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NEWS RELEASE

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Last week to comment on Army Corps of Engineers Aquatic Nuisance Species Controls Paper

CHICAGO - Feb. 17 is the last day for public comment on the "Inventory of Available Controls for Aquatic Nuisance Species of Concern – Chicago Area Waterway System," an Interim Product of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS), released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Dec. 21.

This paper identifies available options or technologies that may be effective at preventing the transfer of the 39 ANS of Concern through the aquatic pathways in the Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS), as well as other potential aquatic pathways. The specific ANS of Concern were identified in a previous report, which is available on the GLMRIS website.

"It is in our best interest as a collaborative group to make sure we have all potential controls identified in order to make the best recommendation for a control or suite of controls to prevent the transfer of aquatic nuisance species," said GLMRIS CAWS Project Manager Dave Wethington.

USACE is asking interested members of the public to review the list of potential controls contained in the paper and identify any additional potential controls that were not included in the paper. Comments may be submitted electronically through the GLMRIS website at www.glmris.anl.gov or mailed to GLMRIS ANS Control Comments, 111 N. Canal, Suite 600, Chicago, IL 60606. Comments must be postmarked by Feb. 17, 2012.

USACE will review and incorporate public input before finalizing and re-issuing the paper in spring 2012. The final paper will be used to help develop screening criteria and refine the list of ANS Controls to determine which warrant further consideration.

The paper is posted, along with ANS Control Fact Sheets, on the new ANS Controls Page on the GLMRIS website at www.glmris.anl.gov.

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