



US Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Paul District

Information Paper

Habitat Restoration: Mississippi River, Capoli Slough, Pool 9, Wisconsin



*Capoli Slough area on the Mississippi River - Pool 9,
Wisconsin*

Contact

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Location/Description

Part of the Corps of Engineers' Environmental Management Program, the site is a side channel/island complex located on the Wisconsin side of the Mississippi River navigation channel in Pool 9, about 5 miles downstream of Lansing, Iowa. The site is in the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. Many of the natural islands bordering the navigation channel and extending into the backwater have eroded, and many are disappearing. Erosion from wave action and main channel flows is reducing the size of the wetland complex, resulting in the loss of aquatic vegetation and the shallow protected habitats important for the survival of many species of fish and wildlife.

The proposed project would restore and stabilize islands to protect the area from large wind fetches. Breached areas would be stabilized using rock sills, and partial-closing structures would be constructed to reduce the effect of main channel flows. Material to restore the island complex would be dredged from the immediate vicinity to provide additional deepwater fish habitat benefits. The project would provide both fish and wildlife benefits by creating a "shadow" effect behind

and downstream of the islands. About 700 acres of backwater habitat would be directly affected.

Status

The Stage 2 plans and specifications were completed in June 2012 and a construction award is anticipated in September 2012. This stage includes the construction of five islands and completes the work in Capoli Slough.

The plans and specifications for Stage 1 were completed in August 2011, and a construction contract was awarded in September 2011. Construction of seven islands was initiated in March 2012 and is anticipated to be substantially complete in November 2012.

Authority

The Capoli Slough Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Project is being planned under the authority of the Upper Mississippi River System - Environmental Management Program. This program was authorized by Section 1103 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 and reauthorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 1999.

The project is being planned and designed as part of a cooperative effort of the Corps of Engineers, the Wisconsin and Iowa Departments of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and local interests.

Fiscal

Project design and construction costs are 100-percent Federal because the project is located on lands managed as a national wildlife refuge. Operation and maintenance costs would be 100-percent Federal (a responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).

Federal cost	\$9,400,000
Non-Federal cost	\$0
Total estimated cost	\$9,400,000