn.gov); Chris Lautenschlager (chris@niebna.com); Christine Goepfert (cgoepfert@npca.org); Christine Lee (leex2315@umn.edu); City of St. Paul (contact-council@ci.stpaul.mn.us); Cliff Swensen (CSwenson@minneapolisparks.org); Corey Conover (corey.conover@minneapolismn.gov); Dave Lawrance (dave@twincitiescruises.com); Dave Stevens (david.stevens@mnhs.org); Doug Shaw (dshaw@TNC.ORG); doug@spauldingconsultants.com; Edna Brazaitis (ednab@mac.com); Erick Garcia Luna; Gary Monson (glmonson@comcast.net); Gene Ranieri (gene.ranieri@minneapolismn.gov); Gia Vitali (gia.vitali@minneapolis.mn.gov); Greg Gentz (info@friendsofpool2.org); Greg Hoseth (free.cjp@gmail.com); info@riverrides.com; Irene Jones (ijones@fmr.org); Janet Dalgleish (dalgl006@umn.edu); Jeff Marr (marrx003@umn.edu); Jeremy Barrick (jbarrick@minneapolisparks.org); Jerry Bahls (jobaud@comcast.net); Jim Schwarts (james.schwartz@brookfieldrenewable.com); Jocelyn Bremer (jocelyn.bremer@minneapolis.mn.gov); John Crippen (jcrippen@gmail.com); John Senglaub (sengl006@umn.edu); Jonathon Kirby (jonathon.kirby@broofieldrenewable.com); Karen Galles (karen.galles@hennepin.us); Kathleen Boe (kathleen.boe@minneapolisriverfront.org); Katie Nyberg (knyberg@parkconnection.org); Kent Vnut (Kent.Vnuk@hennepin.us); Kim Jensen (kjensen@trcp.org); Kjersti Monson (kjersti@duvalcompanies.com); Kristen Wallace (kwallace@umrba.org); Lamers, Katherine M.; Laura Eckert (Laura.Eckert@ci.stpaul.mn.us); Lauren Salvato (lsalvato@umrba.org); Lee Nelson (lee@ursi.net); Longfellow Community Council (info@longfellow.org); Loren Olson (loren.olson@minneapolis.mn.gov); Magnolia Blossom Cruises (info@magnoliablossom.net); Marc Robins (marc.robins@gmail.com); Melvin Tennant (info@minneapolis.org); Neal Jackson (neal_jackson@fws.gov); Neal Route (amillartistloftshydroproject@gmail.com); Olivia Dorothy (odorothy@americanrivers.org); Paul Austin (info@conservationminnesota.org); Paul Mogush (paul.mogush@minneapolis.mn.gov); Paul Reyelts (paulreyelts@gmail.com); Peter McLaughlin (commissioner.mclaughlin@hennepin.us); Raymond Cruz (raymond.cruz@minneapolismn.gov); Rob Olson (robert.w.olson@xcelenergy.com); Russ Eichman (umwa@pressenter.com); Sara Barrow (sara.p.barrow@xcelenergy.com); Sierra Club (north.star.chapter@sierraclub.org); St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board (mcm@mnhs.org); Steve Fletcher (steve.fletcher@minneapolis.mn.gov); Tapp, Steven D CIV USARMY CEMVP (US); Taylor Luke (taylorl@lsmarine.com); Toni Carter (toni.carter@co.ramsey.mn.us); U of M Department of Anthropology (anth@umn.edu); U of M St. Anthony Falls Lab (safl@umn.edu); Wendy Davis (davis194@umn.edu); Wesley Durham (wesley.durham@minneapolismn.gov); William Clark (wclark@fmr.org)
Cc: Bischoff, Nanette M CIV USARMY CEMVP (US); Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (US); Bluhm, Kevin W CIV USARMY CEMVD (US)
Subject: USAF Disposition Study - Save the Date; Thursday August 15th (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

All:

In July 2018, the Corps of Engineers St. Paul District (MVP) held a non-government/local government organization (NGO/LGO) kickoff meeting on the Upper St. Anthony Falls (USAF), Lower St. Anthony Falls (LSAF), and Lock and Dam 1 (LD1) Combined Disposition Study. This study was put on hold following passage of the Water Resources Development Act of 2018 (WRDA 2018) on October 24th, 2018. The direction from WRDA 2018 is that a disposition study for USAF will be completed separately from a disposition study for LSAF and LD1, and that the USAF study will be expedited. Therefore, MVP is proceeding with a disposition study for USAF in the summer of 2019. The disposition study for LSAF and LD1 has been put on hold and is expected to resume in late 2020.

On Thursday, August 15th 2019, the St. Paul District Corps of Engineers will hold an NGO/LGO meeting for the USAF Disposition Study. The USAF Disposition Study will analyze three primary alternatives at the USAF site: (1) the no action; (2) complete de-authorization by Congress of the Federal missions at the site and disposal of the properties according to Federal law; and (3) partial de-authorization and disposal. In addition, the study will examine opportunities to augment these three alternatives by considering measures which: (1) preserve recreational opportunities; (2) enhance recreational opportunities; (3) preserve the health of the ecosystem; (4) enhance the health of the ecosystem; (5) maintain the benefits to the natural ecosystem; and (6) maintain the benefits to the human environment. The partial disposition alternative will maintain the flood control capability of the structure. If the Corps of Engineers determines that Federal interest no longer exists, it must consider, and may recommend, removal of the project or separable elements of the project under existing authorities.

The purpose of this meeting is to introduce NGO/LGO agencies to the study, alternatives, the NEPA process, and the timeline for project completion. We anticipate the meeting will be held at our office (180 5th Street East, St. Paul, MN) beginning at 1:00 p.m., and last no more than 2 hours. The agenda and additional meeting details will be forthcoming, at which time, we will be asking for an RSVP. For those unable to attend in person, there will be an option to participate via conference call/webmeeting. If you are unable to attend this meeting, MVP will also be conducting public meetings on August 13th and 19th, 2019. More information on those meetings will be forthcoming.

Beginning June 10, additional information on the study can be accessed at:
http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/MplsLocksDisposition/

David Potter
Biologist
180 5th Street East
St. Paul, MN 55101
Tel: 651.290.5713
CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

A - 3 AGENCIES:

From: Potter, David F CIV USARMY CEMVP (US)
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2019 10:41 AM
To: Amy Spong (amy.spong@state.mn.us); Barbara Eggers (blm_es_inquiries@blm.gov); Cam Sholly (cam_sholly@nps.gov); Charles Zelle (charlie.zelle@state.mn.us); Charlotte Cohn (charlotte.cohn@state.mn.us); 'Chisholm, Ian M (DNR'; Christopher Vick (cvick@usbr.gov); Dan Dressler (dan_dressler@nps.gov); Debra Lohmeyer (debra.lohmeyer@state.mn.us); Evan Owens (Evan.Owens@metc.state.mn.us); Gene Ranieri (gene.ranieri@minneapolismn.gov); James Fallon (jfallon@usgs.gov); James Stark (stark@usgs.gov); Jason Boyle; Jim Brist (jim.brist@state.mn.us); John Stine (john.stine@state.mn.us); John Waters (john.waters@state.mn.us); John Zygaj (john.zygaj@ferc.gov); john_anfinson@nps.gov; Kari Dziedzic (sen.kari.dziedzic@senate.mn); Katharine Dahm (kdahm@usbr.gov); Kathleen Kowal (kowal.kathleen@epa.gov); Ken Westlake (westlake.kenneth@epa.gov); Kevin Legare (kevin.legare@gsa.gov); Lea Holter (lea.holter@mn.usda.gov);

Mary Boler (mboler@mplspha.org); Mike Davis; Moore, Megan (DNR); Neal Jackson (neal_jackson@fws.gov); Patricia Olby (patricial.olby@bia.gov); Patrick Phenow (patrick.phenow@state.mn.us); Pelloso, Elizabeth; Peter Fasbender (peter_fasbender@fws.gov); Richard Balsano (richard.balsano@gsa.gov); Robert Tippett (robert.tippett@cgauxnet.us); Sarah Beimers (sarah.beimers@state.mn.us); Tapp, Steven D CIV USARMY CEMVP (US); Teodor Strat (teodor.strat@ferc.gov); Wesley Durham (wesley.durham@minneapolismn.gov)
Cc: Bischoff, Nanette M CIV USARMY CEMVP (US); Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (US); Stringham, George E CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)
Subject: USAF Disposition Study - Save the Date; Thursday August 15th (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

All:

In July 2018, the Corps of Engineers St. Paul District (MVP) held an agency kickoff meeting on the Upper St. Anthony Falls (USAF), Lower St. Anthony Falls (LSAF), and Lock and Dam 1 (LD1) Combined Disposition Study. This study was put on hold following passage of the Water Resources Development Act of 2018 (WRDA 2018) on October 24th, 2018. The direction from WRDA 2018 is that a disposition study for USAF will be completed separately from a disposition study for LSAF and LD1, and that the USAF study will be expedited. Therefore, MVP is proceeding with a disposition study for USAF in the summer of 2019. The disposition study for LSAF and LD1 has been put on hold and is expected to resume in late 2020.

