

# BRANDON ROAD INTERBASIN PROJECT (BRIP)

## Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species Meeting

Briefers: Scott Whitney, USACE  
John Rogner, ILDNR

Date: 14 Nov 2023



U.S. ARMY



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®



# BRANDON ROAD INTERBASIN PROJECT

WEBSITE: <https://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental-Stewardship/BR-Interbasin-Project/>



**PROJECT GOAL:** Ecosystem Restoration Project to prevent movement of Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) to the greatest extent possible from Illinois Waterway (IWW) to Great Lakes, while minimizing impact to Navigation.

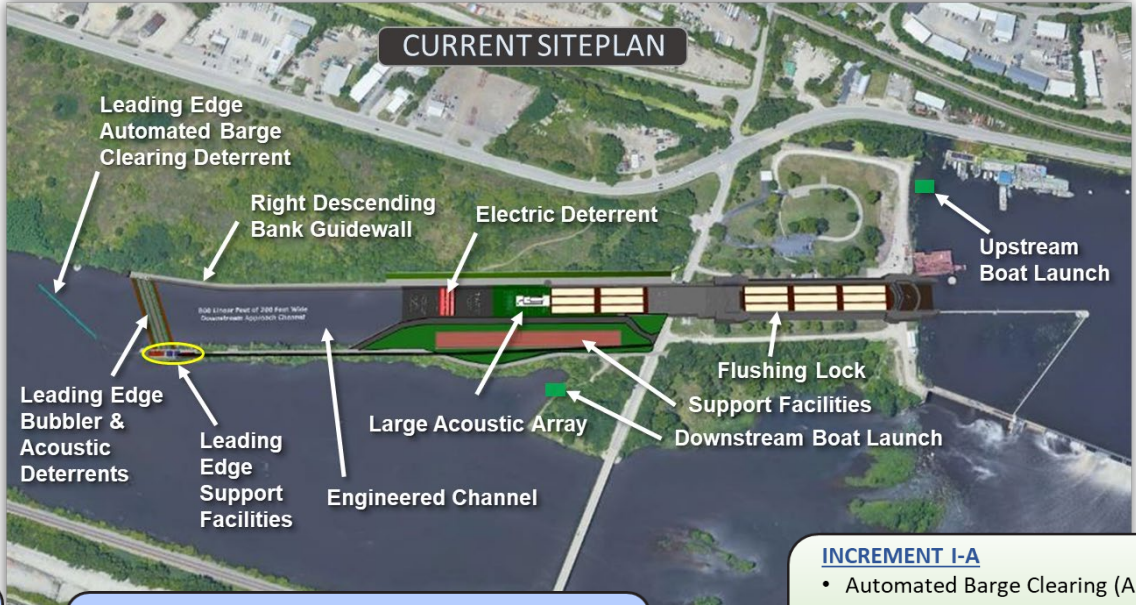
**PROJECT SCOPE:** Implement and execute innovative series of deterrents that together minimize risk of ANS movement.

**NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR:** State of Illinois (State of MI with separate funding agreement between IL & MI)

- FY23 Scheduled Activities:**
- PPA Negotiations
  - Complete all remaining ERDC R&D efforts
  - Complete Certified Cost Estimate: 10 MAR
  - Increment I-A Design 95%: 23 JUN
  - Increment 1-A Design 100%: 30 SEP
  - Initiate Scoping for I-B and II contracts

- FY24 Planned Activities**
- PPA Executed
  - Fabrication Contract (Speakers)
  - Construction Contract Increment I-A
  - Complete Designs of Increment I-B
  - Initiate Construction of Increments I-A
  - Initiate Design of Increment II

- FY25 Planned Activities:**
- Continuation of Increment I-A Construction
  - Continuation of Design of Increment II
  - Construction Contract for Increment I-B
  - Initiate Fabrication of New Lock Gates
  - Initiate Const. of Flushing Lock (Phase 1 of 3)



- INCREMENT I-A**
- Automated Barge Clearing (ABC) Deterrent
  - Leading Edge Bubble Deterrent
  - Leading Edge Acoustic Deterrent Array
  - Leading Edge Support Facilities
  - Upstream Boat Launch
- INCREMENT I-B**
- Site Prep
  - Channel Rock Excavation

- INCREMENT II**
- Electric Deterrent
  - Wide Acoustic Deterrent Array
  - Complete Control Building
  - RDB Wall Connect to Lower Guidewall
  - Flushing Lock
  - Downstream Boat Launch

- INCREMENT III**
- Finish Engineered Channel

**KEY EVENT TIMELINE:**

- DEC 2020 Design Agreement Signed for \$28.84M Preconstruction Engineering and Design (PED) 65% Fed/35% NonFed
- JAN 2022 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) provides Const. New Start Authorization and \$225,838,000 CG Appropriation
- DEC 2022 WRDA (Section 8337) provides cost share change to 90% Federal/10% Non-Federal for Construction
- JAN 2023 \$48.8M additional Federal CG funds appropriated
- FEB 2023 MI Governor Whitmer budget request for \$64M and IL Governor Pritzker budget request for \$50M
- MAR 2023 New Total Project Certified Cost \$1,146,093,000 with 52% contingency
- JUN 2023 IL and MI Legislatures passed State budgets that included \$114M for BRIP Construction Cost Share
- ?? PPA Execution

**Project Partnership Agreement (PPA)**



# BRANDON ROAD INTERBASIN PROJECT

## PPA EXECUTION



- **16DEC2022:** HQUSACE Delivered BRIP PPA
- **JAN-JUN-OCT:** three increments of Sponsors' Accelerated funding, totalling \$2.9M, has supported continued BRIP Design for past year.
- **08JUN2023** PPA Negotiation session held in Springfield – USACE, MIDNR, ILDNR with several Congressional offices observing.
- **AUG2023:** Senator Durbin reached out to Midwest Gen and State of Illinois to encourage BRIP Real Estate requirement negotiations.
- **AUG-NOV2023:** ILDNR and Midwest Gen negotiating RE agreement, formal offer has still not been extended nor agreement in principle reached.
- **NOV2023:** Governor Witmer request meeting with Governor Pritzker to discuss delayed PPA.
- **DEC2023:** Will PPA Be executed??



# BRANDON ROAD INTERBASIN PROJECT

## RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION



**11JUL2023**  
Great Lakes and  
St. Lawrence  
Cities Initiative

- The State of Illinois and USACE should expeditiously **sign the PPA** for the construction of the Brandon Road Interbasin Project while actively exploring all possible arrangements to avoid disruption in federally-supported efforts to prevent invasive carp from entering the Great Lakes.
- The State of Illinois and the State of Michigan should continue to **inform other Great Lakes states** and local elected officials about the status of the Brandon Road Interbasin Project and how they may support all efforts to protect the Great Lakes from invasive carp.

**09SEP2023**  
Great Lakes and  
St. Lawrence  
Legislative  
Caucus

- That the State of Illinois and USACE should **sign the PPA** for the construction of the Brandon Road Interbasin Project, while actively exploring all possible arrangements to avoid disruption in federally-supported efforts to prevent invasive carp from entering the Great Lakes
- That the members of the GLLC agree to **work within their respective Great Lakes states and provinces** to educate colleagues about the status of the Brandon Road Interbasin project and the importance of continued support of federal and state action; and further be it

**05OCT2023**  
Great Lakes  
Commission

- That the Great Lakes Commission (GLC) urges the U.S. Congress to **reform USACE PPA** requirements in WRDA 2024, including:
  - ✓ Limiting the obligation of the nonfederal sponsor for project OMRR&R responsibilities to not exceed either (a) the defined project life, or (b) 50 years from the date on which the project is completed, whichever is longer; and
  - ✓ Requiring the nonfederal sponsor to only indemnify, save, and hold the federal government harmless at the same percentage as the nonfederal sponsor's share of construction costs, which would create a more balanced approach to liability; and
  - ✓ Enabling the nonfederal sponsor to be granted cost share credit for the value of required project materials and services contributed a third party on behalf of the nonfederal sponsor; and
  - ✓ Amending references to federal specific permitting requirements to include "all applicable permits."



