



July 17, 2025

Federal Consistency Coordinator  
Illinois Coastal Management Program  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
160 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 700  
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. Otto:

In compliance with the Illinois Coastal Management Federal Consistency Review Procedures, we provide the following information for a project to install a litter boom in the South Branch of the Chicago River. The proposed activity complies with Illinois' approved coastal management program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such policies.

**Extent of work to be conducted:**

We seek to install a litter boom in the South Branch of the Chicago River. The 590-sf boom (40 ft x 14.75 diameter) is a temporary, low-profile, floatable device consisting of the floating boom with a 6" curtain that hangs below the waterline. It can easily be removed or relocated and will be emptied once per week while installed. It will be installed seasonally from roughly May through November, weather depending, and stored offsite by Shedd Aquarium from roughly December through April.

This is considered a pilot project so the Shedd team and our partners can evaluate whether a litter boom placed at this location is effective in litter interception and whether it negatively impacts the experience of park users. If the project is successful, we will consider keeping the boom in place indefinitely or upgrading to a more advanced technology for collecting floatable litter.

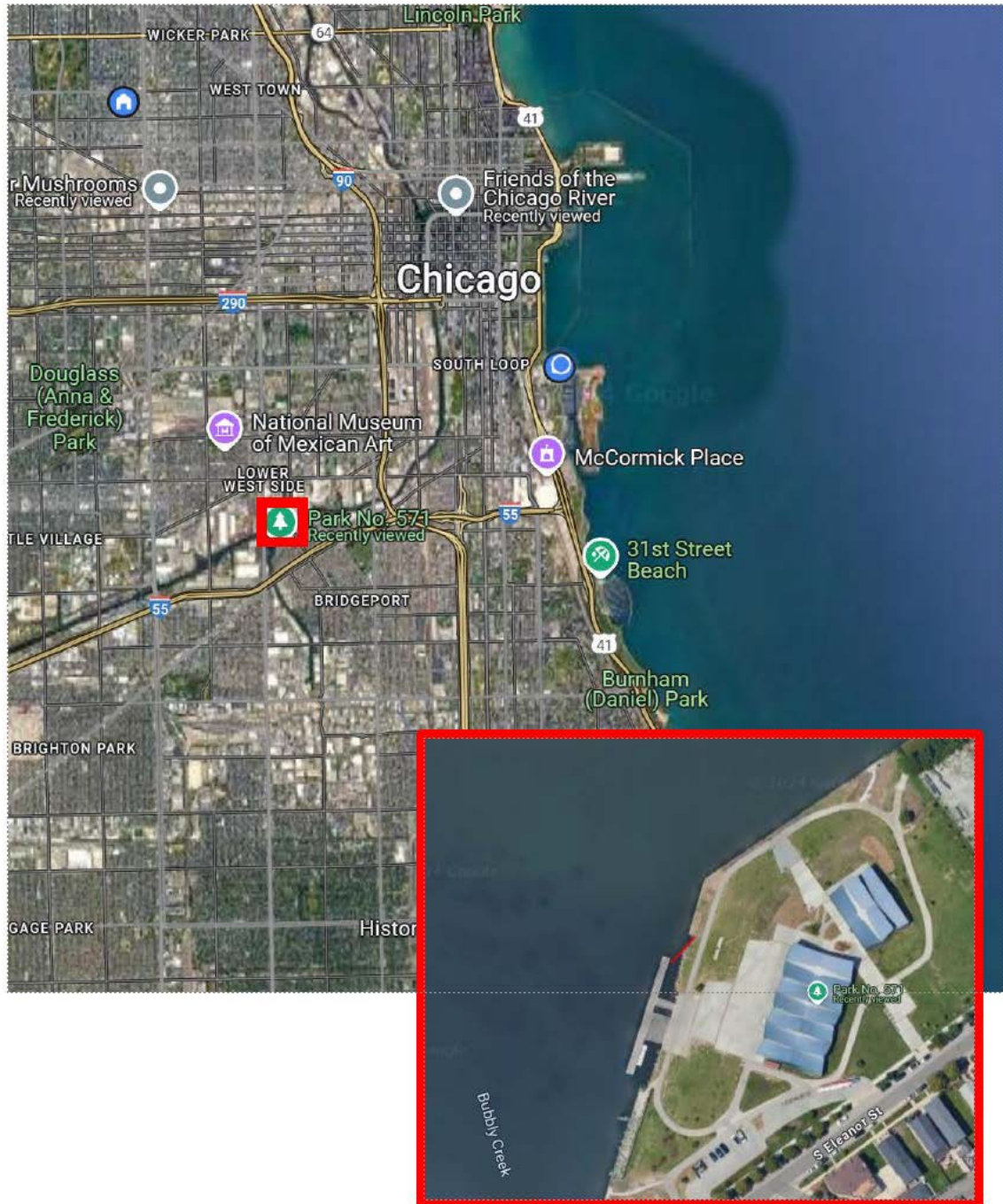
Monitoring litter collected: In partnership with Dr. Tim Hoellein from Loyola University, the makeup and amount of trash will be assessed on a regular basis. This data will inform future plans for litter interception in the Chicago River by various collaborators including Chicago Park District, Friends of the Chicago River, Urban Rivers, and others.

