

## PUBLIC COMMENT: KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

November 24, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I also request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- **Dredging endangers water quality.** It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- **Dredging increases pollution.** It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the

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2011 NOV 29 PM 2:11

holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.

•**Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.

•**Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.

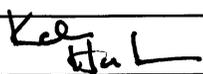
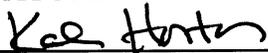
•**Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel,** and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Ann C. McCoy  


CONVERSATION RECORD		TIME: 1528	DATE: 12-2-11
TYPE ( ) VISIT ( ) CONFERENCE (X) TELEPHONE ( ) INCOMING ( ) OUTGOING Location of Visit/Conference:		ROUTING	
		NAME/ SYMBOL	INT
NAME: LOIS HAMILTON	ORGANIZATION: PRIVATE CITIZEN	TELEPHONE NO.	
SUBJECT:  KANSAS RIVER DREDGING			
SUMMARY:  CALLED TO STATE CONCERN WITH KANSAS RIVER COMMERCIAL DREDGING PROPOSALS. INDIVIDUAL IS NOT IN FAVOR OF ANY DREDGING IN KANSAS RIVER AND DOES NOT SEE THE NEED FOR SAND PRODUCTION. MS. HAMILTON STATED PRIMARY CONCERN IS TO PROTECT WATER WITHIN THE RIVER.			
ACTION REQUIRED:			
NAME: KALE HORTON	SIGNATURE: 	DATE: 12-2-11	
ACTION TAKEN: ADD TO ADMIN. RECORD.			
SIGNATURE: 	TITLE: REGULATORY PROJECT MANAGER	DATE: 12-2-2011	

CONVERSATION RECORD		TIME: 1100	DATE: 12-5-11	
TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> VISIT <input type="checkbox"/> CONFERENCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TELEPHONE <input type="checkbox"/> INCOMING <input type="checkbox"/> OUTGOING Location of Visit/Conference:			ROUTING N/A	
			NAME/ SYMBOL	INT
NAME: JEANNE ELLERMEIER	ORGANIZATION: PRIVATE CITIZEN	TELEPHONE NO.	N/A	N/A
SUBJECT:  KANSAS RIVER DREDGING				
SUMMARY:  PRIVATE CITIZEN CALLED TO EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO KANSAS RIVER COMMERCIAL DREDGING. STATED AN OPINION THAT ECONOMICS SHOULD COME LAST AND THE ENVIRONMENT AND RIVER HEALTH SHOULD COME FIRST.				
ACTION REQUIRED: NA				
NAME: KALE HORTON		SIGNATURE: <i>Kale Horton</i>	DATE: 12/5/11	
ACTION TAKEN: ADDED TO RECORD				
SIGNATURE: <i>Kale Horton</i>		TITLE: REGULATORY PROJECT MANAGER		DATE: 12-5-2011

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Richard Duree [richard.duree@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 3:55 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kansas River Dredging

To start with my education is in ecology, however, I am not a tree huger. I believe that we need to properly manage the environment for its best sustained use for man.

Having said that, I have read the preliminary findings of the K-State research project of dredging on the Kaw, I would have been one of those who believed that the holes would have just filled up and so what. However, after reading these results one must begin to understand that the total river is a total ecosystem and dredging huge holes is going to effect the river as a whole and can cause damage to man-made structures far upstream.

It is for this reason that I would ask that you deny the dredging permits.

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Thank You  
RGD

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Bill Nichols [nichols4848@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 4:21 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Kansas River dredging permits.

I agree with the comments below and urge USACE to consider public comment on the issues listed below.

"Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>).

Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

\* Dredging endangers water quality. It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.

\* Dredging increases pollution. It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.

\* Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights. The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.

\* Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes. Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.

\* Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters. Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.

\* Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property. Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest."

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Best Regards,  
Bill Nichols  
Kansas City, Missouri

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Bill Blessing [bill.blessing@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 5:21 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansariver.org  
**Subject:** Deny Kaw Dredging Permits!

My drinking water comes from the Kaw, and could be contaminated by sediment raised by increased dredging. I enjoy canoeing on the Kaw, and believe that the economic benefits of recreation exceed those from strip-dredging. This is a clear case of a few businesses damaging a resource that would otherwise benefit many, so please hold a public hearing then deny the permits requested. Thank you,

***Bill Blessing***

[bill.blessing@gmail.com](mailto:bill.blessing@gmail.com)  
(cell) 913-226-6128

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** David Wilson [dwilson113@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 6:12 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Dredging Permits on the Kansas River

### PUBLIC COMMENT:

### KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
[kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil)

December 5, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge the USACE to deny all of the sites included in the five permits. Please end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I would ask that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River and seriously consider the negative effects of further dredging. In particular, the effects on the water table and river bank erosion are critical concerns that have very serious consequences throughout the Kansas River drainage.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- **Dredging endangers water quality.** It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- **Dredging increases pollution.** It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.
- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel,** and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

David L Wilson  
21215 W. 81st Terrace  
Lenexa, KS 66220

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

- Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)
- Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)
- Master's Dredging (2011-1465)
- Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)
- Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

**PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS**

- Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9
- Holliday Sand & Gravel Company: Kansas River Mile 18.65 to 20.15 and 20.55 to 21.15
- Master's Dredging: Kansas River Mile 26.1 to 27.6; 28.3 to 29.8; 42.6 to 44.1; and 47.1 to 48.0
- Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35
- Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Dirk Durant [ddurant3@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 7:07 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** KAW river dredging

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Kale Horton:

With the upcoming release of K-State's new dredging study any new dredging permits should wait until after the new study is reviewed. Specifically, there should be new public hearings and a new environmental impact statement. Dredging causes major destruction to a natural river environment should not be easily obtain.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dirk Durant

111 S 3rd St

Lindsborg, KS 67456

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Richard Dickinson [rdickinson11@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 7:39 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** stop Dredging

Sir: I ask you to stop all dredging of the Kansas River. It damages the river and releases many toxins.

Dick Dickinson

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Felix & Linda Revello [linda@gbta.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 9:40 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Riverkeeper@KansasRiver.org  
**Subject:** Protect the Kansas River from Dredging

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
[kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil)

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. Preliminary results by a Kansas State University study of the effects of dredging on the Kansas River clearly demonstrate that it is unwise to allow additional dredging of the River. Dredging reduces water quality and quantity, and essentially "takes" land under private ownership through stream bank erosion. Stream bed erosion threatens public infrastructure like bridge piers. My detailed discussion follows...

I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River.

This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on

the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>).

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environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

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† Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights. The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.

† Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes. Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.

† Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters. Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.

† Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property. Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river,

and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Felix Revello  
1862 150th Avenue  
Larned, KS 67550  
620-285-2963

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PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:

APPLICANTS

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)

Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

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PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS

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Holliday Sand & Gravel Company: Kansas River Mile 18.65 to 20.15 and 20.55 to 21.15

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Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6.

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Mark Wagoner [markaawagoner@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 9:47 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** Kansas River Dredging

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

I would ask that the U.S Army Corps of Engineers reconsider allowing dredging on the Kansas river. I take several canoe trips a year on the river and would hope that that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would help preserve the river. It is important that we do what we can to insure that the river is clean and taken care of.

At least delay the decision until K-State researchers release the upcoming study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Thank you for your time,

Mark Wagoner

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Bob Garrett [bgarrett2511@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 06, 2011 9:21 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Steven Chatman; Steve Hester  
**Subject:** Comments on dredging proposals for Kansas River

Dear Mr. Horton,

I am a resident and business owner in Lawrence. I grew up near the Arkansas River in Tulsa, OK. I have spent a lot of time on rivers in Arkansas, Colorado, and Oklahoma. All the rivers carried for me and my friends and family a soothing, nurturing energy. I learned from childhood what a river can be for recreation and renewal. I believe they function best when they retain their nature. We come to them, they share with us, and when we leave, they are unchanged. When we impose our mechanical model of modifying them to take part of what they are away from that setting, they begin to die. The balance of life in a riparian environment is complex and fragile, and we are being shortsighted and greedy if we are willing to steal from our grandchildren the privilege of entering that environment as a place of awe and untouched beauty. Please do what you can to protect the river from dredging. Thank you, Bob Garrett

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

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816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 6, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

I previously submitted a comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River, but I'd like for you to include the following personal letter to that as well.

**From a Paddling and River Guide Perspective**

As a passionate canoe and kayak paddler of the Kaw for many years, I see the effects of dredging on areas I frequent and have especially seen bank changes up and downstream from dredging operations – notably loss of farmland, deepening of channel, growth of head cuts and loss of riparian areas. We know that the Kansas River is dynamic, for the most part unchannelized by artificial means, and that some bank changes are to be expected, but certainly not at the rate and in the destructive ways that we see near dredgers.

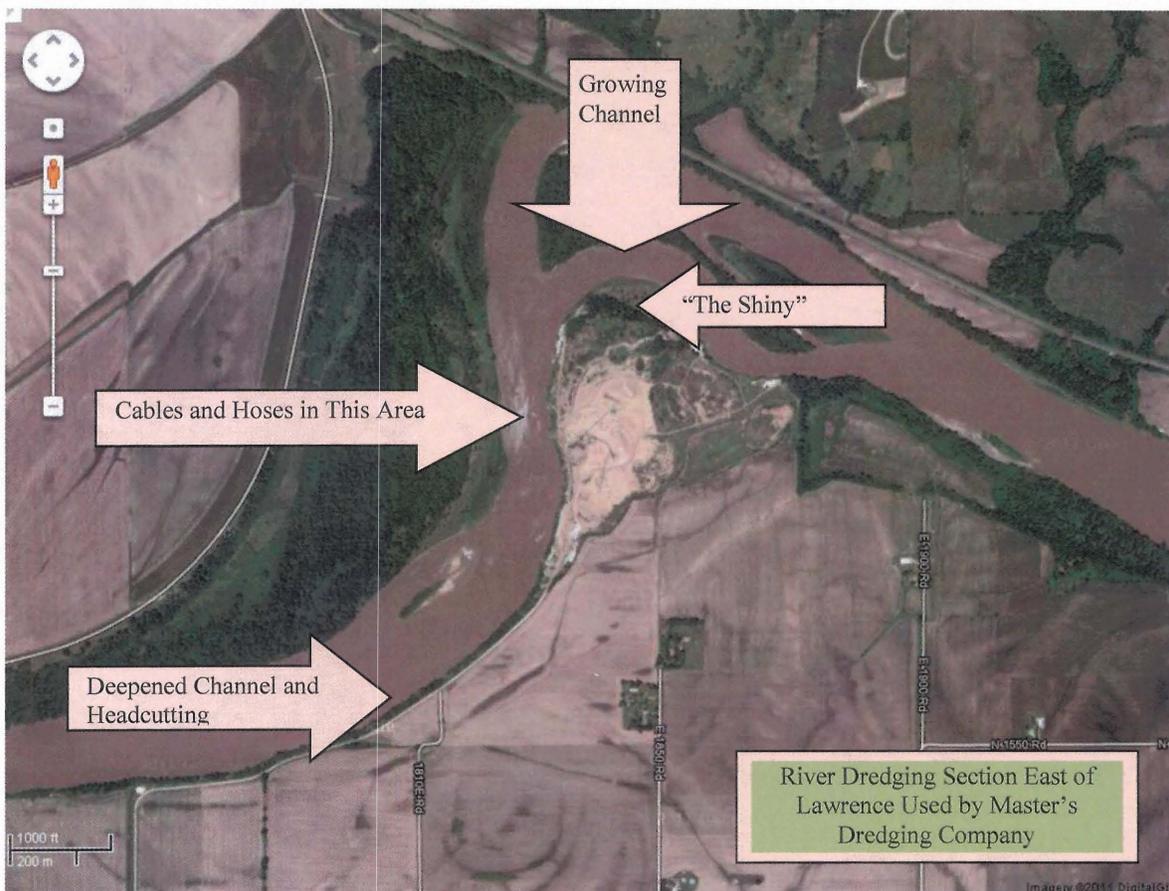
This past summer I paddled from Manhattan to Lawrence and saw examples of farmland falling into the Kaw. Entire slices of land holding newly planted crops had been falling vertically down into deep channels – some still holding green plants as various sections sat precariously near water level below a tall and exposed area of land. Above, roots of healthy corn plants many feet long could be seen. Thinking about how farmers must have had enough room to drive their equipment to plant these crops sometime soon before, it was a clear reminder to me as to how fast dredging can degrade an area of land.

I've been a Kansas River paddling guide for Kansas City Paddler since 2009. I teach basic kayak instruction and Kansas River safety to mostly novice paddlers. Many of the paddlers we put on the river come away with a real interest in exploring other areas of the Kaw and become recreational paddlers on their own. And these people often ask questions like, "Where else can we paddle on the Kaw?" and "Where are other boat ramps?" and "Are there any sections that are dangerous or hold things I should be aware of?"

A popular area for paddlers in my area is the section from the Lawrence 8<sup>th</sup> Street ramp to the Eudora boat ramp on the Wakarusa, about a 9 mile paddle. I always mention the dredging operation a few miles into the paddle to people who are interested in paddling there. The cables that are used by the dredgers that are anchored from the machinery to a bank are often not noticeable and never marked. They are rusty and can easily be missed at certain times of the day or night when paddling. Also, the large tubes that are used to collect sand are often lying just under the surface of the water and will bob up and down. Paddling a

canoe or kayak over these tubes is a hazard, especially when they are often floating around a large dredge hole with sometimes unpredictable water behavior.

This same area where dredging takes place on the Kaw near Lawrence is home to a large island that was previously connected to river right...the land used by the dredging operation for Master's Dredging Company. In 2000 there was a tiny little cut, filled with logs and snags on river right. In time I've seen the tiny cut grow into a deep channel that is now quite a distance from the river right land. I predict it will become the main channel of the area as the water above the island is slowing. Dredging in this area has degraded the river right sand bar that I and my friends have called "The Shiny". The Shiny was a beautiful sandy area covered with flint that shone brilliantly on any sunny day. Now much of it is gone. In the last couple of years, the loss of river bank on river right has been most drastic as steep areas of land are now left where once gradual sandy areas lowered toward the Kaw. The geese and egret populations are those I no longer see here as well.



### Kansas River Water Trail

The Department of the Interior has named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities: <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar met with Governor Brownback and discussed what projects in Kansas would be among the best investments in the nation to support a healthy, active population, conserve wildlife and working lands, and create travel, tourism and

outdoor-recreation jobs across the country. The Kansas River Trail is one of two for our state, and it's something that Friends of the Kaw has been trying to carry out for years. The Department of Interior has spoken with Friends of the Kaw and has said they will include us in their meetings as the Kansas River Trail comes to fruition. There is no room for dredging and increased tonnage of sand removal from the Kaw when more and more people are becoming aware of our river as a state and national treasure to be protected and promoted to help increase tourism, encourage healthy living and protect wildlife...all the while conserving our nation's longest prairie river.