# BRANDON ROAD INTERBASIN PROJECT

## RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION



13OCT2023  
Council of  
Great Lakes  
Governors

- The Governors of the Great Lakes States call on the U.S. Congress to provide full federal funding by **increasing the federal cost share to 100%** in the 2024 Water Resources Reform and Development Act for the costs of the Brandon Road Lock and Dam project.
- This project is intended to prevent invasive carp from invading the Great Lakes, which could **devastate its ecosystem and severely impact our economy.**
- The Brandon Road Lock and Dam is a **critically important piece of regional and national infrastructure.**

Sincerely,

Tony Evers  
Chair, Council of Great Lakes Governors  
Governor of Wisconsin

Mike DeWine  
Vice-Chair, Council of Great Lakes Governors  
Governor of Ohio

Kathy Hochul  
Governor of New York

Eric Holcomb  
Governor of Indiana

JB Pritzker  
Governor of Illinois

Josh Shapiro  
Governor of Pennsylvania

Tim Walz  
Governor of Minnesota

Gretchen Whitmer  
Governor of Michigan



# BRANDON ROAD INTERBASIN PROJECT

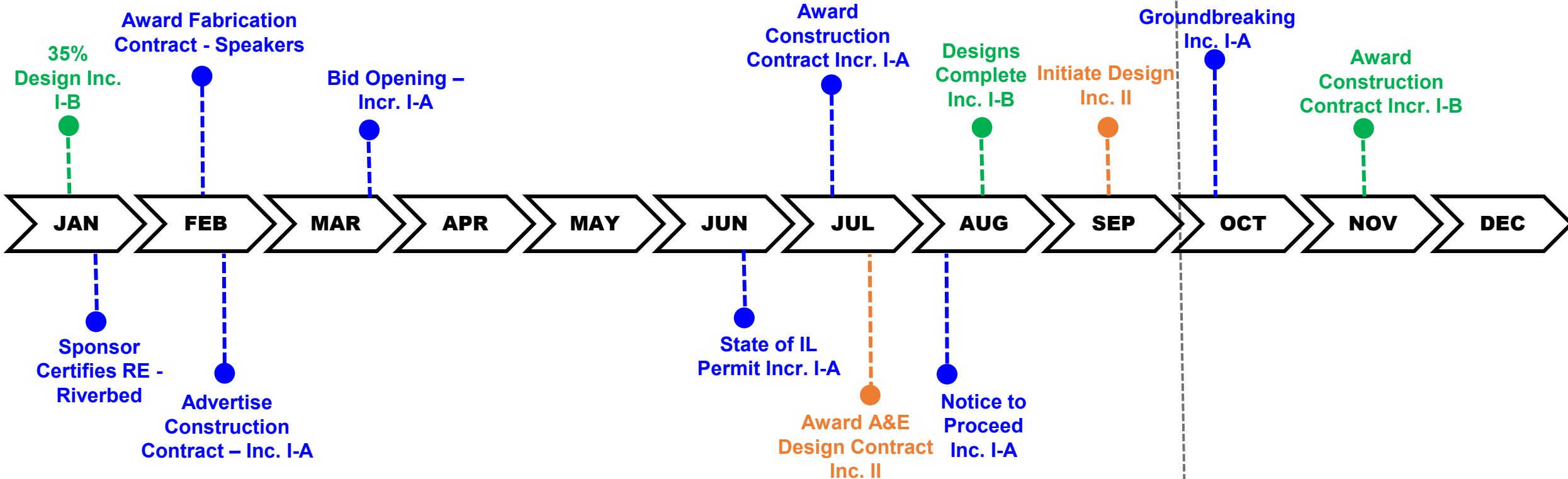
## 2024 CONSTRUCTION START TIMELINE

*Subject to PPA being signed by Dec2023*

**Activity Key**  
**INCREMENT I-A**  
**INCREMENT I-B**  
**INCREMENT II**

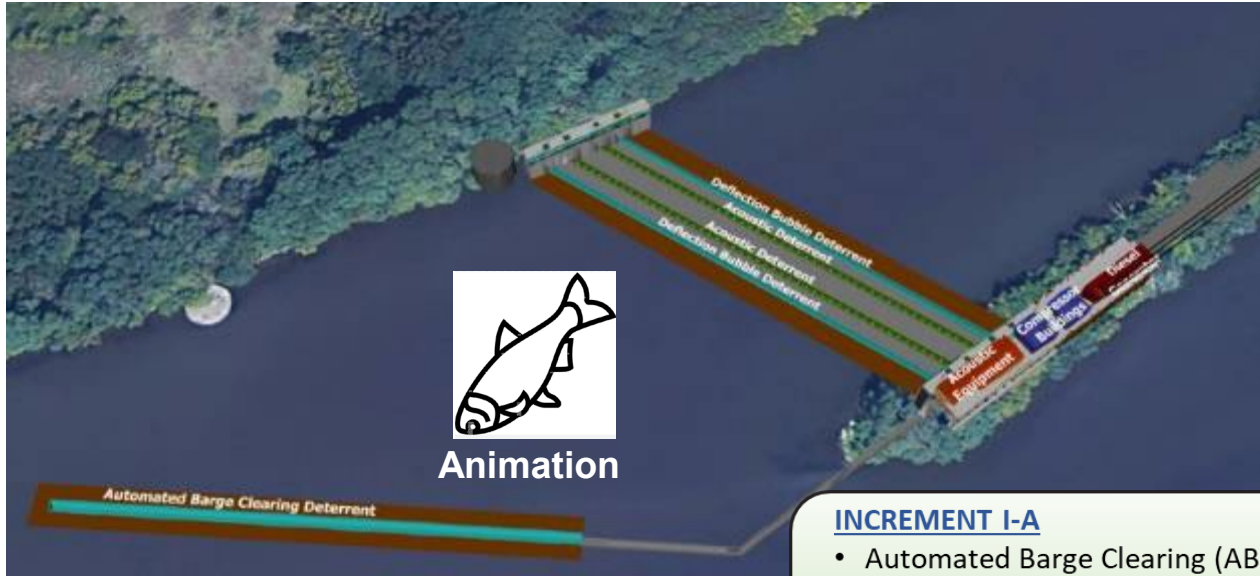
FY2024

FY2025





# BRANDON ROAD INTERBASIN PROJECT



## INCREMENT I-A: Leading Edge Deterrents

- Field and Laboratory Testing complete
  - 95% Design completed 23JUN23
  - 300+ ATR/DQC comments received 4Aug23
  - 100% Design by 30SEP23
  - RE Certify (1/26/24) and Fed/State Permits
  - Cost: >\$100M
  - Const. Contract award by July 2024
  - Installation Strategies (in the wet)
- Nav Width Restriction only
- 3.5-yr Const. and Commissioning Schedule

### INCREMENT I-A

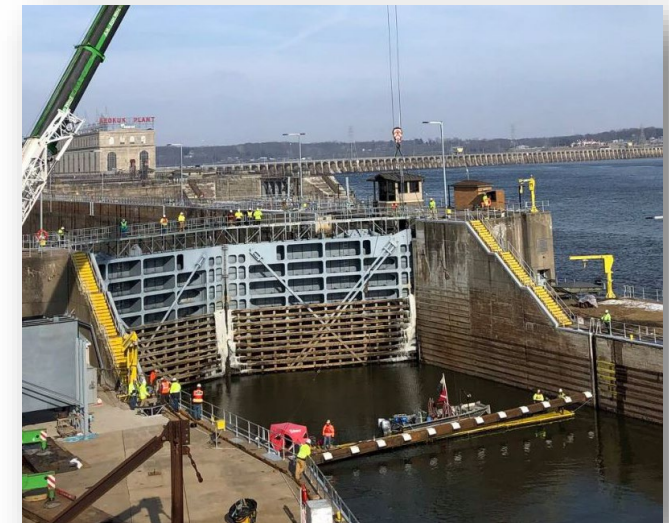
- Automated Barge Clearing (ABC) Deterrent
- Leading Edge Bubble Deterrent
- Leading Edge Acoustic Deterrent Array
- Leading Edge Support Facilities
- Upstream Boat Launch



