

Appendix K:

# **Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
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Regional Planning and Environment Division North  
Environmental and GIS Branch

**DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, has assessed the environmental impacts of the following project:

**LOWER POOL 2 CHANNEL MANAGEMENT STUDY:  
BOULANGER BEND TO LOCK AND DAM NUMBER 2**

The purpose of the project is to improve navigability and reduce channel maintenance requirements in this segment of the Mississippi River. The project area is located in lower Pool 2 between river miles 818.0 and 821.0. The site lies within the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area near Cottage Grove, MN. The recommended plan is to excavate/maintain a wider channel that is still within authorized dimensions and place two new training structures (rock sills) one on the right descending bank from River Mile 819.5 to 819.8 and one on the left descending bank from River Mile 818.4 to 818.9. The proposed project features are fully described in Chapter 5.6.1 of the Letter Report and Environmental Assessment. Descriptions of the alternatives considered during project planning are described in Chapter 4.

This Finding of No Significant Impact is based on the following factors, as discussed in the environmental assessment: the project would have temporary minor adverse impacts on noise levels, air quality, biological productivity, and surface water quality, and would have additional minor adverse impacts on aesthetic values, public safety, and aquatic habitat; substantial beneficial effects on commercial navigation; and minor beneficial effects on public safety.

Our environmental review indicates that the proposed actions do not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

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Date

Samuel L. Calkins  
Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Commander