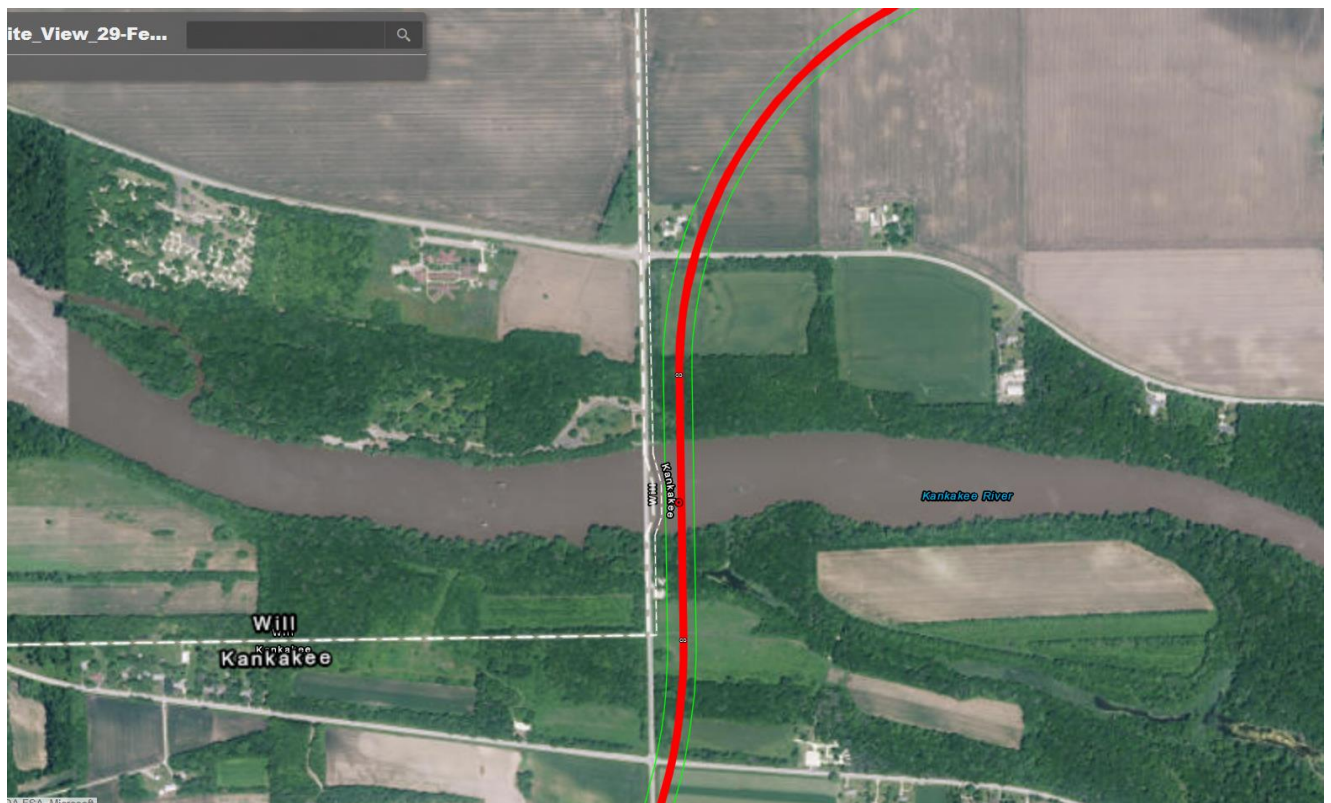


Dear STB,

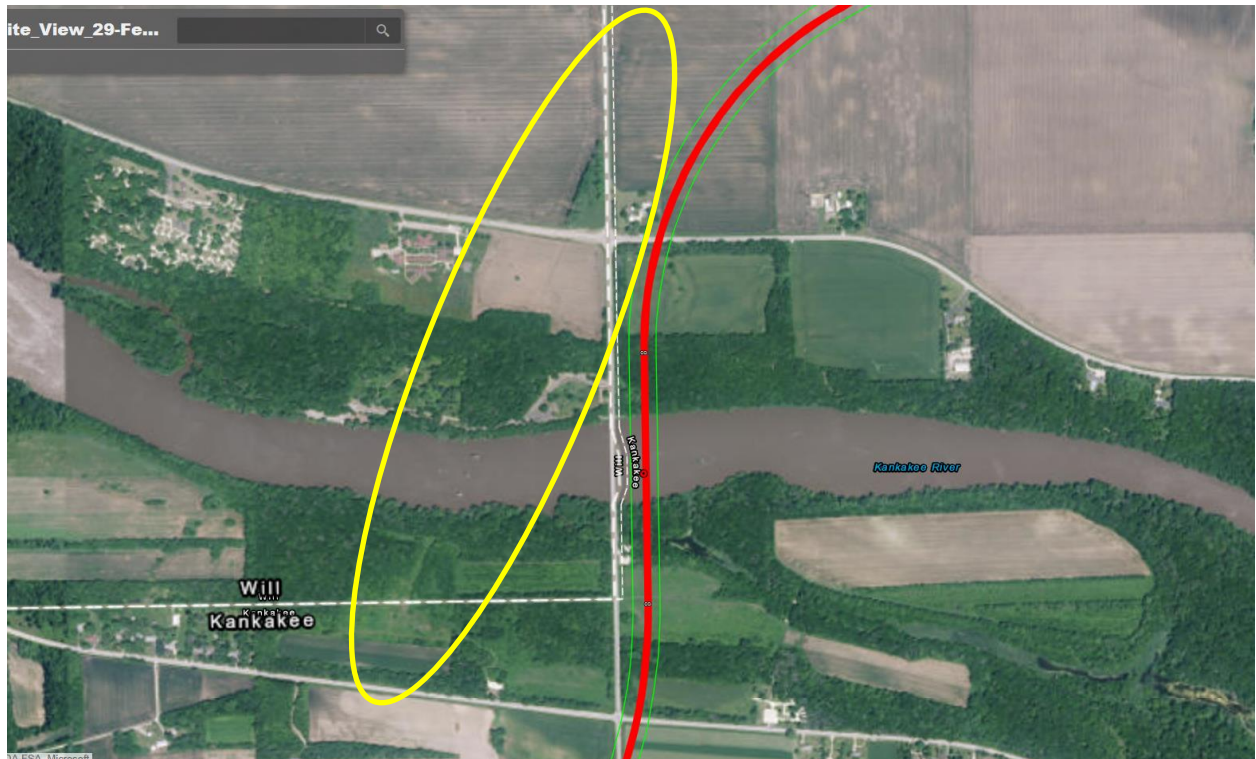
I wish to propose the repurposing of exiting rail passages crossing the Kankakee River, rather than the exploitation of additional waters and lands of the state park. I do not know anything about the exiting remnants of the rail crossing shown below, other than the visible fact that it exists. It is clearly visible from both satellite view and by eye from the river / park level.

My concern is that each crossing takes away part of the scenery, adding to visual pollution, air and water pollution, and disrupting wildlife habitats. This example is real proof that railroads will forever leave a scar to the landscape long after they are abandoned. I simply wish to minimize these effects by urging the repurposing of existing crossings.

Please see below images.



Current proposal near #79 Kankakee County (river crossing)



Circled in Yellow are the remnants of an abandoned railroad which continues to scar the river and surrounding area.

Sincerely,

Michael Riegel