



To: Director Jim Montgomery
From: Deputy Chief John L. Miller #2005
Date: 09/11/2026

Subject: Partial Restricted Boating Area Conditions on the Middle Fork of the Vermilion River

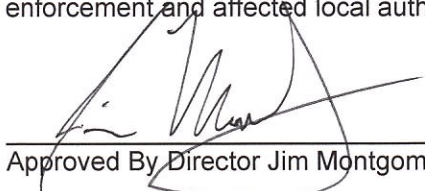
Deputy Chief John L. Miller, in coordination Office of Water Resources Acting Director Rick Pohlman and Captain Matthew Viverito, advises that construction of river protection measures on the right descending bank of the river in the vicinity of the former Dynegy Vermilion Station power plant may cause conditions that are hazardous to navigation by watercraft.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has the authority to designate Restricted Boating Areas when navigation is significantly dangerous to the public, and to modify or rescind such restrictions when conditions permit safe public access.

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. Recission 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. (Source: Added at 29 Ill. Reg. 15550, effective September 27, 2005)

I recommend the portion of the river adjacent to the construction be **CLOSED** beginning September 14, 2026 at 6 AM. The portion of the river along the right descending bank to be closed will be marked by buoys, float lines and/or signage. When construction is not occurring, the remaining portion of the river will be open to public use. During active construction periods, the contractor may have personnel hold all watercraft for periods up to 15 minutes or require portage along the left descending bank to ensure public safety. If approved, the Office of Law Enforcement will coordinate the modified Restricted Boating Area designation with local law enforcement and affected local authorities.


Approved By Director Jim Montgomery

9/11/26
Date