

# Appendix A

## Coordination & Correspondence

### **Pool 5 Dredged Material Management Plan**

Upper Mississippi River

Wabasha and Winona Counties, Minnesota

Buffalo County, Wisconsin



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

St. Paul District

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS CENTRE  
180 FIFTH STREET EAST, SUITE 700  
ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1678

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

November 15, 2016

Regional Real Estate Division North  
Planning & Acquisition

RE: Public Meeting at VFW Post 4086, Wabasha, MN, on December 15, 2016

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is required by law to maintain a nine foot channel in the Mississippi River. In order to meet this requirement, the Congress has mandated that we provide for the storage of any dredged materials and provide a forty (40) year plan for such storage.

To meet those requirements, the St. Paul District Corps of Engineers has identified certain lands in Pool 5 that would be suitable for the purpose of such storage of dredged materials. We are currently in the planning process and want to share with all concerned property owners in the area our needs, processes and procedures.

To do this, we have set up a public meeting on December 15, 2016 at 6:00 PM, at the VFW Post 4086, located at 138 2<sup>nd</sup> Street E, Wabasha, Minnesota 55981. At this meeting, we will fully explain the laws and Congressional requirements for the channel maintenance and storage of the dredged material, the real estate selection process and the procedures once a final site is selected. We will have Corps personnel present from project management, operations and river management and real estate to explain the project and to answer questions.

Please join us and learn about this project and be prepared to ask questions about how it will proceed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ronald E. Silver", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Ronald E. Silver, Chief  
Planning & Acquisition Branch  
MVD, Regional Real Estate Division North



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS CENTRE**  
**180 FIFTH STREET EAST, SUITE 700**  
**ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1678**

November 15, 2016

Regional Real Estate Division North  
Planning & Acquisition

RE: Public Meeting at VFW Post 10406, Cochrane, WI, on December 14, 2016

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is required by law to maintain a nine foot channel in the Mississippi River. In order to meet this requirement, the Congress has mandated that we provide for the storage of any dredged materials and provide a forty (40) year plan for such storage.

To meet those requirements, the St. Paul District Corps of Engineers has identified certain lands in Pool 4 that would be suitable for the purpose of such storage of dredged materials. We are currently in the planning process and want to share with all concerned property owners in the area our needs, processes and procedures.

To do this, we have set up a public meeting on December 14, 2016 at 6:00 PM, at the VFW Post 10406, located at 100 Michaels Street, Cochrane, Wisconsin 54622. At this meeting, we will fully explain the laws and Congressional requirements for the channel maintenance and storage of the dredged material, the real estate selection process and the procedures once a final site is selected. We will have Corps personnel present from project management, operations and river management and real estate to explain the project and to answer questions.

Please join us and learn about this project and be prepared to ask questions about how it will proceed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ronald E. Silver", is written over a horizontal line.

Ronald E. Silver, Chief  
Planning & Acquisition Branch  
MVD, Regional Real Estate Division North



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®

News Release

## Corps of Engineers seeks land from willing land owners near Mississippi River

Published Aug. 22, 2018

ST. PAUL, Minn. –The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, continues seeking land from willing landowners near the Mississippi River.

The Corps is actively seeking land suitable for use as a permanent dredged material placement site. On average, the St. Paul District dredges 1 million cubic yards of material each year. This is roughly enough material to fill up US Bank Stadium or Lambeau Field.

In order to ensure the navigation channel remains open for commerce, the Corps needs to find permanent placement sites. To keep costs down for the tax payer, the Corps looks for sites that are in close proximity to where they are dredging (to save in transportation costs) and are environmentally suitable.

Corps staff are also reaching out to agency and community partners to assist them in identifying suitable options. If you are, or know of anyone, interested in working with the Corps to sell or otherwise make land available for placement purposes, which is close to the Mississippi River between St. Paul, Minnesota, and Guttenberg, Iowa, please contact Paul Machajewski, dredged material manager, at your convenience. He can be reached at 651-290-5866 or by email at [paul.r.machajewski@usace.army.mil](mailto:paul.r.machajewski@usace.army.mil).

