

RECOMMENDATION 2-2022

To: Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission
From: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Subject: Sediment removal at Kankakee Fish and Wildlife Area (FWA) spillway
Date: February 24, 2022

DESCRIPTION: Adjustments to the physical configuration of the physical configuration of the Kankakee FWA is part of the Commission's forty-year work plan. The long-term recommendation is for physical structures to allow for an optimal relationship between the discharges of the two rivers.

An ongoing concern is that the physical assets of the FWA serve to prematurely divert the Yellow River to the Kankakee River. This dynamic often occurs while the Kankakee River is at flood stage and the Yellow River is not.

LOCATION: Kankakee FWA along the Yellow River side of 10-Mile Road in Starke County

ISSUES: Among many other possible tasks, a significant amount of sediment has accumulated in front of the drive-through spillway at the FWA on the Yellow River. Because it has raised the channel bottom in next to the water control structure, water is entering from the Yellow River more quickly than was intended by the structure's design.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee recommends that the Director seek approval from the appropriate regulatory agencies for the removal of that sediment. Contingent on regulatory authorization, available funding, and a suitable location for placement of excavated material, the Committee further recommends that the Commission authorize the project.

ADOPTED BY COMMITTEE 2/24/2022

ADOPTED BY COMMISSION 3/31/2022