

PUBLIC NOTICE



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Kansas City District

Issue Date: March 1, 2007

MISSOURI STREAM MITIGATION METHOD

**This notice is for information only
and no comments are requested.**

Joint Public Notice: This public notice is issued jointly with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

Project Information. Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S. Code 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S. Code 1344), notice is hereby given that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Districts in the State of Missouri have modified their Compensatory Mitigation and Monitoring Guidelines (Guidelines) that apply to all permits requiring compensatory mitigation within the State of Missouri. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has also modified the State of Missouri Aquatic Resources Mitigation Guidelines. The applicant must provide the appropriate information for each project, prior to approval of a compensatory mitigation proposal, as outlined in the Guidelines.

The Guidelines have been modified to include the *Missouri Stream Mitigation Method* compensatory mitigation assessment for streams. The compensatory mitigation assessment method has been developed to support the National Wetlands Mitigation Action Plan (MAP), and to support the improved compensatory mitigation for unavoidable losses of aquatic resources associated with the issuance of Department of the Army Permits. The MAP is an interagency plan dedicated to developing actions to improve compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts to aquatic resources, including streams, and furthering the goal of "No Net Loss" of wetlands.

A Project Delivery Team (PDT), comprised of representatives from federal and state agencies as well as the Kansas City, Little Rock, Memphis, Rock Island, and St. Louis Districts of the Corps, was organized in order to consider and evaluate the effect of implementing a stream mitigation assessment method in the State of Missouri. Agency comments included the need for a mitigation assessment method to adequately address compensatory mitigation for stream impacts and the need for a consistent standard to be used in all Corps Districts in the State of Missouri. Numerous meetings of the PDT were held to consider comments resulting from the proposed assessment method.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers', Kansas City District, Little Rock District, Memphis District, Rock Island District, and St. Louis District, as well as the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, has adopted the *Missouri Stream Mitigation Method* as the standard tool for calculating compensatory mitigation requirements for stream channel impacts. When evaluating compensatory mitigation proposals, each corps district will consider regional differences when applying the *Missouri Stream Mitigation Method*. The corps districts in Missouri have agreed to use flexibility in adapting this method to account for specific environmental functions.

The *Missouri Stream Mitigation Method* is subject to periodic review and modification with the development of improved functional assessment methods and technology improvements. The *Missouri Stream Mitigation Method* can be accessed on-line at each corps district's website: The Kansas City District Regulatory website is: <http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/regulatory/regulatory.htm>. The *Missouri Stream Mitigation Method* for compensatory mitigation becomes effective 30 days from the date of this Public Notice.

REQUEST TO POSTMASTERS: It is requested that this notice be conspicuously placed through March 31, 2007.