On Thursday, August 15th 2019, the St. Paul District Corps of Engineers will hold an agency meeting for the USAF Disposition Study. The USAF Disposition Study will analyze three primary alternatives at the USAF site: (1) the no action; (2) complete de-authorization by Congress of the Federal missions at the site and disposal of the properties according to Federal law; and (3) partial de-authorization and disposal. In addition, the study will examine opportunities to augment these three alternatives by considering measures which: (1) preserve recreational opportunities; (2) enhance recreational opportunities; (3) preserve the health of the ecosystem; (4) enhance the health of the ecosystem; (5) maintain the benefits to the natural ecosystem; and (6) maintain the benefits to the human environment. The partial disposition alternative will maintain the flood control capability of the structure. If the Corps of Engineers determines that Federal interest no longer exists, it must consider, and may recommend, removal of the project or separable elements of the project under existing authorities.

The purpose of this meeting is to introduce agencies to the study, alternatives, the NEPA process, and the timeline for project completion. We anticipate the meeting will be held at our office (180 5th Street East, St. Paul, MN) beginning at 9:00 a.m., and last no more than 2 hours. The agenda and additional meeting details will be forthcoming, at which time, we will be asking for an RSVP. For those unable to attend in person, there will be an option to participate via conference call/webmeeting. If you are unable to attend this meeting, MVP will also be conducting public meetings on August 13th and 19th, 2019. More information on those meetings will be forthcoming.

Beginning June 10, additional information on the study can be accessed at:
http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/MplsLocksDisposition/

David Potter
Biologist
180 5th Street East
St. Paul, MN 55101
Tel: 651.290.5713
CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

DISPOSITION STUDY

Upper St. Anthony Falls, Lower St. Anthony Falls, and Lock/Dam 1 Disposition Study

AGENCY MEETING

Hosted by: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District

Local Government and Non-Government Organizations:

Bur. Land Management	Bur. of Reclamation	National Park Service
Fish and Wildlife Service	Geological Survey	Bureau of Indian Affairs
General Services Administration	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
Coast Guard	Environmental Protection Agency	Natural Resources Conservation Agency
MN Department of Natural Resources	MN Department of Transportation	MN Pollution Control Agency
MN State Historic Preservation Office	City of Minneapolis	Minneapolis Public Housing Authority

Date/Times: Thursday, July 19 / 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: 6th Floor Training Rooms (Room 6A and 6B), 180 East Fifth Street Building, St. Paul, MN

Directions:

NOTE: Enter the building from the 4th Street/light rail side. Use the south/4th Street elevators located near Cassie's restaurant on the first floor, or near the Perkelat coffee shop on the skyway level. Go to the 6th floor and turn left when you enter the hallway. Training rooms will be on the left. Call (651) 485-6216 or (651) 302-1518 if you need assistance.

RSVP: Please confirm your attendance by sending an email to Nan Bischoff (nanette.m.bischoff@usace.army.mil) by Friday, July 13.

A – 4 TRIBES

From: Perkl, Bradley E CIV (US)
To: Noah White; Terry Kemper; Natalie Weyaus; Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin; Leonard Wabasha (CC); samanthao@uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov; Dianne Desrosiers; amy.burnett@llojibwe.org; Cheyanne StJohn; thpo@badriver-nsn.gov; blatady@boisforte-nsn.gov; steve.vance@crst-nsn.gov; yrichey@c-a-tribes.org; bonniestjohn1968@gmail.com; jillhoppe@fdlrez.com; garrie.killsahundred@fsst.org; michael.laronge@fcpotawatomi-nsn.gov; mblackwolf@ftbelknap.org; cultres@nemontel.net; maryannq@grandportage.com; Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska; jsmith@lco-nsn.gov; ldfthpo@ldftribe.com; dgrignon@mitw.org; cwilliam@oneidanation.org; marvin.defoe@redcliff-nsn.gov; kade.ferris@redlakenation.org; brhodd1@yahoo.com; pegasixx@yahoo.com; thpo@gondtc.com; wandam@stcroixtribalcenter.com; j.eagle@standingrock.org; sherry.white@mohican-nsn.gov; Jaime.Arsenault@whiteearth-nsn.gov; randy.teboe@winnebagotribe.com
Cc: Alberto, Vanessa J CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA); Bischoff, Nanette M CIV USARMY CEMVP (US); Potter, David F CIV USARMY CEMVP (US); Malin-Boyce, Susan B CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA); Warshaw, Kimberly A CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA); Keenan, Sierra L CIV USARMY CEMVP (US); Perez, Andrew R CIV USARMY CEMVN (USA)
Subject: Save the Date-Upper St. Anthony Falls Disposition Study- Tuesday 13 August and Monday 19 August, 2019
Date: Friday, June 28, 2019 11:43:23 AM
Attachments: Request_Tribal_Interest.pdf

Greetings:

As you may be aware, in July of 2018, the US Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District (Corps) conducted a series of public meetings related to a Disposition study for three twin cities locks and dams operated by the Corps. Since the time of those public meetings, the scope of the study has been changed, requiring the Corps to do a separate study just for the Upper St. Anthony Falls lock and dam.

We are reaching out to you to let you know that the Corps is planning to conduct another round of public meetings for the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam Disposition study in August 2019.

- The first public meeting will be on Tuesday, August 13th, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Mill City Museum, 704 S. 2nd Street, Minneapolis, MN.

- The second public meeting will be on Monday, August 19th, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Michael Dowling school, 3900 W. River Parkway, Minneapolis, MN.

Disposition studies examine the benefits and costs of continuing to operate Federal projects which are no longer serving their authorized purposes. The navigation operations at Upper St. Anthony falls lock and dam ceased on 9 June 2015 by order of Section 2010 of the Water Resources Reform and Redevelopment Act of 2014. Since that time, the lock has been operated only for flood mitigation and visitor tours.

The Upper St. Anthony Falls Disposition study will look at three main alternatives: 1) No action, continue operating it as it is presently, 2) deauthorize all remaining Federal purposes, and dispose of the Federal property, and 3) retain those features of the project required to continue Corps operations for flood mitigation while deauthorizing and disposing of other features of the project. Only the U.S. Congress can deauthorize the purposes of the Federal project.

The Corps will also be seeking public input on a) maintaining or improving the human environment at Upper St. Anthony Falls, b) maintaining or improving the natural environment at Upper St. Anthony Falls, and c) maintaining or improving recreational opportunities at Upper St. Anthony Falls.

Similar to what we did in 2018 (when our study scope also included the Lower St. Anthony Falls lock and dam and Lock and Dam No. 1) we will be making a short presentation at the public meetings and then conducting a question and answer session with attendees.

The public meetings and written comments help us to define the scope and guide the disposition study. A draft disposition study report for Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam will be available in spring 2020. A separate study for Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 will start in approximately December 2020, and a separate series of public meetings will be planned in early 2021.

For more information on the studies, please visit our website at: https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mvp.usace.army.mil%2FMplsLocksDisposition%2F&data=02%7C01%7Csarah.beimers%40state.mn.us%7C649260daf5ef417d557908d6fb43ac80%7Ceb14b04624c445198f26b89c2159828c%7C0%7C0%7C636972665401679009&sdata=oC%2FyaM7A9%2FBjjajSErF13mx60YDvOmYSGhmm1EV0f%2B8%3D&reserved=0

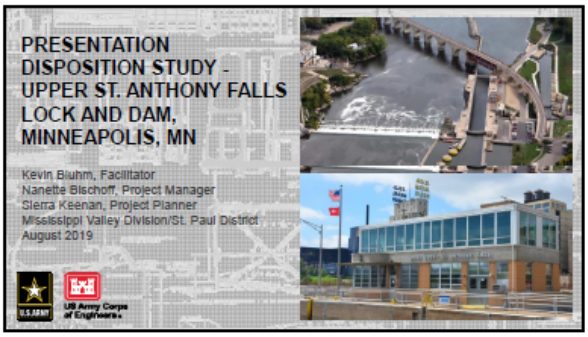
The Corps is not initiating Section 106 consultation at this time. We are providing this information for your awareness and are seeking information to better inform our cultural resources staff. If you did not reply last year, please complete the attached form to indicate your interest in the project.

