



Illinois
Department of
**Natural
Resources**

JB Pritzker, Governor • Natalie Phelps Finnie, Director
One Natural Resources Way • Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

To: Director Natalie Phelps Finnie
From: Captain Marc Folden
Date: 4/8/2025
Subject: Emergency Restriction of Little Wabash River in White and Gallatin Counties

The Southern Zone Commander, Marc Folden, advises that the Little Wabash River in White and Gallatin Counties is significantly hazardous. Water conditions are dangerous, including extreme currents and submerged debris. Additionally, unnecessary wakes created by boats will damage sandbagging efforts and structures affected by water conditions. Restricting boating for public safety reasons and to protect property is deemed necessary. The White and Gallatin County Sheriff's Departments and County EMA Directors concur with the assessment.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has authorization to designate Restricted Boating Areas when navigation is significantly dangerous.

Section 2030.80 Hazardous Navigation Conditions - Designated Restricted Boating Areas In the event that the Department of Natural Resources determines the presence of conditions that make navigation of a body of water significantly dangerous to the public, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources may, in coordination with the federal government, designate Restricted Boating Areas on any affected body of water within the jurisdiction of the State of Illinois. This designation shall be made by public announcement in local media and by posting at local public boat launches and marinas, and the restricted area shall be physically marked by buoys, signs, manned watercraft, or yellow police tape. This designation will remain in effect until the Director of the Department of Natural Resources determines that navigation is no longer significantly dangerous to the public, but in no case shall the designation remain in effect longer than 90 days. Rescission of the Restricted Boating Area designation shall be publicly announced in local media and posted at local public boat launches and marinas and any markings shall be removed.

I (Captain Marc Folden) recommend the Little Wabash River be designated as a "restricted boating area" from the I64 Bridge in White County to the confluence of the Wabash River in Gallatin County, beginning on 4/8/2025 at 4:00 p.m.

Captain Marc Folden #400

04/08/2025

Recommended by Captain Marc Folden

Date

Natalie Finnie

Approved by Director Natalie Phelps Finnie

4/8/2025
Date