



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
St. Paul District

Information Paper

Mississippi River Headwaters Reservoirs Project Sites

Contact

Tim Bertschi, Operations Project Manager
(701) 232-1894 (701) 232-1789 (fax)
tim.s.bertschi@usace.army.mil

Location/Project Components

The Mississippi River Headwaters Project consists of six headwaters dams in north-central Minnesota. They were constructed or reconstructed between 1900 and 1913 to aid navigation in the Mississippi River between St. Paul, Minnesota, and Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. Their navigation mission declined with creation of the nine-foot channel and, as recreation grew in importance to the region's economy, their mission shifted to flood risk management, recreation and environmental stewardship.

Operations

The project includes six Corps-managed campgrounds and several day-use areas serving approximately 2.0 million visitors and generating more than \$36.5 million to the local economy annually. The project's multiple-use water resource management (flood risk management, recreation and environmental stewardship) affects several communities, thousands of property owners, countless recreational users, resource agencies, industry, the general public and Native American communities.

Since their construction, the reservoirs in the Headwaters have prevented \$28,238,900 in flood damages.

Fiscal

Site	09 Alloc	10 Alloc	11 Alloc	12 Alloc	13 Pres Budget
Headwaters	2,943k	3,229k	4,328k	3,291k	3,686K

Status

The fiscal year 2013 President's budget proposed funding would support baseline operations and maintenance to complete water management, operations of public use areas, real estate encroachment cures, all scheduled dam safety inspections, and all programs to support those operations. Significant progress was made on unscheduled maintenance work in fiscal year 2012. If resources can be identified, major rehabilitation or replacement of the wastewater treatment plant at Sandy Lake would be completed and is the highest infrastructure priority in the Headwaters.



New Actuators on Gull Lake Dam



New Roof – Cross Lake Comfort Station