The nearly 600 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, employees working at more than 40 sites in five upper-Midwest states serve the American public in the areas of environmental enhancement, navigation, flood damage reduction, water and wetlands regulation, recreation sites and disaster response. Through the St. Paul District Fiscal Year 2016 \$78 million budget, nearly 1,250 non-Corps jobs were added to the regional economy as well as \$120 million to the national economy. For more information, see [www.mvp.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil).

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**Legal Disclaimer:** This news release should not be construed as a notice of intent to acquire real property under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of

1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.) ("Uniform Act"). The Corps will need to conduct an environmental review of potential dredged material placement sites before use may be allowed. In addition, the Corps will need to comply with the requirements of the Uniform Act and other laws and regulations, as applicable, which may include developing an appraisal before an offer to purchase real property can be made.

## **Contact**

Public Affairs

Release no. 18-058

Dredged Material Management Plans



## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
180 FIFTH STREET EAST, SUITE 700  
ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1638

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

January 10, 2019

Landowner address

Dear Mr. Landowner

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District (Corps) is actively seeking land acquisition opportunities in support of the Corps' long-term dredged material management program on the Mississippi River. Specifically, the current area of interest includes properties located near Wabasha and/or Kellogg, MN. This letter is being sent because Wabasha County records indicate that you may currently own parcel R10.00007.00 of land that lie within the area of interest; and, may be suitable for material placement needs. By way of this letter, the Corps is reaching out to you to see if you are interested in more fully discussing the federal land acquisition process.

Dating back to the 1930s, the Corps has been responsible for maintaining the Mississippi River's 9-foot Navigation Channel. A significant component of the Corps' channel maintenance activities includes the identification and acquisition of upland placement sites. Ideally, placement sites are strategically located in areas where dredging operations are most prevalent and will not cause harm to the surrounding environment. As such, the Corps is working with the City of Wabasha to develop a long-term dredged material management plan for Pool 4 of the Mississippi River. However, there remains a strong need to identify suitable placement opportunities to help minimize the impacts on the larger community and surrounding areas.

As a landowner, if you are interested in gaining additional information regarding our dredged material placement program and may be considering a possible sale, please contact me at (651) 290-5253 or via email at [kevin.j.sommerland@usace.army.mil](mailto:kevin.j.sommerland@usace.army.mil). Please note that all federal land acquisitions must comply with the requirements set forth in the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended. With this letter, I have enclosed a brochure that more fully explains the acquisition process.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kevin Sommerland  
Chief, Real Estate Division  
USACE, St. Paul District



March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Dan Kelner  
Fisheries Biologist/Malacologist  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District  
180 5<sup>th</sup> St. East, Ste. 700  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: Rolling Prairie parcels

Dear Dan,

The purpose of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) as you are aware is to minimize the extent that federal programs contribute to the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of prime and important farmland to non-agricultural uses. The FPPA requires federal agencies involved in projects that may convert farmland to determine whether the proposed conversion is consistent with the FPPA. The FPPA is only a part of the EIS and NEPA process and compliance with the FPPA process does not guarantee compliance with other laws.

Upon reviewing the area of this project, I found that there is Prime Farmland in the proposed project area. However, during our conversation we talked about the planned restoration after the dredge material is placed on the site. Considering the possible implications of this determination, I contacted the national leader of technical soil services for guidance. From the conversation we decided that if restoration occurs there will be no permanent conversion. As there is no "irreversible conversion of important farmland to nonagricultural uses," an AD-1006 is not necessary as no conversion is taking place. If you have a copy of the restoration plan, can you send it to me for the file and future reference?

If you have any questions, please contact me via e-mail or at the above number.

Dan Nath, CPSS  
Resource Soil Scientist USDA/NRCS  
Rochester, MN



**From:** Kelner, Daniel E CIV USARMY CEMVP (US)  
**To:** ["Nath, Daniel - NRCS, Rochester, MN"](#)  
**Subject:** Rolling Prairie restoration and seed mix  
**Date:** Friday, March 22, 2019 3:43:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [Rolling Prairie seed mixture 2019.pdf](#)

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Dan, Attached is the seed mixture that will be used for prairie restoration following dredged material placement at the Rolling Prairie placement site. The seed mixture is the standard recommended Dry Prairie Southeast seed mixture by the MN/DOT and BWSR. A temporary cover crop will also be used and is included as well. Any questions, please feel to contact me.

Thanks.

Dan Kelner  
Fisheries Biologist/Malacologist  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District  
180 5th Street East, Suite 700  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
TELE (651) 290-5277  
MOBILE (651) 724 -2244  
FAX (651) 290-5805  
651-724-2244

## STATE SEED MIXES

Standard seed mixtures used by Mn/DOT, BWSR, and some divisions of the DNR have been revised and consolidated into one list of State Seed Mixes. Standards for the mixes have also been combined, with both BWSR and Mn/DOT requiring that mixes be sold as pure live seed (PLS), Source Identified (Yellow Tag) when available, and specific labeling requirements. Standards for local origin seed will vary depending on program requirements. Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement guidelines have been developed for BWSR funded programs and can be found at: [http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/native\\_vegetation/index.html](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/native_vegetation/index.html)

**Note:** Cover crops are included as a component of State Seed Mixes with the exception of some wetland mixes where cover species are not necessary. For State Seed Mixes, oats and winter wheat should be selected based on the time of year that the mix is being used. Oats should be included in mixes if a mix is used between October 15 th and August 1st. Winter wheat should be used for seeding between August 1st and October 15 th. The seeding rate is the same for oats and winter wheat.

### List of State Seed Mixes

#### 21-111

#### Oats Cover Crop

Common Name	Scientific Name	Rate (kg/ha)	Rate (lb/ac)	% of Mix (% by wt)	Seeds/ sq ft
Oats	<i>Avena sativa</i>	112.08	100.00	100.00%	44.54
	<b>Totals:</b>	<b>112.08</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>44.54</b>
<b>Purpose:</b>	Temporary cover crop for spring and summer plantings				
<b>Planting Area:</b>	Statewide				

#### 21-112

#### Winter Wheat Cover Crop

Common Name	Scientific Name	Rate (kg/ha)	Rate (lb/ac)	% of Mix (% by wt)	Seeds/ sq ft
Winter Wheat	<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	112.09	100.00	100.00%	26.08
	<b>Totals:</b>	<b>112.09</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>26.08</b>
<b>Purpose:</b>	Temporary cover crop for fall plantings				
<b>Planting Area:</b>	Statewide				

#### 21-113

#### Soil Building Cover Crop

Common Name	Scientific Name	Rate (kg/ha)	Rate (lb/ac)	% of Mix (% by wt)	Seeds/ sq ft
Field Pea	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	56.04	50.00	45.46%	3.44
	<b>Total Forbs</b>	<b>56.04</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>45.46%</b>	<b>3.44</b>
Oats	<i>Avena sativa</i>	67.25	60.00	54.54%	26.72
	<b>Total Cover Crop</b>	<b>67.25</b>	<b>60.00</b>	<b>54.54%</b>	<b>26.72</b>
	<b>Totals:</b>	<b>123.29</b>	<b>110.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>30.16</b>
<b>Purpose:</b>	Temporary cover crop with soil building function.				
<b>Planting Area:</b>	Statewide				

