



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
St. Paul District

# Information Paper

## Flood Risk Management: Roseau River, Roseau, Minnesota



*Final reach of diversion channel construction, May 2015*

### Contact

Nathan Wallerstedt, Project Manager  
(651) 290-5477 (651) 290-5258 (fax)  
[nathan.h.wallerstedt@usace.army.mil](mailto:nathan.h.wallerstedt@usace.army.mil)

### Location/Description

Roseau is located in the northwestern corner of Minnesota in Roseau County about 10 miles south of the Canadian border and about 65 miles east of the North Dakota border. Roseau's population is about 2,800. It is home to Polaris Industries, Inc., which employs more than 2,000 people and along with agriculture, provides a solid economic base for the community. Roseau County has 16,000 residents.

Once the Roseau River flows out of its banks, it flows throughout most of the city. From June 9 to 11, 2002, intense rainfall over the river basin dumped an extraordinary amount of water into the area. This water quickly collected and drained into the Roseau River, overtopping the city's levee system and flooding most of the developed area. The flood damage was extensive, resulting in significant damage to downtown businesses and private residences.

### Background

After the 2002 floods, the city of Roseau and the Roseau River Watershed District asked the Corps to conduct a feasibility study for a flood control project in Roseau.

In 2003, a likely Federal interest was determined and a feasibility study was completed in September 2006. The Chief of Engineers Report was signed in December 2006, with project design beginning in 2006. The project partnership agreement was signed June 15, 2009, initiating project construction.

### Status

Construction of the diversion channel is complete. The project consists of a 4.5 mile diversion channel, diversion inlet structure, and river restriction structure located on the Roseau River. The project is operational and the was dedicated August 2015. In January 2016, two reaches of the project were transitioned to the city of Roseau for long term operation and maintenance. Minor miscellaneous activities will be completed during the 2016 construction season.

### Authority

This specifically authorized study originates from a resolution of the Senate Committee on Public Works, September 30, 1974. Project construction was authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 2007. The project was reauthorized in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 to increase the authorized cost of the project.

### Fiscal

Project design and construction costs are shared with the non-Federal sponsor. Operation and maintenance costs are the responsibility of the non-Federal sponsor.

Estimated Federal cost	\$25,800,000
Estimated non-Federal cost	\$18,500,000
Total estimated cost	\$44,300,000

Total Federal funding to date (including \$4.5 million in ARRA funds)	\$25,800,000
--	--------------