



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 80
VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI 39181-0080

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

CEMVD-PD-SP

24 April 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, Rock Island District, ATTN: CEMVR-PM-M

SUBJECT: Upper Mississippi River Restoration (UMRR) - Fact Sheet Approval for the Huron Island, Des Moines County, Iowa, and Beaver Island, Clinton County, Iowa, Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Projects (HREP)

1. Reference memorandum, CEMVR-PM-M, 21 March 2006, subject: Revised Appendix A-Project Study Issue Checklist for the Upper Mississippi River Restoration (UMRR) and Fact Sheet Approval for the Huron Island, Des Moines County, Iowa, and Beaver Island, Clinton County, Iowa, Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Projects (HREP).
2. Subject fact sheets, as revised, are approved for continued HREP planning (encl).

Encl


MICHAEL B. ROGERS, P.E.
Director of Programs

CF:
CEMVD-PD-SP

HURON ISLAND

COMPLEX

HABITAT REHABILITATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Pool 18
Upper Mississippi River Mile
421.2 - 425.4

Des Moines County, Iowa
Rock Island District



LOCATION:

The Huron Island Complex project area is located along the right descending bank of the Upper Mississippi River in the northern portion of Des Moines County, Iowa (RM 421.2 to 425.4). The 2,000 acre project area includes Huron Chute. The project lands are federally owned by the Corps of Engineers and are part of the Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge Complex. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has granted management of the project area to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources through a cooperative agreement.

RESOURCE PROBLEM:

The Huron Island Complex is a heavily forested island complex. The project includes 164 acres of backwater areas and 500 acres of secondary channels. Sedimentation in these areas has negatively affected fish and wildlife habitat by decreasing depth and reducing water clarity when fine sediments are resuspended by waves. Bankline sloughing in the upper portion of Huron Chute has caused degradation in near-shore habitat.

PROJECT FEATURES:

- * Dredge backwaters and connecting sloughs using a combination of hydraulic and/or mechanical dredging.
- * Construct berms at the upstream end of the island to deflect sediment-laden floodwaters.
- * Plant mast-producing trees on berms.
- * Create isolated wetlands (potholes)
- * Protect banklines in Huron Chute

PROJECT OUTPUTS:

Dredging connecting channels and backwater lakes would provide important off-channel deep water habitat for fish. Shallow depression wetlands would provide feeding areas for resident and migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and wading birds. Mast tree plantings would increase species diversity and improve the existing timber stand. The project would improve the quality and diversity of habitat in a major backwater complex in Pool 18.

FINANCIAL DATA:

General design and construction costs are estimated at \$600,000 and \$5,000,000, respectively. A detailed construction cost estimate will be included in the draft Definite Project Report (DPR). Annual costs for operation, maintenance, and repair will be the responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is the project proponent.

STATUS:

General design of the project has been initiated. A draft DPR is scheduled for completion in 2007.