

# Project Factsheet for: Beaver Island Habitat Rehabilitation & Enhancement Project, Pool 14, UMRS-EMP

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## Project Location Information

**Location:** Pool 14, Upper Mississippi River Miles 515.0-513.0, Clinton County, Iowa.  
**River Basin(s):** Mississippi  
**State(s):** IA  
**Congressional District(s):** IA-1

## Status

General design of the project has been initiated. A draft DPR is scheduled for completion in 2011.

## Description

**Resource Problem:** The 2,300-acre Beaver Island Complex represents 16% of the Pool 14 backwater habitat. The complex of backwaters and sloughs has historically provided overwintering and spawning habitat for fish and feeding habitat for migratory water birds. The area has been degrading steadily due to sedimentation. Wetland functions have also been negatively affected.

**Project Features:**

- \* Dredge backwaters and connecting sloughs using a combination of hydraulic and/or mechanical dredging.
- \* Construct sediment deflection embankments using dredged material from the backwaters and sloughs.
- \* Create nesting islands.
- \* Plant mast-producing bottomland hardwoods on the embankments.
- \* Create isolated wetlands (potholes)
- \* Install a water control structure or low maintenance high water diversion gate on the upper end of the complex to reduce sediment loading, while introducing oxygen rich water into the complex when needed.

**Project Outputs:** Dredging the backwater and connecting sloughs would provide critically important overwintering habitat for fish, such as bass, crappie, and bluegill. The isolated wetlands would restore feeding habitat for resident and migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and wading birds. The mast tree plantings will increase species diversity and improve the existing timber stand. The project will enhance the quality and diversity of habitat in the largest backwater complex in Pool 14.

## Summarized Financial Data

General design costs are estimated at \$600,000. Estimated construction costs will be included in the draft Definite Project Report (DPR), although an initial estimate was set at \$4,000,000. Annual costs for operation, maintenance, and repair will be the responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is the project proponent.

## Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)

Organization and collection of existing data for the site.

## Major Work Item (Next Fiscal Year)

Development and adoption of a Project Management Plan, collection of GIS data on Land Use Land Cover and floodplain topography.

## Authority

CG - Construction General --

## Project Manager Information

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