**K-State Researchers to Release New Kansas River Study**

Kansas State University researchers Melinda Daniels and Craig Paukert have documented riverbed incision in dredged reaches of the Kaw and are to be publishing their results in January. The preliminary results can be found here as Melinda was interviewed recently by Friends of the Kaw:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1v0SdTCxCY6Rfnm0NNZmlyMwoPfl0X6Ae8h5TxrUCPOs/edit>

I again request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River as I believe this new scientific information provided by K-State will show the destructive effects of in-river dredging in ways previously unknown.

**I would like to see an end to in-river Kaw dredging altogether.** There is no place for it as pit mining has become known to be a more reliable and better economic option for sand which also has much less of an environmental impact in its process. Seeing dredging disappear from the Kansas River is my biggest hope for the conservation of one of only three of our state's public waterways as well as my favorite river.

I also still request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Christina Glauner  
Board Member, Friends of the Kaw

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Signature

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)

Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)

Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

**PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company: Kansas River Mile 18.65 to 20.15 and 20.55 to 21.15

Master's Dredging: Kansas River Mile 26.1 to 27.6; 28.3 to 29.8; 42.6 to 44.1; and 47.1 to 48.0

Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35

Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** rdsouza@sunflower.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 06, 2011 10:33 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** rdsouza@sunflower.com  
**Subject:** dredging the Kaw

I recently saw on the internet a vintage postcard of the Kaw at Lawrence.

There were people bathing in and sailing on the river.

Why do we continue to degradate a valuable resource we all depend on for the monetary gain of a few.

I urge you not to increase dredging of the Kaw. In fact, I would prefer to see a complete ban of the practice.

Sincerely,

Raymond D. Souza

Lawrence, Ks.

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Sacie Lambertson [sacie.lambertson@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 06, 2011 1:36 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Laura Calwell  
**Subject:** dredging the KAW

To the Army Corps of Engineers:

Without a new or updated environmental impact statement that indicates damage to the river is of no environmental interest, we do not support the dredging currently authorized by the Army Corps of Engineers along the Kansas River. Nor could we possibly support adding to the permits already in effect.

We are particularly alarmed about the negative impact of dredging on the quality of water, as well as its effect on the KAW river bank, with the resulting and inevitable bank erosion.

David and Sacie Lambertson  
Jefferson County

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** George Brenner [gbrenner@sunflower.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 06, 2011 2:59 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kansas River dredging

Dear Kale Horton,

As a public citizen living in the Kansas River valley, I request that the US Army Corps of Engineers conduct a new public hearing and develop a new environmental impact statement concerning the proposed dredging of the Kansas River in the Eudora and DeSoto areas.

As you well know, dredging destroys the natural river channel, causes tremendous erosion, threatens farmland and roads, impacts flood control measures and wildlife habitat.

We obtain much of our drinking water in Lawrence from the river, and even though we are upstream from the proposed dredging, it is important to recognize that dredging stirs up sediments and pollutants that are expensive to remove at water treatment plants.

The current environmental impact statement is from 1991 and is out of date. New data will soon be released by Kansas State University that should be included. I urge you to conduct a new public hearing and prepare a new impact statement.

Sincerely,

George Brenner

--

George M. Brenner  
1711 W. 19th Terrace  
Lawrence, Kansas 66046 USA  
(785) 393-3828  
[gbrenner@sunflower.com](mailto:gbrenner@sunflower.com)

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** mrlsgarlow@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 06, 2011 7:37 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** all dredging permits

Dear Sir,

Please schedule public hearings on all the Kansas River in-river dredging permits, before any renewal decisions are made. Please order a new Environmental Impact Statement to identify and document the detrimental impact of in-river dredging. Significant negative impacts of dredging include: riverbed degradation, bank erosion, loss of riparian habitat and wildlife, disruption and damage to native fisheries, and pollution.

I am a 30 year resident of Kansas, a 58 year old taxpayer, homeowner, businessman, attorney, Boy Scout leader, and outdoorsman. The uses and abuses of the Kansas River must be recognized, discussed and thoughtfully considered before any decisions are made in regard to the existing dredging permits. I personally believe the permits should be denied, and that viable alternatives exist for dredgers to mine sand from land that adjoins the river.

Thank you for considering my input.

Best Regards  
Stephen Garlow  
2808 Harper St  
Lawrence, KS 66046

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- **Dredging endangers water quality.** It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- **Dredging increases pollution.** It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.
- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel,** and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Aaron Waller

Signature

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)

Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)

Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

**PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9

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Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Kate Rogge [krogge@usa.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2011 9:39 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012 - NO MORE DREDGING ON THE KAW

Dear Mr. Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

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- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.

- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel**, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Rogge  
907 West 22nd Terrace, Lawrence, Kansas 66046

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)  
Master's Dredging (2011-1465)  
Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)  
Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

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Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35  
Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Jim Stanker [jim.stanker@candoelec.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2011 10:35 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kaw Dredging

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River.

Our natural resources are precious. Their well-being should not be held hostage for the profit of private companies.

I would think we should have learned that lesson by now.

Jim Stanker CPMR

C&O Electric Sales Co. Inc.

10201 W. 105th

Overland Park, Kansas 66212

913-981-0008 - office

913-522-5527 - Cell

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Kerry Altenbernd [kerryaltenbernd@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2011 10:55 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Comment on proposed Kansas River dredging expansion

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to oppose the proposed increase in the amount of material allowed to be dredged from the Kansas River.

According to a recent study funded by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, the current dredging operations are causing significant damage to the river, and are threatening public use and the habitat of many fish, including some on the endangered species list. Expanding the amount of material to be dredged from the river would significantly increase that damage.

I therefor am requesting that the Corps of Engineers deny any and all applications to expand dredging in or on the Kansas River. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kerry Altenbernd (Mr.)  
431 Forrest Avenue  
Lawrence, KS 66044-3729

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Penny Mahon [pennymah@KCKCC.EDU]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2011 12:33 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** don't increase dredging in the Kaw

Please do not increase dredging in the Kansas (Kaw) River. It is bad all around, expect for the folks trying to make money over all things good.

I grew up on the Kaw between Lawrence and Eudora.

Thank you for allowing us to comment.

Penny Mahon

Prairie Village, KS

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Tandy Wood [grantan1@kc.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2011 3:38 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Jim Walton; Vivian Gibbens  
**Subject:** Sand dredging in the Kaw River

**Importance:** High

**Please do not do any further damage to the Kaw River and the areas around the banks.** Before any dredging is done, we need a new environmental impact study that considers the impacts of dredging on fish that live in the tributaries as well as other negative impacts on water movement, erosion, etc. Right now, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is still depending on a 20 year old environmental impact statement (EIS) dating from 1991. To dredge now before a more in depth, recent study is undertaken would be a serious mistake and have untenable consequences.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Tandy Wood  
9604 W. 103 Terrace  
Overland Park, KS 66212

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** RJBurkhart-FutureThought [futurethought@sunflower.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2011 4:24 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK; Julia [JoCo-West] Lynn; bobmarshall@cebridge.net; tony.mullis@us.army.mil; jnewberry@vfw.org; Steve Petrehn; Gerald & Ruth Rutledge; riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Cc:** Matt.Armstrong@scouting.org; ecmku@ku.edu; B\_fager\_gos@yahoo.com; tfredin@hamline.edu; skipgranger@gmail.com; hallcenter@ku.edu; rkidder@bsamail.org; Bob [RRB] Spear  
**Subject:** USACE FIFTH Freedom thinkLets :: Kansas River Dredging Permits Malpractice (xi-d07pm)  
**Importance:** High

Expanding Kaw River dredging permits empowers unethical USACE practices:

It compromises HEALTH/LIFE, Safety/Liberty & environment/pursuit of happiness.  
It violates Kansas Supreme Court (KSC) "*Golden Case Ruling*" special use permit guidelines ...

### Accountability (GPR) Background:

Admiralty/maritime law also applies to our nation's *navigable inland waterways*.  
USACE has **NOT** demonstrated its ability to monitor permitted dredging operations.

Under-reporting extracted sand quantities & lease royalties payments is a **fiscal fraud**.  
Ineffective USACE monitoring practices compromise our U.S. Constitution's core principles ...

Under UCMJ (Uniform Code of Military Justice), this could be charged as dereliction of duty.  
Otherwise, non- military perpetrators are personally liable for **civil or criminal** negligence ...

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Email your comment by December 9, 2011, to Kale Horton at [kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil)  
(and please also cc your comment to [riverkeeper@kansasriver.org](mailto:riverkeeper@kansasriver.org)).

Comments may also be mailed to Regulatory Project Manager, Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,  
Kansas City Regulatory Office, 635 Federal Building, 601 East 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896.  
For questions, Kale Horton may also be reached at telephone 816-389-3656

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FDR's Speech to Congress (6-Jan-1941) only covered first four freedom's:

Freedom of Speech  
    Freedom of Religion  
        Freedom from Fear  
            Freedom from Want

Exercising ethical "*Freedom of Influence*"  
is VFW's duty to HONOR those who sacrificed theirs ...  
Appended photo with hyperlink to this article @ <http://bit.ly/sSy6DN>

[http://futurethought.pbworks.com/w/file/35423346/Pearl-Harbor-Reflections\\_6-Jan-2001\\_XI-126msw.pdf](http://futurethought.pbworks.com/w/file/35423346/Pearl-Harbor-Reflections_6-Jan-2001_XI-126msw.pdf)

=====  
Bob-RJ Burkhart / 913-669-3088 <-- <http://www.linkedin.com/in/geowizard>  
**NESA** / USNR-Ret. (KU Sigma Nu ... *KSocial Responsibility Pathfinders*)  
via <http://futurethought.pbworks.com/FFNHA%20Hyperportal> ...

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** geoWIZard-Passports [geowizard@sunflower.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2011 6:13 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK; dloy@ku.edu; cmarsh@ku.edu; nemahaney@ku.edu; nancy.g.maynard@nasa.gov; Gerald & Ruth Rutledge; patspears25@gmail.com; Patrick Tucker; s.troutman@alumni.usc.edu  
**Cc:** Deb.Grundmanis@state.mn.us; Gljane50@aol.com; jeanne\_holler@fws.gov; dwightnjackson@gmail.com; george.kubik@gmail.com; jlkrakow@msn.com; riverne@newmexico.com; kuworkgroup@ku.edu; lwilson@nasw.org  
**Subject:** Re\*Framing USACE FIFTH Freedom thinkLets :: Kansas River Dredging Permits Malpractice (xi-d07p2)  
**Importance:** High

Kale – US Navy Captain Ronald E. Evans (KU NRIOTC Alum) reframed our watersheds with his iconic “Spaceship Earth” photo as Command Pilot aboard NASA’s Apollo 17 Mission. His holistic world view rebalances metaethics and prior scorecards by which we presume to assess “acceptable public health risks” to our crew and passengers.

The 21-Nov-2009 AIHEC/HERS - NASA/NOAA “*Mystic Lake Declaration*” defines the new normal to which we must hold ourselves accountable:

**[This is a clean copy that includes reformatting, edits, and ...**

THE **MYSTIC LAKE DECLARATION**. From the Native Peoples Native Homelands Climate Change Workshop II: Indigenous Perspectives and Solutions...

[portal3.aihec.org/sites/NPNH/Document%20Center/The%20Mystic%20Lake...](http://portal3.aihec.org/sites/NPNH/Document%20Center/The%20Mystic%20Lake...)

---

**From:** RJBurkhart-FutureThought [<mailto:futurethought@sunflower.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2011 4:24 PM  
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<http://futurethought.pbworks.com/w/file/35423346/Pearl-Harbor-Reflections> 6-Jan-2001 XI-126msw.pdf

=====  
Bob-RJ Burkhart / 913-669-3088 <-- <http://www.linkedin.com/in/geowizard>  
NESA / USNR-Ret. (KU Sigma Nu ... *KSocial Responsibility Pathfinders*)  
via <http://futurethought.pbworks.com/FFNHA%20Hyperportal> ...

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** jim walton [jim.walton47@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2011 6:18 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kansas River dredging

December 7, 2011

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter not just as an advocate for the Kansas River, but also as a citizen concerned about the environment and those regulations that relate to sustainability of our natural resources. As one of the approximately 600,000 residents that rely on the Kansas River as a source for drinking water, I am concerned that continued dredging of the river may affect future water supplies and the risk to water treatment facilities, municipal wells, bridge footings, and the river ecosystem as described by the recent study by Kansas State University researchers.

There is no doubt that the construction industry is a vital part of the state's economy, but it does have a viable alternative in pit mining for sand and gravel. To renew the dredging permits without more environmental impact studies would defeat the broader goal of the Clean Water Act of "restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the nation's waters so that they can support the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and recreation in and on the water."

Other than the detrimental impacts that dredging may do to the river, I also question why a dredge operation should even be considered for re-opening on a site previously closed by the COE. Obviously, the applicant has argued that the river has replenished itself so that the criteria for dredging is again met, but that replenishment has come at the expense of the riverbank upstream, which is exactly why sand extraction should be moved off the river. The fact that the Army Corps is aware of the effects of sand dredging on the Missouri River should also be considered as rationale for denying the Kansas applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Walton  
23935 College  
Olathe, Kansas 66061

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Jennifer M Weishaar [jennifermweishaar@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2011 8:00 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Riverkeeper@KansasRiver.org  
**Subject:** Deny dredging permits

I am writing regarding a proposal from five companies to increase dredging in the Kansas River. I am STRONGLY against this proposal, and request that you deny the permits.

Dredging destroys the river channel, causing erosion which can harm and destroy the land and anything built on it, such as farms, homes, bridges, roads, as well as habitats for wildlife. Dredging also brings to the surface sediments and pollutants that are extremely expensive to remove, and tax our already over-burdened water treatment facilities.

These permits deserve a public hearing and a new environmental impact statement. The one currently in use is from 20 years ago, and is much too out of date.

Again, I ask that these permits be DENIED.

Sincerely,

Jennifer M Weishaar  
255 N Michigan St Apt 58  
Lawrence, KS 66044  
[jennifermweishaar@gmail.com](mailto:jennifermweishaar@gmail.com)

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** JJBRYAN7@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 7:36 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org; JJBRYAN7@aol.com; sbvalentine7@aol.com; fsmith6@cox.net  
**Subject:** Kansas River Dredging

Greetings

I request a public hearing be held and a new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be required showing a lack of damage to the river by dredging BEFORE any more dredging is allowing in the Kansas River.

The existing EIS is 20 years old and since then damage has been proven to have occurred thru dredging operations.

The river has been designated by the US Dept of the Interior as one of its Top 100 conservation projects under the Americas's Great Outdoors Initiative. This designation was attained at the request of the state of Kansas and Governor Sam Brownback to turn the Kansas River into a 171 mile long Water Trail.

This designation is meant to recognize the nation's best potential investments in conservation. The Kansas River Water Trail would create jobs in travel, tourism and outdoor-recreation, conserve wildlife and working lands, and support a healthy and active population.

Kansans as a whole benefit by preserving the river and prohibiting dredging. The river belongs to us all, not just the sand companies. We should not all suffer to make a profit for a few.

There is no need for the destructive practice of river dredging - other sand companies are already pursuing the practical, economic, and reasonable alternative of sand pit mining. Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy.

Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion to private and government property.

Please let me know when hearing(s) are held on this matter.