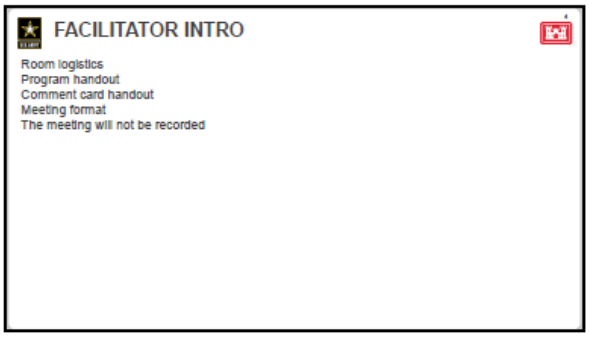
Please contact me with any questions. Thank you.

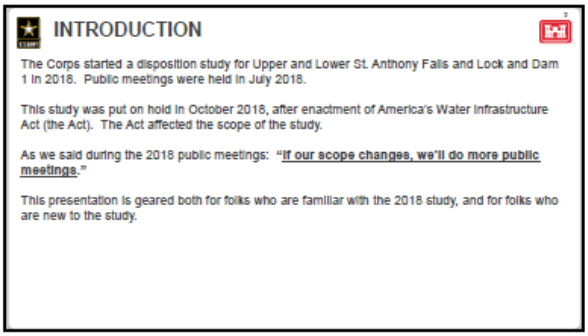
Best Regards

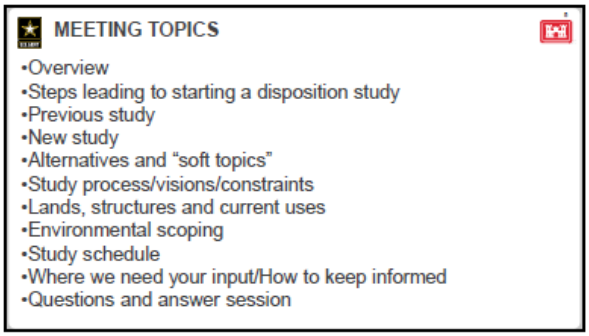
Bradley E. Perkl, Ph.D.
District Archaeologist
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
Environmental Compliance
RPEDN-PD-C
180 Fifth Street East, Suite 700
St. Paul, MN 55101
651-290-5370 (office)
651-802-8397 (cellular)
bradley.e.perkl@usace.army.mil

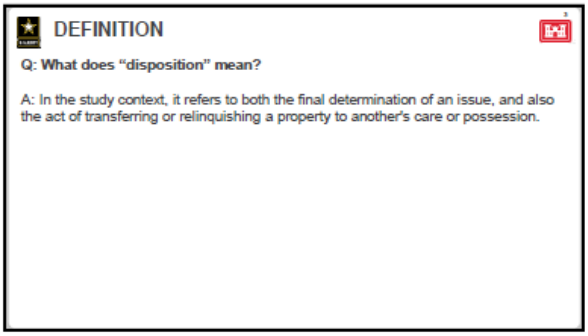
B Meeting Materials

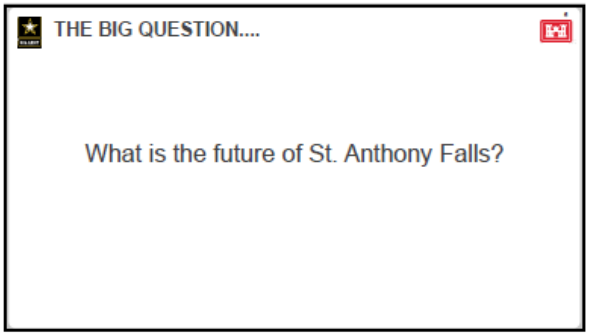












THE FIRST QUESTION....

What is the future of the Corps of Engineers at St. Anthony Falls?

OVERVIEW

Lock and Dam 1, in its current location, was completed in1917.

OVERVIEW

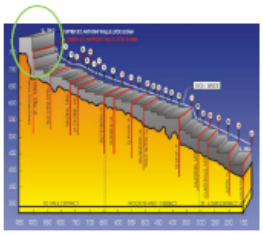
The Corps operates three federally-owned navigation projects on the Mississippi River in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

- Upper St. Anthony falls (USAF)
- Lower St. Anthony falls (LSAF)
- Lock and Dam 1 (L/D 1)

OVERVIEW

Lower St. Anthony Falls lock and Dam was completed in 1956 as part of the Minneapolis Upper Harbor project.

OVERVIEW



The twin cities locks and dams are the top 3 steps in in the upper Mississippi River "Stairway of Water".

- Upper St. Anthony falls – 49' step
- Lower St. Anthony falls – 25' step
- Lock and Dam 1 – 36' step

The three locks made commercial navigation possible between the Mississippi River confluence at the Minnesota River and the Minneapolis upper harbor.

OVERVIEW

Upper St. Anthony Falls lock was completed in 1963 as part of the Minneapolis Upper Harbor project.

OVERVIEW

Authorized purposes

Every federal project is authorized for a specific purpose(s) by Congress.

Navigation | Recreation | Flood Risk Management

1963-2015

What happened between the time Upper St. Anthony Falls lock was built in 1963 and the time it closed to navigation in 2015?

OVERVIEW

Upper St. Anthony Falls lock (USAF)

Primary Purpose:
- Navigation

Secondary Purpose:
- Recreation

Also supports:
- Flood damage mitigation.
- Hydropower.
- Mpls Water supply.

Lower St. Anthony Falls lock and dam (LSAF)

Primary Purpose:
- Navigation

Secondary Purpose:
- Recreation

Also supports:
- Hydropower.

Lock and Dam No. 1 (L/D 1)

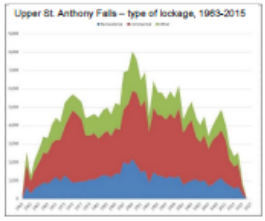
Primary Purpose:
- Navigation

Secondary Purpose:
- Recreation

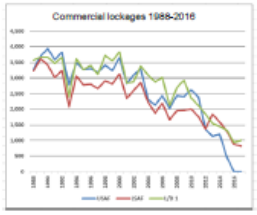
Also supports:
- Hydropower.

BEFORE THE UPPER LOCK CLOSURE: CHANGE IN DEMAND FOR NAVIGATION

The number of lockages at Upper St. Anthony Falls peaked in 1990 and was on a downward trend.



The downward trend in was also seen at the two locks downstream.



OVERVIEW - CLOSURE OF UPPER ST. ANTHONY FALLS LOCK

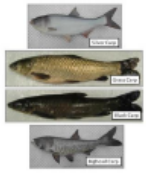
June 10, 2014
- Section 2010 of the Water Resources Reform and Redevelopment Act directed that Upper St. Anthony falls lock be closed.
- The Act directed the Corps to continue to operate for flood mitigation.

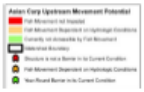
June 9, 2015
- The last lockage occurred at Upper St. Anthony Falls.

BEFORE THE UPPER LOCK CLOSURE: DECEMBER 2014 - MINNEAPOLIS UPPER HARBOR CLOSED

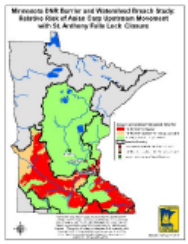
BEFORE THE UPPER LOCK CLOSURE - THE BUZZ ABOUT INVASIVE ASIAN CARP

After being accidentally introduced to the Mississippi River in the 1970's, invasive carp are being found further and further upstream.





The Minnesota DNR did a risk study in 2013 to show the risk of invasive carp spreading in the Mississippi basin.



ALTERNATIVES PROPOSED IN PREVIOUS STUDY

Alternative 1 – No action. Continue to operate as currently done or as demand dictates. Continue to allow agreements with National Park Service for temporary access and use. Continue maintenance as needed to preserve required operations. Low priority for dredging will continue due to lack of demand.

No Action (keep everything)

Disposal (dispose of everything)

UPPER ST. ANTHONY IS CLOSED – WHAT PURPOSE DO THE 3 LOCKS HAVE NOW?

	USAF	LSAF	L/D 1
Commercial Navigation	X	↓	↓
Recreational navigation	X	↓	↓
Other recreation (tours)	√	N/A	√
Gate operations	√ (occasional)	√ (daily)	N/A
Support Hydropower	√	√	√
Support Mpls Water supply	√	N/A	N/A

Annual maintenance costs remain – $1.6M.