Assessing community impact: The Shedd team will make in-person observations and solicit feedback from the park director, Claire Roggeveen, and park users about the presence of the litter boom. If it is viewed negatively, we will reevaluate whether outreach is needed or if the boom should be relocated.

**Location of the project:**

The litter boom will be installed within the South Branch of the Chicago River at Park 571, affixed to the dock on the northeast side with stainless steel hardware and without anchoring to the river bottom or shoreline. The location of the litter boom will not interfere with river navigation according to conversations with park staff and dock users, and it is a prime pilot location that naturally collects litter.

Address: Park 571 at 2754 S Eleanor St in Chicago, IL 60608; Coordinates: 41.84376 °N, -87.66361 °W



*Proposed litter boom location is denoted by red line connected to dock in the bottom right image.*



**Project start date and duration:**

The litter boom is temporary and will be placed in the river seasonally between spring and fall on dates agreed upon between the Chicago Park District and Shedd Aquarium. Below is a proposed timeline for beginning the project with the option to continue in perpetuity as agreed upon by Chicago Park District and as permitted by government agencies:

- September 2025: Installation of litter boom; begin weekly maintenance and trash monitoring activities
- November/December 2025: Remove boom from park for offsite overwinter storage by Shedd
- Spring 2026: Seasonal boom installation
- Fall 2026: Seasonal boom removal and offsite storage
- Ongoing: Continued installation and removal

**Contact person:**

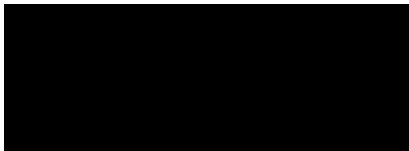
Jaclyn Wegner, Senior Director of Conservation Action  
Shedd Aquarium  
1200 S. DuSable Lake Shore Drive  
Chicago, IL 60605



Fax: Not currently available, please contact Jaclyn to coordinate if fax is needed

Thank you for your consideration and review of our project. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



# JOINT APPLICATION FORM FOR ILLINOIS

## ITEMS 1 AND 2 FOR AGENCY USE

1. Application Number	2. Date Received
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### 3. and 4. (SEE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS) NAME, MAILING ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

3a. Applicant's Name:  <b>Jaclyn Wegner</b> Company Name (if any) : Shedd Aquarium Society Address:  <b>1200 S. DuSable Lake Shore Drive</b> <b>Chicago IL 60605</b>  Email Address: [REDACTED]	3b. Co-Applicant/Property Owner Name (if needed or if different from applicant): Chicago Park District Company Name (if any): Chicago Park District Address:  <b>4830 S. Western Ave. Chicago,</b> <b>IL 60609</b>  Email Address: [REDACTED]	4. Authorized Agent (an agent is not required):  Company Name (if any):  Address:   Email Address: [REDACTED]
Applicant's Phone Nos. w/area code Business: [REDACTED] Residence: Cell: Fax:	Applicant's Phone Nos. w/area code Business: Residence: Cell: Fax:	Agent's Phone Nos. w/area code Business: Residence: Cell: Fax:

### STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION

I hereby authorize, \_\_\_\_\_ to act in my behalf as my agent in the processing of this application and to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of this permit application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### 5. ADJOINING PROPERTY OWNERS (Upstream and Downstream of the water body and within Visual Reach of Project)

Name	Mailing Address	Phone No. w/area code
a. Chicago Park District (Park 571)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
b. Chicago Park District (Canal Origins Park)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
c.		
d.		