Please provide any evidence you have that Kansans as a whole are benefited by dredging, rather than being harmed.

Have a Great Day

john j bryan  
7901 sw 29th  
topeka, kansas 66614  
785 478 4538 H  
785 608 8528 C  
785 235 5678 O  
[jjbryan7@aol.com](mailto:jjbryan7@aol.com)

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Lynn Byczynski [lynn@growingformarket.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 8:03 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Opposed to river dredging

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
[kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil)

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

In view of the recent K-State study about the damaging effects of river dredging, I believe the time has come for the USACE to reject all requests for additional dredging and to work towards elimination of current dredging permits. The Kaw deserves to be enjoyed and used wisely by Kansas residents as well as preserved for future generations.

Thanks for listening.

Lynn Byczynski  
author, Exploring the Kaw Valley  
966 E 800th Rd  
Lawrence KS 66047  
785-748-0605

### PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:

#### APPLICANTS

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462) Master's Dredging (2011-1465) Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466) Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

#### PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9 Holliday Sand & Gravel Company:  
Kansas River Mile 18.65 to 20.15 and  
20.55 to 21.15

Master's Dredging: Kansas River Mile 26.1 to 27.6; 28.3 to 29.8; 42.6 to 44.1; and 47.1 to 48.0 Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35

Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** J. Ryan Dunn [jryandunn@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 8:12 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Dredging elsewhere, big picture thinking

Greetings,

Please reconsider the expansion of dredging efforts on the Kansas River. The Kaw is a rare source of pride for Kansans! It is a substantial tributary of the Mississippi River system, the 4th largest in the world. I am looking forward to sharing experiences with my children and their children on this beautiful sand bed river - we must protect this dear natural resource!

J. Ryan Dunn  
Mission Woods, KS

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Randy & Jackie Johnson [rjohnson2015@kc.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 8:43 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** KAW dredging

Just like we need to drill baby drill, we need to dredge baby dredge.

Randy

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Elaine Miller [emille1@hallmark.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 9:16 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** KANSAS RIVER- I support the Friends of the KAW

I am a new user of the Kaw River as of this past summer. As an avid new kayaker, I find that the number of floatable rivers in the Kansas City area are extremely limited, and the KAW provides a close, safe and fun experience for me and my friends. I can see that paddle sports are on the rise, and we need to do everything possible to support our resources close to the largest populations. My friends and I are spending a lot of money on boats and all the accessories, so there are economic advantages as well. Plus, I love to see our younger generation out enjoying nature instead of glued to a tube. I support the efforts of The Friends of the Kaw to protect the natural river from population and dredging. Please consider the needs of the people of Kansas City and surrounding areas as you make your political decisions.

Elaine Miller  
3716 N.E. 52nd Terrace  
Kansas City, MO 64119  
816-274-3868 daytime

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Carl Flottman [nedflottman@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 9:19 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Dredging on the Kaw River

Please note my opposition to any permits allowing dredging operations on public riverway in the Kaw river. It seems to me that allowing this type of activity plunders both public and private lands.

If sand is removed from the riverbed it not only upsets the natural course of the river (public property) but destroys private property as the river removes private land to replenish what's been removed from the river bottom. The economics would dictate that any company wanting to mind sand should do so on their own property - purchased, if necessary, from other land owners.

Respectfully,

Carl Flottman

Evelyn Davis  
2928 SW 103rd St.  
Wakarusa, KS 66546

785-836-2351

dntpllt@yahoo.com

December 7, 2011

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River being accepted until December 9, 2011.

From scientific evidence, it is obvious that in-river dredging degrades not only the river, but the land along the river. Having worked for the Shawnee County Conservation District for newly 10 years as their Water Quality Coordinator, I have learned some of the dynamic interactions of rivers.

Now a preliminary study by Kansas State University researchers are finding the same results that we had observed all along. The damage to public infrastructures, wildlife habitat, loss of stream banks and farm soil as well as lowering of the water table are significant harms that will cost taxpayers far more in the long run than the slight increase cost of sand will be to development. The damage to water quality alone makes it time to deny in-river dredging.

I also request that you delay the decision making process until the final report of the KSU major research study of the Kansas River is released. This issue also needs a public hearing/meeting which I strongly urge you to conduct.

Sincerely yours,

Evelyn Davis

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Michael Campbell [shamsoup@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 9:50 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** comments on proposals to dredge the Kaw

I submit the following as my official public comment on in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River. Specifically, I am writing to ask you to not grant permits to allow in-river dredging for sand and gravel in the Kaw, including the following permits: Kaw Valley Companies (2011-1460), Holliday Sand & Gravel (2011-1462), Master's Dredging (2011-1465), Penny's Aggregates (2011-1466), and Meier's Ready Mix/Victory Sand Mining & Dredging (2011-1463). Dredging seriously degrades rivers by stirring up sediments and the pollution contained within them and causing erosion problems that can track back miles upstream. These impacts threaten the health of anyone drinking water from the Kansas and also damage wildlife populations. Erosion can additional economic impacts, too, as it eats away at people's land and threatens infrastructure like bridges. I understand that we need sand, but alternative methods exist for obtaining sand outside of the river. Because of these negative impacts, I ask that you not grant these dredging permits, that you hold a public hearing on the matter, and that you conduct a new Environmental Impact Statement on the affect of dredging on the Kaw. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,  
Michael Campbell  
66 Savage  
Eudora, KS 66025  
785-550-6849 [shamsoup@yahoo.com](mailto:shamsoup@yahoo.com)

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** egl52@sunflower.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 9:59 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kansas River Dredging Permits Comment

Date: December 8, 2011  
To: Kale Horton, Regulatory Project Manager  
[kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil)  
RE: Proposed Dredging Activities on the Kansas River

I am writing this letter to request that the U.S.A.C.E. hold a public hearing and/or deny new or continued permits to Kaw Valley Companies, Holliday Sand & Gravel, Master's Dredging, Penny's Aggregates, and Meier's Ready Mix/Victory Sand.

The Public Notice, dated November 9, 2011, states companies are requesting modifications to the 1991 Kansas River Regulatory Plan that was almost 20 years in the making. It has been 20 years since it was first implemented and should therefore be subject to a new Environmental Impact Statement in order to make informed decisions about opening new stretches and increasing the maximum allowable extraction

In 1996, the Kansas River was listed at the sixth most endangered river in the country by American Rivers, a leading organization that works to protect and restore America's rivers. The major threats then, and remain today, sand dredging and agricultural run off. The Kaw is one of only three rivers in the state that citizens are allowed to enjoy, if they can access it. Aggregate extractors pay a paltry royalty that should be, at least five times the amount they pay now. They are destroying the river by hydraulic dredging of the river.

News reports, over the years, have stated that reservoirs are filling up with silt and sand, decreasing their purpose for flood control. This sand and silt is settling in the bottom of man made lakes and though dredgers have stated otherwise, science shows that the river is no longer being replenished by the movement of sand with a natural flow. A natural flow does not exist! Banks are destabilized by water levels artificially determined by floodgates. Citizens are losing their property.

To allow more of the river to be dredged and more sand to be withdrawn is not acceptable. Again, the only responsible action the U.S.A.C.E. can take is to deny these permits, at least until a new E.I.S. is completed and incorporated into a revised Kansas River Regulatory Plan.

Thank you.

Eileen Larson  
2043 E. 1250 Road  
Lawrence, KS 66044  
785-843-3648  
[Egl52@sunflower.com](mailto:Egl52@sunflower.com)

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** bobby merl [bobbymerl@kc.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 10:12 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kaw river dredging

Dear Kale,

Please stop the dredging plans and further dredging on the Kaw. There is little barge traffic and most of what barges haul is now moved by train and truck. River barge traffic on the Kaw is so minimal as to have no financial benefit at all ,in fact the cost of dredging will cost more than any benefits gained. The day of rivers the size of the Kaw being used barge traffic is over.

In this day and age the enviornment is under attack by large corporations with no to little foresight about the future. Short term profits will be long term losses to those corporations and the public.

The proposed park system will bring exponentially more money to the state and economy of river towns. If the dredging does take place it will distroy many natural habitats as well as become a environmental disaster.

Does the Army Corp have any positive environmental long term plans or goals?

Thank You.

Robert McAtee

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Springer, Haskell S [springer@ku.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 10:28 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** dredging

Dear Sir:

For the sake of Kansans, animals, the health of the land, and the health of the river, I strongly oppose the proposed dredging plans for the Kansas River.

Please use your authority to deny those plans, which conflict with the newly granted River Trail status.

Sincerely yours,  
Haskell Springer  
1016 Sunset Drive  
Lawrence, KS

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Charles L. Bloss, Jr. [clblossjr@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 10:48 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Charles L. Bloss Jr.  
**Subject:** KS river

Sir: I lived along the Kansas River for many years. I appreciated it's beauty, and the animals it attracted. We moved 25 years ago and now live 1/2 mile from the river and cross it frequently. Please do not increase the amount of dredging in the river. It will ruin it more, and set back the efforts we have done to improve it. We now have a local river keeper, whose job is to protect and improve the river for all of us. Please do not ruin it by more deep pits in the river bed. I am against any dredging in the river anywhere along it. Eventually we hope to make the river more navigable. Thank you, Charles L Bloss Jr, POB 109, Lecompton, KS 66050.

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Kimball Stacey [389315@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 11:03 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Public hearing, please.

Chanute rests easy  
As railyards on bed of Kaw.  
Holes wind through the sand.  
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## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** msw85@cox.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 11:24 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** In-River Dredging

Dear Mr. Horton,

I'm a frequent paddler of the Kansas River and I want to comment on the permits to increase dredging in the river. Please deny these permits that would allow thirteen sites to dredge in-river. I support off-river dredging.

It's clear, as I've paddled the river over many years, that the river is changing - - - the banks and the habitat along the river. I have understood, by preliminary information released by Kansas State University, that river dredging is harmful to the river.

At the very least, do nothing until you have a public hearing on these plans / permits and invite testimony from the KSU research about the effects of dredging in the river.

The Kansas River, in my opinion, is the most precious natural resource in the state. Please protect it!

Marilynn Koelliker  
4625 NE Widigan Rd  
Topeka, KS 66617

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Larry Rutter [lrutter@embarqmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 11:24 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** Sand and Gravel dredging on the Kansas River

Dear USACE,

Please give serious thought to additional dredging on the Kansas River. Valid research indicates the many negative circumstances that result from such activity. We can never experience the pristine landscape of the riverine ecosystem that existed before EuroAmerican settlement but we can check and exclude activities of this magnitude that destroys both macro and micro habitats essential to the natural flow of this major resource.

You have a serious obligation to preserve what remains of this valuable resource - do not spoil this opportunity!

Larry Rutter  
5197 - 114th Rd.  
Meriden, KS 66512  
(785) 484-2509

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Steve Roels [steveroels00@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 12:15 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK; riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** No to Expansion of Kansas River Dredging

US ACE,

Approving new permits for sand dredging on the Kansas River would be a mistake. I am a Michigan native and I can personally vouch for the ability of clean, healthy waterways to improve the quality of life and economy in a state. If Michigan's water resources were in a condition as poor as those in Kansas, the state would be crippled in a manner that pales in comparison to current economic problems. While Michigan has an abundance of water resources, Kansas does not, making it all the more imperative that the Kansas River be protected from short-sighted resource extraction. Water resources in Kansas are already stretched thin and heavily degraded. Instead of piling on new stresses, the USACE should be looking to restore and conserve this critical resource for the future of all Kansans. A healthy river provides drinking water, recreational opportunities, tourism development, and wildlife habitat. A dredged river is not a healthy river.

Sincerely,  
Steve Roels  
Lawrence, KS

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** LEE COLLARD [leecollard@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 12:28 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Proposed Kansas River Dredging

I am writing this letter to request that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) hold a public hearing or series of public hearings and deny renewing and issuing any new hydraulic sand dredging permits on the Kansas River corridor to Kaw Valley Companies, Holiday Sand & Gravel, Master's Dredging, Penny's Aggregates, Meier's Readymix, and Victory Sand & Gravel.

The public notice dated 11/9/2011 states companies are requesting modifications to the 1991 Kansas River Regulatory Plan that is now 20 years old & should be subject to a new Environmental Impact Statement in order to be updated to include the 20 years of changes that have occurred in the Kansas River Corridor.

These changes include but are not limited to greatly increased rates of siltation in USACE reservoirs due to lack of natural flow which does not allow the natural equilibrium of the Kansas River Corridor.

This lack of natural flow, along with the in-channel hydraulic sand dredging along the Kansas River Corridor contribute to bank destabilization and property loss that could easily be reduced by pit dredging of sand outside of the river channel.

I would implore the USACE to deny renewal & issuing of new in-channel hydraulic dredging permits along the Kansas River Corridor.

I would request a new Environmental Impact Statement be completed before an updated Kansas River Regulatory Plan may be composed.

Thank you,  
Lee Collard  
140 N.W. Roosevelt St.  
Topeka, KS 66606

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Linda Breck [lbreckster@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 1:58 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Dredging

I do hope you abandon your plans to increase dredging on the Kansas River by 50%. That would be very detrimental to the fragile ecosystem. Please reconsider.

Linda Breck  
[lbreckster@gmail.com](mailto:lbreckster@gmail.com)

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** suffused@juno.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 3:14 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Opposition to expanded dredging

Mr. Horton, as a resident of Lecompton, KS, I write to express my opposition to expanded dredging of the Kansas River. The river and its bed are not resources to mine, but vital ecosystem participants. Please restrain action which causes further erosion and despoilment of the riparian landscape.

Sincerely,  
Doug Hitt  
1982 E. 100 Rd.  
Lecompton, KS 66050

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53 Year Old Mom Looks 33  
The Stunning Results of Her Wrinkle Trick Has Botox Doctors Worried  
<http://thirdpartyoffers.juno.com/TGL3141/4ee128c56e0d78db911st06vuc>

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Kelly, John [jkellyma@ku.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 4:24 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** comment on Kansas River dredging permits

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City, MO

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel, including damage to endangered fish species, of which 19 have been found to live in the Kansas River. As someone who enjoys the beauty and quiet of the Kansas River for recreational canoeing, I am also concerned about the hazards this dredging will cause.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kansas riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

I hope that my one-year-old son can enjoy the Kansas River in as healthy a state as possible.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,  
John Kelly  
640 Indiana St.  
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

## PUBLIC COMMENT:

### KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

PAGE 1 OF 2

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- **Dredging endangers water quality.** It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- **Dredging increases pollution.** It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.

- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.
- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel,** and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Mike N Calwell

*Mike N. Calwell*

5427 Johnson Drive  
#232  
Mission, KS 66202

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)  
Master's Dredging (2011-1465)  
Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)  
Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

**PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company: Kansas River Mile 18.65 to 20.15 and 20.55 to 21.15  
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Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35  
Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** J&W [ozcavers@poncacity.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 7:13 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT:KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access

points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

Dredging endangers water quality. It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.

Dredging increases pollution. It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.

Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights. The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.

Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes. Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.

Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters. Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.

Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Wayne White  
415 E. 197th Street  
Scranton, Kansas 66537

/s/ Wayne White  
Signature  
December 8, 2011

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Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Gregory Shipe [ks\_wines@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 7:56 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** dredging on the Kaw

Dear Mr. Horton,

My name is Gregory Shipe, property owner very close to the Kaw river and a proposed sandpit. We have been having the most difficult time protecting the farm land in this area. In 2007 we had a fight with a water supply district who filed to condemn our property to put in water wells for water use 40 miles to the south. We managed to save the water for irrigation on some of the most rare soil types that is perfect for growing most any specialty crop. We had melons there for several years and now we want to expand the vineyard.

Now a sandpit is proposed just to the east of us some 1320 feet. In 1951 this property was cut out by the flood and by the jetties you put in has filled back in all for the protection of the Eudora bridge and farm land. The sandpit proposed would remove this and we will be back to the same problems we had in 1951. The sandpit is also just across the road from the Eudora water well field which puts the city water at undue risk which could cost millions to fix.

We do need sand for many things and there is so much in the river in this area that it really needs to come out. The sand is filling up the river bed and the water running higher cutting into the banks. Several acres were lost in 1993 which was minor to the 1951 food. One farm in this area lost 40 acres of a 60 acre farm in 1951.

I think there needs to be a study to weight all the problems with the river and sand. We need to find a way to develop a safe use of the sand while preserving the soil and protecting the river. All sides are demanding their way without regard to the others.

From my point of view I want to save the class two soils which are very very good for truck farms, orchards and vineyards. There is very little of this soil in Douglas County. We want and the public needs more local grown food which does grow very well on this soil. We also need sand for construction, glasses etc. We need to monitor the problems of past contaminations of the river. So the dredging needs to be increased in this area to help slow the loss of land due to the river filling up with sand causing higher water eating into the banks. Dredging a better river channel would help the safe use of boats. There are probably a hundred different things that need to be addressed.

Please allow the dredging to increase and at the same time don't allow the sandpit in this area west of the Eudora bridge. Then start a council to study the problems including local land owners and other interested people.

Sincerely,

Gregory Shipe  
1394 E 1900 Rd  
Eudora, Kansas 66025  
785-218-8217  
785-542-2278

## Horton, Kale E NWK

---

**From:** Spudspa@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 11:11 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Comments on dredging expansion

I am one of those people who use the Kansas River for recreation, paddling 4 or 5 times each year with a group of friends along this beautiful Kansas resource. I am concerned that there is a proposal to expand the number of dredging operations on the river. In reality, there should be a diminishing number of river dredgers, as the land along the river offers the opportunity to mine the sand and aggregate from off river digging,

This would enhance water quality, minimize damage to fish and other wildlife, and make the river safer and more enticing to boaters.

I hope that you will not approve the increased dredging on the river, and look for ways to reduce the amount of dredging currently on the river.

Please inform me of your final decision on this matter

Thank you.

Bill Cutler  
P.O. Box 2383  
Topeka, KS 66601  
785-379-9756

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Bill Gassen [bill.gassen@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 11:12 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

### PUBLIC COMMENT:

### KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
[kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil)

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- **Dredging endangers water quality.** It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- **Dredging increases pollution.** It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.
- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel,** and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

William Gassen

---

Signature

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

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## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Sara Curran [sara1818@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 11:34 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** Dredging on the Kaw

Mr. Horton,

Please do not allow more dredging on the Kaw. I have been reading various scientists' reports and believe it will cause far ranging damage to fish, wildlife, the health of the river itself and to the public's use and enjoyment of the river. I live near the Kaw and have floated the Kaw and care about this river. Please allow a more thorough study of the effects of dredging, please allow a public hearing, and consider more than just the financial benefit to a few companies when making your decisions.

Thank you,  
Sara Curran  
Fairway, Kansas

December 8, 2011

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896

RE: Consideration of dredging permits 2011-1460, 2011-1462, 2011-1465, 2011-1466, and 2011-1463

Mr. Horton,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on the listed permits. I am a recreational boater who has spent many years paddling, rowing and motoring over 1500 miles on all sections of the Kansas River. I am also a retail business person who makes a living selling lumber, hardware and building materials in the Kansas River valley. Those materials include sand, rock and cement products containing them.

Simply said, I see no reason that dredging in the Kansas River should not be transitioned to pit mines in the river valley. Rather than expand the permits, this seems to be a good time to begin a move off of the river. While it would be possible to make pages of good arguments for denial of these permits, I would instead offer for your consideration these points which I feel are important.

- It is apparent after years of boating that dredging does cause damage to the river environment. Bank erosion and loss of riparian corridor caused by migrating head cutting is a terrible loss. The riparian buffer zone is needed between the river and cropland to prevent not only loss of good farmland, but to filter or prevent agricultural chemical runoff. This riparian buffer is an important natural erosion deterrent.
- I appreciate the physical structures that our society needs on the river. Bridges, boat ramps, dams, railroads, water intakes and other infrastructure are all important to us. However, long term dredging poses expensive problems of prevention, repair and replacement.
- It would seem that most, though not all, of the dredging companies who would benefit from these permits care little for the environment. From a scenic point of view, their operations are a scar on the river. I understand that industrial use areas will not look like parks, but at the same time there is a balance to be had. I would especially draw your attention to dredging equipment that has been long abandoned in and on the river banks. These companies seem to not be good stewards of the land that they profit from.
- I am very concerned that dredging stirs up muds, silts and sands that have trapped or encapsulated hazardous chemicals and other pollutants. This creates problems for fish, mussels and aquatic life in general, not to mention birds and mammals up the food chain. And I think it

does little good at all for municipalities and governmental bodies that draw drinking water from the Kaw. In any imaginable scenario, dredging is a heavy burden for water quality.

I am deeply concerned that the renewal and/or expansion of these permits will be a negative influence on the Kansas River for decades. More people paddle, boat, fish and recreate on the Kansas River than ever before. Many cities have built new boat ramps and parks along the river. Dredges should be moved off of the river to appropriately sited pit mines in the Kansas River valley.

I would ask you to deny expansion of these permits. While I think that outright denial of these permits is in the best interest of the Kansas River, I would think that a very short term, non-renewable, permit allowing time for transition to pit mines would be fair. Otherwise, I would urge you to NOT renew these permits.

Thank you for your consideration.

R. J. Stephenson

P.O. Box 532

Tonganoxie, Kansas 66086

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Victoria Console [hillstation@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:48 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** river dredging

As a birder and conservationist, I am very concerned about the effects of dredging the Kansas River. I value the river as a habitat for wildlife and also as a recreational treasure. Please do not go forward with the project to increase the dredging. Vickie Console 5327 SW Moundview Drive Topeka, KS

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Bill McClave [wlmclave@birchwoodresultants.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:13 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org; riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** Dredging on the Kaw (Kansas) River

Good morning Kale,

This register's my opposition to ANY expansion of dredging on the Kaw River in Kansas. The practice is harmful to the river and produces a very poor trade-off as single companies secure a lower operating cost than operating inland/off-river at the expense of our entire Kansas population enjoying this beautiful river. Recreational use of the river far outweighs these special interest commercial practices in terms of river use.

With respect to the immediate actions your department is undertaking, I understand that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is now accepting public comment on the future of sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River, ie, the Kaw River. Five companies have applied for thirteen dredging permits in Johnson, Wyandotte, Douglas, and Shawnee Counties (ten existing sites and three new). Four applicants are seeking to expand their operations by expanding their dredging range, increasing tonnage removed, or re-opening areas the Army Corps already closed due to "unacceptable degradation" from previous dredging. Currently, these five companies are authorized to extract a total of 2.2 million tons from the river. The new permits would increase that number by almost 50%, to 3.2 million tons.

K-State research shows that these private dredging operations widen and deepen the Kaw River channel, leading to a drop in the water level of the river and of the nearby water table and causing riverbank erosion. In a sand bed river like the Kaw, dredge holes also have the capacity to migrate both up and downstream, not stopping unless they hit a hard structure like bedrock or a dam.

Bottom line: dredging physically damages the river channel in ways that threaten public river uses - water accessibility for drinking water treatment and irrigation intakes, habitat for fish communities, soil conservation of some of the nation's most valuable farmland, and preservation of taxpayer-funded structures like bridge footings and flood control.

I support a permanent and immediate ban on all Kaw River sand dredging and would ask for a public hearing and a new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on these new applications.

Thank you,

Bill McClave

William L. McClave

Managing Partner

Birchwood Resultants, LLC  
4901 West 136th Street

Leawood, KS 66224

913-696-1000 (office)

913-908-8148 (cell)

[wlmclave@birchwoodresultants.com](mailto:wlmclave@birchwoodresultants.com)

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

### **KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Erika B. Kraus

P.S. I worked on the Benedictine Bottoms Mitigation Site near Atchison, Kansas, on the Missouri River as an undergraduate Biology student. Having studied the effects of channelizing the Missouri, I do not wish to see the Kansas River valley suffer because of human exploitation. I do not believe that Kansans, business people or recreationers, should not at all profit from the great resource that is the Kansas River, but we should do so responsibly, conscious of the results of our actions.

Thank you for your time and concern.

Erika B. Kraus

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## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Michael Bradley [mbradleyks@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 10:53 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** dredging on the Kansas River

I am opposed to any additional in-river dredging operations on the Kansas River. With new research coming out all the time about the damage done by in-river dredging, I strongly believe that this time is not the right time to expand dredging operations. It is patently unclear that there is an increased need for dredging at this time. PLEASE DENY THESE NEW PERMIT REQUESTS.

Michael Bradley  
807 SW Western Ave  
Topeka, KS 66606

## Horton, Kale E NWK

---

**From:** Steve Sorensen [webforbs@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 12:43 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kansas River Proposed Dredging

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
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The Kansas Wildlife Federation is a 61-year old grassroots organization of hunters, anglers and concerned wildlife conservationists dedicated to the sustainable use, conservation, appreciation, and the restoration of our state's wildlife and natural environment. We approach this mission primarily from the perspective of hunting and fishing, which are important traditions in Kansas. Over 500,000 hunters and anglers spend close to one billion dollars in the state each year.

We strongly urge that the USACE deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, we strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kansas River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kansas River for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kansas River. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in

comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges.

Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kansas River is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- \* Dredging endangers water quality. It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- \* Dredging increases pollution. It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- \* Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights. The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- \* Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes. Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kansas River, six since 2006.
- \* Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters. Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.
- \* Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kansas River's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering our concerns.

Sincerely,

Steven G. Sorensen

Conservation Vice President

Kansas Wildlife Federation  
P. O. Box 771282  
Wichita, KS 67277-1282  
316-214-3001 Cell  
316-755-0321 Fax

The Kansas Wildlife Federation promotes hunting and fishing opportunities and associated recreation for the benefit of all hunters, anglers and conservationists. KWF supports the sustainable use and management of fish and wildlife and their habitats through education,

partnerships, outreach, and policy oversight.

PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:

APPLICANTS

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)

Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)

Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company: Kansas River Mile 18.65 to 20.15 and 20.55 to 21.15

Master's Dredging: Kansas River Mile 26.1 to 27.6; 28.3 to 29.8; 42.6 to 44.1; and 47.1 to 48.0

Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35

Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Cindy Griggs [cindyg99@swbell.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 12:48 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** stop dredging the Kaw

Our rivers are delicate and important. Dredging injures them.  
At least wait until the new K-State research data is available for you to use.  
I firmly think that you are being short-sighted if you allow dredging to continue or expand.  
Cindy Griggs

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Chris Scafe [chris@kansasrecycles.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 3:17 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Public Comment: Kaw River Dredging Permits

PUBLIC COMMENT:

KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
[kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil)

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton,

Please do not allow the dredging of the Kansas River without a new environmental impact statement for each site. We have lots of places to get sand and gravel, but not many to get drinking water. With so many people and creatures getting their drinking water from the Kaw there is too much at stake to not do a thorough study.

Thank you,

Chris Scafe

Lawrence, KS

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Linda Everhart [linda@quiltingamongfriends.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 3:53 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Please do not let them dredge the Kaw River..

Hi,

Please help by not letting a sand pit be put on the Kaw River... Because it will located so near the Kaw River, many of these pits flood as the operators encounter the water table rising up to (or falling away from) the river. The water in these manmade ponds is sustained by the water table and the surface level of the water will rise and fall with the water table. What this means is when the river is up, the level in the pit will rise.. allowing flooding from the pit without the river ever being out of its banks. The flooding will take crops, and food from future generations. Please do not harm the next generation for greed of roads and easy access to sand. This distroys our lands, our country, and food for everyone and future generations.

Please realize this will create flooding, and it will affect us.

Thank you...

Linda Everhart

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Giessel/Voss [ecos@everestkc.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 4:07 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kansas River Dredging Permit Applications, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896

RE: Kansas River Dredging Permits, 2012

Dear Mr./Ms. Horton,

As an experienced aquatic ecologist, I am fully aware of the habitat destruction associated with dredging activities. I am opposed to issuing permits to expand dredging on the Kansas River until K-State researchers release the results of an upcoming study on the Kansas River. This research will include analysis of the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel.

If the USACE is to make a science-based decision on dredging in the Kaw, then that decision should be delayed until this critical information is made available to the public and the scientific community for review.

Former permit holders have already caused damage to the Kaw. It makes absolutely no sense to expand the dredging based on an environmental assessment that is 20 years old. The new study should provide valuable information on which to base an updated EIS.

A public hearing on this matter would help clarify the issues, but not until the new study is available. Please keep me informed.

C.E. Giessel  
11705 W. 101st Terrace  
Overland Park, KS 66214

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** adam alldritt [rx7adam@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:16 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- **Dredging endangers water quality.** It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- **Dredging increases pollution.** It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.

- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel**, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,  
Adam Alldritt

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Caroline Pufalt [cpufalt@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:49 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Dredging on Kaw river

Dear MS. Horton,

I oppose the proposed increase of dredging in the Kaw river. The proposal would increase dredging significantly, by nearly 50%. Recent new information about the aftermath of dredging holes shows that their impacts are worse than had been thought. They contribute to serious erosion, changes in water table levels, may threaten nearby infrastructure and harm fish habitat.

I urge you to deny this proposed increase in dredging.

Please keep me informed of your decision or any other actions on this issue.

Thank you.

Caroline Pufalt

[cpufalt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cpufalt@sbcglobal.net)

7530 Delmar

St Louis MO 63130

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Mary & Craig Powell Yorke [yorke.powell@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 10:51 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** to dredge or not to dredge

Hi, sorry this is late on the deadline day. I had your email wrong and it kept coming back.  
MAP

Dear Mr. Horton,

Please forward this email as needed. We ask you & the Corps to stop dredging the Kaw. We want a healthy River in our Capital City. Also please consider delaying the decision until the final report from KSU is released. We strongly urge you to conduct a public meeting or hearing. This is too important to decide in haste.

We often walk the trails along the river to bird and hike.

Thanks for your kind attention,

Mary Powell & Craig Yorke

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Ariel moore [arielmoore913@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 7:28 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** regarding dredging the Kaw

Mr. Horton,

I want you to know that I am very against any extra dredging along the Kaw river. The rivers do not belong to the companies profiting from the destruction they cause. The rivers need to be protected. More dredging means more water pollution and less swimmable, enjoyable water and more hazardous toxins in our drinking water. It disrupts aquatic life in and around the rivers.