ALTERNATIVES PROPOSED IN PREVIOUS STUDY

Alternative 2 – Deauthorize the navigation, recreation and flood mitigation missions and dispose of the federal project, including the lock structure, all lands, buildings, and property.

No Action (keep everything)

Disposal (dispose of everything)

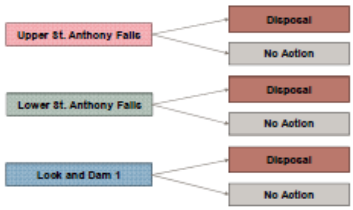
AUTHORITY TO DO A STUDY

Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1974 allows the Corps to conduct a disposition study for projects that are not fulfilling their authorized purpose.

August 2016 –

- The St. Paul District received permission to conduct a disposition study.
- First study: All three twin cities locks and dams were included.

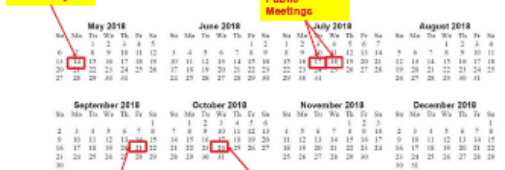
PREVIOUS STUDY - EACH SITE COULD HAVE A DIFFERENT RECOMMENDATION



PREVIOUS STUDY

Start Study

Public Meetings



Comments & statements of interest in ownership

America's water Infrastruoture Act passed, study put on hold

NEW DIRECTION: TWO STUDIES

Current Study (2018-2020): Upper St. Anthony Falls lock

Future study (late 2020-2022): Lower St. Anthony Falls lock and dam and Lock and Dam No. 1

...NEW DIRECTION

Congress passed America's Water Infrastructure Act on October 24, 2018, which re-directed the scope and timing of the study:

Section 1225: (in a nutshell)
- Do a separate study for USAF
- Expedite the USAF study
- Consider partial deauthorization and disposal, while maintaining flood control function.
- Preserve/enhance recreational opportunities and the health of the ecosystem, and maintain benefits to natural ecosystem and human environment ("soft topics").

Applies in particular to the study for Upper St. Anthony Falls

Section 1168: (in a nutshell)
- Consider modifications to improve the overall environment in the public interest, including removal of the project or a separable element of the project.
- Provide opportunities for public input, and
- Publish the final study.

Applies to all disposition studies across the nation

Current Study - Upper St. Anthony Falls

"INTENT OF CONGRESS"

January 8, 2019 letter from Senators Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith to the Corps:

"…cooperate with [Minneapolis] to develop a plan in which the Corps would continue to own, operate, and maintain the Upper Lock facility for flood control and water supply management and divest to the City a portion of the real property surrounding the Upper Lock in a manner that will facilitate public financing of the divested property….

"…continue the City's revitalization of the central riverfront and facilitate additional residential, commercial, and recreational growth".

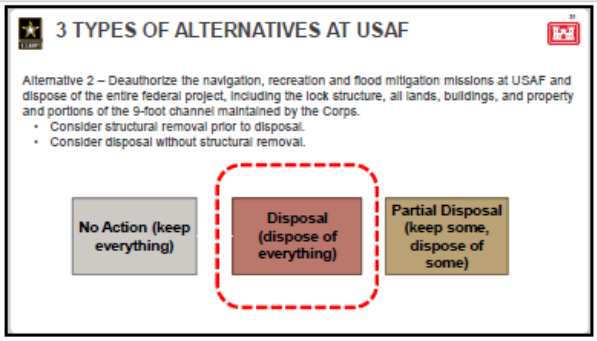
3 TYPES OF ALTERNATIVES AT USAF

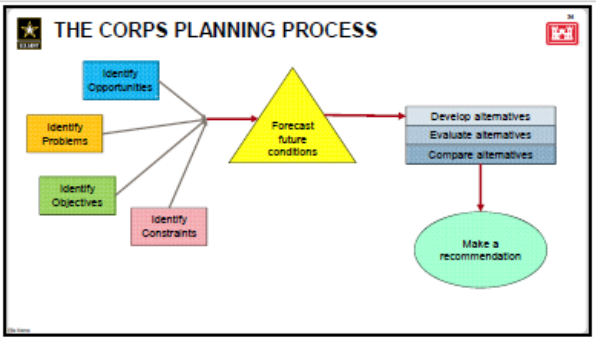
Alternative 1 – No action. Continue to operate the flood gate as needed. Continue to allow agreements with the National Park Service to conduct tours at the site. Continue maintenance as needed to preserve the flood gate operation. While the navigation mission and the 9-foot channel will continue to be authorized, the low priority for dredging will continue due to lack of demand. Unless otherwise directed, under the no action alternative the lock would remain closed to all navigation.

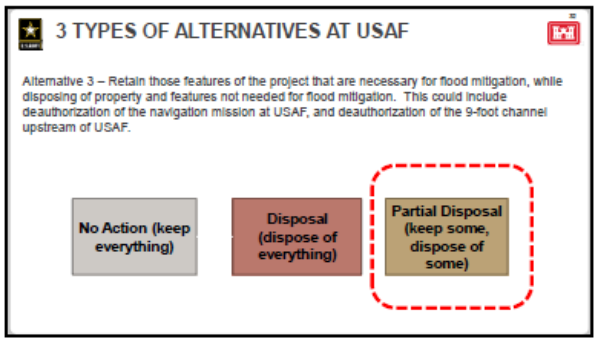
No Action (keep everything)

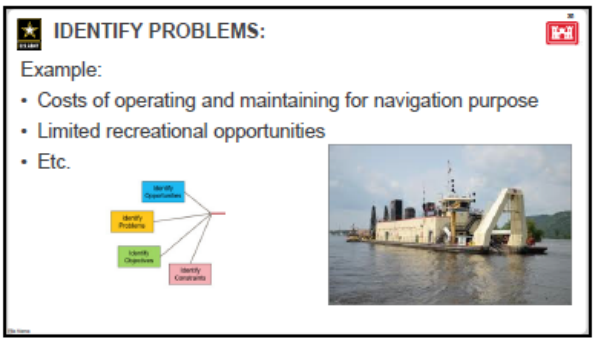
Disposal (dispose of everything)

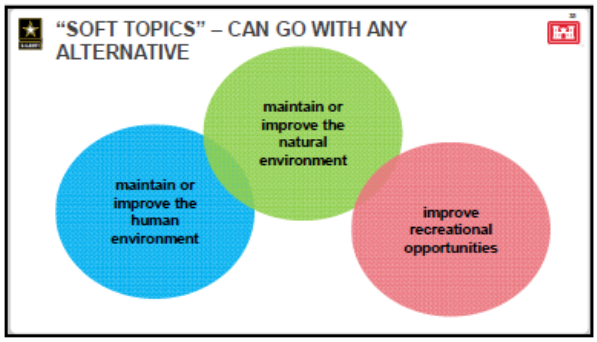
Partial Disposal (keep some, dispose of some)

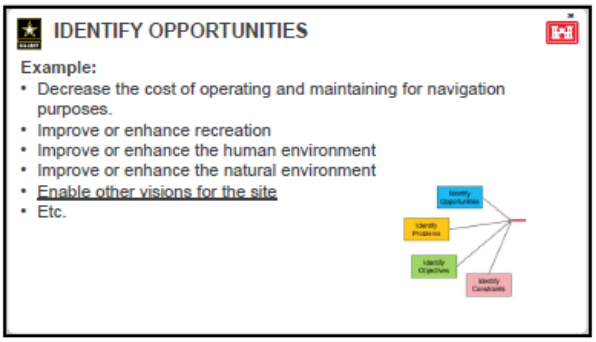

3 TYPES OF ALTERNATIVES AT USAF
Alternative 2 – Deauthorize the navigation, recreation and flood mitigation missions at USAF and dispose of the entire federal project, including the lock structure, all lands, buildings, and property and portions of the 9-foot channel maintained by the Corps.
• Consider structural removal prior to disposal.
• Consider disposal without structural removal.
No Action (keep everything)
Disposal (dispose of everything)
Partial Disposal (keep some, dispose of some)

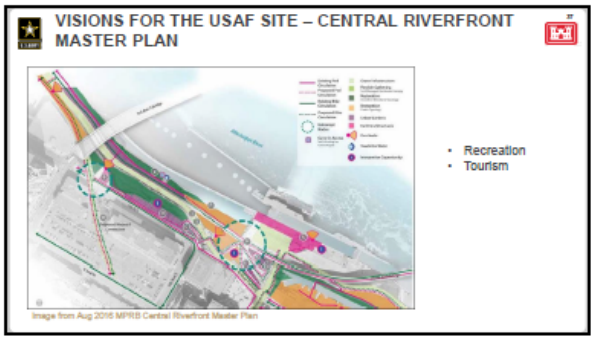

THE CORPS PLANNING PROCESS
Identify Opportunities
Identify Problems
Identify Objectives
Identify Constraints
Forecast future conditions
Develop alternatives
Evaluate alternatives
Compare alternatives
Make a recommendation

