

Project Factsheet for: Goose Pond Mutual Drainage and Levee District

Date Last Updated: 08/26/2008 08:04

Project Location Information

Location: Southeast Bureau County and northwest Putnam County, Illinois; near Hennepin.

River Basin(s): Illinois

State(s): IL

Congressional District(s): IL-11

Status

A public notice for the project was issued on May 23, 2007, expired on June 21, 2007. We received a number of letters objecting to the project as well as a number of public hearing requests. Concerns included hydrology, water levels, flooding, sedimentation, public access, and overall project impacts. The comment letters were forwarded to The Wetlands Initiative (TWI) for response. TWI provided a response to the concerns expressed. The response was provided to those submitting comments. TWI is preparing a Biological Assessment to address endangered species concern.

TWI has held two public meetings to answer questions about the project.

As a result of concerns expressed about the project, TWI revised the project plans. A public notice for the project revisions was issued on July 17, 2008, expired on August 15, 2008. We received a number of letters objecting to the project as well as a number of public hearing requests. These comments have been provided to TWI for a response.

A decision is needed if a Corps public hearing will be held.

A floodplain construction permit has not been issued by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources.

Section 401 Water Quality Certification has not been issued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Description

The purpose of the project is to perform scientific and economic research over a 10-year period to assess the efficacy of nutrient farming, a water quality trading strategy that uses managed wetlands to offset nutrient loads from point source dischargers. The goal of the project is to demonstrate that through water quality trading nutrient farmers can sell nutrient removal credits to municipalities or industries that release excess nutrients and cannot cost-effectively remove these nutrients through mechanical or chemical means themselves. The Wetlands Initiative (TWI) is serving as the agent for this project to oversee and manage the design, construction, and operation of the project and to coordinate the necessary scientific research. TWI projects that the 4-cell system annually will remove 230 tons of nitrogen and 27.3 tons of total phosphorus when operating at half maximum capacity.

The project includes the construction of approximately 8.08 miles of external berm and 2.17 miles of internal berms, excavation for the construction of these berms, the construction of spillways, the construction of pump stations, the construction of flow control structures, and the construction of wetland mitigation. Water from the Illinois River is diverted into the cells, allowed to flow through slowly, and pass out the lower end back to the river. It is the intent that nitrogen and phosphorous levels are reduced. These reductions then are to be sold as 'credits' to metro Chicago wastewater treatment plants, reducing their costs for discharges to the river.

Summarized Financial Data

Federal Cost	\$
Non-Federal Cost	\$
Total Cost	\$
Federal Allocations through FY 2004	\$

Scheduled Federal Allocation for FY 2005	\$
Balance to Complete	\$

Authority

SI - Special Interest -- Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act

Project Manager Information

Name: Wayne Hannel

Phone: 309-794-5378

E-mail: wayne.hannel@mvr02.usace.army.mil