

15 May 1987

FACT SHEET

COLD SPRINGS  
POOL 9, UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER, WISCONSIN

LOCATION: Cold Springs is a 36-acre backwater area located on the Wisconsin side of the Mississippi River in pool 9 at the mouth of Kettle Creek, approximately 5 miles above Lock and Dam 9. It is bounded on the west by the Burlington Northern Railroad right-of-way. The site lies within the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge.

RESOURCE PROBLEM: Cold Springs supports an excellent sport fishery which is being degraded because sedimentation has slowly been decreasing water depths, resulting in dissolved oxygen depletion problems during the winter and increased growth of aquatic plants. Largemouth bass, northern pike, walleye, sauger, bluegill, and crappie use this area at various times of the year. Cold Springs acts as a refuge for fish during periods of high flow on the river.

PROPOSED PROJECT: The proposed project consists of selectively dredging portions of the Cold Springs area to increase water depths, remove fine oxygen-demanding sediments, reduce aquatic plant encroachment, and increase available fish habitat.

PROJECT OUTPUTS: The project would prevent further degradation and restore fishery habitat in 36 acres of especially valuable backwater area. The area provides a unique protected habitat adjacent to the open, wind-swept reaches of lower pool 9. The unique physical character permits Cold Springs to serve as a fish refuge during high river flows and provides valuable habitat for many species of warm water fish.

FINANCIAL DATA: The General Design phase of the project is estimated to be \$30,000 and construction costs are estimated at \$400,000. Funding would be 100-percent Federal because the project is located on the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge.