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Detroit District

News Release

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Engineers to increase level of Lake Winnebago

Detroit -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be conducting its spring fill-up of Lake Winnebago. The Fox River Sub-Office in Kaukauna, Wisconsin will make appropriate gate adjustments at the Menasha and Neenah Dams to gradually increase the level of Lake Winnebago to approximately 2.7 feet above Oshkosh Datum by May 1, 2003 and then allow a rise to the navigation season level of approximately 3.0 feet above Oshkosh Datum by June 1, 2003.

At present, the lake level is at about 1.77 feet above Oshkosh Datum with two tainter gates open at the Menasha Dam and two tainter gates open at the Neenah Dam. The outflows are currently about 4,500 cubic feet per second. According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the shoreline ice along Lake Winnebago and the upriver lakes is deteriorating. Raising the lake level at this time will not have an adverse impact on the shorelines. Near-normal water supplies are forecasted for the spring, which should allow the fill-up to occur in accordance with the current plan of action.

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- 30 -

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District civil works program encompasses 93,000 square miles area of the lower Great Lakes basin in Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Ohio. The Corps operates and/or maintains 104 navigation structures in the basin. Its mission includes real estate transactions, flood control, regulatory activities, disaster response, and mobilization readiness.