ABC Deterrent Bubbler Peoria Lock Approach Test



Deflection Bubble Deterrent ERDC Test



HydroAcoustic Testing LD19



# BRANDON ROAD INTERBASIN PROJECT

## INCREMENT I-B: Bedrock Removal

### GRINDING

- Scoping & Market Research
- Means and Methods
- 45,000 CY of overburden
- 80,000 CY of bedrock
- In the Dry or Wet?
- Nav Restrictions/Closures?



### RIPPING



### BLASTING







# BRANDON ROAD INTERBASIN PROJECT

## 5-6 Dec Industry Day and Open House



WELCOME TO THE FUTURE HOME OF THE  
**BRANDON ROAD INTERBASIN PROJECT**



### The PROJECT

The Brandon Road Interbasin Project is a complex ecosystem protection effort designed to prevent upstream movement of invasive carp and other aquatic nuisance species into the Great Lakes from the Illinois Waterway.

### The PLAN

Construction is anticipated to begin in Summer 2024 with the first of three increments. It will require 6-8 years to have all increments operational.

**Increment I:** (A) Automated Barge Clearing Deterrent, Leading Edge Bubble Deterrent, Leading Edge Acoustic Deterrent Array, Leading Edge Support Facilities, and Upstream Boat Launch (B) Site Prep, Channel Rock Excavation

**Increment II:** Electric Deterrent, Wide Acoustic Deterrent Array, Complete Control Building, Right Descending Bank Wall Connect to Lower Guidewall, Flushing Lock, Downstream Boat Launch

**Increment III:** Complete Engineered Channel

Non-structural measures, implemented in conjunction with other federal agencies, could include public education and outreach, monitoring, integrated pest management, manual or mechanical removal, and research and development.



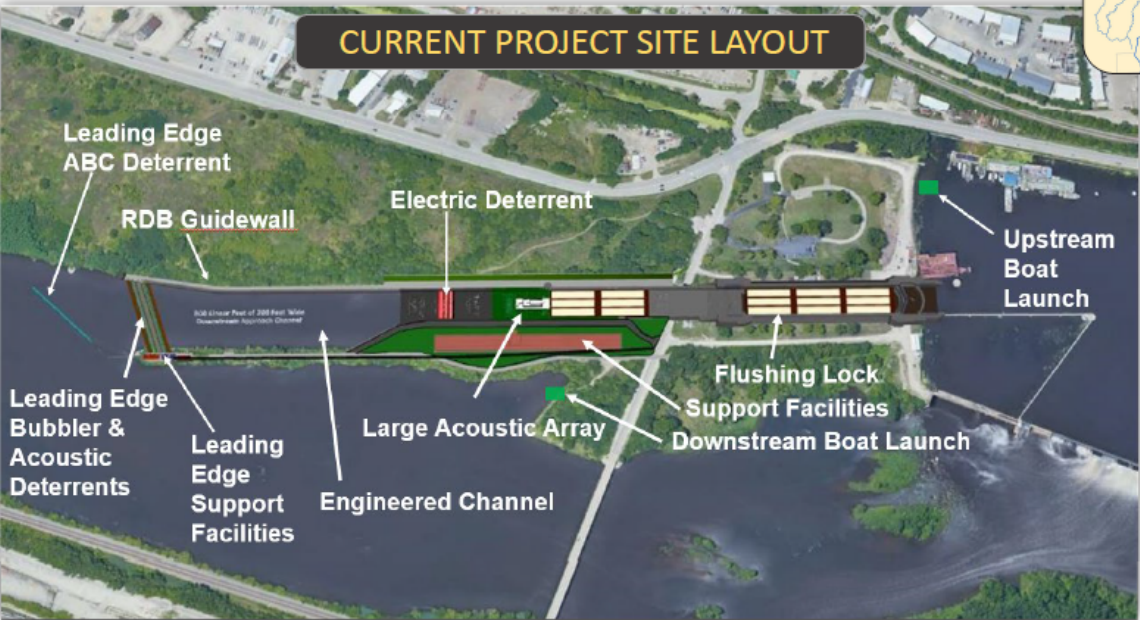
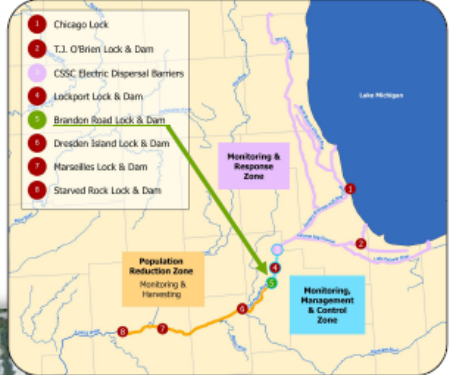
### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The public is invited to attend an open house event  
**December 5 from 4-7 p.m. at the Clarion Hotel and Posh Banquet & Event Center in Joliet, Illinois**  
to learn more about the project and provide feedback on design and construction.



