



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

# Information Paper

## Streambank Protection: Section 14, County Road 50, Crow River, Hennepin County, Minnesota



*Crow River erosion at the top of a 50-foot bluff adjacent to Hennepin County Road 50*

### Contact

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### Location/Description

The study area is located in a rural setting in western Hennepin County, Minnesota, approximately 40 miles west of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Crow River, a tributary to the Mississippi River, is experiencing erosion on a reach north of the city of Delano, Minnesota, where the natural course of the river follows a sharp turn adjacent to County Road 50. Ongoing erosion at the outside bend of the channel and at the toe of the bank of the Crow River has resulted in an escarpment measuring approximately 50 feet vertical and threatening the stability of County Road 50 at the top of the river bluff.

No significant efforts have been undertaken to slow the erosion, and the site appears to be dominated by natural vegetation and bare slope bluffs. Eroded areas approach 10 feet from the edge of the road, pose a potential public safety hazard and threaten the road's structural integrity. Loss of the road would be a detriment to local residents, commuters and visitors to Lake Rebecca Regional Park, which is located across the road from the river.

Stabilization alternatives have been considered that would balance the interests of Hennepin County in protecting the roadway with the desire for regulatory agencies and property owners to maintain an ecologically healthy riverine corridor. Stabilization of the bluff from the toe of the slope to the top of the escarpment will require a complete reconstruction of the slope within the project limits.

### Status

Feasibility was completed and approved in May 2011. A Project Partnership Agreement was executed in July 2011. Project design work was completed in December 2011. The construction contract was awarded in February 2012. The majority of the construction activities are scheduled to be completed in October 2012.

### Authority

Section 14 of the 1946 Flood Control Act, as amended, Emergency Streambank Protection, provided authorization for the project. Hennepin County requested the project through resolution of its Board of Commissioners included in a letter dated October 17, 2008.

### Fiscal

Feasibility planning work is 100-percent Federal cost, up to \$100,000. The design and implementation phase of the project would be cost shared at 65-percent Federal and 35-percent non-Federal up to the Section 14 limit (the Federal limit is \$1,500,000). The estimated total project cost is approximately \$2,500,000.

Estimated Federal cost	\$1,500,000
Estimated non-Federal cost	<u>\$1,000,000</u>
Total estimated cost	\$2,500,000