### 6. PROJECT TITLE:

**Shedd Aquarium's Litter Boom Project**

### 7. PROJECT LOCATION:

Park 571

LATITUDE: <b>41.84376</b> °N LONGITUDE: <b>-87.66361</b> °W	UTM's Northing: <b>4632642.16</b> Easting: <b>444907.03</b>				
STREET, ROAD, OR OTHER DESCRIPTIVE LOCATION <b>Park 571 at 2754 S Eleanor St</b>	LEGAL DESCRIP T	QUARTER  <b>SE</b>	SECTION  <b>29</b>	TOWNSHIP NO.  <b>39N</b>	RANGE  <b>14E</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OR <input type="checkbox"/> NEAR CITY OF TOWN (check appropriate box) Municipality Name <b>Chicago</b>		WATERWAY  <b>Chicago River</b>			RIVER MILE (if applicable) between 31.6 (Ashland Ave.) and 31.9 (Loomis St.)
COUNTY  <b>Cook</b>	STATE  <b>Illinois</b>	ZIP CODE  <b>60608</b>			

Revised 2010

☐ Corps of Engineers

☐ IL Dep't of Natural Resources

☐ IL Environmental Protection  
Agency

☐ Applicant's Copy

8. PROJECT DESCRIPTION (Include all features):  
We wish to install a litter boom entirely within the S. Branch Chicago River at Park 571, affixed to the dock on the northeast side with stainless steel hardware and without anchoring to the river bottom or shoreline. The 590-sf boom (40 ft x 14.75 diameter) will be installed seasonally from roughly May through November and stored offsite from December through April. The location of the litter boom will not interfere with river navigation according to conversations with park staff and dock users, and it is a prime pilot location that naturally collects litter. The litter boom is a temporary, low-profile, floatable device consisting of the floating boom with a 6" curtain that hangs below the waterline. It can easily be removed or relocated. The litter boom will be emptied once per week while installed. If needed, we will explore the possibility to block off or close the boom so that it does not actively collect trash when we are unable to readily service it. The boom installation will comply with all applicable Nationwide Permit General Conditions.

9. PURPOSE AND NEED OF PROJECT:  
Removing litter from the Chicago River is critical for improving the wellbeing of wildlife and people and in stewarding the river shoreline. The boom will collect litter to allow for its removal before it travels downriver to other bodies of water like the Sanitary and Ship Canal and Mississippi River. There are many environmental harms caused by litter in our rivers, lakes, and ocean: 1. Wildlife is harmed when entangled in trash, and ingesting microplastics disrupts animals' bodily systems and can lead to malnourishment and starvation. 93% of fish examined from Chicago area waterways have some form of plastic presence in their bodies. 2. Littered environments attract more litter, create negative perceptions, and decrease property values.

**COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING FOUR BLOCKS IF DREDGED AND/OR FILL MATERIAL IS TO BE DISCHARGED**

10. REASON(S) FOR DISCHARGE:  
Litter boom

11. TYPE(S) OF MATERIAL BEING DISCHARGED AND THE AMOUNT OF EACH TYPE IN CUBIC YARDS FOR WATERWAYS:  
TYPE: The litter boom consists of polyethylene foam, coated polyester fabric, and stainless steel hardware.  
AMOUNT IN CUBIC YARDS:

12. SURFACE AREA IN ACRES OF WETLANDS OR OTHER WATERS FILLED (See Instructions)  
0.0135 acres

13. DESCRIPTION OF AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION AND COMPENSATION (See instructions)  
n/a

14. Date activity is proposed to commence  
8/1/25

Date activity is expected to be completed  
n/a

15. Is any portion of the activity for which authorization is sought now complete? Yes ☐ No ☒ NOTE: If answer is "YES" give reasons in the Project Description and Remarks section. Indicate the existing work on drawings.  
Month and Year the activity was completed

16. List all approvals or certification and denials received from other Federal, interstate, state, or local agencies for structures, construction, discharges or other activities described in this application.

<u>Issuing Agency</u>	<u>Type of Approval</u>	<u>Identification No.</u>	<u>Date of Application</u>	<u>Date of Approval</u>	<u>Date of Denial</u>

17. CONSENT TO ENTER PROPERTY LISTED IN PART 7 ABOVE IS HEREBY GRANTED. Yes No

18. APPLICATION VERIFICATION (SEE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS)  
Application is hereby made for the activities described herein. I certify that I am familiar with the information contained in the application, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief, such information is true, complete, and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the proposed activities.

