

10 March 1988

FACT SHEET

INDIAN SLOUGH BACKWATER REHABILITATION  
POOL 4, UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER, WISCONSIN

LOCATION: The site is located in a backwater area of lower pool 4 adjacent to Big Lake on the Wisconsin side of the Mississippi River navigation channel, across from Wabasha, Minnesota. The site lies within the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge.

RESOURCE PROBLEM: The Indian Slough and upper Big Lake backwater areas in pool 4 are being degraded by the effects of both fine sedimentation and sand sediments migrating from the main channel. This has resulted in degradation of habitat for a wide variety of fish and wildlife that depend upon backwater habitats. Most crucial is the loss of fishery habitat and production.

PROPOSED PROJECT: The proposed project involves selective dredging to remove accumulated sediments from Indian Slough and upper Big Lake. Rock habitat would be provided in the slough for fish and mussel habitat enhancement. The project would be constructed in association with an Operation and Maintenance project that would modify the mouth of Indian Slough.

PROJECT OUTPUTS: The proposed project would reduce the effects of sedimentation on the Indian Slough and restore the habitat value of about 500 acres in the Big Lake backwater areas.

FINANCIAL DATA: The General Design phase of the project is estimated to be \$50,000 and construction costs are estimated at \$1,000,000. Funding would be 100-percent Federal because the project is located on the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge.