



Public Notice

US Army Corps
of Engineers

Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Public Notice Number: 200100113

Date: April 20, 2001

Comments Due: May 20, 2001

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: Application for a Department of the Army permit under authority of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act to construct two piers for public river access, as shown in the attached drawings.

APPLICANT:

Libbie Trimmer
City of Isleton
P.O. Box 796
Isleton, California 95641-0796

LOCATION: Between Sacramento River Miles 17.5 and 17.9 on the left bank adjacent to the City of Isleton, Township 4 North, Range 3 East, in Sacramento County, California (See attached location and vicinity maps).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant has provided the following project description and has indicated the project will consist of two phases. Phase one includes the construction of a fishing pier and tour boat access center comprised of the following:

1. 750 square foot floating fishing pier supported by (6) 12" X 50' steel piles
2. 40' X 10' access ramp connecting the fishing pier to the 10' X 100' tour boat landing float and associated 20' X 20' landing tower float which are supported by (7) 16" X 50' steel piles
3. 5' X 60' metal gangway connecting to a concrete landing near the levee crown to the tower landing float
4. 65' X 5' sloped concrete ramp along the levee crown to connect pedestrian traffic from the gangway to the top of the levee.
5. Access stairs and lift for accessibility between the land-side public service area and a pedestrian bridge to the water-side of the concrete access ramp.
6. Land-side service area consisting of public parking with 16 spaces, including an accessible stall, public restrooms, public open space and loading/unloading area.

Phase II consists of the following:

1. 760 linear feet of 6' wide side-tie docking floats supported by (24) 16" X 50' steel piles.
2. (2) pedestrian access configurations, one 24' X 30' landing tower float and 60' gangway, and another 25' X 15' with a 40' metal gangway, both benched into the levee slope above the 100-year flood line.
3. 1200 linear feet of 5' wide concrete walkway with (4) rest areas and (3) overlooks, benched into the levee slope above the 100-year flood line, with a 3' up-slope retaining wall to create the bench and removable handrail throughout.
4. Landscape levee slope above the walkway using approved plants from a State Reclamation Board guide.
5. Concrete walkways to provide safe access to piers from the land-side service area and historic district.
6. Lighting amenities, non-glare fixtures on water-side, for public safety and security.

All floating structures will be constructed of low-maintenance concrete decks, supported by encased floatation, and located to provide a minimum channel depth of 10' from mean low-low water, for increased boating safety. Existing revetment will be repositioned and augmented to preclude erosion of the new structures. The only in-water work will be the installation of the steel mooring piles, which will be accomplished with a barge-mounted crane. All levee embankment construction will be accomplished with land-based equipment. All floating structures will be pre-fabricated off site and then assembled in the water using floating equipment.

The applicant has proposed the following measures to minimize adverse environmental effects:

1. Floating dock structure has been placed in the deeper water of the channel, beyond the currently designated "shallow water habitat" zone.
2. Project layout avoids riparian trees and/or shrubs with a cumulative trunk or stem diameter of 4-inches at breast height or greater on the water-side of the levee.
3. Selected project site does not contain any elderberry trees.
4. Steel piling with a non-toxic whit coating will be utilized to create a lighter environment beneath the docks.
5. Work will be limited between August 1 and November 30.
6. Reasonable care will be taken to limit siltation and sedimentation during construction. Upon a California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) determination that turbidity/siltation constitute a threat to aquatic life, construction activities will be halted until effective CDFG approved control devices are installed or abatement procedures are initiated.
7. Heavy equipment (e.g. pile driver) shall be closely examined for oil and fuel discharges and maintained to prevent leaks of materials that could be deleterious to aquatic life.
8. Disturbance of riparian habitat is limited to minor grubbing of native grasses for construction of concrete deadman anchors.
9. To ensure no net loss of Delta smelt habitat, in-kind credits based on project coverage of Delta smelt habitat will be purchased from a Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) approved wetland mitigation bank. Evidence of credit purchase will be provided to ACOE and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to in-water work, unless an alternative mitigation plan is required.

10. Existing riparian forest vegetation in the project area will be retained, trimmed and integrated into the design of the walkway and access structures, with the appropriate protection measures taken during construction.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The project area is located within the Sacramento River between River Miles 17.5 and 17.9, within the City of Isleton on Andrus Island in the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta, Lower Sacramento Watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code 18020109). Highway 160 separates the project from the water and land-side project areas as it traverses through the City of Isleton. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetland Inventory classifies the water-side project area (i.e., Sacramento River) as a permanently tidal riverine system with an unconsolidated bottom. The land-side is classified entirely as urban upland habitat.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Endangered or Threatened Species: The project may affect the following federally-listed species or their designated critical habitat; Sacramento River winter-run chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), Central Valley steelhead (*O. mykiss*), Delta smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*), Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), (*Pogonichthys macrolepidotus*). From the project site, a one-mile search radius of the Fall 2000, California Natural Diversity Database indicates an occurrence of the Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), a California State listed threatened species.

Cultural Resources: No surveys or information have been provided by the applicant for evaluation.

Water Quality: A application for Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification was received by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board on March 30, 2001.

The District Engineer has made these determinations based on information provided by the applicant and on the Corps' preliminary investigation.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on or before **May 20, 2001**. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber

production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

If additional information is required, please contact the applicant Libbie Trimmer with the City of Isleton at (916) 777-7770, their agent Debbie Cummings with DCC Engineering at (916) 776-2277, or Mr. Justin Cutler, at the letterhead address, e-mail: jcutler@spk.usace.army.mil, or telephone (916) 557-5258.

Michael J. Walsh
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

Enclosures: Drawing(s)