For those unable to join us for the open house, please visit the website listed below or scan the QR code in the upper right to learn more about the project and submit feedback online.

[www.mvr.usace.army.mil/BRIP/](http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/BRIP/)



### CURRENT PROJECT SITE LAYOUT

### STRUCTURAL PLAN FEATURES

**Engineered Channel:** Creates a concrete channel without fish habitat. Increases the effectiveness and reduces the impacts of some measures and is a platform for future technologies.

**Electric Deterrent:** Creates an electric field that deters fish.

**Automated Barge Clearing (ABC) Deterrent:** Bubble curtain removes small and stunned fish entrained in spaces between barges.

**Acoustic Deterrents:** Underwater sounds to deter fish.

**Bubbler Deterrent:** Bubble curtain that deters fish.

**Support Facilities:** Infrastructure to support operations and maintenance of controls.

**Boat Launches (non-public):** Provides access for nonstructural measures, safety and future operations and maintenance needs.



# BRANDON ROAD INTERBASIN PROJECT

## 5-6 Dec Industry Day and Open House



**WHAT:** An opportunity for contractors, Architectural Engineering Firms, Navigation Industry representatives, and the Public to review and discuss the detailed designs and construction strategies for Brandon Road Interbasin Project (BRIP).

**Industry Day** (Dec 5<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-3:00pm) portion of the day will focus primarily on the complexities, scope, and schedule for the first increments of BRIP construction (2024-26). This construction activity will include Increment I-A (leading edge deterrents) and Increment I-B (site preparation and approach channel bedrock removal), both construction contracts are planned to be solicited for award in 2024. We will also share the latest scoping information and schedule for the A&E Service Design Contract for the greater project that is anticipated to be awarded by summer 2024.

The **Public Open House** (4:00-5:30 and 5:30-7:00pm) portion will be conducted in two redundant sessions. The public open house will provide a short overview presentation followed by opportunity for public comment and four interactive workstations to engage directly with study team members about the project and considerations for access and use of the area during and after project construction.

A **Site Tour** (Dec 6<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-noon) will also be offered on the following morning, December 6<sup>th</sup>, at the BRIP site from 9:30-12:00am for both Industry and Public attendees. Any questions, concerns, or suggestions brought forward by attendees are encouraged and will be addressed by the BRIP Partnership representatives.

**WHERE :** Clarion Hotel & Convention Center Joliet, 411 S. Larkin Avenue, Building A, Joliet, IL, 60436.

**Virtual Option:** <https://usace1.webex.com/meet/BROpenHouse>, Dial: 1-844-800-2712 Enter Meeting Number: 199 338 6849, When asked to enter an attendee ID, enter #. Please enter your first and last name.