Signature of Applicant or Authorized Agent

Signature of Applicant or Authorized Agent

Signature of Applicant or Authorized Agent

5/22/2025

Date

Date

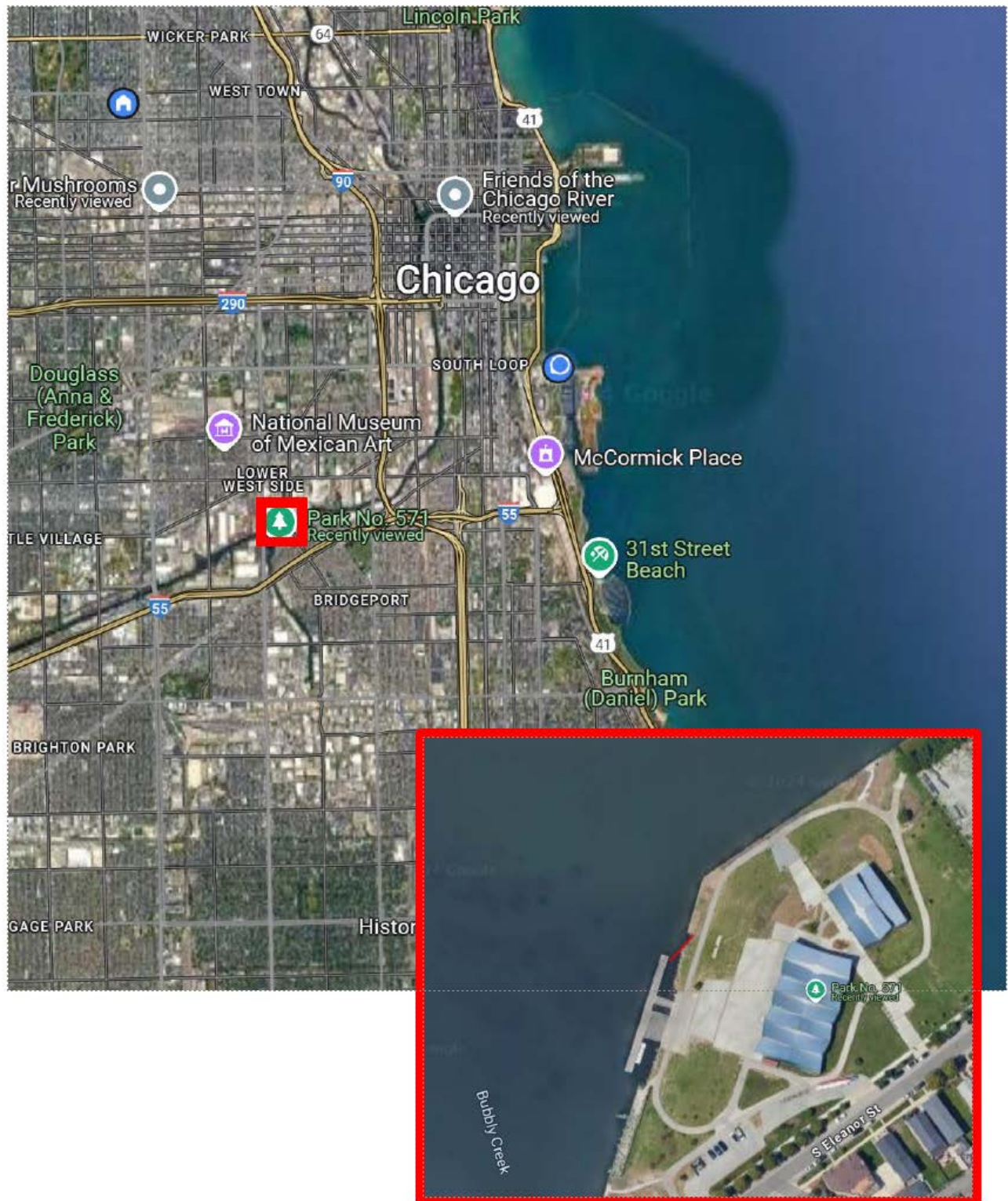
Date

☐ Corps of Engineers Revised 2010    ☐ IL Dep't of Natural Resources    ☐ IL Environmental Protection Agency    ☐ Applicant's Copy

SEE INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADDRESS



## LOCATION MAP



Revised 2010

☐ Corps of Engineers

☐ IL Dep't of Natural Resources

☐ IL Environmental Protection  
Agency

☐ Applicant's Copy

## PLAN VIEW

Please see attached.