We the people want our Kaw river to be clean and available for our children to float down, to swim in and to view it's beauty. I encourage you to protect the river not allow it to be dredged.

Sincerely

--

Ariel Moore

12-12-11

US Army Corps of Engineers  
Clinton Lake Project  
872 N 1402 Rd

RE: dredging on the Kansas River

To Whom It May Concern:

Recently I have heard anti-dredging commentary about proposals of dredging companies to increase dredging operations on the Kansas River. The anti-dredging rhetoric always criticizes dredging that takes place in the river itself or on riverbanks. The fact is that some dredging operations take place in areas  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile to 1 mile or more from the river. Such dredging operations have little or no negative environmental impact on the river and should not be banned or opposed. The dredging employs people and yields a valuable and needed sand and gravel resource.

I strongly recommend dredging companies be allowed to dredge  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile or more from the Kansas River. True, dredging directly in the river could have unwanted environmental consequences, but dredging away from the river minimizes or eliminates environmental problems. Private dredging companies should be advised that dredging is welcome and permitted so long as dredging is confined to areas  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile or more from the river.

Supporter of Job Creation and Environmentally Friendly Dredging

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Alex Burden [alex\_burden@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 15, 2011 2:01 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kansas River dredging

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
[kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil)

November 15, 2011

Dear Mr. Horton:

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I also request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- **Dredging endangers water quality.** It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- **Dredging increases pollution.** It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.

- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.
- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel,** and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,  
Alex Burden

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Springer, Haskell S [springer@ku.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 15, 2011 2:06 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** kansasriverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** dredging

PUBLIC COMMENT:

KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I also request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. The USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

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points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

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- \* Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes. Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.

- \* Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters. Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.

- \* Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Haskell Springer

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Signature

PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:

APPLICANTS

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462) Master's Dredging (2011-1465) Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466) Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9 Holliday Sand & Gravel Company: Kansas River Mile 18.65 to 20.15 and 20.55 to 21.15 Master's Dredging: Kansas River Mile 26.1 to 27.6; 28.3 to 29.8; 42.6 to 44.1; and 47.1 to 48.0 Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35 Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** rviale@cox.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 15, 2011 2:58 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** Dredging on Kaw River

I am opposed to expansion of dredging on the Kansas River for a wide variety of common-sense reasons, including:

1. Dredging stirs up industrial pollutants, thus increasing the costs of water treatment in cities along the river. Over 600,000 Kansans get their drinking water from the Kaw, including everyone in my home town of Topeka.
2. Dredging causes erosion to both wildlife habitat and valuable farmland. The erosion also threatens public infrastructure like bridges, roads, and flood control structures.
3. Cables used in dredging are hazardous to boaters, and damaging to tourism.
4. Dredging is unnecessary. Sand can easily be obtained from sand pits in nearby areas.

There is simply no reason to expand (or even allow) sand dredging on the Kansas River. I believe there should be public hearings on this subject.

Regis Vialle

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** mary titterington [pakama@kc.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 15, 2011 3:46 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** dredging of the Kaw

Please do not consider accepting any of the five petitions to expand dredging of the Kaw--it is a valuable water and animal habitat that does not need this type of destruction. I have performed volunteer clean up of the Kaw for the last five years and it is a beautiful river as it is. I also bike in Shawnee Mission Park, always stopping at the look out at the far end over the Kaw to admire the river.

Many people besides these few businesses will be impacted by this decision. Please keep other interests in mind.

Thank you for your consideration. Mary Titterington

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** gmweeks [gmweeks@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2011 7:09 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** Stop river dredging

Dear Mr. Horton,

Please accept this e-mail as my official public comment on dredging permits on the Kansas River, and I request that all citizens have an opportunity to comment at a public hearing.

The dredging that is now permitted on the Kansas River is destructive in many ways. It damages river habitat, harming fish and animal populations, and it endangers our drinking water by stirring up sediments and pollutants. Cables attached to the rigs cause hazards to the people who wish to use the river for fishing and recreation. Dredging also causes erosion that threatens taxpayer-supported infrastructure as well as valuable farmland and other private property. You have already banned dredging from several areas of the river, and many sand and gravel producers have successfully moved their operations to pit mines off the river.

Kansas State researchers will release a major study of the environmental effects of dredging on the river in January and it makes no sense to grant permits without all available information. I urge you to reject all requests to dredge on the Kansas River. It is a resource for all our citizens and should be protected.

Sincerely,  
George Weeks  
1509 S. College  
Pittsburg, KS 66762

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Dennis Hayward [dhayward@efmconsult.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2011 8:34 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Dredging Permits

Mr. Horton,

I am sure you are receiving numerous emails and correspondence from the lot's of people who reside in the "People's Republic of Lawrence, Kansas", regarding the permit extension and request to increase sand dredging from the river.

I personally do not agree with a zero tolerance policy, and I support the current permit extension request. Sand happens to be one of the basic building blocks of construction, and without it we would have no economy. Much to the dismay of my tree-hugger neighbors, I feel we are already over-regulated and we need to allow this activity to continue now and into the future.

Sincerely,

Dennis K. Hayward  
785.842.2306  
Lawrence, Kansas

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Nancy Marshall [nlmarshall@sunflower.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2011 9:29 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Laura Calwell  
**Subject:** Stop sand dredging on the Kansas River  
**Attachments:** StillLifeOnKansasRiversmall.jpg

Kale Horton  
Regulatory Project Manager  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 E. 12th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

Dear Mr. Horton, As a member of the Friends of the Kaw, I stand by their position that sand should be procured away from the river. Aside from protecting the river as the valuable resource it is, I hope the Corp encourages the public to use the rivers for recreation, helping us appreciate the rivers' beauty and acknowledging that healthy rivers are essential to the planet's (thus our) health.

Best regards, Nancy

Nancy Lehenbauer Marshall  
NLM Studio  
P.O. Box 4422  
Lawrence, KS 66046  
785.841.9241  
Fax 785.841.4975  
[www.nlmstudio.com](http://www.nlmstudio.com)

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

November 16, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I also request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. Among other things when the riverbed is damaged, the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas is damaged. Dredging threatens water quality. For example, it stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water. It also churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. My town of Lawrence draws much of its water from the Kaw.

Dredging has additional negative effects that include:

- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.
- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel,** and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines.

The damaging effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities. Communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

John Poertner  
1646 Hillcrest Rd  
Lawrence, KS 66044

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)  
Master's Dredging (2011-1465)  
Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)  
Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

**PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company: Kansas River Mile 18.65 to 20.15 and 20.55 to 21.15  
Master's Dredging: Kansas River Mile 26.1 to 27.6; 28.3 to 29.8; 42.6 to 44.1; and 47.1 to 48.0  
Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35  
Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Gibran S. [narbig09@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2011 9:58 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** KS River Dredging Comment

I wanted to comment on the upcoming permit renewal process for in channel sand dredging on the Kansas River. I think the COE should not increase the tonnage granted in the permits, and ideally decrease tonnage or completely not allow in channel dredging. The Kansas River channel is unique in that it is a public trust and I feel that in channel dredging is a violation of that trust as it has been published that the dredging disrupts the equilibrium of the river (Kansas Geological Survey Open-file Report 98-2, January 1998). I would also encourage the USCOE to hold public meetings if they are not already planned, and to abide by NEPA to the highest degree. Lastly, I would encourage the USCOE to utilize a report to be released by Kansas State University in Jan 2012 on the effects of dredging.

Thank you for your consideration.

Gibran Suleiman  
7002 Summit Ridge Dr  
Manhattan KS 66503

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Sean Santoro [sean@roadlawyer.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2011 2:25 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kaw (Kansas) River Dredging Permit

Attn: Kale Horton  
USACE  
Regulatory Project Manager  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
RE: Kaw (Kansas) River Dredging Permits

I am writing to contest the expansion or renewal of sand dredging permits on the Kaw River. Sand dredging causes erosion to farmland, increased silt in municipal water intakes, degradation of wildlife habitat and harms fish and fishing. Limiting or prohibiting sand dredging will have minimal if any economic impact on the local economy. Many such operations have already moved inland. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sean Santoro  
PO Box 455  
Bonner Springs KS 66012

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** John [johnkellerlawr@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2011 7:14 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** dredging

Mr. Horton,

I hope you will decide to help maintain the health of our rivers and thereby the health of those who rely on fresh water, including those things living in the water. I am 60 years old and a 45 year resident of northeast Kansas. I believe that our natural resources are more precious all the time. Please decide for the long term of healthy living, not the short term of cheaper construction material.

Sincerely,

John Keller

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Tom or Kathy Stull [wtskcs@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 17, 2011 10:54 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Laura Calwell  
**Subject:** Public Comment: KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

We are avid kayakers on the Kansas River. William grew up visiting and using the Kansas River. It is very close to our hearts and we want to encourage you to do everything possible to preserve and protect it for us and for future generations.

Please accept this as our official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. We also request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue.

We strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, we strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- **Dredging endangers water quality.** It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- **Dredging increases pollution.** It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.

- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel**, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering our concerns.

Sincerely,

William and Kathleen Stull

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)

Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)

Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

**PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company: Kansas River Mile 18.65 to 20.15 and 20.55 to 21.15

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Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35

Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## **Horton, Kale E NWK**

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**From:** Joe Eschbacher [joeschbacher@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 17, 2011 12:59 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

### **KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

November 17, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I also request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less

environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- **Dredging endangers water quality.** It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- **Dredging increases pollution.** It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.
- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel,** and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Joe Eschbacher  
Olathe KS  
Signature

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)  
Master's Dredging (2011-1465)  
Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)  
Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

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Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35  
Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Pj and Larry Davis [ledpj@swbell.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 17, 2011 5:34 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** dredging on the Kaw

I vote no on allowing the 13 proposed permits for dredging on the Kaw. I understand the Army Corps has already closed these sites because of damage already done by dredging. Did the damage mysteriously heal? If not, I can't imagine a scenario where dredging should be allowed again.

PJ Quell

5425 Mastin

Merriam, KS

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Chet & Ruth johnson [chetbuffalo@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2011 8:25 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** ruining the Kaw valley

We are very strongly opposed to the proposed dredging. Please consider the future as well as the immediate economic pressure--we don't have too many chances to go back and "do it right" once we harm an area. Chet and Ruth Johnson

## PUBLIC COMMENT:

### KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. **I also request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue.**

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

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Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Christina Glauner, Lawrence KS

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Signature

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)

Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

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Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

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Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Kim Fenton [deweydecimator@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2011 2:37 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** Citizen comment regarding dredging on the Kaw

Kale,

I understand that the Army Corps of Engineers is taking public comments about dredging on the Kaw River.

I plead that dredging be stopped along the Kaw River, and definitely not expanded. I'm sure you are aware of the terrible effects that dredging has on the public's water supply as well as the ecosystem of the river and the public's ability to enjoy the river's natural beauty.

There are other sources of sand that are more reasonable that will not cause undue economic hardship.

Thank you very much for considering,

Kim Fenton  
Shawnee Resident and frequent Kaw visitor

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** dhalexander@sunflower.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 5:36 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kansas River

Dear Mr. Horton:

I am writing to express my concerns with the increased dredging proposed for the Kansas River. The Kansas River flows through so many locations in Kansas, and in the last five years, there has been increased focus on the health of the river and increased opportunities for recreation. My family values the river for canoeing and its natural beauty. Equally importantly, it is clear that dredging is environmentally destructive - one completely disturbs the bottom sediments and all living things at this level. Of particular concern is the increased mixing of chemicals from industry or agriculture that have settled into the sediment and would be mixed and reentering the water flow through this process.

Please do not provide this permit; the Kaw needs all the help it can get to become a healthier river for both humans and the environment.

Sincerely, Helen ALEXander

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Scott Mansker [jscottmansker@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 2:26 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Calwell Laura Riverkeeper  
**Subject:** Kaw Dredging

Kale,

Dredging is destroying the Kansas River. I recognize the need for construction aggregate but there are many ways to get this within the valley without attacking the river itself. There is ample evidence that this ruins fish and mollusk habitat followed shortly after by the animals that feed on them. There are also issues with bed degradation that have yet to be fully understood but the evidence is pointing toward dredging as a big contributing factor.

We are lucky to have the Kaw for drinking water. This should be the primary usage of the river. But dredging is pulling up old pollutants and putting an increased burden on our water systems. We cannot be asked to sacrifice clean water and a healthy river for slightly cheaper sand. There are costs to dredging that are not factored into the dredging permits. If the true costs were built in, off river sand mining would be the obvious choice.

Deny these permits, please. The time has come to change the mindset about this river. This is an opportunity.

Thanks for reading.

Scott Mansker  
Host, Rivermiles  
[www.rivermiles.org](http://www.rivermiles.org)

Scott Mansker

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** STEVE STEMMERMAN [learningtowiggle@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 27, 2011 8:35 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** Public Comment - Kansas River Dredging Permits

### PUBLIC COMMENT:

### KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

November 27, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I also request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Steve Stemmerman

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Signature

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**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 8, 2011

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## Horton, Kale E NWK

---

**From:** jashberger@kc.rr.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011 7:40 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** support dredging in kansas river

My family and I have canoed the kansas river from junction city to K.C.Kansas for over 25 years. Lately we have seen more sand than ever before. I believe the negative effects of the sand companies are overstated. We have never had a problem going by a sand company. They always see us and lower their cables until we are way past.

I support increased dredging on the kansas river  
thank you, Jerry Ashberger

## Horton, Kale E NWK

---

**From:** Dave Redmon [ldredmon@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011 1:33 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Public Comment re Kansas River

### PUBLIC COMMENT:

### KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
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Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
[kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil)

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Sincerely,

**Dave Redmon**  
**2232 Cedar Acres Drive**  
**Manhattan, KS 66502**

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## Horton, Kale E NWK

---

**From:** Mark Sanders [msanders@sunflower.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011 3:33 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org

Please stop dredging on the Kansas River. Using the river for profit is not worth the damage done.

Thanks, Mark

## Horton, Kale E NWK

---

**From:** Richard Young [rcyoung9904@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011 3:44 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

### PUBLIC COMMENT:

### KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
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Sincerely,

**Richard C. Young and Eleese Marie Young**  
**3456 SW Birchwood Drive**  
**Topeka, Kansas 66614**

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Signature

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

- Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)
- Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)
- Master's Dredging (2011-1465)
- Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)
- Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

**PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company: Kansas River Mile 18.65 to 20.15 and 20.55 to 21.15

Master's Dredging: Kansas River Mile 26.1 to 27.6; 28.3 to 29.8; 42.6 to 44.1; and 47.1 to 48.0

Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35

Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** shell brodie [gatorgal68@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011 4:47 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Public comment re: Dredging on the KAW

Please consider my comment related to dredging on the KAW. There are currently too many dredging operations and approving more will be very detrimental to the river and the ecosystems it sustains. This is not only my viewpoint but various scientists, experts and ecologists have documented the negative effects that dredging has. Kansas is unique in that it's one of the few states with no natural water bodies (such as lakes). We therefore have an even greater obligation to protect the natural systems we do have - like the Kansas River. Water quantity and quality continue to be issues and will become even greater in importance in the future.