35-621

## Dry Prairie Southeast

Common Name	Scientific Name	Rate (kg/ha)	Rate (lb/ac)	% of Mix (% by wt)	Seeds/ sq ft
side-oats grama	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	1.27	1.13	10.23%	2.48
blue grama	<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	0.76	0.68	6.19%	10.00
kalm's brome	<i>Bromus kalmii</i>	0.35	0.31	2.78%	0.90
nodding wild rye	<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	1.68	1.50	13.61%	2.86
slender wheatgrass	<i>Elymus trachycaulus</i>	1.32	1.18	10.76%	3.00
junegrass	<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	0.46	0.41	3.71%	30.00
little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	1.69	1.51	13.70%	8.30
sand dropseed	<i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i>	0.25	0.22	1.98%	16.00
prairie dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	0.29	0.26	2.32%	1.50
	<b>Total Grasses</b>	<b>8.07</b>	<b>7.20</b>	<b>65.28%</b>	<b>75.04</b>
butterfly milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	0.07	0.06	0.52%	0.09
whorled milkweed	<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	0.01	0.01	0.11%	0.05
bird's foot coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis palmata</i>	0.06	0.05	0.50%	0.20
white prairie clover	<i>Dalea candida</i>	0.10	0.09	0.78%	0.60
purple prairie clover	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	0.17	0.15	1.32%	0.80
ox-eye	<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	0.07	0.06	0.51%	0.13
round-headed bush clover	<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	0.03	0.03	0.31%	0.10
rough blazing star	<i>Liatris aspera</i>	0.02	0.02	0.17%	0.11
dotted blazing star	<i>Liatris punctata</i>	0.02	0.02	0.23%	0.06
wild bergamot	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	0.03	0.03	0.30%	0.85
horsemint	<i>Monarda punctata</i>	0.02	0.02	0.22%	0.80
stiff goldenrod	<i>Oligoneuron rigidum</i>	0.07	0.06	0.59%	0.98
large-flowered beard tongue	<i>Penstemon grandiflorus</i>	0.04	0.04	0.35%	0.20
black-eyed susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	0.10	0.09	0.86%	3.20
gray goldenrod	<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	0.01	0.01	0.14%	1.65
skyblue aster	<i>Symphyotrichum oolentangiense</i>	0.01	0.01	0.06%	0.20
silky aster	<i>Symphyotrichum sericeum</i>	0.02	0.02	0.19%	0.20
bracted spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia bracteata</i>	0.01	0.01	0.12%	0.05
heart-leaved alexanders	<i>Zizia aptera</i>	0.02	0.02	0.21%	0.10
	<b>Total Forbs</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>7.49%</b>	<b>10.37</b>
Oats or winter wheat (see note at beginning of list for recommended dates)		3.36	3.00	27.23%	1.33
	<b>Total Cover Crop</b>	<b>3.36</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>27.23%</b>	<b>1.33</b>
	<b>Totals:</b>	<b>12.33</b>	<b>11.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>86.75</b>
<b>Purpose:</b>	Regional dry prairie reconstruction for wetland mitigation, ecological restoration, or conservation program plantings.				
<b>Planting Area:</b>	Eastern Broadleaf Forest Province excluding Hardwood Hills subsection. Mn/DOT Districts Metro & 6.				

**From:** [Kelner, Daniel E CIV USARMY CEMVP \(US\)](#)  
**To:** ["Dieterman, Daniel M \(DNR\)"; Kurt Rasmussen \(Kurt.Rasmussen@Wisconsin.gov\); Peter Fasbender@fws.gov; "kevin.stauffer@dnr.state.mn.us"; "Nath, Daniel - NRCS, Rochester, MN"](#)  
**Subject:** UMR Pool 5 Dredge Material Management Plan coordination  
**Date:** Thursday, May 16, 2019 2:53:00 PM

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The St. Paul District Corps of Engineers is currently preparing an Upper Mississippi River Pool 5 Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP). The purpose of this DMMP is to prepare a coordinated, long-term plan for managing material dredged in Pool 5 of the Upper Mississippi River (UMR) for the purposes of continued operation and maintenance of the 9-foot Navigation Channel Project. This plan was initiated due to a change in the availability of dredged material placement sites in Pool 5.

The Corps is currently pursuing long term permanent and beneficial use dredge material placement sites in Wabasha and Winona Counties, MN and Buffalo County, WI to be used for placement of material over the next 40 years. Primarily, upland agricultural row crop lands currently active or previously used as such are being identified for use. The Corps has assessed current local land uses and contacted land owners to develop a list of sites potentially suitable for permanent placement of dredged material. Once identified, sites were evaluated based on aspects of environmental acceptability, operational feasibility and estimated costs.

I'm contacting you to notify you of the plan and that a draft DMMP with integrated Environmental Assessment will be provided to you for review shortly. In the meantime if you want further information of the project or have concerns please feel free to contact me.

Thanks

Dan Kelner  
Fisheries Biologist/Malacologist  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District  
180 5th Street East, Suite 700  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
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# NEWS RELEASE

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

**BUILDING STRONG®**

For Immediate Release:

Sept. 16, 2019

News Release No. MVP-PA-2019-079

Patrick Moes: 651-290-5202, 651-366-7539, [patrick.n.moes@usace.army.mil](mailto:patrick.n.moes@usace.army.mil)

Shannon Bauer: 651-290-5108, 612-840-9453, [shannon.l.bauer@usace.army.mil](mailto:shannon.l.bauer@usace.army.mil)

## **Corps of Engineers release draft dredged material placement plan, schedule public meeting**

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, released a draft Environmental Assessment for its proposed dredged material management plan in Pool 5, near Kellogg, Minnesota, today, Sept. 16.