**FOR AGENCY USE ONLY**

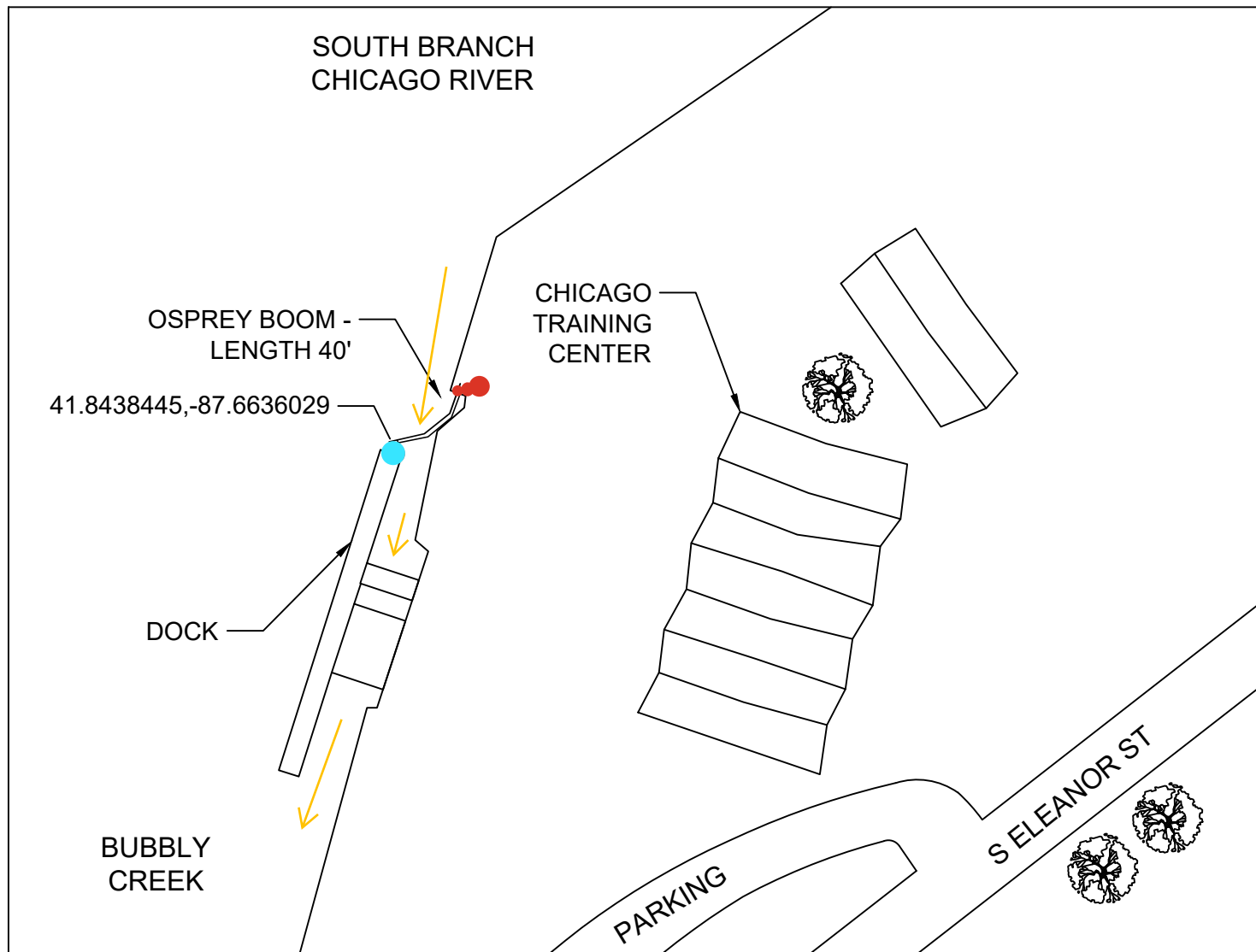
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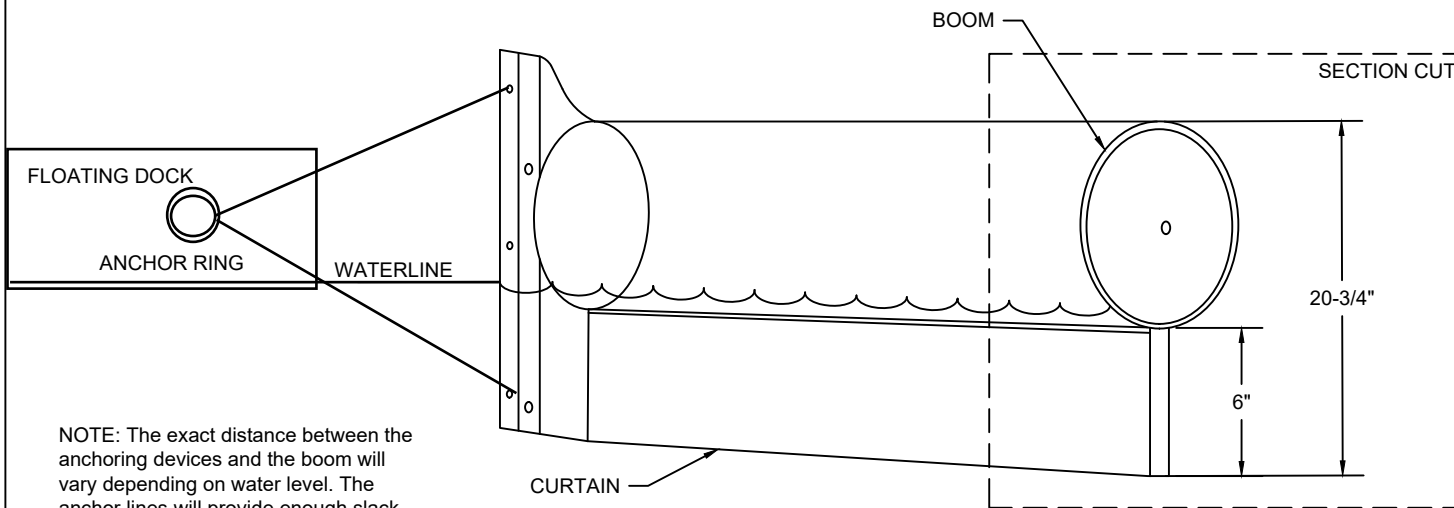
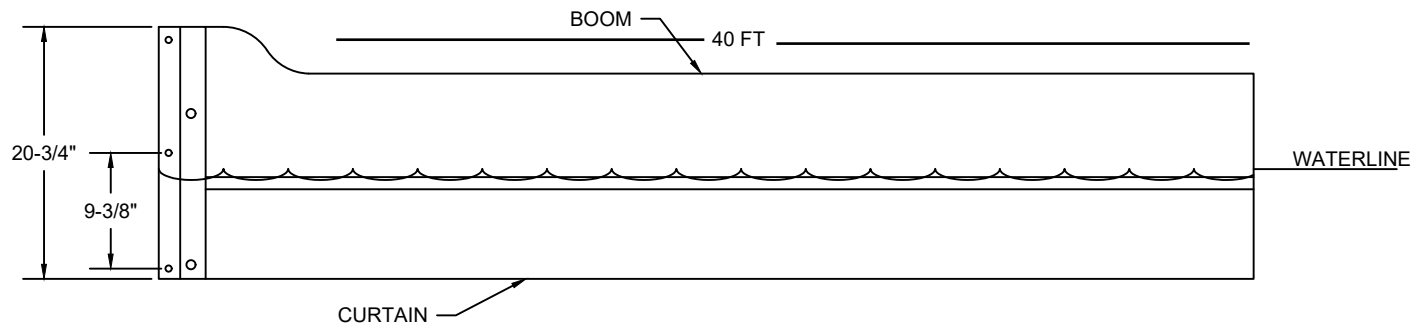