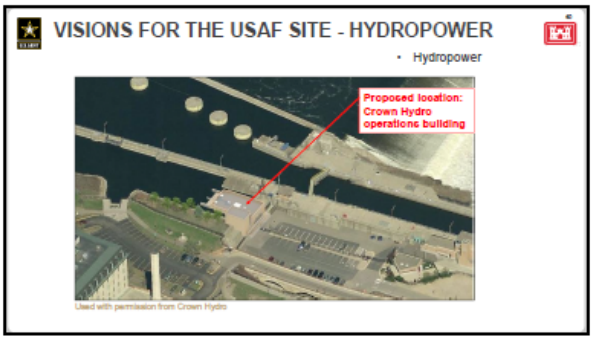

3 TYPES OF ALTERNATIVES AT USAF
Alternative 3 – Retain those features of the project that are necessary for flood mitigation, while disposing of property and features not needed for flood mitigation. This could include deauthorization of the navigation mission at USAF, and deauthorization of the 9-foot channel upstream of USAF.
No Action (keep everything)
Disposal (dispose of everything)
Partial Disposal (keep some, dispose of some)

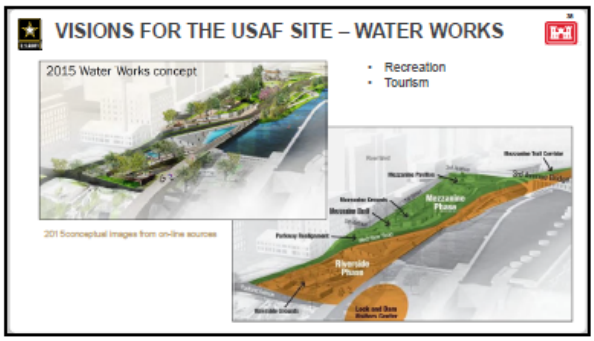

IDENTIFY PROBLEMS:
Example:
• Costs of operating and maintaining for navigation purpose
• Limited recreational opportunities
• Etc.


"SOFT TOPICS" – CAN GO WITH ANY ALTERNATIVE
maintain or improve the natural environment
maintain or improve the human environment
improve recreational opportunities

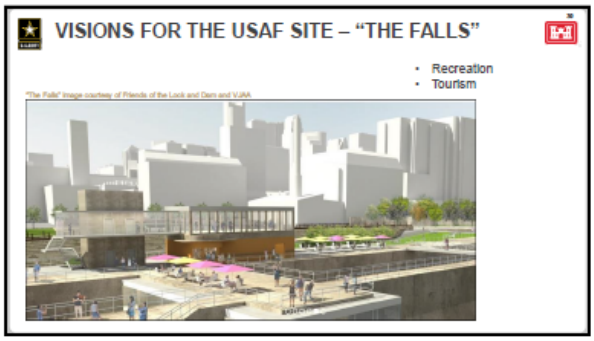

IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES
Example:
• Decrease the cost of operating and maintaining for navigation purposes.
• Improve or enhance recreation
• Improve or enhance the human environment
• Improve or enhance the natural environment
• Enable other visions for the site
• Etc.

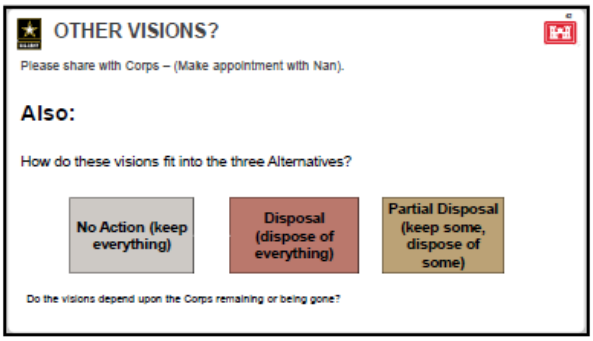

VISIONS FOR THE USAF SITE – CENTRAL RIVERFRONT MASTER PLAN
Recreation
Tourism
Image from Aug 2016 MPRB Central Riverfront Master Plan


VISIONS FOR THE USAF SITE - HYDROPOWER
Hydropower
Proposed location: Crown Hydro operations building
Used with permission from Crown Hydro


VISIONS FOR THE USAF SITE – WATER WORKS
2015 Water Works concept
Recreation
Tourism
201 Sconceptual images from on-line sources
Mezzanine Plains
Riverside Plaza


VISIONS FOR THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER - RESTORATION
River restoration (river gorge downstream of St. Anthony Falls).
Images used with permission from American Rivers.


VISIONS FOR THE USAF SITE – "THE FALLS"
Recreation
Tourism
"The Falls" image courtesy of Friends of the Lock and Dam and VJAA


OTHER VISIONS?
Please share with Corps – (Make appointment with Nan).
Also:
How do these visions fit into the three Alternatives?
No Action (keep everything)
Disposal (dispose of everything)
Partial Disposal (keep some, dispose of some)
Do the visions depend upon the Corps remaining or being gone?

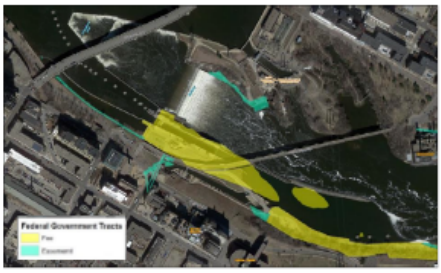
IDENTIFY CONSTRAINTS

Example:

- St. Anthony Falls is a culturally and historically sensitive area.
- Minneapolis water supply depends upon having a "damming surface" at USAF.
- Current uses include access for maintenance, water rescues, flood operations.
- Threat of invasive carp.
- We can't sell what we don't own (Xcel owns the spillways and most of dam).

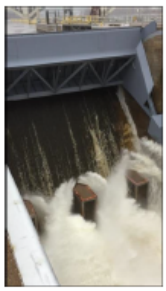
CONSTRAINT - WHAT DO WE NEED FOR OPERATIONS?

WHO OWNS WHAT? - LANDS



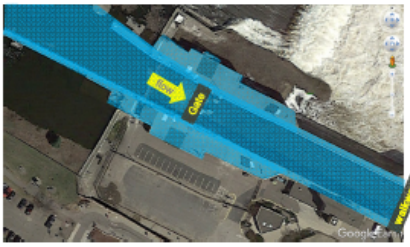
CONSTRAINT - WHAT DO WE NEED FOR OPERATIONS? – FLOOD GATE

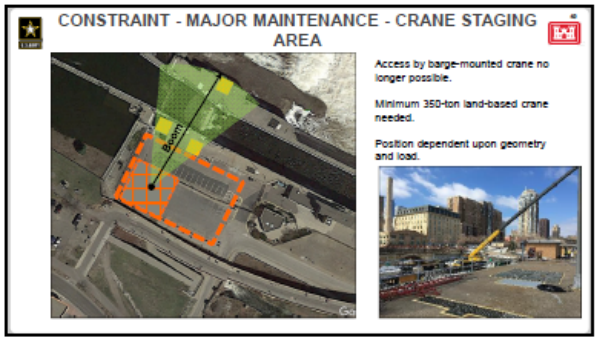
Flood operations (~ every 10 years).
Routine operations and maintenance
Major maintenance



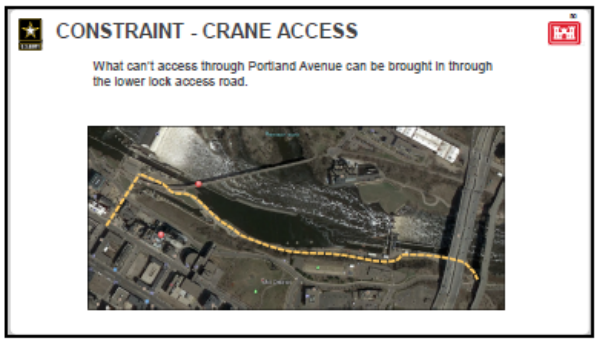
WHO OWNS WHAT? - STRUCTURES

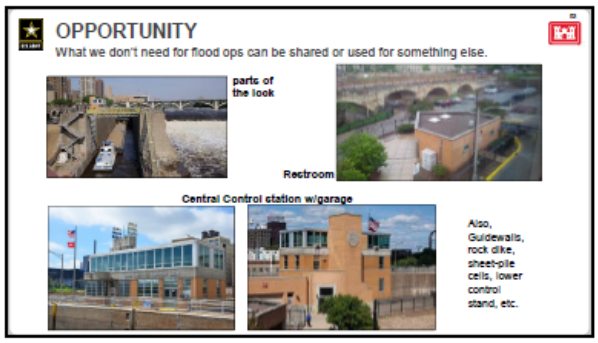
CONSTRAINT - OPERATING AREAS DURING FLOODING

