



UMRR Program - IL, IA, MO, MN, WI - Beaver Island Habitat Rehabilitation & Enhancement Project, Pool 14

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Location

Pool 14, Upper Mississippi River Miles 515.0-513.0, Clinton County, Iowa.

State(s)

IA

Congressional District(s)

IA-1

Status

General design of the project has been initiated and a Feasibility Report is scheduled for completion in 2017.

Description

Beaver Island is located along the right descending bank of the UMRS in the southern portion of Clinton County, IA. The Project area is in Pool 14 between river miles 513.0 and 515.5 adjacent to the cities of Clinton and Camanche, IA. Lock and Dam 13 is located 5 miles upstream of the island system. Areas considered as part of this project include Beaver Slough, Grass Slough, and Lower Lake. The 2,300-acre Beaver Island Complex represents 16% of Pool 14 backwater habitat.

The complex of backwaters and wetlands has historically provided spawning, nursery, and overwintering habitat for fish and feeding and resting habitat for migratory water birds. Backwater habitat quality has degraded from excessive sedimentation since implementation of the UMRS 9-Foot Navigation Channel Project. Wetland functions have also been negatively affected by sedimentation.

The Corps proposes to rehabilitate and enhance Beaver Island by constructing measures which will increase the quality of year-round habitat for the fish community, increase floodplain forest vegetation diversity, and improve the overall structure and function of Beaver Island habitat.

The need for rehabilitation and enhancement of the Site is based on the following factors:

- 1.) The existing aquatic habitat currently lacks adequate centrarchid overwintering habitat (i.e., depth and flow) important for year-round habitat functioning. Without action, the available overwintering habitat will continue to decrease.
- 2.) The existing topography lacks forest diversity and significant amount of the island is inundated during a typical flooding event. Consequently, floodplain forest regeneration, growth, and survival are reduced. Without action, floodplain habitat will decrease in quality through succession to silver maple, open canopy, and/or reed canary grass, which is an invasive species.
- 3.) Albany Slough, the existing secondary channel habitat, has degrading geomorphologic



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features, structure, and function. Over time, Albany Island is likely to continue eroding, which would have major detrimental effects on existing mussel communities inhabiting the Albany Slough and on the fish species which serve as hosts.

Summarized Project Costs

General design costs are estimated at \$900,000. Estimated construction costs will be included in the draft feasibility report, although an initial estimate was set at \$12,500,000.

Federal Cost	\$19,100,000
Non-Federal Cost	\$0.00
Total Cost	\$19,100,000
Federal Allocations through FY 2016	\$1,950,000
Scheduled Federal Allocation for FY 2017	\$1,600,000
Balance to Complete	\$15,550,000

Additional Project Information

Project lands are federally-owned by the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish Wildlife Service (USFWS). All the federally-owned lands are managed by USFWS as part of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, Savanna District.

The USFWS is the non-Federal project sponsor. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources are project proponents. Annual costs for operation, maintenance, and repair will be the responsibility of the USFWS.

Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)

FY 2017 Completion of the Feasibility Report. Initiate plans and specification for Stage I. Continue pre-project monitoring.

Major Work Item (Next Fiscal Year)

FY 2018 Award Stage I construction contract and initiate plans and specification for Stage II. Continue pre-project and during-construction monitoring.

Point of Contact: Regional Program Manager located at CoeMVR - PM-M

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