



CORPS FACTS

MN & ND Flood Control Sections
Watson, Minn. & Valley City, N.D.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

The Minnesota and North Dakota Flood Control Section staff is responsible for managing separately budgeted, multi-purpose water resource projects on four major river basins in eastern and north central North Dakota and western Minnesota. Resources managed include 16 dams and associated water control structures with an annual budget of approximately \$4 million and 20 full-time and seasonal employees. The breakout between the section is described below.

It is the mission of the western office to manage flood control, water supply and shoreline management benefits for communities near and downstream of the projects, as well as provide land and wildlife management activities and recreational opportunities, such as overnight camping, day-use facilities, boat launching facilities and visitor assistance. The personnel provide budgetary, administrative, supervisory, contracting and technical support to all field sites in the area, as well as serve as liaisons between the field sites and the St. Paul District.

NORTH DAKOTA FLOOD CONTROL SECTION

Baldhill Dam/Lake Ashtabula

Lake Ashtabula is located on the Sheyenne River, 10 miles north of Valley City, N.D. The Corps operates and maintains seven recreation areas around Lake Ashtabula, including four campgrounds and 35-miles of the North Country National Scenic Trail which has been certified by the National Park Service. The project has 8,116 acres of fee-land, of which 1,600 acres are managed for wildlife. Staff provides onsite management, as well as interpretive programs on the outdoors, environment, and water and boat safety.

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Homme Dam

Homme Dam is located on the south branch of the Park River near Park River, N.D. The project is operated and maintained by the staff at Lake Ashtabula. The Walsh County Park Board operates a leased 30-acre park on the south side of the dam.

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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – ST. PAUL DISTRICT

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Souris River Project

The Souris River Project is located on the Souris River in north central North Dakota. The project consists of Lake Darling Dam, two additional water control structures and four pumping stations at the Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge and five water control structures/embankments at the J. Clark Salyer National Wildlife Refuge. An agreement between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Corps of Engineers identifies that the Corps is to maintain responsibilities for flood control and mitigation structures. Management for this project is provided by the Lake Ashtabula staff.

MINNESOTA FLOOD CONTROL SECTION

Orwell Dam

Orwell Dam is located on the Ottertail River near Fergus Falls, Minn. The Corps operates two day-use recreation areas near the dam. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources leases nearly 2,000 acres of this site for wildlife management. Of this area, approximately one-third is a closed sanctuary.

Lake Traverse Project

The Lake Traverse Project is located on the Minnesota/South Dakota border near Wheaton, Minn. The project consists of three structures: Browns Valley Dike, and Reservation and White Rock dams. The project consists of three day-use recreation areas and 640 acres of fee land for wildlife. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources leases 872 acres for wildlife management purposes. Additionally, the district sign shop is located here.

Lac Qui Parle Project

The Lac Qui Parle Project is located on the Minnesota River near Watson, Minn. The project consists of the Lac Qui Parle, Marsh Lake and Chippewa River Diversion dams and Watson Sag Weir. The Corps operates and maintains two day-use recreation areas here, one below Lac Qui Parle Dam and the other below the Marsh Lake Dam. For wildlife management purposes, 347 acres are leased to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Bigstone/Whetstone

Bigstone/Whetstone is located on the Minnesota River near Odessa, Minn. In accordance with an agreement with the Corps, the lands and waters are managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a national wildlife refuge. The project dam and appurtenant structures are operated and maintained by Corps staff from the La Qui Parle Project.