

Nancy Koon (adpce.ad)

From: Katie Shannon <Katie.Shannon@arkansas.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 7, 2023 2:41 PM
To: Water Draft Permit Comment
Subject: ANHC Comments-NPDES #AR0053384
Attachments: ANHCLetter_AR0053384.pdf

Hello,

Attached are ANHC's comments on the public notice for NPDES Permit #AR0053384 (Exploratory Ventures, LLC). The opportunity to comment is appreciated.

Thank you,

KATIE SHANNON
Environmental Review Specialist

Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission
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Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Governor
Shea Lewis
Interim Secretary

Date: July 7, 2023
Subject: NPDES Authorization
Draft Permit No. AR0053384
ANHC No.: S-ADEQ-23-092

Terry Liu, P.E.
Permits Branch, Office of Water Quality
Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

Dear Terry Liu:

Staff members of the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission have reviewed the Draft Permit authorizing discharge into the Mississippi River from an outfalls located at 35°39'04.01" N, 89°54'48.4" W (EV201) and 35°39'04.01" N, 89°54'48.38" W (EV202) for Exploratory Ventures, LLC. The following species of conservation concern are known to occur in the Mississippi River at or within five miles downstream of the outfall:

Notropis wickliffi, channel shiner-state concern
Scaphirhynchus albus, pallid sturgeon-federal concern (endangered)
Sternula antillarum athalassos, Interior Least Tern-state concern

We are providing this information for your use in the preparation and review of this permit. The information may be appropriate to include in the section of the permit which addresses the receiving stream and endangered species. This letter is intended to make the Department and applicant aware that sensitive resources may occur in the area. It is not intended as an objection to the issuance of the permit.

The opportunity to comment is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katie Shannon" with a small flourish below it.

Cindy Osborne
Data Manager/Environmental Review Coordinator