Please re-evaluate your position; please consider all effects on the river and don't put a priority on economic issues over environmental. You are the trusted agency to protect our riverways; please rise to the occasion and make sound science prevail.

Thank you.

Shelley Brodie  
9308 Swarner  
Lenexa, KS 66219

**Horton, Kale E NWK**

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**From:** Nancy Hubble [bookantics@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011 9:08 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK

**Please, do not allow the companies any expansion of river dredging. The effects of increased dredging on our river ( note that I said OUR as I, my friends and my family drink from this river) will damage our health, our environment and our trust in public policies designed to protect us. Some of the problems are evident such as:**

**Damage to our drinking water.**

- Dredging stirs up sediments and industrial pollutants that are expensive for municipal treatment plants to remove from drinking water.
- Over 600,000 Kansans get their drinking water from the Kaw – for example, one-third of Johnson County, and all of Topeka.
- Three major municipal intakes draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities draw water from wells near the river.

**Erosion of private property and taxpayer infrastructure.**

- Dredging causes erosion to valuable farmland and wildlife habitat.
- Erosion also threatens taxpayer-funded infrastructure like flood control measures, bridges, and roads.
- Cables for dredging rigs are hazardous to recreational boaters, and the river tourism that several communities have worked hard to promote.

There is no need for the destructive practice of river dredging - other sand companies are already pursuing the practical, economic, and reasonable alternative of sand pit mining.

**And there are greater benefits to be had from stopping the present amount of dredging!**

- Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy.
- Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion to private and government property.

Please consider my sincere request. It is for the benefit of all of us.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Hubble and family

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Sarah Dean [sarahsdean@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2011 1:56 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** kaw river dredging

Kale. E. Horton  
USACE

Please do not hold public hearings on new proposals for Kaw river dredging until the public has a chance to digest a KSU study on this subject.

I understand the study is coming out in January 2012. This means the public should be alerted to this important information and have an opportunity to read it prior to hearings scheduled on this subject.

Hearings should not begin at least one month after publication and notification to the public of the KSU study.

The Kansas River (Kaw) is a public resource. The public must have every opportunity to study the issues and technical information provided by its state University, KSU, prior to major decisions concerning its future usage - sand dredging operations in this case under consideration.

Thank you kindly, for your consideration on this important issue.

Sarah S. Dean  
1835 Republic Rd.  
Lawrence, Ks. 66044  
785-749-3256

## Horton, Kale E NWK

---

**From:** Don McEnhill [don@russianriverkeeper.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2011 2:41 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Laura Calwell  
**Subject:** Comment on Permits 2011-1460; 2001-1462; 2011-1465; 2011-1466 & 2011-1463

Dear Ms Horton,

I am writing you today concerning the 13 permit applications referenced above to state our opposition to granting these permits for a 50% increase in sand dredging on the Kansas River. We respectfully request these applications be subject to a public hearing and a new EIS. We strongly support the comments submitted by Kansas Riverkeeper/ Friends of the Kaw.

I work on the Russian River in Northern California where we have extensive gravel mining and am very familiar with the impacts to our watershed and fish populations that mining poses. Due to the irreversible impacts of instream mining and the extremely high cost to local communities for increased water treatment and erosion repair costs almost all instream mining has been phased out and replaced with off-stream mining and imported aggregates and sand. In particular the dredge process grossly increases turbidity and other legacy pollutants in the Kansas River that could impact drinking water systems that serve over 600,000 Kansas residents.

From reviewing the application materials we offer the following points:

- Section 404(b)(1) requires that USACE permit the least environmentally damaging feasible alternative such as the off-stream pit mining alternative that is being utilized by other mining firms
- Construction rates have plunged up to 85% across the nation leading to a surplus in building materials such as sand and gravel, what justification is there to increase tonnage?
- What insurance or bonding instruments are proposed to address increased costs to municipal water treatment systems from increased turbidity from dredging?
- Dredging causes streambank erosion and erodes the supports for public infrastructure like bridges posing yet another cost to the community.
- Dredging accelerates the loss of riparian areas that are critical to wildlife and tourism
- We see no evidence in the application materials that ending dredging on the Kansas River would result in higher costs for sand and gravel and yet we know it increase public costs so ending the dredging would provide the optimal public benefit.

We understand that Kansas State University researchers are compiling an extensive report on the environmental impacts and costs of river dredging on the Kansas River, this information would be critical to the Corps in order to make the best possible decision for the River, the community and our environment.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,  
Don McEnhill

Don McEnhill  
Executive Director

Russian Riverkeeper  
PO Box 1335  
Healdsburg, CA 95448  
707-433-1958  
[www.russianriverkeeper.org](http://www.russianriverkeeper.org)

***Russian Riverkeeper works with the community to advocate, educate, and uphold our environmental laws to ensure the protection and restoration of the Russian River for the health and benefit of all who use and enjoy it! - Become a member today at <http://www.russianriverkeeper.org/forms/become-member.php>!***

**Horton, Kale E NWK**

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**From:** William Falk [nlwlfalk@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2011 5:48 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK

PLease preserve our natural heritage intact for future generations  
GREED  
SHOULD NOT BE ANSWERED WITH public gifts  
IBILL FALK  
NORMA FALK

*NORMA L. & WILLIAM L.. FALK*

*/>3028 SW ARROWHEAD RD.*

*TOPEKA, KANSAS  
66614-4134*

*EMAIL [NLWLFALKFALK@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:NLWLFALKFALK@SBCGLOBAL.NET)*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

I am a recreational user of the Kaw and believe that the in river dredging practices are damaging to the safe recreational use of the river while giving it an undesirable industrial experience for boaters. Sand and gravel does not have to be mined from the in-river bed so why should we allow it when it has so many negatives for so many including stirring up sediment and disrupting wildlife. The only benefit I can see is that 13 dredging operators will put some money in their pockets and hire a few employees. It is amazing that our rivers are so disgusting that people do not want to be around them. When that happens children aren't learning how rivers can be alive and beautiful.

Sincerely,

Linda Elder

## Horton, Kale E NWK

---

**From:** Jim Jackson [wriverjj@kcnet.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 02, 2011 8:28 AM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Laura Calwell  
**Subject:** Dredging on the Kaw

Dear Mr. Horton,

I have been paddling the Kansas river since the summer of 1973. I have made over 175 trips on the river and that has included seeing the entire river multiple times during those trips. The river in many, many places has widened and not just from seasonal flooding, but also from dredging along it's banks. I've seen a huge amount of farmland taken by the river from bank erosion and in many area's dredging has been a major contributing factor. There is no reason why Sand Pit mining can't be an alternative to river dredging. Sand Pit mining maintains the same job's and economic benefits. We need a public hearing on this issue. Additionally I know dredging in the river has to be stirring up the many industrial pollutant's that have accumulated in the river bottom over the year's. This can not be safe for our drinking water that communities rely on from this river. It has to be a contributing factor on the chemicals getting into our fish and other wildlife along the river also.

I urge you for the sake of our farming interests, the fishing and boating public, and the effort being made for safe drinking water in our communities that you deny these dredging permits and consider sand pit permits for some of them. Let's research this issue more for the benefit of everyone. At the very least we need to have a public hearing on this before any permits for dredging in the river are contemplated.

Jim Jackson

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

### **KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- **Dredging endangers water quality.** It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- **Dredging increases pollution.** It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.
- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel,** and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Kali C. Bird  
Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas  
2101 Constant Ave  
Lawrence, KS 66047

#### PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:

##### **APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)  
Master's Dredging (2011-1465)  
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**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I also request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

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The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

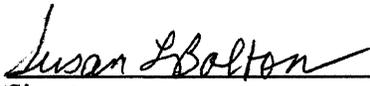
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- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel,** and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



Signature

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)

Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

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**PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS**

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Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** dhalexander@sunflower.com  
**Sent:** Friday, December 02, 2011 2:36 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** dalexander@ku.edu; halexander@ku.edu  
**Subject:** Kaw River dredging

### PUBLIC COMMENT - KANSAS RIVER DREDGING

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896

Dear Mr. Horton,

I would like to register my strong objection to in-river dredging in the Kansas (or Kaw) River. I am strongly opposed to the issuance of permits to allow sand dredging in the river. As you must know, a huge number of people depend on the Kansas River for drinking water. Such dredging will foul the water, stir up pollutants that have settled into the sediment, and, according to research from Kansas State University, lower the adjacent water table and seriously erode the banks. In addition, dredging will kill or destroy the habitats of the many fish, invertebrates, and turtles living in the river, and adversely impact animals far down stream from the dredging operation.

The Kansas River has wide flood plains, and anyone living near the river knows that there are numerous locations on land near the river where sand and gravel can be quarried. If private landowners wish to allow their land to be used for sand quarries, let them, but don't let in-river dredging operations damage the common resource that so many Kansans rely upon for clean water. I understand that the Corps of Engineers has already closed some stretches of the river due to damage from dredging, so why repeat the mistake? Please do not approve the permits for river dredging.

Sincerely,

David E. Alexander  
2905 Pebble Ln.  
Lawrence, KS 66047

THIS COMMENT REFERS TO THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS:

#### APPLICANTS

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462) Master's Dredging (2011-1465) Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466) Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

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## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Eric Verbovszky [everbovszky@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 04, 2011 4:35 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** Stop Dredging on the Kaw

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please read the following paragraphs. The pillaging of our resources because of corporate selfishness and greed has only destroyed the beauty of our land and waterways and further degraded them in the ways outlined below. The dredging operations are a danger to not only the health of the waterway, but also a danger to the public.

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Eric Verbovszky

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<http://thekayakingchurch.wordpress.com> - attempting to be the Church God has called us to be.

"Forever young. Do you really want to live forever?"

Kale Horton  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 4, 2011

Dear Mr. Horton,

I've spent a lot of time on the Kansas River since I moved to Lawrence, Kansas in 1996. Over the years I've kayaked and canoed all but a dozen of its 171 miles, and as an artist I've painted from its banks, documented it with camera and video from the air, and studied photos and maps. I'm fascinated by the changes I witness in sandbars and along the banks, those that are natural, of course. The sometime dramatic changes I observe from sand dredgers are of great concern to me.

I am writing to comment on the recent requests for in-river dredging permits on the Kansas River. I'd also like to request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I'd like to request that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

It's already apparent that in-river dredging is problematic for water quality for both humans and aquatic life because of the stirred up silt. Old industrial pollutants become part of the mix stirred up from the bed and banks. We know it is not advised to eat bottom-dwelling fish from the Kaw. This will only make that situation worse. I'm not a scientist but research and even direct observation reveals the implacable dynamics of streams that results in the river taking materials from its banks to fill in the dredging holes, thus destabilizing and eroding farmland, tributaries, and other property. In-river dredging jeopardizes public infrastructure such as bridges, flood control jetties, public water intakes, and other structures, by destabilizing river banks. Eventually we taxpayers will have to pay to repair or replace this infrastructure while the dredger walks away with their profits from using this public resource!

Please protect the Kaw and its riparian ecosystem from the predictable results of more in-river dredging by denying these permits.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Grossman  
825 Maine St.  
Lawrence, KS 66044  
785.843.8578

**Horton, Kale E NWK**

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**From:** Ratra, Bharat [ratra@phys.ksu.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 12:49 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** 'riverkeeper@kansasriver.org'

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 5, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS->

Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- **Dredging endangers water quality.** It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- **Dredging increases pollution.** It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- **Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes.** Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- **Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters.** Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.
- **Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel,** and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Bharat Ratra  
3700 Stratford Terrace  
Manhattan, KS 66503

#### PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:

##### **APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)  
Master's Dredging (2011-1465)  
Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)  
Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

##### **PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company: Kansas River Mile 18.65 to 20.15 and 20.55 to 21.15  
Master's Dredging: Kansas River Mile 26.1 to 27.6; 28.3 to 29.8; 42.6 to 44.1; and 47.1 to 48.0  
Penny's Aggregates, Inc.: Kansas River Mile 45.2 to 46.7 and 49.6 to 51.35  
Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Cynthia Wosel [cywks@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 1:03 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Dredging Kaw

Why would the public comment period end before research is completed? That makes no sense. I am against proceeding with a decision until research is complete, made public, and public input is considered in decision.

Thank you  
Cynthia Wosel  
Shawnee, Ks.

Sent from my iPhone

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Judith Zivanovic [jzivan56@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 2:12 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** riverkeeper@kansasriver.org  
**Subject:** Kaw Dredging

I am concerned about extending the amount of dredging allowed from the Kansas River: that it can create damage to the river which will cause problems for drinking water and for recreational use and problems for wildlife. I think, at the very least, additional consideration, probably as a public hearing, should be involved. Please do not issue permits without this careful examination. Judith and Milan Zivanovic

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** John Bond [johnloribond@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 2:47 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** sand dredging permits

**kale, I would like to provide public comment on the river dredging permits. I provide the following as reasons to deny the permits.**

### **Damage to our drinking water.**

- Dredging stirs up sediments and industrial pollutants that are expensive for municipal treatment plants to remove from drinking water.
- Over 600,000 Kansans get their drinking water from the Kaw – for example, one-third of Johnson County, and all of Topeka.
- Three major municipal intakes draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities draw water from wells near the river.

### **Erosion of private property and taxpayer infrastructure.**

- Dredging causes erosion to valuable farmland and wildlife habitat.
- Erosion also threatens taxpayer-funded infrastructure like flood control measures, bridges, and roads.
- Cables for dredging rigs are hazardous to recreational boaters, and the river tourism that several communities have worked hard to promote.

### **Economic benefits to ending dredging.**

- There is no need for the destructive practice of river dredging - other sand companies are already pursuing the practical, economic, and reasonable alternative of sand pit mining.
- Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy.
- Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion to private and government property.

I would like to request public hearing on these permits if possible.

John Bond  
601 East Trapp  
Herington, Ks 67449  
785-560-4846

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** BethLBarnett@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 3:10 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Cc:** Riverkeeper@KansasRiver.org  
**Subject:** Dredging

Please deny more dredging permits. As you know, it greatly affects the expense of cleaning our drinking water, threatens farmland and bridges and destroys wildlife. Please schedule a public hearing on this matter.

Thank you.

Beth L. Barnett

Visit my blog at  
[www.Bethlyonbarnett.com](http://www.Bethlyonbarnett.com)

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Rolland Love [rtl@kc.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 3:10 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK; laura NEW calwell  
**Subject:** NO MORE DREDGING OF THE KAW RIVER! - HAVE WE NOT DESTROYED ENOUGH OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES BECAUSE OF GREED!

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
[kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil)

December 5, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include: Dredging endangers water quality. It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water. Dredging increases pollution. It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.

Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights. The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks. Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes. Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.

Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters. Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.

Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

ROLLAND LOVE

**Horton, Kale E NWK**

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**From:** Sandy Beverly [sgbeverly@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 3:35 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK; Laura Calwell  
**Subject:** KS River Dredging Permits, public comment

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
[kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil](mailto:kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil)

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

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Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

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Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,  
Sandy Beverly

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)  
Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)  
Master's Dredging (2011-1465)  
Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)  
Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

**PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9  
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Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

## Horton, Kale E NWK

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**From:** Michael Hunter [mhunter12@kc.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 3:41 PM  
**To:** Horton, Kale E NWK  
**Subject:** Kaw River Dredging

Mr. Horton,

As you can see from the address, I live in Missouri. However, I remain an area resident and was a long time (50 years) resident of Kansas, so the Kaw River continues to be an important part of my life. It is time for the COE to move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and eliminate dredging on the Kaw. There are numerous locations off river for quality sand that will more than meet the construction needs of our area. I will not get into the environmental issues of dredging – as you know there are many - concerning the continuing harm caused by dredging. What really disturbs me is the damage caused to the areas infrastructure such as bridges, and most importantly our water supply. Again, I won't get into the details of these concerns as I feel certain you are familiar with each. The COE needs to protect the needs of the larger community and not just a small but influential group of dredgers. Therefore get the dredgers off the river.

Thank you,

Michael J. Hunter  
16938 E. Heather Lane  
Village of Loch Lloyd, MO 64012

816-331-2892

**PUBLIC COMMENT:****KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

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RECEIVED  
REGULATORY BRANCH  
2011 NOV 22 PM 4:37

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



Signature

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

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## PUBLIC COMMENT: KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

November 24, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I also request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

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- **Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights.** The river automatically seeks to fill the

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven R. McCoy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "S" at the beginning and a long, trailing "y" at the end.

## PUBLIC COMMENT: KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

November 24, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I also request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

*Amanda M. McCoy*

Amanda M. McCoy  
821 SW Lincoln  
Topeka, KS 66606

## PUBLIC COMMENT: KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
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kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

*Kathleen M. McCay*

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

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November 17, 2011

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

*Tom Schmiedeler*

Signature

Name: TOM SCHMIEDELER

Address: 35 N. 2190TH RD.  
LECOMPTON, KS 66050

Phone: 785 550-6685

Email: MR. ARNIE. PIP@GMAIL.COM

PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:

**APPLICANTS**

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Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)

Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)

Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

**PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc: Kansas River Mile 9.4 to 16.9

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## PUBLIC COMMENT: KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colleen M. Neenan".

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
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kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

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November 17, 2011

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December 4, 2011

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
USACE  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
Kansas City, Mo 64106-2896

Dear Mr. Horton,

I am writing regarding dredging on the Kansas River. In light of the request for additional permits and increased tonnage by the sand companies whose permits are up for renewal it is time for a new Environmental Impact Statement as the 1991 EIS is outdated. These increases will change the impact of dredging on the river. The Corps also needs to schedule a public hearing before renewing any of the current dredging permits.

I am opposed to all on river dredging because of the destruction of wildlife habitat, bank erosion and the effect on water quality. I was told by the Corps 10 years ago that they needed to consider the economic benefits of the dredging operations when granting permits. There is finally new research being funded to study the negative environmental impacts of dredging. Now the economic decisions should include the future cost of reclamation as we need to restore the river to its natural state. There are concerns about the impact of dredging on both the structures and quality of the municipal water supplies that rely on the Kansas River. Today there are also more recreational users of the river that can have an untapped positive economic impact to communities all along the river. On river dredging equipment can create hazardous conditions and a deterrent to tourism opportunities.

The Corps of Engineers needs to listen to the concerns regarding river dredging and a public meeting is the best venue. Now that the dredging companies have officially requested increased tonnage the Environmental Impact Statement needs to be updated.

Thank you,



Joanne Bergman  
25253 Alexander Rd.  
Lawrence, KS 66044

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Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
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STOP

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2011 DEC - 8 PM 12: 15

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Signature Jim Aldrin

Name: JIM ALDRIN

Address: 821 ALABAMA LAWRENCE, GA

Phone:

Email: N/A

DREDGED  
KAW  
# 150044

PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:

**APPLICANTS**

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- Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

Evelyn Davis  
2928 SW 103rd St.  
Wakarusa, KS 66546

785-836-2351

dntpllt@yahoo.com

December 7, 2011

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River being accepted until December 9, 2011.

From scientific evidence, it is obvious that in-river dredging degrades not only the river, but the land along the river. Having worked for the Shawnee County Conservation District for newly 10 years as their Water Quality Coordinator, I have learned some of the dynamic interactions of rivers.

Now a preliminary study by Kansas State University researchers are finding the same results that we had observed all along. The damage to public infrastructures, wildlife habitat, loss of stream banks and farm soil as well as lowering of the water table are significant harms that will cost taxpayers far more in the long run than the slight increase cost of sand will be to development. The damage to water quality alone makes it time to deny in-river dredging.

I also request that you delay the decision making process until the final report of the KSU major research study of the Kansas River is released. This issue also needs a public hearing/meeting which I strongly urge you to conduct.

Sincerely yours,



Evelyn Davis

RECEIVED  
REGULATORY BRANCH  
2011 DEC - 8 PM 2:16

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

RECEIVED  
REGULATORY BRANCH  
2011 DEC -8 PM 2:15

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

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I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. *Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.*

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic,

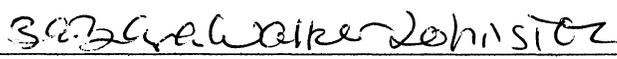
and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

- Dredging endangers water quality. It stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- Dredging increases pollution. It churns up old industrial pollutants (like PCBs and heavy metals) that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- Dredging jeopardizes riparian property rights. The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates, when it does so it carves dirt away from the riverbanks.
- Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes. Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006.
- Dredging causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters. Cables that attach dredging rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.
- Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

  
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Signature

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kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

RECEIVED  
REGULATORY BRANCH  
2011 DEC -9 PM 3: 30

December 9, 2011

**RE: PUBLIC COMMENT KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



Signature

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Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)

Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

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kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

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December 9, 2011

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Sincerely,

  
Signature

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**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

RECEIVED  
REGULATORY BRANCH  
2011 DEC 12 AM 10:58

December 8, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

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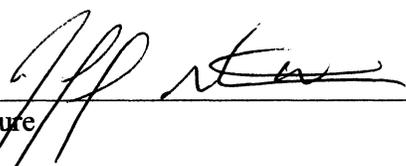
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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely, *Jeff Needham*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

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**APPLICANTS**

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**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

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December 8, 2011

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December 9, 2011

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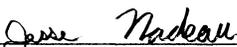
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Taking dredges off the Kaw will not increase the price of sand and gravel, and it will not have negative impacts on jobs or the economy. Ending dredging will ultimately reduce the cost of drinking water treatment and reduce the costs of erosion for private and government property.

Dredging has already caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. As a result, the U.S.A.C.E. has already closed some stretches of the river to further dredging. Please close the rest.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

  
Signature

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Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

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Meier's Ready Mix /Victory Sand Mining & Dredging, LLC (2011-1463)

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Meier's Ready Mix / Victory Sand, LLC: Kansas River Mile 77.1 to 78.6 and 90.1 to 91.6

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896

RECEIVED  
REGULATORY BRANCH  
2011 DEC 12 AM 10: 56

December 9, 2011

**RE: PUBLIC COMMENT KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

I would like to offer this letter as public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River. I hope that the permitting process will include a public meeting so I might have opportunity to make further comments. The community of recreational boaters has grown in recent years with the advent of additional access points on the river and these voices need an opportunity to be heard. The permitting review process needs to be long enough for all stakeholders to participate and to allow additional new scientific information to be incorporated in the decision making. A public meeting would be appropriate, given such a large proposed increase in dredging activity in the river and new scientific information from Kansas State University researchers coming to light. By the same reasoning a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River would be appropriate and wise.

I would like to see all thirteen sites included in the five permits denied and all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River cease. Dredging is a destructive use of the river and is inconsistent with the many other beneficial uses of the river. Dredging creates bank instability and is destructive of fish and wildlife habitat. The Kansas River is refuge to the many rare aquatic species (fish, freshwater mussels and birds) that inhabit the watershed and it is the connection between populations of these rare aquatic species. Dredging has drastically reduced recreational potential and fish and wildlife habitat in over twenty miles of the most downstream segment of the river.

As recreational use of the river continues to increase and Kansas state government agencies promote recreation on the river the major safety issues surface. The City of Topeka has begun a process of making their water intake dam safe for passage by boaters. Dredging cables represent a very real and significant threat to boating safety. I am aware of incidents involving dredge cables that have come exceedingly close to loss of life.

I frequently boat the section of the river between Topeka and Perry and have had difficulty passing the Meir's Ready Mix/Victory Sand LLC dredge near RM 78. I have found the dredge facing downstream several times when the dredge operator was not aware of my presence before I passed the dredge. I have had to get low in the boat and pass under cable approximately four feet above the water when I was passing tight against the far bank (river left) opposite their hinge point. I have had to walk my boat through shallow water because the dredge extended all the way across the boatable part of the river and the pipeline to the bank that they use continually bobs up and down in the current from completely below the surface to above the

surface making passage on the hinge side very dangerous. As I was dragging my boat through the shallow water I was forced to use I realized that I had a very good chance of walking it from ankle deep water into the dredge hole in a step or two and consider that a close call. A few years ago at the former location of this dredge upstream of Topeka I was unaware of the submersed pipeline and passed over it in a tandem canoe and was temporarily hung up on it as it bobbed up. We did not capsize but it was a very close call. I submit dredging with cables across the river is inconsistent with navigability and a major safety issue.

My opposition to in river dredging does not come easy as I worked my way through college working for a major Kansas River dredging company. I also worked for over 30 years as an environmental scientist monitoring Kansas stream water quality including the Kansas River. I remember in the 1960's when there was visible sand in the lower segment of the river, it was a different river there than it is now, I do not want those changes repeated in the river upstream.

Economical alternative sources of aggregate exist in the form of off river pit mine dredging. Denial of in river dredging permits does not deny the need for building aggregate by society.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,



Steve Cringan  
2720 NE Chester St  
Topeka KS, 66617

PERMITS INCLUDED IN THIS COMMENT (all 2012 in river permits):

**APPLICANTS**

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816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

RECEIVED  
REGULATORY BRANCH  
2011 DEC 12 PM 2:14

December 9, 2011

**RE: PUBLIC COMMENT KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

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I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

Please end the destructive practice of in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. Dredging causes major long-term damage to the river channel. When we damage the riverbed, we also endanger the needs and welfare of the people of Kansas. For example, dredging threatens water quality. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), more than 600,000 Kansans depend on the Kaw for their water supply. One-third of residents in Johnson County and all the residents of Topeka get their water from the Kaw. According to the Kaw River Inventory, there are three major municipal intakes that draw water directly from the river and several more municipalities that draw water from wells near the river.

The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

Several sand and gravel dredgers are already pursuing sand pit mines as reasonable, economic, and less environmentally damaging alternatives to in-river dredging. There is no need to dredge the river in order to get high quality sand for construction, and several locations along the Kaw are highly suited to sand pit mines. The detrimental effects of river dredging far outweigh the benefits. Other examples of the dangers include:

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Sincerely,

  
Signature

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RECEIVED  
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2011 DEC 12 PM 2:13

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The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



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Signature

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kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

November 17, 2011

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*My drinking water comes from the Kaw. I value the river as a natural resource. Dredging is not in the best interest of long or short term river management. Please close the river to dredging. I request public hearings on these matters.*

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

*Christine M. Robertson MD.*

Signature

Name: *Christine M. Robertson*

Address: *4772 Black Swan Circle  
Shawnee KS 66216*

Phone:

Email:

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



Signature

Name: Kathy Richardson

Address: 800 Connecticut St., Lawrence, KS 66044

Phone: 785-897-4249

Email:

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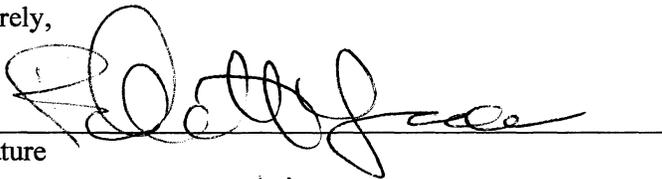
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Enough dredging already. Promote recreation on the river. Move to pits for sand.  
Dredging is degrading and adverse to water quality.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



Signature

Name: Robert Yoos

Address: 25253 Alexander Rd. - Lawrence, KS 66044

Phone: 785-842-5941

Email: jobob2@hughes.net

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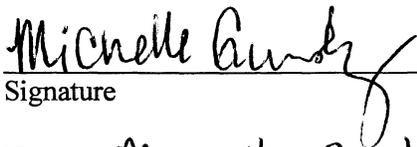
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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Name: Michelle Gundy

Address: 1405 New Jersey, Lawrence KS 66044

Phone: (785) 841-4093

Email: macranker@gmt.com

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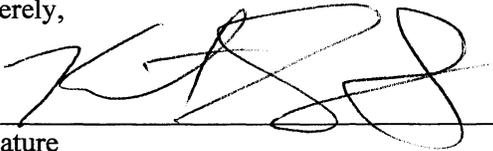
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Sincerely,



Signature

Name: Ken Smith

Address: 4600 NW Pawnee Dr, Riverside, MO 64150

Phone: 816-569-2605

Email: kensmith2@aol.com

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The land dredging in pit mines is a reasonable alternative that will protect our drinking water and the infrastructure along the Kaw.  
 WE NEED A public hearing/ comment opportunity.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



Signature

Name: BILL CUTLER

Address: P.O. BOX 2393, TOPERA KS 66601

Phone: 785-213-5633

Email: SPUDSPA@AOL.com

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Signature

Name: ROBERT G. SMITH

Address: 9100 BEVERLY

Phone: 716 806 1138

Email: RSMITH2963@HOLL.COM

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



Signature

Name: *Tam Smith*

Address: *9100 Beverly Dr.*  
*OP, KS 66207*

Phone: *913-649-0998*

Email: *rsofan@aol.com*

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We get some of our drinking water from the river by way of the city of Topeka. We love to float the river in our kayaks. I am very concerned about water quality! Thank you for considering my concerns. Please let me know about

Sincerely,

*Elisabeth Suter*

Signature

Name: Elisabeth Suter

Address: 2532 SE Cuvier

Phone: 785 379 9756

Email: —

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*Please do not jeopardize our drinking water with these permits. Sand can be retrieved from land pits, a much better option for many reasons.*

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

  
Signature

Name: *Lynate Pettengill*

Address: *1218 Delaware, #1; Lawrence, KS 66044*

Phone: *(785) 331-0625*

Email: *Lynate.Pettengill@yahoo.com*

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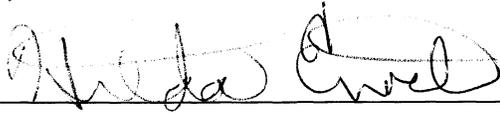
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Signature

Name: Hilda Enoch

Address: 1500 El Dorado Dr.

