

# Project Factsheet for: Mississippi River Mast Tree Planting Project

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## Project Location Information

**Location:** Mississippi River Pools 12, 18, and 21  
**State(s):** IA, IL  
**Congressional District(s):** IA-1, IA-2, IL-17

### Status

Project Completed and Closed-out

### Description

The Rock Island District manages approximately 54,000 acres of forested wetlands along the Mississippi River in the States of Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Missouri. Pre- and post-project impacts have altered the character of the historic forest. A portion of Long Island was cleared for agriculture prior to the construction of the 9-Foot Channel Navigation Project. During the 1940s and 1950s, Corps of Engineers logging reduced the amount of mast-producing trees which provided a valuable source of food for wildlife. Subsequent Federal protection and changes in land use practices allowed a natural reversion of much of the affected area back to forest. This new forest growth is dominated by early successional species such as cottonwood, silver maple, and elm, rather than mast-producing trees which provide better quality wildlife habitat. The proposed project will restore an oak-walnut-pecan component to 558 acres of bottom land forest by a combination of direct seeding, and bare root and large stock plantings. The tree establishment process consisted of planting plus follow-up control of undesirable competing species for 2 years afterwards. There is no requirement for future maintenance after the establishment period. Regeneration by direct seeding (acorns), regeneration by planting bare root seedlings, regeneration by planting large stock seedlings, and no action. Trees Forever agreed to assume 25 percent of the project costs at Pleasant Creek and Huron Island. American Forests, through their Global ReLeaf program, agreed to assume 25% of the project costs at Long Island. There is no requirement for future maintenance. These are the first and only non-profit Section 1135 project sponsors in the country. Goals for enhanced wildlife habitat are fully supported by a 1961 Cooperative Agreement between the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS). The Illinois Department of Natural Resources strongly endorsed the proposed planting. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources concurs with the proposal to establish mast trees on state-managed lands on Huron Island. Restoration of the oak component to the Huron and Pleasant Creek Sites augments regeneration efforts initiated by the Mississippi River Natural Resources Forest Management Program. The project is complete. All planting was completed by November 1996. The remaining contract tasks which included herbiciding and mowing were completed on the last planting sites in Sept 1998. A fiscal close-out of project costs is also complete. The project cost was approximately \$372,000.

### Summarized Financial Data

Federal Cost	\$
Non-Federal Cost	\$
Total Cost	\$
Federal Allocations through FY 2004	\$
Scheduled Federal Allocation for FY 2005	\$
Balance to Complete	\$

### Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)

**FY 2006:** None

### Authority

CA - Continuing Authorities - Section 1135 -- Section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act, as amended (Modifications for Improvement of the Environment)

### Additional Information

The Mississippi River Mast Tree Planting Project is located within the Rock Island District at Pleasant Creek, Huron Island, and Long Island. These three sites are adjacent to the Mississippi River in Pools 13, 18, and 21, respectively. Two planting areas are located at the Pleasant Creek Site, Pool 13, River Mile 552, approximately 4 miles south of the town of Bellevue in Jackson County, Iowa. The Huron Island site contains 8 planting areas, and is located in Pool 18, River Mile 424, in Des Moines County, Iowa. A large planting area is located on Long Island, Pool 21, River Miles 334-340, 5 miles north of the city of Quincy in Adams County, Illinois.

### Project Manager Information

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