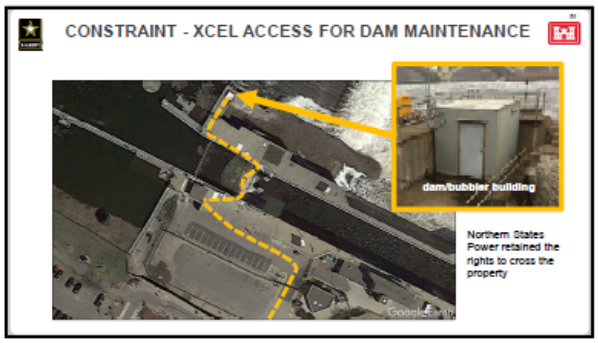


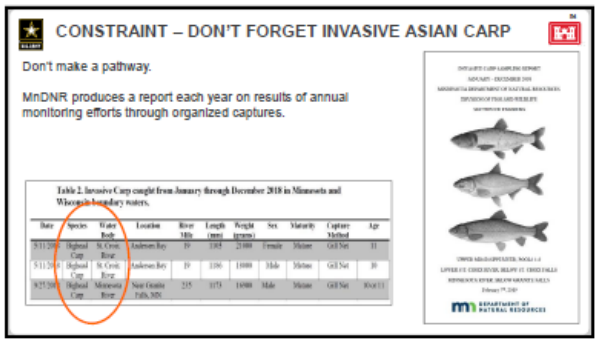

CONSTRAINT - MAJOR MAINTENANCE - CRANE STAGING AREA
Boom
Access by barge-mounted crane no longer possible.
Minimum 350-ton land-based crane needed.
Position dependent upon geometry and load.


CONSTRAINT - ACCESS FOR EMERGENCY BOAT LAUNCH
Minneapolis water rescue and Hennepin County water patrol.
Provide access or an alternate site.


CONSTRAINT - CRANE ACCESS
What can't access through Portland Avenue can be brought in through the lower lock access road.


OPPORTUNITY
What we don't need for flood ops can be shared or used for something else.
parts of the lock
Restroom
Central Control station w/garage
Also, Guidewalls, rock dike, sheet-pile cells, lower control stand, etc.


CONSTRAINT - XCEL ACCESS FOR DAM MAINTENANCE
dam/bubbler building
Northern States Power retained the rights to cross the property

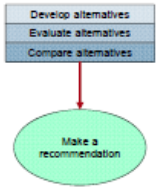

CONSTRAINT – DON'T FORGET INVASIVE ASIAN CARP
Don't make a pathway.
MnDNR produces a report each year on results of annual monitoring efforts through organized captures.

PROCESS

After gathering input, for each alternative we:

1. Examine Costs.
2. Examine Benefits.
3. Assess environmental, economic, social, cultural impacts.

Then we make a recommendation – summarize it in a draft report and put it out for public review.



NEPA SCOPING: NATURAL RESOURCES

Define Area of potential effects for natural resources.

Verify through coordination that this is the appropriate area, based on our proposed alternatives.

ENVIRONMENTAL MEMORANDA, LAWS & REGULATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED

- Clean Air Act
- Clean Water Act
- Consultation with Indian Tribal Governments (EO 13175)
- Endangered Species Act
- Environmental Justice (EO 12898)
- Federal Water Project Recreation Act
- Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act
- Invasive Species (EO 13112)
- National Environmental Policy Act
- National Historic Preservation Act
- Watershed Protection & Flood Prevention Act

NEPA SCOPING: SOCIOECONOMIC EFFECTS

Define Area of potential effects for socioeconomics.

Verify through coordination that this is the appropriate area, based on our proposed alternatives.

Socioeconomic effects may extend well beyond the St. Anthony Falls area.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) SCOPING

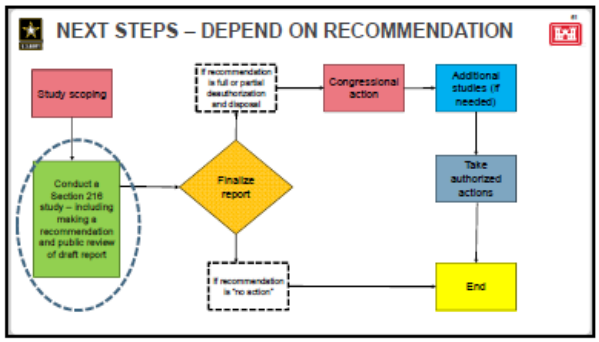
For each alternative, we have to:

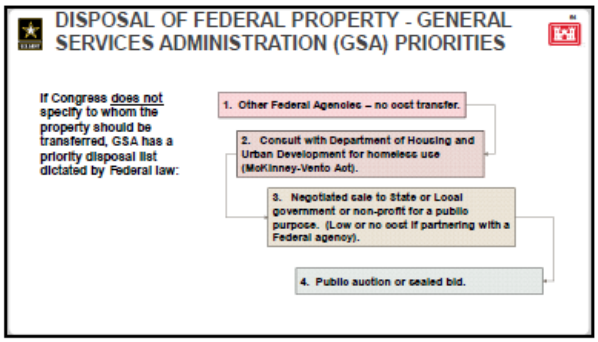
- Define the Proposed Action, and
- Determine the effects of that Action, and
- Determine if those effects are significant.

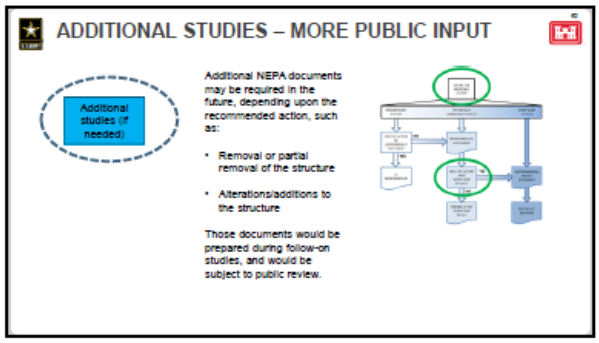
NEPA SCOPING: CULTURAL RESOURCES

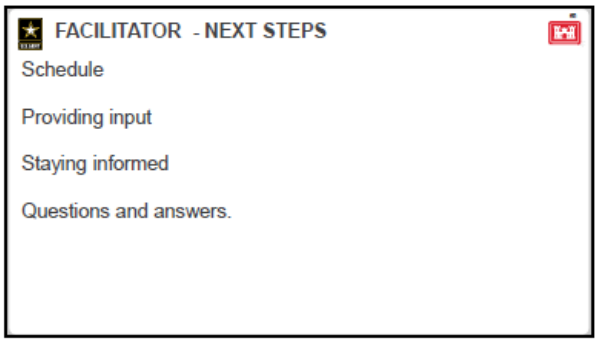
Define Area of potential effects for cultural resources.

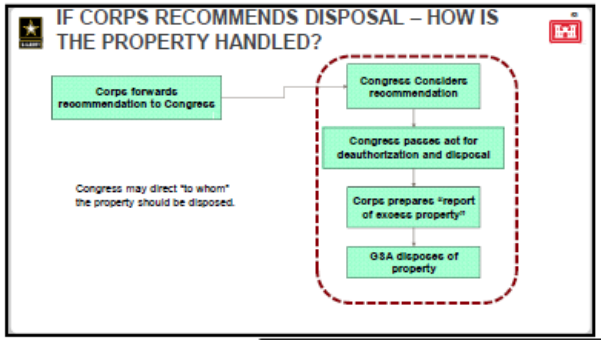
Verify through coordination that this is the appropriate area, based on our proposed alternatives.

