

**Information for File 2013-00486-DWW**

**Applicant** Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
**Corps Contact** Daryl Wierzbinski  
**Address** 600 South Lake Avenue Suite 211  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802  
**E-Mail** daryl.w.wierzbinski@usace.army.mil  
**Phone** (218) 720-5291 EXT 35401  
**Primary County** Saint Louis  
**Section** 7  
**Township** 48N  
**Range** 15W  
**Information Complete On** June 26, 2015  
**Posting Expires On** July 6, 2015  
**Authorization Type** LOP-05-MN and Sec 10

This application is being reviewed in accordance with the practices for documenting Corps jurisdiction under Sections 9 & 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act identified in Regulatory Guidance Letter 07-01. We have made a preliminary determination that the aquatic resources that would be impacted by the proposed project are regulated by the Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Our jurisdictional review and final jurisdictional determination could result in modifications to the scope of the project's regulated water body/wetland impacts and compensatory mitigation requirements identified above. An approved jurisdictional determination will be made prior to reaching a permit decision, and will be posted on the St. Paul District web page at <http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/>.

**Project**

Project Description and Purpose:

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is proposing to remove an engineered retaining wall and stabilize and re-naturalize a 1,000 foot stretch of the Saint Louis River in Chambers Grove Park in order to increase the available area of suitable spawning habitat for lake sturgeon and other migratory fish species between Fond du Lac Dam and Highway 23 Bridge. In addition, the proposed activities would provide recreational users access compatible with fishing, ADA access, and carry-down access to the river.

The project includes the use of tow-wood and sod mats to both stabilize the river banks and re-establish natural vegetation and the construction of boulder weir and j-hook vanes within the channel.

Name, Area and Types of Waters (Including Wetlands) Subject to Loss:

The project would result in the permanent discharge of dredged and fill materials (gravel, rock, boulder, and tree materials) into 0.63 acres of the St. Louis River for the waterward restoration activities, (boulder material) into 0.1 acre of the river for canoe-kayak access, and (gravel and asphalt materials) into 0.1 acre of adjacent wetlands for public access and use of the associated facilities for recreation. The discharge would have no adverse effect on the channel capacity, floodplain elevation, or bank location.

The project would also result in the temporary discharge of fill materials into 1.5 acres of the St. Louis River, and into 1.3 acres of adjacent wetlands for the purpose of facilitating construction activities with large equipment and staging areas. The temporary impacts would be removed after the completion of the project. The discharge would have no adverse effect on the channel capacity, floodplain elevation, or bank location.

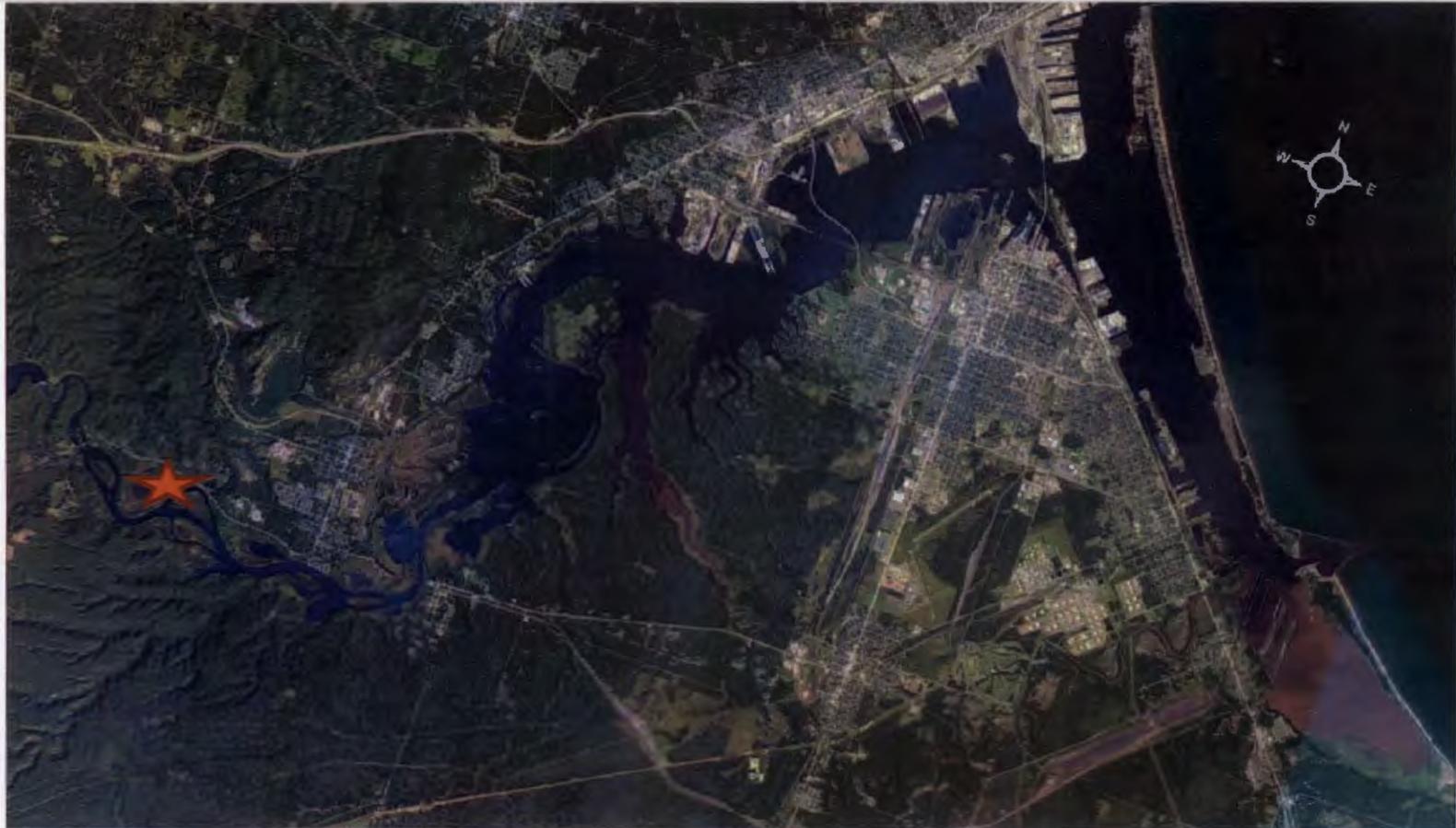
In-water Best Management Practices (BMP) would be used for the project to avoid or minimize turbidity/sedimentation during construction as summarized below:

- Timing of construction would be planned to coincide with a period of low flow in the river and the season of low precipitation season;
- The in-water construction activities would be scheduled in a manner that minimizes the amount of days necessary for disturbance to occur in the river;
- Timely monitoring of river flow and downstream conditions would be carried out to alert construction crews of impending increases in river flows;
- Minimize repeated movement of equipment operating in-stream;
- Construction activities that would disturb soils on the river bank that are below the OHWM shall be conducted in phases to minimized soil exposure and erosion;
- In-water BMP control devices would be used to the extent practicable, and would be deployed prior to any in-water construction activities;
- The possibility of diverting the river in the project area would be evaluated for the purpose of having dry conditions for the physical work; and
- Imported boulders and gravel would be required to be free of dirt and debris at delivery.

Compensatory Mitigation:

The applicant is not proposing compensatory mitigation because the project is considered a restoration activity for a degraded area within the St. Louis River system.

**Drawings**      See attached.



PROJECT LOCATION, LOWER ST. LOUIS RIVER AREA OF CONCERN

