



## Location

Brandon Road Lock and Dam, Joliet, Illinois,  
Des Plaines River

## State(s)

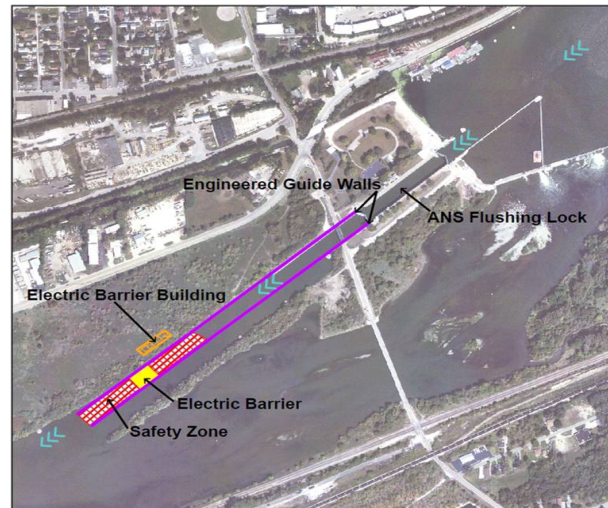
IL,WI

## Congressional District(s)

IL-11, IL-3

## Status

The Brandon Road Study was initiated in September 2014. Public Scoping Meetings were held, and a public comment period was completed in January 2015. A waiver request to exceed a study cost limit of \$3M and schedule of 3 years was approved on April 6, 2015. The estimated cost of the Brandon Road Study is \$8.2 million, not including the study scoping and coordination prior to April 6, 2015. The study is estimated to be completed by January 2019. The Brandon Road control point was identified in the GLMRIS Study as the only location that can address upstream transfer of Mississippi River species through all Chicago Area Waterway System pathways. Implementation of technologies at the Brandon Road control point was a feature of three out of six structural alternatives presented in the GLMRIS Study. The alternatives presented in the GLMRIS Study were described at a conceptual level of design. Further technical analyses and evaluation of possible control measures are necessary to determine whether there is a viable, efficient, and justifiable solution. The detailed scope of work for study efforts at the Brandon Road site includes a multi-agency study team, additional technical analysis and synthesis, policy evaluation, NEPA analysis, site-specific detailed engineering analyses, interagency coordination, and public comment, which must be accomplished prior to making an agency recommendation.



## Description

**Issues** The Corps of Engineers is evaluating potential control options and technologies at Brandon Road Lock & Dam to prevent the upstream Interbasin transfer of aquatic nuisance species (ANS) while minimizing impacts to Illinois Waterway uses and users and identify a recommended plan. If the recommended plan includes constructing a project, Congressional authorization would be required to move forward with construction.

**Background** The initial study to develop a range of options and technologies to prevent the spread of ANS, the *Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study* (GLMRIS), was completed in January 2014. The completed GLMRIS Study presented eight alternatives to control the transfer of a variety of ANS, each with a general location, conceptual design elements, estimated implementation time, and cost information, with a total 2014 estimated implementation cost ranging from \$7.8 billion to \$18.3 billion. In May 2014, the Assistant Secretary of Army for Civil Works [ASA (CW)] requested the Corps conduct an evaluation of additional study efforts that could be pursued based on the findings of the GLMRIS Study and



in response to stakeholder input. In August 2014, the Corps submitted a Decision Memorandum to the ASA (CW) requesting permission to proceed with a formal evaluation of potential control technologies near the Brandon Road Lock & Dam. On September 29, 2014, the ASA (CW) directed the Corps to proceed with the planning efforts as outlined in the August 2014 Decision Memorandum.

### **Additional Project Information**

#### **Recent & Scheduled Activities**

<i>DCG-CEO Memo to ASA(CW) requesting approval for BRLD evaluation</i>	29-Aug-2014
<i>ASA(CW) approval guidance</i>	29-Sep-2014
<i>NEPA Scoping for BRLD, three public meetings</i>	31-Dec-2014
<i>Public Comment Period Closed</i>	31-Jan-2015
<i>Briefing to DCG-CEO on 3x3x3 Exemption</i>	31-Mar-2015
<i>DCG-CEO Approval of 3x3x3 Exemption</i>	6-Apr-2015
<i>Alternatives Milestone</i>	30-Jun-2015
<i>Tentatively Selected Plan Milestone</i>	31-Jan-2017
<i>Conduct ATR, IEPR, Policy Review, &amp; NEPA Review</i>	31-May-2017
<i>Agency Decision Milestone</i>	30-Nov-2017
<i>Civil Works Review Board Milestone</i>	31-Jul-2018
<i>Chief's Report Milestone</i>	31-Jan-2019

### **Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)**

**FY 2016:** Continue development of a Tentatively Selected Plan

### **Major Work Item (Next Fiscal Year)**

**FY 2017:** Complete development of a Tentatively Selected Plan, initiate the Agency Decision Milestone Phase initiating Public, NEPA, ATR, IEPR, and Policy reviews

### **Authority Details**

Section 3061(d) of the WRDA 2007, PL 110-114, as amended by Section 1538 of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, PL 112-141

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