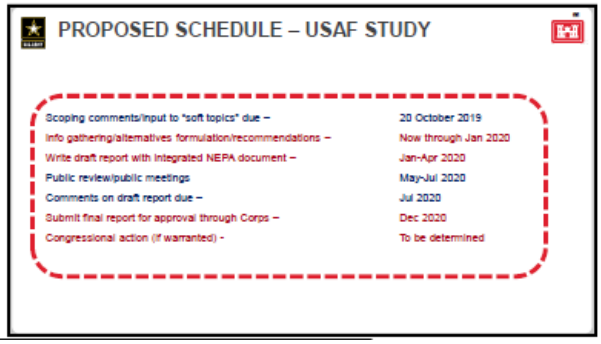

NEXT STEPS – DEPEND ON RECOMMENDATION
Study scoping
Conduct a Section 216 study – including making a recommendation and public review of draft report
Finalize report
If recommendation is full or partial deauthorization and disposal
Congressional action
Additional studies (if needed)
Take authorized actions
End
If recommendation is "no action"

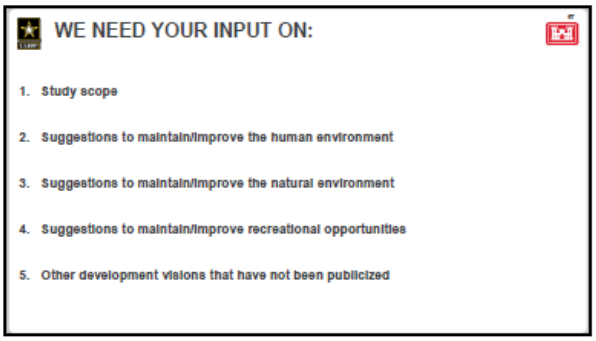

DISPOSAL OF FEDERAL PROPERTY - GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (GSA) PRIORITIES
If Congress does not specify to whom the property should be transferred, GSA has a priority disposal list dictated by Federal law:
1. Other Federal Agencies – no cost transfer.
2. Consult with Department of Housing and Urban Development for homeless use (McKinney-Vento Act).
3. Negotiated sale to State or Local government or non-profit for a public purpose. (Low or no cost if partnering with a Federal agency).
4. Public auction or sealed bid.

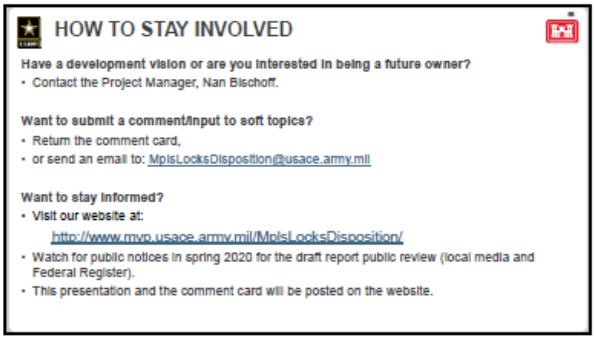

ADDITIONAL STUDIES – MORE PUBLIC INPUT
Additional studies (if needed)
Additional NEPA documents may be required in the future, depending upon the recommended action, such as:
• Removal or partial removal of the structure
• Alterations/additions to the structure
Those documents would be prepared during follow-on studies, and would be subject to public review.

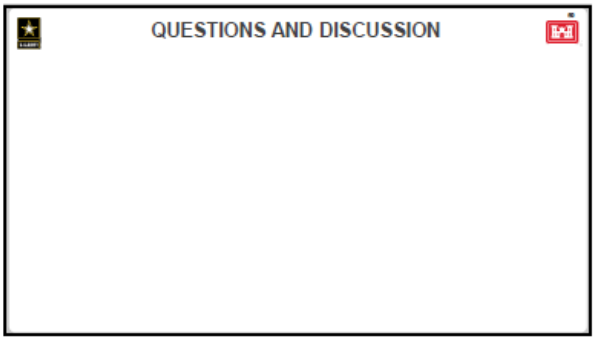

FACILITATOR - NEXT STEPS
Schedule
Providing input
Staying informed
Questions and answers.


IF CORPS RECOMMENDS DISPOSAL – HOW IS THE PROPERTY HANDLED?
Corps forwards recommendation to Congress
Congress may direct "to whom" the property should be disposed.
Congress Considers recommendation
Congress passes act for deauthorization and disposal
Corps prepares "report of excess property"
GSA disposes of property


PROPOSED SCHEDULE – USAF STUDY
Scoping comments/input to "soft topics" due – 20 October 2019
Info gathering/alternatives formulation/recommendations – Now through Jan 2020
Write draft report with integrated NEPA document – Jan-Apr 2020
Public review/public meetings May-Jul 2020
Comments on draft report due – Jul 2020
Submit final report for approval through Corps – Dec 2020
Congressional action (if warranted) - To be determined







B - 1 Public Meeting Materials

Disposition Study of Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock

August 13 and 19, 2019 - Public Meetings

Agenda:

5:30 to 6:00 Sign In & Open House

6:00 to 6:30 Slide Show Presentation

6:30 to 7:30 Question & Answer Period

7:30 to 8:00 Open House, Displays and staff available.

Purpose of Meeting:

Provide information on the background and scope of the Upper St. Anthony Falls disposition study. Provide ways for the public to provide feedback on the scope of the study, identify issues that should be addressed in the study and in the environmental assessment.

The Corps will present the background and history of the study area; the steps leading up to closure of the Upper St. Anthony Falls site; an overview of the previous study effort; changes to the study scope directed by America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018; alternatives and schedule for the current study; "soft topics"; known external party visions for the upper lock area; identification of government property and current uses; potential constraints in future use of the property; environmental scoping; future study steps; study schedule; and the federal disposal process.

Study Timeline:

August 13 and 19 – Public Meetings

October 20, 2019 – due date for comments on scope of Environmental Assessment

Spring 2020 – Preliminary report and integrated NEPA document available for 60-day public review

Fall 2020 – Report submitted for approval

Email comments to:
MplsLocksDisposition@usace.army.mil

Hard copies of comments and input to "soft topics" can be mailed to:

US Army Corps of Engineers,
180 5th St. East, Suite 700
Attn: N. Bischoff (PM-B)
St. Paul, MN 55101

Questions or concerns, contact:

Nanette M. Bischoff, Project Manager
Phone: (651) 290-5426
nanette.m.bischoff@usace.army.mil

Helpful Information:

The Upper Saint Anthony Falls lock was completed in 1963 as part of the Minneapolis Upper Harbor project. Together with the Lower St. Anthony Falls lock and dam and Lock and Dam 1, the upper lock enabled commercial navigation to extend up to the Minneapolis upper harbor.

The Minneapolis upper harbor closed in December 2014. Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam closed to navigation on June 9, 2015. The study will examine the future role of the Corps of Engineers at Upper St. Anthony Falls, including full or partial disposal of the federal property.

Federal actions require an environmental assessment in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The potential federal action may include deauthorizing the navigation mission by Congress and disposal of federal property at Upper St. Anthony Falls.

Check out our Website:

http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/MplsLocksDisposition/

US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District

Public Meeting

Disposition Study for

Upper and Lower St. Anthony Falls locks and dams and Lock and Dam No. 1

August 13, 2019
Mill City Museum
Minneapolis, MN

August 19, 2019
Michael Dowling Public School
Minneapolis, MN

Public Meeting

Disposition Study for

Upper St. Anthony Falls lock and dam

August 13, 2019
Mill City Museum
Minneapolis, MN

August 19, 2019
Michael Dowling Urban Environmental Magnet School
Minneapolis, MN

Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock Disposition Study
Public Meeting Comment Sheet – August 2019

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: _____ 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):

- ☐ 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)

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In addition to the above topics, the Study Team would appreciate your input to the following:

1. How can we maintain/improve the human environment at Upper St. Anthony Falls lock?

2. How can we maintain/improve the natural environment at Upper St. Anthony Falls lock?

3. How can we maintain/improve recreational opportunities at Upper St. Anthony Falls lock?

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 October 20, 2019.

