

Project Factsheet for: Shoreline Management on Mississippi River

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Project Location Information

Location: Mississippi River Pools 11-22

State(s): IA, IL, MO, WI

Congressional District(s): IA-1, IA-2, IA-3, IA-4, IA-5, IL-11, IL-13, IL-14, IL-15, IL-16, IL-17, IL-18, IL-19, IL-2, IL-3, MN-1, MN-7, MO-6, MO-9, WI-1, WI-2, WI-3, WI-5, WI-6

Status

POOL 13, Carroll County, Illinois RM 530, Government Tract FI-114

This area is designated as Protected Shoreline due to the unstable, steep, sandy and highly erodible bank. This tract represents one of the few remaining shoreline areas under federal control in this stretch of Mississippi River Pool 13 that has not been heavily impacted by development. The adjacent privately owned farm field has been recently subdivided for home development. Realtors, prospective buyers and new homeowners want to 'develop' government land for river access and placement of permanent structures and docks. Citations have been issued in this area for illegal structures on government land. Rangers monitor the area for unauthorized vista clearing and construction activities.

POOL 13, Carroll County, Illinois, RM 544, Government Tract FI 229, Webster Village and Mounds Site

This area was initially designated as an area permitting private recreational structures. Subsequent to development of the SMP in 1989, the tract became eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The Webster Village and Mounds Site, discovered after the 1993 flood, may be MVR's most important archeological site. By Memo For Record dated 3 Nov 1999, CEMVR-PM-R denied applications for shoreline use permits and special use licenses in the area. The zoning of the tract will be reclassified to a Protected Shoreline Area to discourage future development.

There are numerous other "hot" zones (i.e., Bellevue, Iowa) involving illegal encroachment, vista clearing and other unauthorized activities that occur over a year's period, some of which may involve congressional inquiry.

Description

In 1989, the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) was developed and implemented as guidance for the management, protection and preservation of the Mississippi River's environment, while allowing a balanced use of the shoreline. It is the policy concerning private exclusive use of Corps of Engineers owned property from Guttenburg, Iowa, to Saverton, Missouri. Private exclusive use involves placing private recreational structures or pursuing certain activities along Corps shorelines that are limited to the individual and are usually not available to the general public. The SMP discusses conditions and restrictions of such private exclusive use.

There are currently 337 Shoreline Use Permits and Special Use Licenses under management for shoreline and river access related private structures. This plan does not apply to Corps administered cottage site and residential leases or to commercial marina or navigation activities.

The SMP allocates the Corps-owned shoreline, Pools 11-22, into four classifications where private recreational structures/activities will either be prohibited or allowed. These shoreline classifications are incorporated into the Rock Island Districts' Land Use Allocation Plan (LUAP) for the Mississippi River Project. Shoreline Use Classifications include:

- A. Limited Development Area (LDA) - The only classification where new permit/licenses may be issued to authorize private exclusive use.
- B. Public Recreational Area - Shorelines managed by a governmental entity, commercial concessionaire or non-profit organization. Private structures are prohibited within these areas.
- C. Prohibited Access Area - Shoreline areas allocated for the protection of the public's safety or security of government installations. Generally located around locks, dams, spillways or government storage areas. Private structures are prohibited within these areas.
- D. Protected Shoreline Area - Shoreline areas designated to maintain or restore aesthetic, fish and wildlife, cultural or other environmental values. These areas also may be designated to protect unstable shorelines from erosion or to prevent development in areas that are subject to excessive erosion. No private exclusive use is allowed with the exception of those authorized at the time of implementation of the SMP in 1989.

Authority

SI - Special Interest --

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