

Project Factsheet for: Upper Mississippi, Lower Missouri, and Illinois Rivers Flow Frequency Study, IL, IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, & WI

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Project Location Information

Location:IL, IA, KS, MN, MO, NE & WI

River Basin(s): Des Moines / Skunk, Illinois, Iowa / Cedar, Mississippi , Rock

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

Congressional District(s): IA-1, IA-2, IA-4, IA-5, IL-11, IL-16, IL-17, IL-18, IL-19, MO-9, WI-3

Status

All final study products have been completed, distributed, and posted to the web site. Financial close-out has been completed. Study products are being used extensively for computing new floodways, calculating benefit/cost ratios for flood damage reduction projects, evaluating the effectiveness of existing levees, and in carrying out many other floodplain planning and management activities.

The study was reopened in FY05 to address Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Data Quality Act petitions filed by the Missouri Coalition for the Environment. A Notice of Appeal was filed 5/18/07 the Missouri Coalition for the Environment challenging Judge Buckles' grant of summary judgment in the Corps' favor.

Description

Authority for conducting this investigation is contained in Section 216 of the 1970 Flood Control Act. The study area includes the Upper Mississippi from just below St. Paul, MN to Cairo, IL, the Illinois River from its confluence with the Mississippi at Grafton, IL to Lockport L&D at Lockport, IL, and Missouri River from its confluence with the Mississippi at St. Louis to Gavins Point dam near Yankton, SD, nearly 1900 total river miles. Flood profiles for the Upper Mississippi River date back to 1979. Missouri River profiles date back to the mid-1960's. In 1997 the Secretary of the Army for Civil Works directed the Corps of Engineers to conduct a study to review, update, and revise, as appropriate, the existing flood frequency data for the study area.

The study was scoped to include: a review of the methodology used in determining flood-flow frequency; selection and application of the appropriate flow frequency analysis method; analysis of the effects of reductions in flood runoff attributable to flood control reservoirs; consideration of the potential effects of levee overtopping and/or failure; determination and selection of the appropriate hydraulic model and relevant hydrologic and hydraulic data with which to develop water surface elevations for a range of flow frequency and development of those profiles. The development of enhanced elevation data for this study was funded out of Corps Operations & Maintenance (O&M) appropriations.

Rock Island District had overall project management responsibility for this 5-District (St. Paul, Rock Island, St. Louis, Omaha, Kansas City), 2-Division (Mississippi Valley and Northwestern), 7-state (IL, IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, WI) study. The Corps' headquarters (HQUSACE), Hydrologic Engineering Center (HEC), Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL), and Institute for Water Resources (IWR) played significant roles in the execution of this study. Internal and external study oversight and coordination primarily was accomplished via an interagency task force, two technical advisory groups and a public involvement group.

In addition to the Corps, other task force members include: representatives from the 7 States; National Weather Service (NWS); Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); Bureau of Reclamation (BOR); United States Geological Survey (USGS); Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

Summarized Financial Data

Federal Cost (Reconnaissance Study)	\$350,000
Federal Cost (Feasibility Study)	\$8,746,000
Non-Federal Cost	\$0
Total Cost	\$9,096,000

Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)

Resolve FOIA and DQA petitions.

Major Work Item (Next Fiscal Year)

None.

Authority

GI - General Investigations --

Additional Information

Schedule: Reconnaissance phase- 03/97 - 09/97

Feasibility phase- 10/97 - 09/04

Additional Congressional Districts: IL-12; KS-2, KS-3; MN-2, MN-3, MN-4, MN-5; MO-1, MO-2, MO-3, MO-4, MO-5, MO-8; NE-1, NE-2, NE-3

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