- METAL ANCHOR RING - One Stainless Steel Ring
- METAL ANCHOR POSTS - Three 6ft Steel Posts
- ↑ WATER DIRECTION FOR LITTER CAPTURE

## CHICAGO LITTER BOOM PLAN VIEW OF CREEK

OSPREY INITIATIVE, LLC  
DRAWN BY: A. BOBINGER, 11-11-24





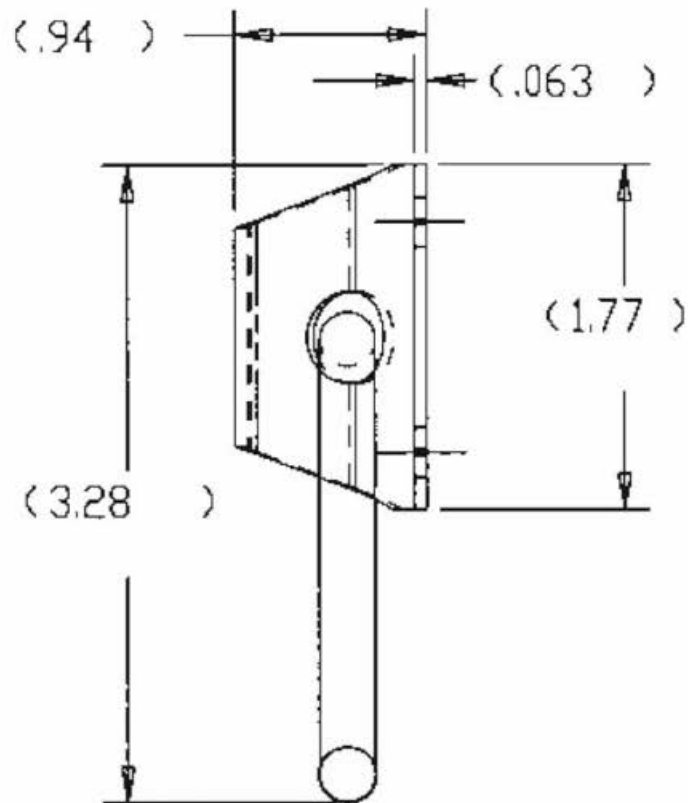
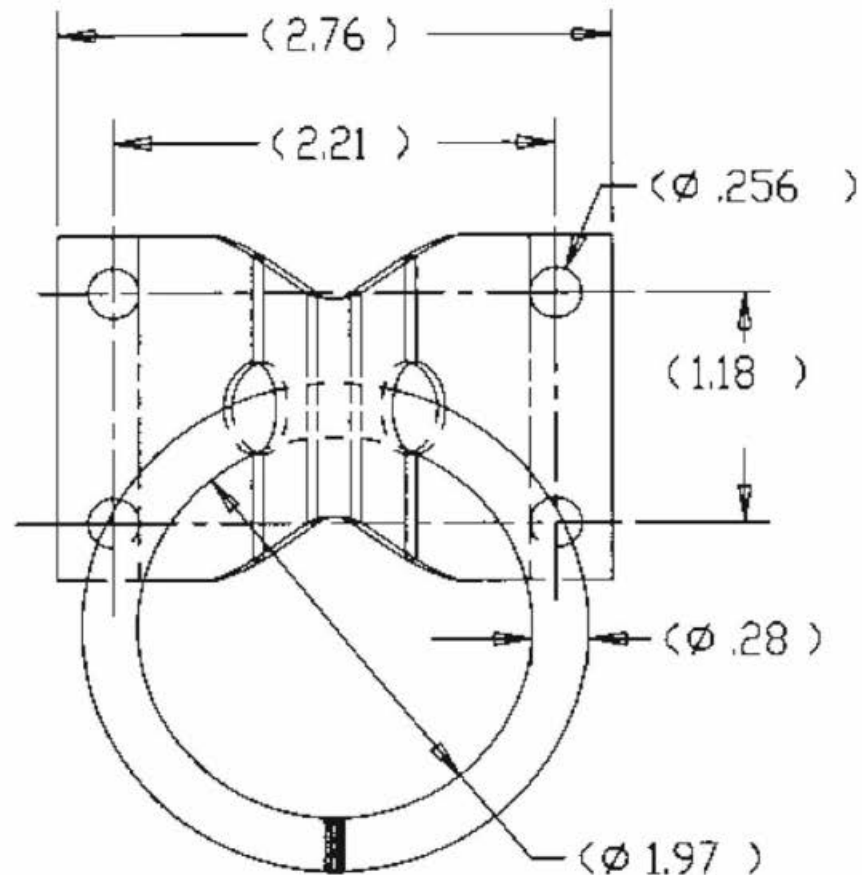
NOTE: The exact distance between the anchoring devices and the boom will vary depending on water level. The anchor lines will provide enough slack for the boom to rise and fall with the water level.

## CHICAGO LITTER BOOM BOOM DETAILS

OSPREY INITIATIVE, LLC  
DRAWN BY: A. BOBINGER, 11-11-24

# DOCK SIDE ANCHOR RING SPECIFICATIONS

Measurements in Inches





PARK 571 Anchor Post Locations Shown In Red



Example of Post Anchors

For the on-land anchoring point, we will use a series of three posts that are standard metal fence posts, 6ft tall total, and buried 2-3ft. The location for the posts is noted in red in the left photo above.