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US Army Corps of Engineers
180 5th St. East, Suite 700
St. Paul, MN 55101-1678
Attn: N. Bischoff (PM-B)

B - 2 Meeting Attendance

Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam Disposition Study
Public Meeting
August 13, 2019
Sign-in Sheet

	NAME (please print)	REPRESENTING (Optional)
1	NANCY GARDNER	SERF
2	Carol & Don Metzger	self
3	Stephen Caskey	self
4	PAUL BAUKNIGHT	MPF
5	Carletta Sweet	DMNA
6	Dale White	"
7	Kathleen Anderson	Neighborhood
8	Liz Wielinski	CPNA
9	Bob Lace	Self
10	Roger Bongo	Villages
11	David Stevens	Mill City Museum - MNHS
12	Neil Helming	Self
13	Jim Leslie + Norma Leslie	SELF
14	DAN ECKMAN	SELF
15	Connie Griffin	Self
16	GARY MORSON	CROWN HYDRO
17	BOB HAWKS	" "
18	Bill and Janet McNally	428 S 2nd St # 521
19	Tom and Pam MacDonald	~~2~~ 1
20	[illegible]	
21	Les + Carolyn Svendsen	Self
22	K Carolyn "	
23	DAN BRADY	—
24	Ted Tucker	SAFA.
25	JONATHAN STEARNS	BTE
26	JEREMY EDWARDS	NPS

Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam Disposition Study
Public Meeting
August 13, 2019
Sign-in Sheet

	NAME (please print)	REPRESENTING (Optional)
27	Jeff Schwarz	MCES
28	PAUL REYELTS	FRIENDS OF THE LOCK & DAM
29	Carol Honey	
30	EDNA BRAZAITIS	FRIENDS OF THE RIVERFRONT
31	LISA HONDROS	FRIENDS OF LOCK & DAM
32	John Sandlund	Friends of Pool #2
33	DOUG VERDIER	RiverWest Condo
34	Rich Ahrens	North Star Lofts
35	EVAN HALL	PETER HALL
36	CHRIS GOEPFERT	NAT L PARKS CONS ASSN
37	Irene Jones	FMR
38	TYLER SAHNOW	
39	John Etzell	
40	Jana Lofton-Etzell	
41	Greg Sevanhelm	Sen. Klobuchar
42	Joe Carlson	Friends of Lock & Dam
43	Jerry Green	
44	Cordelia Pierson, MRPC	Mississippi River Parkway Commission
45	Alicia Evert	
46	Mary H. Leany	Friends of Pool 2
47	Gene Ranieri	City of Minneapolis
48	CRAIG EVANS	CITIZEN
49	Mike DeRusha	CITIZEN
50	Eric Gustafson	Mpls. OEM
51	LINDA MICHIE	FRIENDS OF POOL 2
52		

Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam Disposition Study
Public Meeting
August 13, 2019
Sign-in Sheet

	NAME (please print)	REPRESENTING (Optional)
53	Cara Letofsky	
54	Roger Stageberg	
55	x Diane Soderm	SPRC
56	x Anita Anus	—
57	Phyllis Cohen	
58	Marc Robins	MRC
59	Rep. Jim Davnie	MN House
60	Dick Hegglund	GSM
61	Bill Huttelson	
62	Meg Montgomery	Rep. Dean Phillips
63	Rep. Diane Loeffler	
64	GIRARD SCHUSTER	USACE
65	John Anfinson	NPS
66	ALAN NELSON	self
67	Chris Eichacl	USACE
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Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam Disposition Study
Public Meeting
August 19, 2019
Attendees

	Name	Representing (Optional)
1	Clyde Cutting	Self
2	Kirk Hokanson	
3	Steve Buege	Friends of Pool2
4	Joe Uhlhorn	
5	John Anfinson	NPS
6	Darold Sanderson	USACE
7	Nan Bischoff	USACE
8	Sharon Stiteler	NPS
9	Gary Monson	Crown Hydro
10	John Sengland	Friends of Pool 2
11	Greg Cenz	Friends of Pool 2
12	Kevin Chardelaine	Friends of Pool 2
13	Gayle Donneoille	Resident/Taxpayer
14	Tyler Pederson	Minneapolis Parks and Rec Board
15	Joel Carlson	Friends of Lock and Dam
16	John Yunger	USACE Cadets
17	Adam Heitkany	USACE Cadets
18	Katie Nyberg	Mississippi Park Connection
19	Dan Dressler	NPS
20	Jim Bodensteiner	Xcel Energy
21	Alan Robbins-Keaner	NPS
22	Kjerst Manson	FLD
23	Paul Nylander	
24	J. Chateau	
25	Bryon Newman	
26	Peter Bergland	Nobody
27	George Stringham	USACE
28	Gene Renieri	City of Minneapolis
29	Edna Brazatis	Friends of the Riverfront
30	Milton Schoen	

DISPOSITION STUDY

Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock Disposition Study

LOCAL GOVERNMENT / NON-GOVERNMENT AGENCY MEETING

Hosted by: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District

Invited Government Agencies:

City of Minneapolis	City of St. Paul	Hennepin County
Co. Sheriff's Water Patrol	Longfellow Community Council	Minneapolis Convention & Visitor's Association
Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Dept.	Minneapolis Fire Department	Ramsey County
St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board	St. Paul Planning & Economic Development	Upper Mississippi Waterway Association
American Rivers	Friends of Pool 2	Friends of the Lock & Dam
Minneapolis Riverfront	Minneapolis Rowing Club	National Parks Conservation Association
Sierra Club	Stop Carp Coalition	The Nature Conservancy
U of M Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center	U of M	U of M St. Anthony Falls Lab
Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee	A Mills Artist Lofts Hydroelectric Project	Brookfield Renewable Partners
Crown Hydro	Magnolia Blossom Cruises	LS Marine Inc.
Padelford Packet Boat Co	Paradise Charter Cruises	St. Paul Yacht Club
Xcel Energy		

Date/Times: Thursday, August 15 / 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: 2nd Floor Conference Room, 180 East Fifth Street Building, St. Paul, MN

Attendees: The meeting was attended by 26 staff representing 16 agencies (Attachment A)

Facilitator: David Potter, Corps of Engineers

Presenter: Nan Bischoff

Format: Powerpoint presentation (Attachment B), followed by a comment / question session.

ATTACHMENT A. Sign-in sheet of participants.

Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam Disposition Study
LGO/NGO Public Meeting
15 August 13, 2019
Sign-in Sheet

	NAME (please print)		REPRESENTING (Optional)
105	JC Johnson		US ACE - Real Estate
106	Ray Cruz		mpls Fire
107	Scott Crotty		Xcel Energy
108	Rob Olson		Xcel Energy
109	EDNA BRAZAITIS		FRIENDS LOCK & DAM
110	Jeff Schwarz		MCES
111	Peter Gom		FUP / FMR
112	Ryan Tollgaard		FHWA
113	Brian Anderson		XCEL ENERGY
114	Chris Gepfert		NPCA
115	Irene Jones		FMR
116	Barbara Ftaake		SPYC
117	John Sandlands		Friends of Pool #2
118	MATT HERNICK		U OF MN ST. ANTHONY FALLS LAB
119	GARY MONSON		CROWN HYDRO
120	Bill Hawks		" "
121	Greg Genz		Friends of Pool 2
122	Scott Bandy		Xcel Energy
123	Sheveh McKee		
124	Marc Robins		Minneapolis Rowing Club
125	Gene Ranieri		City of Minneapolis
126	MARK HOLMBERG		XCEL ENERGY
127	Andy Davis	conf.	Brookfield
128	Chris Ercoli	conf.	Brookfield
129	Dave Stevens	conf.	MnHS.
130	Doug Spaulding	conf.	Nelson Energy

DISPOSITION STUDY

Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock Disposition Study

AGENCY MEETING

Hosted by: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District

Invited Government Agencies:

Bur. Land Management	Bur. of Reclamation	National Park Service
Fish and Wildlife Service	Geological Survey	Bureau of Indian Affairs
General Services Administration	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
Coast Guard	Environmental Protection Agency	Natural Resources Conservation Agency
MN Department of Natural Resources	MN Department of Transportation	MN Pollution Control Agency
MN State Historic Preservation Office	City of Minneapolis	Minneapolis Public Housing Authority

Date/Times: Thursday, August 15 / 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Location: 2nd Floor Conference Room, 180 East Fifth Street Building, St. Paul, MN

Attendees: The meeting was attended by 18 staff representing 10 agencies (Attachment A)

Facilitator: David Potter, Corps of Engineers

Presenter: Nan Bischoff

Format: Powerpoint presentation (Attachment B), followed by a comment / question session.

ATTACHMENT A. Sign-in sheet of participants.

Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam Disposition Study
Agency ~~Public~~ Meeting
15 August ~~13~~, 2019
Sign-in Sheet

	NAME (please print)		REPRESENTING (Optional)
79	DAVE WIVINUS		USACE
80	JC JOHNSON		USACE
81	Tamara Cameron		USACE
82	Suzanne Jiwani		MnDNR
83	Bill Wilde		MPCA
84	Sarah Beimers		SHPO
85	Kevin Cegarre		GSA
86	Sharon Stitzer		NPS
87	John Anfinson		NPS
88	Joel Stiras		MN DNR
89	Elizabeth Pellosa	conf	US - EPA
90	Jason Spiegel	conf.	MnDNR
91	John Waters	conf.	MnDNR
92	Katharine Dahm	conf	Bu Rec
93	Teodor Strat	conf	FERC
94	Kathy Kowal	conf	US - EPA
95	Nick Utrup	conf	USFWS
96	Olaf Weeks	conf.	FERC