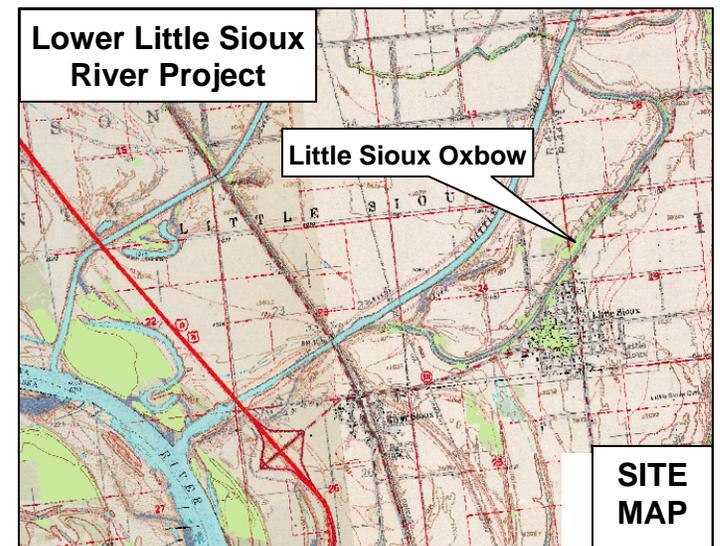
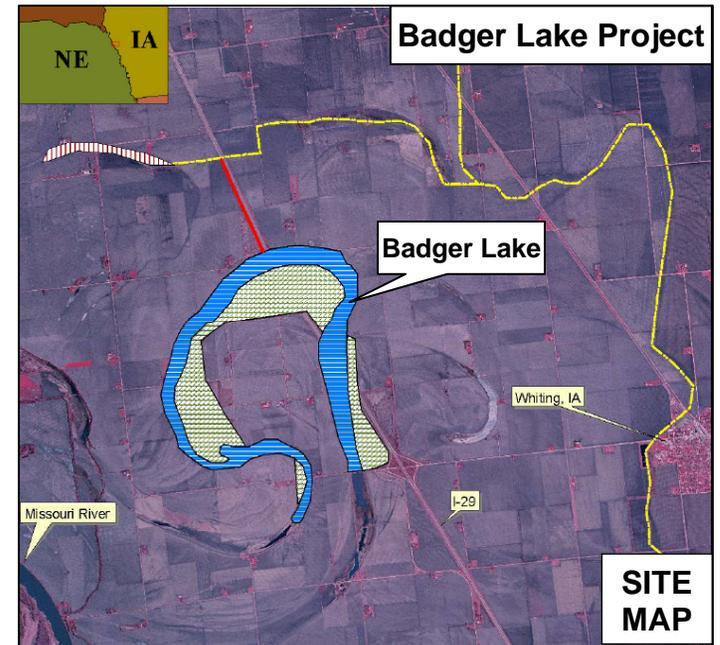


Missouri and Middle Mississippi Rivers Enhancement Project

- Regional ecosystem restoration project for the Missouri and Middle Mississippi River corridors
- Two active projects in Western Iowa:
 - Badger Lake Project near Whiting, Iowa
 - Lower Little Sioux Project near Little Sioux, Iowa

<i>FY07</i>	<i>\$TBD</i>
<i>FY08 (P)</i>	<i>\$0M</i>
<i>FY08 (C)</i>	<i>\$3.2M</i>





US Army Corps
of Engineers
Omaha District

Missouri and Middle Mississippi Rivers Enhancement Program

Authority: Section 514, Water Resources Development Act of 1999,
as ammended

Sponsor: Iowa Department of Natural Resources



LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION: The project area includes the Missouri River, from its mouth to its headwaters near Three Forks, Montana, and the Middle Mississippi River, from the mouth of the Ohio River to the mouth of the Missouri River. The project provides for those activities necessary to protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat compatible with water-related needs of the region. Habitat development and enhancement at site-specific projects within the river channels and flood plains of the Missouri River would be constructed at 65 percent Federal, 35 percent non-Federal cost and operated and maintained by a non-Federal sponsor.

PROBLEM AND NEED: Both the Missouri and the Middle Mississippi Rivers have been substantially deforested, channelized, and leveed. The main channels are deeper, narrower, and more uniform as a result of channel training. Except for narrow strips of flood plain along the rivers, the flood plain has been isolated from the rivers by large levees that prevent flooding in most years. Levees currently protect 70 to 80 percent of the flood plain along the Lower Missouri River and Middle Mississippi River. There are several programs that are working to achieve similar goals of improving fish and wildlife habitat along these rivers. However, it has been determined that the Missouri and Middle Mississippi Rivers Enhancement Program provides definitive value added to partners seeking more participation and cooperation through a program that provides diverse aquatic ecosystem restoration.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR FY08: The program currently has 10 active site-specific projects in various phases from preliminary/recon level to feasibility, plans and specs, and construction. Funds would be used for continued work on these projects. There are currently two active projects in the State of Iowa, the Badger Lake Project and the Little Sioux River Project. Funds would be used to move these projects forward into feasibility level investigations to evaluate alternatives, benefits, and costs.

<u>Financial Data</u>	<u>Amount</u>
FY07 Anticipated Allocation	TBD
FY08 Budget Request	\$0
FY08 Capability	\$3,200,000

ISSUES AND OTHER INFORMATION: Projects developed under this authority enable states to assemble corridors of environmentally revitalized river channel and adjacent flood plain habitat which would have a complementary and reinforcing effect on similar types of environmental restoration activities accomplished under other authorities. This project also aids in addressing threatened and endangered species issues on the Missouri and Middle Mississippi Rivers. Changes to the current authorization to allow for local and national non-governmental organizations to participate as the non-Federal sponsor would allow for more partnering opportunities. The ability for sponsors to do work-in-kind activities and provide easements in lieu of fee title on real estate would be important to ensure future success on site-specific projects. Cost-sharing enhances the partnership aspects of this program while not increasing the burden of operation and maintenance costs on future Federal budgets.