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AFTER ACTION ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE WEBBERS POOL AND ROBERT S. KERR POOL EMERGENCY DREDGING AND PLACEMENT

The purpose of this Environmental Assessment (EA) is to analyze impacts to the socio-economic-environment resulting from emergency dredging operations, and associated placement of the dredged material in Waters of The United States (WOTUS) due to the lack of authorized dredge disposal facilities within the area, that occurred due to historical flooding during May 2019 along the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System (MKARNS) in Oklahoma. Specifically, dredging occurred in the Robert S. Kerr pool and Webbers Falls pool in order to re-open the navigation channel, as well as, to allow vessels to travel upstream to the Webbers Falls Dam to remove a barge lodged in the dam's operational gates, which was restricting the gates closure and subsequent draining of the pool.

The goals of this EA will be to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and appropriate environmental laws, regulations, agency policies and guidance, and executive orders, while maintaining an immediate navigable channel along the MKARNS waterway, and to provide any necessary mitigation as a result of impacts from the emergency dredging, discharge of dredged material, and draw down of the pool.

Optional Information:

Name:_____ Affiliation:_____
Address:_____City:_____ State:____
Zip:_____ Phone: ___-_____ E-mail:_____

Point of Contact:
Mr. Jeff Knack Phone: 918-669-7660
e-mail: Jeff.Knack@usace.army.mil

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TULSA DISTRICT
ATTN: CESWT-OD-R
2488 EAST 81st STREET
TULSA OK 74137-4290