



UMRR-EMP - IL, IA, MO, MN, WI - Fox Island Habitat Rehabilitation & Enhancement Project, Pool 20

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Location

Pool 20, Upper Mississippi River Mile 353.5 - 358.5, Clark County, Missouri

State(s)

MO

Congressional District(s)

MO-6

Status

Construction began in the fall of 2011 and was scheduled to be complete in the summer of 2013. Spring flooding in 2013 caused some damages and delayed construction completion. Construction and repair of flood damages is expected to be completed in the summer to late fall of 2014.

Description

The Fox Island project area is located along the right descending bank of the Upper Mississippi River immediately downstream of Alexandria in the southeast corner of Clark County, Missouri. The project lies generally between the Mississippi River on the east and the Fox River on the west. The Fox Island Division (Division) lands are owned in fee title and managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the Great River National Wildlife Refuge. The Division is comprised of 2,033 acres of land and water within the Mississippi River floodplain. Currently, about 925 acres are floodplain forest, 120 acres are wetlands, backwaters and sloughs, and the remaining 988 acres are a combination of farmland and abandoned fields. The extent and quality of forests, wetlands, and grasslands along the Mississippi River has been steadily declining over the years. The project area has historically provided substantial benefits to waterfowl and other wetland wildlife. Sedimentation reduced wetland depths to the point where they are dry most of the year. PROJECT FEATURES:

- Reduce forest fragmentation and increase bottomland hardwood diversity by allowing 640 acres to reforest naturally and planting 275 acres of mast trees in existing forested areas and farmland and abandoned fields;
- Enhance 78 acres of wetlands by providing wells for water supply and water control structures for flooding existing wetlands; and
- Restore native grasslands by planting 98 acres of native grasses and forbs adapted to conditions where the soils are periodically saturated and/or inundated.

The project will restore historic wetland habitat, which is critical for resident and migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and wading birds. The project will also provide greater habitat diversity through native grassland and mast tree plantings. The native grassland planting will provide feeding and nesting opportunities for a wide variety of wildlife. The mast tree plantings, coupled with natural regeneration, will create a large tract of continuous forest that is critical habitat for forest dwelling species.

Summarized Project Costs

Total estimated cost of the project, including general design and construction management is

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\$5,000,000.

Federal Cost	\$5,220,000
Non-Federal Cost	\$0.00
Total Cost	\$5,220,000
Federal Allocations through FY 2014	\$5,024,000
Scheduled Federal Allocation for FY 2015	\$196,000
Balance to Complete	\$0

Additional Project Information

The estimated annual costs for operation, maintenance, and repair is \$32,436, which is the responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Federal project sponsor. The Missouri Department of Conservation is a non-Federal project sponsor.

Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)

FY 2014 Execution of contract modifications to repair 2013 flood damages.

Major Work Item (Next Fiscal Year)

FY 2015 Completion of Construction, tree re-planting, and begin development of the Operations and Maintenance Manual.

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

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