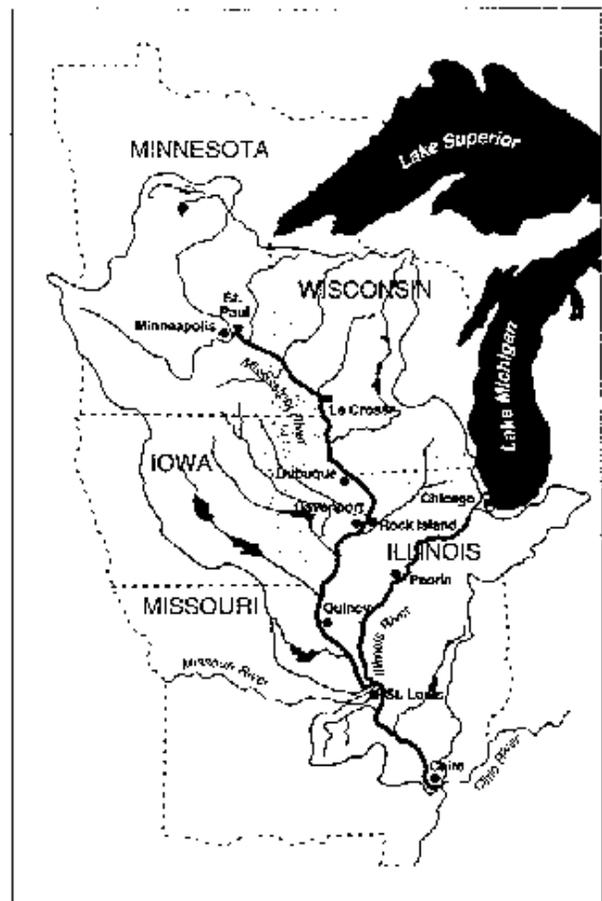


Introduction

In Section 1103 of the 1986 Water Resources Development Act,¹ Congress authorized a multi-element program designed to protect, restore, and balance the resources of the Upper Mississippi River System (UMRS). This program, which has come to be known as the Environmental Management Program, or EMP, consists of five program elements:

- Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Projects (HREP)
- Long Term Resource Monitoring (LTRM) and Computerized Inventory and Analysis (CIA) [Note: These program elements have come to be jointly referred to as the Long Term Resource Monitoring Program (LTRMP)]
- Recreation Projects
- Economic Impacts of Recreation Study
- Navigation Traffic Monitoring

This report is presented to Congress in fulfillment of Section 1103(e)(2) of that same Act, which directs the Secretary of the Army, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin to:



The Upper Mississippi River System and its Basin.

¹ See Attachment 1.

...conduct an evaluation of [the HREP, LTRM, and CIA] programs and submit a report on the results of such evaluation to Congress. Such evaluation shall determine each such program's effectiveness, strengths, and weaknesses and contain recommendations for the modification and continuance or termination of such program.

Chapter 1 of this report describes the program's origin and presents its funding and implementation history and current management framework. The ecological state of the UMRS is discussed and presented in Chapter 2. Chapters 3 and 4 provide a description and evaluation of the program's two major elements,² the LTRMP and HREP, respectively.

The public's perspectives on river resources and public involvement in the implementation of the EMP are presented in Chapter 5. This chapter includes the results of a major public survey completed in 1996 on river resource values and expectations. Chapter 6 lays out the program options and alternatives considered and presents preferences for the program's future based on evaluations of those options and alternatives. Chapter 7 provides over-arching program conclusions and proposed program implementation modifications. Recommendations to the Congress are presented in Chapter 8.

The recommendations, as well as the proposed program implementation modifications identified in this report, were developed in consultation with the program partners, the five Upper Mississippi River basin states (Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey. Also, several other governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations actively participated in the formulation of the recommendations and proposed program implementation modifications presented in this document.

Two separately bound appendices containing extensive documentation on the LTRMP (Appendix A) and the HREPs (Appendix B) have been developed and distributed. These appendices, along with this report and its attachments, are available electronically. They may be reached via either of the following Internet addresses: www.mvr.usace.army.mil or www.emtc.usgs.gov. Additional hard copies of this document and its appendices may be obtained by writing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, ATTN: Planning Division, Clock Tower Building, P.O. Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004.

² The program authorizing legislation that mandated the development of this report did not specifically request evaluation of the three other program elements (recreation projects, Economic Impacts of Recreation Study, and navigation traffic monitoring). Attachment 3 of this report was developed to provide, for reasons of report completeness, a summary of these other program elements.