

## RECOMMENDATION 6-2022

To: Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission  
From: Technical Advisory Committee  
Subject: Yellow River Logjam Management  
Date: February 22, 2022

---

**DESCRIPTION:** The natural flow of the Kankakee and Yellow Rivers is frequently impeded by logjams and fallen trees, particularly as they collect at natural and structural barriers. These tree and logjams complicate flood and erosion management, and can present tangible human safety hazards. Removal of logjams and debris is a frequent activity of the Commission, and an ongoing task expected in every year of the Commission's forty-year work plan.

The Commission received a 10-Year permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct logjam management activities along the Kankakee River, which is a navigable waterway under their guidelines. Logjam management activities on the Yellow River are distinct, and must adhere to any regulations applicable to that waterway.

**LOCATION:** Yellow River

**ISSUE:** The Commission sets logjam management priorities in consideration of available resources. In 2019, the LaPorte and Starke County Surveyors solicited bids for three sections along the Yellow River to conduct fallen and severely leaning tree removal. However, given the respective lengths of the three sections, subdivision of the sections into smaller project areas would 1) improve the long-term feasibility of the overall initiative and 2) allow work to manageably progress. To meet the annual recommendations of the work plan, the Commission might consider resoliciting bids or dividing the project locations to better fit within its annual budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Committee recommends that the Commission subdivide logjam management activities through Sections A, B, and C on the Yellow River into smaller project areas, with the stretch from English Lake upstream to IN-39 at the Kankakee Fish and Wildlife Area being the initial priority. This recommendation from the Committee is intended to ensure that work progresses in an orderly manner, and that work not face interruption because of the current dollar amounts attached to each section as currently defined.

**ADOPTED BY COMMITTEE 2/24/2022**

**ADOPTED BY COMMISSION 3/31/2022**