

**RECOMMENDATION 1-2024**

To: Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission  
From: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
Subject: Emergent islands downstream of Knox on Yellow River  
Date: April 26, 2024

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**DESCRIPTION:** Since the straightening of the Yellow River downstream of Knox prior to World War I, several small islands emerged and took hold between Range Road in Starke County and the river’s confluence with the Kankakee.

**LOCATION:** One emergent island lies between Range Road and CR 100 West in Starke County. Three others between IN-49 and the Yellow River’s confluence with the Kankakee River at the Kankakee Fish and Wildlife Area (FWA).

**ISSUE:** The islands, which post-date the modification of the Yellow River, constitute drainage obstructions. In addition to inhibiting the flow of water, they also attract secondary obstructions such as logjams. Such obstacles can also exacerbate erosion and hasten the deposit of other sediment at undesirable locations.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Committee recommends to the Commission that it pursue the removal of four (4) emergent island on the Yellow River between Range Road in Starke County and the channel’s confluence with the Kankakee River. It further urges that the emergent island removal immediately downstream of Range Road serve as a pilot project to precede the removal of three (3) FWA islands in upstream to downstream order.

**APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 4/26/2024.**

**ADOPTED BY COMMISSION 6/28/2024.**

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**Craig D. Cultice, Secretary**