

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**SAND AND GRAVEL PERMIT**

The Commissioner of State Lands will receive sealed bids for a State sand and gravel permit to remove sand and gravel from submerged land in the Red River in Lafayette and Miller Counties, Arkansas, until 10:00 a.m., Friday November 19, 2021. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 1020 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste 500, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201.

**Lafayette and Miller Counties, Arkansas**

From North Line of Section 20, Township 16 South, Range 25 West to the West line of Section 34, Township 16 South, Range 25 West; between nautical miles 312.5 - 317.5 of the Red River

5.0 River Miles

**\*Special Conditions:**

1. Special conditions to the permit apply only if the presence of the federally endangered Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum athalassos*) is detected. Information on the Interior Least Tern and its habitat can be found at: <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/Endangered/birds/leاستern/index.html>.
2. Allow no dredges or related human activity within 1,000 feet of the shoreline of the sandbar providing habitat for the nesting interior least tern during the months of May through August. If this sandbar is over one mile long, this restriction should be applied to the shoreline ½ mile up-stream and ½ mile downstream from the colony site.
3. Allow no dredging at any time of the year within 200 feet of the navigation pool level shoreline of the sandbar on which the terns are nesting.
4. Instruct dredge crews that under no circumstances are they permitted on the nesting island from May 1 through August 31.
5. If, in the process of conducting work, the dredge crew or company officials discover an interior least tern colony on another island in the vicinity covered by this permit, the above restrictions should apply to that island as well.
6. Allow no dredging take place during April, May, and June to avoid peak fish spawning times.
7. The Red River is designated as Traditionally Navigable Water up to the Arkansas-Texas border. As such, the Rivers and Harbors Act applies to this area, and section 7 consultation is required through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Due to the documented presence of federally endangered least terns, dredging activity is not a "non-reporting activity" and requires additional U.S. Army Corp of Engineers preconstruction notification.

\*\*Permit is also subject to acceptance and permit issuance by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.

Maximum term of this permit shall not exceed **two (2) years**. It shall also terminate within six (6) months after the commercial production of sand and gravel has ceased. The minimum acceptable bid shall be a royalty of **\$0.35** per cubic yard for sand and **\$0.50** per cubic yard for gravel. The Commissioner of State Lands reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

A bid fee in the amount of \$500 must accompany all bids. Anyone interested in submitting a bid may contact Karen Williams at the address, phone number or email address listed below and request Bid Package #21-03-01.

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