



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
St. Paul District

Finding of No Significant Impact

KINNICKINNIC RIVER CONTINUING
AUTHORITIES PROGRAM SECTION 206
FEASIBILITY REPORT AND INTEGRATED
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

May 2025

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST. PAUL DISTRICT
332 MINNESOTA STREET, SUITE E1500
ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1323

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

**Kinnickinnic River Continuing Authorities Program Section 206 Feasibility Report and
Integrated Environmental Assessment
PIERCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District (Corps) has conducted an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The final integrated feasibility report with Environmental Assessment (EA) dated **DATE OF IFR/EA**, for the Kinnickinnic River Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) Section 206 Project addresses aquatic ecosystem restoration, opportunities and feasibility for the Kinnickinnic River, Pierce County, Wisconsin. The primary purpose of the proposed project is to restore the natural hydrothermal dynamics to support native cold-water species that were present prior to impoundment and increase riffle and pool geomorphic sequencing to increase the use and availability of cold-water habitat

The Tentatively Selected Plan (Alternative 7) in the IFR/EA, incorporated herein by reference, is to remove both Junction Falls Dam and Powell Falls Dam, restore the Kinnickinnic River through the project area, and enhance the adjacent riparian corridor with implementation of stream restoration features (rock arch rapids, riffle pools, cross vanes, cobble aprons, bank protection and Lunker structures), forest restoration, and marsh restoration. In total the Tentatively Selected Plan would result in a net benefit of 34.7 Average Annual Habitat Units compared to not implementing a project (No Action Alternative).

For both the No Action Alternative and the Tentatively Selected Plan, the potential effects were evaluated, as appropriate. A summary assessment of the potential effects of the proposed alternative are listed in Table 1:

Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Tentatively Selected Plan

	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation*	Resource unaffected by action
Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic resources/wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Invasive species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fish and wildlife habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Threatened/Endangered species/critical habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historic properties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other cultural resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Floodplains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Hazardous, toxic & radioactive waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hydrology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Noise levels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tribal trust resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Water quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

All practicable and appropriate means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were analyzed and incorporated into the Tentatively Selected Plan.

No compensatory mitigation is required as part of the Tentatively Selected Plan.

Public review of the draft EA and FONSI was completed on **23 June 2025**. All comments submitted during the public review period were responded to in the Final Feasibility Report and EA.

Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined that the Tentatively Selected Plan may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect tricolored bat, Higgins eye mussel, salamander mussel and rusty patched bumble bees, would not adversely modify proposed critical habitat for the rusty patched bumble bee, and would have no effect to monarch butterfly and prairie bush clover. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) concurred with the Corps' may affect, not likely to affect determination for the tricolored bat on 29 March 2025 and rusty patched bumble bee, including that related to proposed critical habitat, on 15 April 2025.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined that the Tentatively Selected Plan would have No Effect on Historic Properties. The Wisconsin SHPO concurred on 10 January 2023.

Pursuant to the Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended, the discharge of dredged or fill material associated with the recommended plan has been found to be compliant with section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (40 CFR 230). The Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines evaluation is found in [Appendix B of the IFR/EA](#).

A water quality certification pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act will be obtained from the [State of Wisconsin](#) prior to construction. In a letter dated **DATE OF LETTER**, the [State](#) stated that the recommended plan appears to meet the requirements of the water quality certification, pending confirmation based on information to be developed during the pre-construction engineering and design phase. All conditions of the water quality certification will be implemented in order to minimize adverse impacts to water quality.

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All applicable environmental laws have been considered and coordination with appropriate agencies and officials has been completed. Based on this report, the reviews by other Federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, input of the public, and the review by my staff, it is my determination that the Tentatively Selected Plan would not cause significant adverse effects on the quality of the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Date

Joshua D. Rud
LTC, EN
Acting District Commander