The draft plan outlines the transportation methods and necessary land requirements to permanently place dredged material removed from the Mississippi River in Pool 5 for the next 40 years. All of the land would be acquired through willing sellers. This plan would ensure the 9-foot navigation channel remains open and able to transport the region's grains to global markets. Pool 5 is an 15-mile long stretch of the river from Lock and Dam 4, in Alma, Wisconsin, to Lock and Dam 5 in Minnesota City, Minnesota.

Corps of Engineers officials will host a public meeting to discuss the draft plan and receive public comments. The meeting will be at the St. Agnes Church, 125 W Belvidere Ave., in Kellogg from 6 - 8 p.m., Sept. 26. The meeting will include a formal presentation highlighting the Corps' navigation mission and the proposed dredged material management plan. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

A draft EA describing the plan and the environmental impacts is available to the public and can be viewed at the public libraries in Alma, Wisconsin, or Wabasha, Minnesota, or it can viewed and downloaded from the St. Paul District website at: [www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Home/PublicNotices.aspx](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Home/PublicNotices.aspx).

Questions on the plan or comments on the EA can be directed to Bob Edstrom, project manager, at 651-290-5026 or [Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil](mailto:Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil). Please address all formal written correspondence on this project to the St. Paul District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: Regional Planning and Environment Division North, 180 5th St. E., Suite 700, St. Paul, MN 55101.

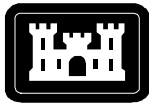
Comments in the proposed plan will be accepted through October 18.

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**ABOUT US:** The nearly 700 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, employees working at more than 40 sites in five upper-Midwest states serve the American public in the areas of environmental enhancement, navigation, flood damage reduction, water and wetlands regulation, recreation sites and disaster response. Through the St. Paul District Fiscal Year 2018 \$106 million budget, nearly 1,700 non-Corps jobs were added to the regional economy as well as \$163 million to the national economy. Learn more at [www.mvp.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil) or visit our social media sites at:



**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – ST. PAUL DISTRICT**  
180 5th St. E, St. Paul, MN 55101



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

# Public Notice

**Project:** Mississippi River Pool 5 Dredged Material Management Plan - Wabasha and Winona Counties, Minnesota; Buffalo County, Wisconsin.

**Date:** September 13, 2019

**In Reply Refer to:**

**Expires:** October 18, 2019 Regional Planning and Environment  
Division North

**1. Project Proponent.** St. Paul District, Corps of Engineers, 180 Fifth Street East, Suite 700, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1678.

**2. Project Authority.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is authorized to maintain a navigable channel on the Mississippi River. Authority for continued operation and maintenance of the Mississippi River 9-Foot Channel project is provided in the Rivers and Harbors Acts of 1930 and 1932. Original authority for the Corps of Engineers to work on the Mississippi River was provided in the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1878. In addition, pursuant to Section 1103(i) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. § 652(i)), Congress authorized the Corps to manage dredged material from the system pursuant to the recommendations of the Great River Environmental Action Team (GREAT) I study, which were implemented, in part, in the St. Paul District 1996 Channel Maintenance Management Plan (CMMP). The proposed project is authorized by the referenced legislation and its purpose is compatible with the annual operations and maintenance appropriation.

**3. Project Location.** The plan addresses dredged material management for the navigation channel on the Mississippi River between Lock and Dam (L/D) 4 and L/D 5 between river miles (RM) 752.8 and 738.1. This project addresses dredge cuts in Pool 5 that currently includes: Upper Zumbro, Mule Bend, West Newton Chute, Below West Newton, Above Fisher Island, Lower Zumbro, Minneiska, Above Mt. Vernon Light, and Below Mt. Vernon Light. Communities located in the project area include Buffalo City, Cochrane, and Alma in Wisconsin, and Kellogg, Minneiska, and Weaver in Minnesota.

