

To: Director Natalie Phelps Finnie

From: Sgt. Matthew C. Graden #401

Date: April 09, 2025

Subject: Conditions on the Middle Fork River

I, Sgt. Matthew C. Graden, report the conditions prompting the boating restriction are no longer significant. The Vermilion County Sheriff's Office concurs with the assessment.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has authorization to lift the Restricted Boating Area designation when navigation is no longer 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. Recision 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 Restricted Boating Area (recreational vessels only) be lifted on the Middle Fork Vermilion River, from the Illinois/Indiana State line to the town of Oakwood, effective at 4:26PM on April 09, 2025. If you approve, please sign below, and the Office of Law Enforcement will coordinate lifting the Restricted Boating Area designation with the local authorities.

Sgt. Matthew C. Graden 401 04/09/25
Recommendation by Sgt. Matthew C. Graden #401 Date

Natalie Finnie 4/9/25
Approved by Director Natalie Phelps Finnie Date