Phone: 785-842-6513

Email: HEnoch@sunflower.com

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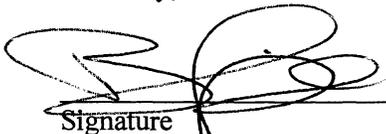
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Signature

Name: Brea Lipe

Address: ~~230~~ 2330 Shawnee Mission Pkwy  
Westwood, KS

Phone: 913-291-1481

Email: ~~Kans~~ brea.lipe@hotmail.com

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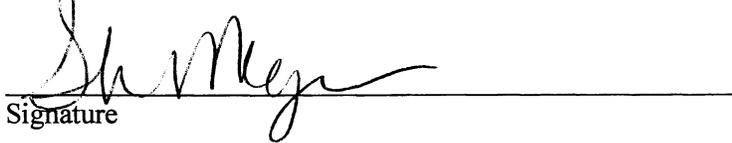
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Sincerely,

  
Signature

Name: Shauna Meyer

Address: 16511 Metcalf Ave, Stilwell, KS 66085

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: Shauna.Rachelle@gmail.com

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)

Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

Penny's Aggregates, Inc. (2011-1466)

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635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
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kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

November 17, 2011

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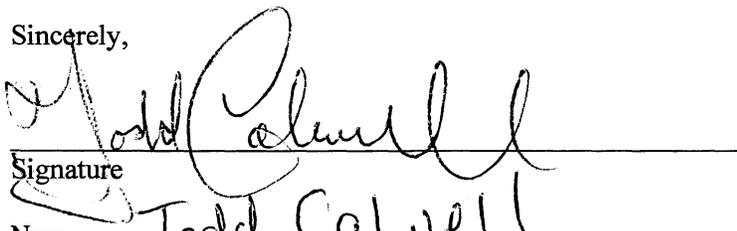
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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

  
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Name: Todd Calwell

Address: 6012 W 101<sup>st</sup> Street, Overland Park, KS 66207

Phone: 713-741-2667

Email: ketado@wt.net

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Sincerely,



Signature

Name: William Calwell

Address: Aldersgate Village, Topeka KS

Phone: 785-478-4115

Email: No

7220 SW Asbury Dr  
#I-212

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,




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Signature

Name: *RON SEIBOLD*

Address: *POB 927*

Phone: *785-841-6016*

Email: *RON@cybold.com*

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Signature

Name: *Corene Jaeger*

Address: *933 Rhode Island St. #1, Lawrence, KS 66044*

Phone: *602 509 7443*

Email: *corenarae@yahoo.com.*

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Signature

Name: *Tom Hantzinger*

Address: *3000 Oxford Rd, Lawrence, KS 66049*

Phone: *785-776-6717*

Email: *tomhantzinger@sunflower.com*

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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

  
Signature

Name: Joan Myer Hird

Address: 315 Eldridge Lane

Phone: LAWRENCE KS 66049

Email: joaneverangelina@yahoo.com

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Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

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kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

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Sincerely,

  
Signature

Name:

Gregory P. Hird

Address:

315 Eldridge Ln. Lawrence KS 66049

Phone:

785 832-2428

Email:

greghird@gmail.com

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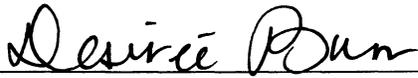
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Signature

Name: Desiree Burr

Address: 533 Millstone Dr. Lawrence, Kansas 66049

Phone: (415) 497-8877

Email: desireeburra@gmail.com

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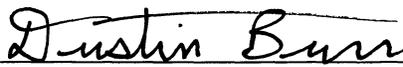
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Sincerely,



Signature

Name: Dustin Burr

Address: PO Box 882

Phone: 785-393-0974

Email: dustinfish@yahoo.com

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Sincerely,

*Ann L. Nelson*

Signature

Name: *Ann L. Nelson*

Address: *2900 W. 53rd St. #112, Fairway KS 66205*

Phone: *913-362-1325*

Email: *Sandra.nelson@yahoo.com*

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature *Stanley R Nelson*

Name: *STANLEY R. NELSON*

Address: *2900 53rd ST APT 112 FAIRWAY, KS 66205*

Phone: *913 362 1325*

Email: *SANDANELSON@YAHOO.COM*

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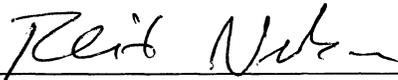
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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



Signature

Name: Reid Nelson

Address: 3021 W. 26 ST, Lawrence, KS 66047

Phone: 785-842-3680

Email: reid451@yahoo.com

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

**APPLICANTS**

Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

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Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

November 17, 2011

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Sincerely,

  
Signature

Name: *Joyce M. DeJulio-Burre*  
Address: *624 Upper Mill Hgts Dr.*  
Phone: *Salina, KS 67401*  
Email: *1-785-823-2796*

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Kansas City Regulatory Office  
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kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

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Sincerely,

  
Signature

Name: Jerry Jost

Address: 217 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lawrence, KS 66044

Phone: 785-766-0428

Email: jerrytjost@gmail.com

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Sincerely,

  
Signature

Name: RAYMOND H. DEAN

Address: 1835 REPUBLIC RD, LAWRENCE KS 66044

Phone: 785-749-3256

Email: raydean@ku.edu

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

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Kaw Valley Companies, Inc. (2011-1460)

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November 12, 2011

Regulatory Project Manager, Kale Horton  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

RE: Permit Numbers 2011-1460, 2011-1462, 2011-1465, 2011-1466, 2011-1463

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Please consider the high costs of in-river dredging operations:

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Thank you considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

*Miranna B. Nothorn (Nothorn)*  
3647 S.W. Stonybrook Dr.  
Topeka KS 66614-5121

November 12, 2011

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
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Thank you considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

*Please, consider this request to  
preserve the river for my  
children & grandchildren.*

*Charlton Richards*

November 12, 2011

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
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*Janet Weatherhogg*

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Please consider the high costs of in-river dredging operations:

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Thank you considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barbara J. Ringman".

November 12, 2011

Regulatory Project Manager, Kale Horton  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

RE: Permit Numbers 2011-1460, 2011-1462, 2011-1465, 2011-1466, 2011-1463

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Thank you considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rudy Sidtest". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

November 12, 2011

Regulatory Project Manager, Kale Horton  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

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Sincerely,

*Mary C. Schneider*  
*USD 501*  
*Media Specialist, ret.*

November 12, 2011

Regulatory Project Manager, Kale Horton  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

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Sincerely,

*Jan Grant*  
4612 NW Country Park Dr.  
Topeka, KS 66618

November 12, 2011

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

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Sincerely,

*Lerra Martin*

November 12, 2011

Regulatory Project Manager, Kale Horton  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

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Sincerely,

*Nancy Manning*  
*1701 SW Hope*  
*Topeka, KS*  
*66604*

November 12, 2011

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

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Sincerely,

*Rachel K. O'Sullivan*

November 12, 2011

Regulatory Project Manager, Kale Horton  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

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Sincerely,

*Eadie Flickinger*  
*1114 SW Harvey*  
*Topeka, KS 66604*

November 12, 2011

Regulatory Project Manager, Kale Horton  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

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Jayla Heist  
5815 SW 25<sup>th</sup>  
Topeka, KS 66614

November 12, 2011

Regulatory Project Manager, Kale Horton  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

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November 12, 2011

Regulatory Project Manager, Kale Horton  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

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In-river dredging causes extensive environmental damage for no good economic reason, since affordable, high quality sand can be obtained through off-river pit mines. In particular, I feel it is premature to re-open sections of the river that have been closed to dredging because of unacceptable bed degradation. The river bed might have aggraded during the time these sections were closed to dredging but it is very likely that the bed will degrade again if dredging is allowed. Also degradation is more likely to happen because you are considering allowing many of the companies to have more sites, extend the reach of their existing sites and remove more sand from the river.

Please consider the high costs of in-river dredging operations:

- It endangers water quality. Dredging stirs up silt that kills mussels and other aquatic life and is expensive to remove from drinking water.
- It increases pollution. Dredging churns up old industrial pollutants - like PCBs and heavy metals - that have settled to the river bottom, and adding to the river's contamination levels.
- It threatens key infrastructure. Dredging damages and destabilizes the river channel and endangers expensive, valuable infrastructure such as bridges, flood control structures, intake pipes for public water supplies, power plants, manufacturing, etc.
- It jeopardizes riparian property rights. The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates – and it does so by carving dirt away from the riverbanks, leading to loss of some of our nation's most valuable farmland.

- It causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters. Dredging cables that attach the rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.

Studies have already shown that dredging has caused significant damage to the Kaw's riverbed, to habitat in and along the river, and to water quality. Dredging causes these problems because it changes the physical channel of the river. These changes erode the riverbanks, and erosion endangers the riparian ecosystem. Dredging also alters the physical habitat needed by native fishes. Nineteen threatened and endangered fish species have been collected in the Kaw, six since 2006. K-State and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks are funding a major study on dredging impacts due out in late 2011. I urge you to deny this proposed permit, and wait for the results of this study.

Thank you considering my concerns.

Sincerely, 

November 12, 2011

Regulatory Project Manager, Kale Horton  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office 635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2896

RE: Permit Numbers 2011-1460, 2011-1462, 2011-1465, 2011-1466, 2011-1463

Dear Mr. Horton,

Please accept this as my public comment on the permitting of in-river dredge operations on the Kansas River. I would also like to go on the record as requesting a public hearing on these permits and the requested proposed changes to the current operations.

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Please consider the high costs of in-river dredging operations:

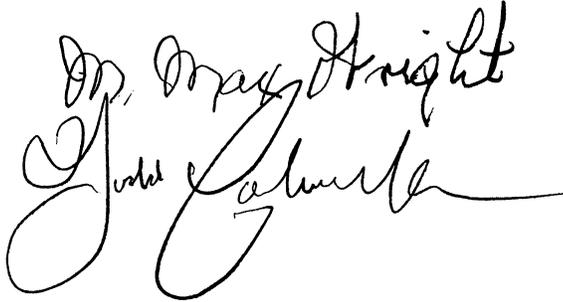
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- It threatens key infrastructure. Dredging damages and destabilizes the river channel and endangers expensive, valuable infrastructure such as bridges, flood control structures, intake pipes for public water supplies, power plants, manufacturing, etc.
- It jeopardizes riparian property rights. The river automatically seeks to fill the holes that dredging creates – and it does so by carving dirt away from the riverbanks, leading to loss of some of our nation's most valuable farmland.

- It causes hazardous conditions for recreational boaters. Dredging cables that attach the rigs to the banks are often hidden underwater, and are dangerous for recreational river users.

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Dr. Mary Knight  
Justin Calvert

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

November 17, 2011

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

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The damaging cumulative effects of dredging are not in the public interest. The need for sand pales in comparison to the need for clean water for so many people. It also pales in comparison to the need to protect the nation's most valuable farmland from erosion, as well as protect flood control structures and valuable taxpayer assets such as roads and bridges. The Department of the Interior has also named the Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Two-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansas communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

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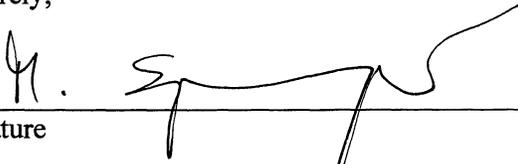
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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



Signature

Name: MONIKA SPINGER

Address: 1309 JONATHAN CT  
LAWRENCE, KS 66049

Phone:

Email: monispinger@gmail.com

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

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Holliday Sand & Gravel Company (2011-1462)

Master's Dredging (2011-1465)

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Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

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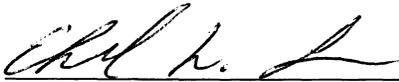
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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



Signature

Name: *Chad N. Lamer*

Address: *1136 Tennessee  
Lawrence, KS 66044*

Phone: *(785) 218-4994*

Email: *sc1amer47@hotmail.com*

**PERMITS REFERENCED IN THIS COMMENT:**

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Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 9, 2011

**RE: PUBLIC COMMENT KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

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kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

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December 9, 2011

**RE: PUBLIC COMMENT KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

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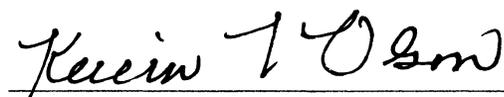
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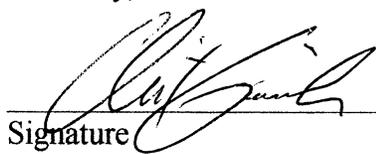
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Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,



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Signature

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Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

December 9, 2011

**RE: PUBLIC COMMENT KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

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REGULATORY BRANCH  
2011 DEC 14 PM 2:22

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Sincerely,



Signature

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Kansas City Regulatory Office  
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Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

RECEIVED  
REGULATORY BRANCH  
2011 DEC 14 AM 9:28

December 9, 2011

**RE: PUBLIC COMMENT KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Dear Kale Horton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE):

Please accept this as my official public comment on the in-river dredging permits for the Kansas River (also known as the Kaw) as referenced in detail at the end of this letter. I request a public hearing and/or public meeting on this issue, and I also request a new Environmental Impact Statement on the environmental impacts of dredging on the Kansas River.

I strongly urge that the USACE to deny all thirteen sites included in the five permits and end all in-river sand and gravel dredging on the Kansas River. In addition, I strongly urge that the USACE delay its decision-making process until K-State researchers release an upcoming major study on the Kaw River. This research will analyze extensive new scientific evidence on the environmental impacts of dredging on the river channel. Above all, the USACE decision on these dredging permits must incorporate this critical information.

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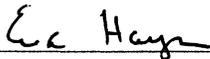
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**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Kansas City Regulatory Office  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th St.  
Kansas City MO, 64106-2896  
816-389-3656  
kale.e.horton@usace.army.mil

RECEIVED  
REGULATORY BRANCH  
2011 DEC 14 AM 9:30

December 8, 2011

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I live approx. 3 miles South of Bonner Spgs. We are on the East bluffs overlooking the River. When the Dredging Co. ceased at the Cedar Creek landing, someone disposed of hundreds of commercial tire casings into the Kansas River. We had tires in our sandbars for years - approx. 4 miles downstream! Dredgers have no interest in Kansas River quality or environment.

Kansas River Water Trail as one of their Top 100 Conservation Priorities (see <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Highlights-Proposed-Projects-in-Kansas-to-Promote-Outdoor-Recreation-Conservation.cfm>). Since 2001, Kansan communities have now constructed ten new river access points and/or river parks. When recreation on the Kaw is increasing, it does not make sense to increase dredging, too.

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Kale Horton  
U.S. A.C. E.  
635 Federal Building  
601 East 12th  
Kansas City MO 64106

Dec 9, 2011

Re: Public comment on Kansas River dredging permits, 2012

Dear Kale Horton:

I would like to request that a public meeting be held on the Kansas River dredging permits 2012, and that a new Environmental Impact Statement be written. The impacts of dredging on aquatic life, drinking water, bank erosion, and recreational use are significant. These and other impacts need to be comprehensively weighted against the benefits of dredging. The benefits of dredging also need to be compared against non dredging alternatives that would not significantly impact the Kansas River. I do not believe the public interest can be served without a public meeting and a new Environmental Impact Statement being written.

Sincerely  
Michael Brack

5248 SW 69th  
Auburn KS 66402

RECEIVED  
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2011 DEC 14 AM 9:31

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KANSAS RIVER DREDGING PERMITS, 2012**

Kale Horton, Regulatory Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
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