**4. Summary of the Proposed Project.** The purpose of this Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) is to prepare a coordinated, long-term plan for managing material dredged in Pool 5 of the Upper Mississippi River (UMR) for the purposes of continued operation and maintenance of the 9-Foot Navigation Channel Project. This plan was initiated due to a change in the availability of dredged material placement sites in Pool 5. There are nine active dredge cuts in Pool 5 where maintenance dredging has occurred since 1970, with around 4.7 million cubic yards (CY) of material dredged between 1981 and 2018.

The proposed plan includes periodically placing dredged material temporarily at the three designated island placement sites (commonly referred to as Above West Newton, Above Fisher Island, and Lost Island). Once the islands are designated as “full”, they would be offloaded at the West Newton Chute transfer site where the material would then be trucked to a newly acquired Rolling Prairie permanent placement site near Kellogg, MN.

**5. Schedule.** The plan allows for the management of at least 4.7 CY of dredged material over the next 40 years.

## **6. Permits/Coordination.**

a. General. The proposed action has been coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the U.S Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA/NRCS), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

b. State. The proposed action will not result in the placement of fill material, the discharge of carriage water, or other work in State of Minnesota waters that would require a permit. No Public Waters Work permit or 401 Water Quality Certification will be required from the State of Minnesota. However, the Rolling Prairie site would be added to the MPCA Solid Waste Disposal Site (SDS) programmatic permit for Corps dredged material placement sites prior to dredged material placement activities.

c. Federal. A Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact was prepared and are being coordinated in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. This EA is an integrated component of the DMMP.

Coordination with the USFWS occurred during the planning process and a USFWS Refuge Special Use Permit will not be required by the St. Paul District.

Coordination with the USDA/NRCS occurred regarding irreversible conversion of prime and important farmland to non-agricultural uses. Although Prime Farmland occurs on the Rolling Prairie site, the USDA/NRCS determined that there will be no irreversible conversion of important farmland to nonagricultural uses if the placement site is converted to prairie as planned.

Impacts to wetlands will be avoided during dredged material placement at the Rolling Prairie site to the extent practicable for the duration of the plan. However, if avoiding wetlands later becomes impracticable due to capacity needs, the District will conduct an evaluation in accordance with Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act, prior to placing any fill in wetlands.

**7. Summary of Environmental Impacts.** The proposed action includes the continued use of three temporary island placement sites (Above West Newton, Above Fisher Island, and Lost Island); an existing and active placement site (West Newton Chute) and the use of a newly acquired placement site (Rolling Prairie), of which the majority is upland and in active agricultural production. The majority of the Rolling Prairie site would be restored to native prairie after dredged material is placed providing minor beneficial effects to natural resources in the area. A small portion of the Rolling Prairie site would be managed as a dredged material beneficial use site. The proposed action would have no significant cumulative adverse or beneficial effects.

The proposed action would have minor long term beneficial effects on commercial navigation and to terrestrial habitat and biological productivity after the site has been restored to native

prairie. The proposed action may result in adverse impacts on current land use and farmland food supply. There would also be minor adverse effects on noise levels, aesthetic values, transportation, tax revenue, and air quality; and to terrestrial habitat and biological productivity in the short term while the site is actively being used for dredged material placement.

**8. Report.** A Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment that describes the project and the environmental impacts in detail is available to the public and can be viewed at <http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Home/PublicNotices.aspx> . Copies of the report can also be obtained at the Wabasha Public Library, 168 Allegheny Ave., Wabasha, MN 55981 and the Alma Public Library, 312 N. Main St., Alma, WI 54610. The report includes project drawings, a Draft Finding of No Significant Impact, and letters of coordination from regulatory agencies.

**9. Review and Comment.** If you have any comments on the environmental assessment they should be provided before the expiration date of this notice. Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available for public review, to include the possibility of posting on a public website. Questions on the project or comments on the Environmental Assessment should be directed to Mr. Bob Edstrom, Project Manager at (651) 290-5026 or at [Robert.k.Edstrom@usace.army.mil](mailto:Robert.k.Edstrom@usace.army.mil). Please address all correspondence on this project to District Engineer, St. Paul District, Corps of Engineers, ATTN: Regional Planning and Environment Division North; 180 Fifth Street East; Suite 700; St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1638.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edstrom', with a large, stylized initial 'E' and a circular flourish at the end.

Acting Deputy Chief, Regional Planning and  
Environment Division North