They are not set into concrete and are therefore easy to remove and leave no lasting impact. The posts are capped with PVC covers (as shown in the above right photo as an example). This keeps anyone from accidentally getting hurt on them and makes them more visually appealing. The boom is tied to the posts by a heavy-duty rope line.

# OSPREY LITTER BOOM

## Detailed Specifications

**General:** Osprey Litter Boom is specifically designed for long-term installations to contain and collect floating litter and debris in freshwater or saltwater environments. Components are selected, and the design is engineered to surpass the capabilities of common floating barriers, such as oil containment booms. Features a smooth exterior profile with no seals between floats that could trap floating litter and prevent laminar flow into collection areas or Litter Gitters.

### Characteristics:

Overall Height:	12 inches (30.5 cms)
Freeboard:	6 inches (15.25 cms)
Draft (Skirt):	6 inches (15.25 cms)
Weight:	2.1 Lbs./Linear Foot (3.1 Kgs./Meter)
Section Length:	5 to 100 feet (to suit application)
Markings:	Reflective Stickers, 9" x 3" above waterline

### Section Connectors:

ASTM Universal Slide Connectors – 6061-T6 Aluminum Alloy  
Stainless Steel hardware and toggle pin for securing connector, tool-free  
Each end connector equipped with Stainless Steel Folding D-ring anchor points

### Flotation: Closed cell polyethylene foam

Shape: Cylindrical  
Dimensions: 6-inch diameter x 72-inch long (standard)  
Custom lengths to suit special section lengths  
Secured internally with a mesh sleeve. Separated to allow folding for shipment and storage.

### Boom Material:

Seaman XR-5 Style 6730 Coated polyester fabric  
Coating: Elvaloy based compound/PVC  
Weight: 30 oz./yd<sup>2</sup>  
Thickness: 30 Mil  
Tensile Strength: 600 Lbs./inch  
Tear: 70 Lbs.  
Low Temperature: - 30°F  
UV Resistance: Excellent – 10 year pro-rated warranty  
Repairability: Heat Sealing

### Tension Members:

Upper tension: 5/16" synthetic paralay cable (corrosion proof) installed inside flotation chamber  
Lower Tension/Ballast: 5/16" HDG chain sealed into a fabric pocket in skirt bottom  
Both tension member secured to end connectors for continuous tension  
Total Tensile Strength of Litter Boom Assembly: 35,000 Lbs. (Combined chain, cable, and fabric)

### Packaging: Tri-wall cartons on pallets (for commercial freight) or geotextile wraps (for local deliveries)

*Litter Boom is manufactured exclusively for Osprey Initiative, LLC by Oil Stop Division of American Pollution Control Corp.*

November 06, 2024

Sophia Morgan

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District

231 S La Salle St UNIT 1500, Chicago, IL 60604

RE: Shedd Aquarium's Litter Boom Project at Park 571

Dear Ms. Morgan,

I am writing to confirm that the Chicago Park District acknowledges and supports Shedd Aquarium's interest in installing a litter boom at Park 571 to collect and remove trash from the Chicago River. We have discussed the project with the Shedd team and agreed upon the selected location for the litter boom to be installed on the northeast side of the boat dock.

Once a permit from USACE is secured, Shedd Aquarium will need to secure an access permit from the Chicago Park District that states Shedd's responsibility to the installation, maintenance, and clean-up of the boom and is inclusive of the Non-CPD agencies approvals.

Please reach out to Claire Roggeveen & Melody Mitchell with additional questions about this project.

Sincerely,

Claire Roggeveen

Center Director I Park 571

[REDACTED]

Melody Mitchell

Area 5 Central Region Area Manager

[REDACTED]



# Electronic Record of Contracts

This document was generated as a record of certain contracts created, accepted and stored electronically.



## Summary of Contracts

This document contains the following contracts.

Title	ID
Agreement between United States Army Corps of Engineers and Shedd Aquarium	2a4d61f1-6593-484a-938c-0b8a2a0c6971

## Contract signed by:

Gary Gordon		Signer ID:	1115a44b-50d4-41ce-85c1-7bae0b06a201
		Email:	ggordon@sheddaquarium.org
Date / Time:	May 22, 2025 at 3:05 PM EDT		
IP Address:	162.220.195.196		
User Agent:	Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/136.0.0.0 Safari/537.36		