

Project Factsheet for: Quincy Bay

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Project Location Information

Location: RM 327.0 to 330.0 in Pool 21 of the Mississippi River

River Basin(s): Mississippi

State(s): IL

Congressional District(s): IL-17

Status

In FY 2005, Quincy Bay received a Congressional add for \$135K. In FY05 only \$10k was expended to initiate a Preliminary Restoration Plan/Federal Determination Report. Due to the complexity of the project and the overlap of other federal projects, additional funds to complete the Federal Determination were requested. The request was approved in Dec 2005, however the regulations for FY06 prohibited addition expenditure of funds. In FY 07, Quincy Bay received funding to complete the Federal Determination Milestone Report. The result of the report was a finding of no Federal interest in proceeding under the Section 206 program. If adequate funding was provided the existing Quincy Bay project authority could be utilized to restore some depth in the bay.

Description

The City of Quincy and Quincy Park District have expressed concerns with the loss of deep water off channel habitats and high levels of sediment delivery to Quincy Bay. There are 3 separate federal projects between RM 327.0 to 330.0 in Pool 21 of the Mississippi River, Adams County, IL. Two projects were authorized by the 1960 Small Boat Harbor authority: Bay Island Access Channel and Squaw Chute Small Boat Harbor. The 3rd project, Quincy Bay (maintenance of a 5 ft deep channel), was authorized by the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1962. The Quincy Bay project consists solely of periodic dredging of lower and middle Quincy Bay.

Over the past several years considerable interest has been expressed in closing the Bay Island Access Channel to reduce sediment inputs. The purpose of the Bay Island Access Channel was to provide easier upstream recreational boating access to the Mississippi River from the Squaw Chute Small Boat Harbor which is located approximately ¼ mile downstream of the access channel in the middle of Quincy Bay. In 1987, the Illinois State Water Survey estimated that approximately 22% of the sediment being deposited in Quincy Bay came through the Access Channel. That same year, the Rock Island District completed the Reconnaissance Report of the Sedimentation Problem in Quincy Bay. Three major alternatives were considered: closure of the Bay Island Access Channel, selective dredging, and levee/berm construction to reduce sedimentation. The report concluded with a recommendation that no further action be taken due to the absence of high priority project benefits such as commercial navigation or flood control. In 1997, a 905b analysis evaluated flood control opportunities for nearby levee and drainage districts but was put into an inactive status before it was completed due lack of a sponsor. The 1997 report resulted in similar results. In WRDA 2000, the Bay Island Access Channel was deauthorized. Initially, it was thought that the deauthorization allowed the opportunity to investigate closure of the access channel under the Section 1135 program (eliminating inconsistency with the purpose of the authorized project). However, since the project was deauthorized, the connection to an existing (as required by Section 1135 authority) project no longer existed, thus Section 1135 was inappropriate. As a result the current proposal was considered under Section 206 authority.

Summarized Financial Data

Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)

FY 2009: None. Finding of no Federal interest.

Major Work Item (Next Fiscal Year)

FY 2010: None. Finding of no Federal interest.

Authority

CA - Continuing Authorities - Section 206 -- WRDA 1996, Continuing Authorities Program, Section 206 (Section 1135 authority was determined to be inappropriate for this project due to its deauthorization status.)

Project Manager Information

Name: Hank DeHaan, Program Manager, Project Management Branch

Phone: (309) 794-5853

E-mail: henry.c.dehaan@usace.army.mil