

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

SUBJECT: Bay Island HREP, 2002 Performance Evaluation Report.

1. On October 29th, 2002 a joint inspection was made at the Bay Island Habitat Rehabilitation and Environmental Project (HREP). The inspection included representatives from the Corps of Engineers, Missouri Department of Conservation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife. The following personnel were present at the site visit:

Corps of Engineers - Charlene Carmack, Biologist in PM-A
Kirk Sunderman – Project Engineer in ED-DM
Gary Swenson – Forester in OD-MN

Missouri Department of Conservation – Keith Jackson – Site Manager

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Karen Westphall, EMP Coordinator

2. Both the north and south wetland management units (WMUs) were filled with impounded water. The North WMU was at elevation 464.7 feet and the south WMU was at elevation 465.5 feet during the inspection. The WMUs were filled about two weeks prior to the inspection. The north WMU had held its water level consistently over those two weeks but the south WMU had lost a half-foot of pool over the same period. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDOC) continues to monitor the seepage that is occurring in the south WMU by periodically taking gage readings and recording hours of pump operation. It was noted that the pump station had no problems starting up and pumping after sitting through another season.

3. The MDOC was having the original acorn/seedlings area disked in preparation for planting 5 to 6 foot tall root-pruned-method (RPM) trees. Only about a dozen trees are still growing from the original plantings that included around 7,500 acorns and seedlings in this 10-acre area. The new mast trees will include pecan, pin oak, swamp white oak, and persimmon planted about 30 feet apart. Pumping water into the north WMU was delayed to facilitate planting and growth of existing trees. The planting location in the south WMU are at elevations above normal pool, and thus not appreciably impacted by flooding operations.

4. Locations that had been seeded with Virginia Wild Rye and redtop were found to be doing real well at the site. Reseeding of the exterior levee is once again planned for spring 2003.

5. Cover management within the WMUs was being addressed by selective mowing and brush cutting to clear areas overgrown by undesirable vegetation.

6. Overall the project looked to be in great shape.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk Sunderman".

Kirk Sunderman, P.E.
Project Engineering Section

CF by e-mail:

CD-C (Lester)
ED-DN (Ensey)
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