

**UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER RESTORATION FEASIBILITY REPORT
WITH INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**GREEN ISLAND
HABITAT REHABILITATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

**POOL 13, UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER
RIVER MILES 545.9 THROUGH 548.7
JACKSON COUNTY, IOWA**

**APPENDIX E
ENGINEERING**

**ATTACHMENT H
HAZARDOUS, TOXIC AND RADIOACTIVE WASTE**

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1. GENERAL

1.1. Authority The Green Island Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Project (HREP; Project) is an ecosystem restoration project being developed through the Upper Mississippi River Restoration (UMRR) Program. The UMRR Program, authorized by the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986 under Section 1103 and extended indefinitely by the WRDA of 1999, is a Federal/State partnership program for planning, construction and evaluation of fish and wildlife habitat rehabilitation projects and for monitoring the natural resources of the river system. It is a regional program that includes the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) St. Paul, Rock Island, and St. Louis Districts. The purpose of the HREPs is to preserve and restore habitat on the Mississippi and Illinois floodplain river systems.

1.2. Guidance and Policy. The Corps' Engineering Regulation (ER) 1105-2-100, *Planning Guidance Notebook*, provides guidance for the conduct of Civil Works Planning. The policies and authorities outlined in ER 1165-2-132, *Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) Guidance for Civil Works Projects*, and ER 405-1-12, *Real Estate Handbook*, were developed to facilitate the early identification and appropriate consideration of HTRW issues in all of the various phases of a water resources study or project. ER 1165-2-132 provides divisional guidance for HTRW assessment for Civil Works projects. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standards E1527-13 and E1528-06 provide a comprehensive guide for conducting Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESA). ASTM Standard E1903-97(2002) provides guidance for Phase II ESAs. These references provide information on what considerations are to be factored into project planning and implementation. The USACE policy is to avoid construction of civil works projects when HTRW is located within project boundaries or may affect or be affected by such projects.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1. Purpose and Scope. The specific purpose of an HTRW Documentation Report is to adequately document an appropriate inquiry into HTRW activities on potential project lands. The scope of this report documents the HTRW investigation for the Lower Pool 13 HREP Feasibility Study.

This HTRW inquiry is required in order to minimize and prevent Federal liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and to reduce any threats to Project workers and avoid costly delays associated with environmental abatement activities.

A Phase I ESA for the Feasibility Study area was conducted by personnel from the USACE Rock Island District (District) Environmental Engineering Section. Copies of the Phase I ESA are available from CEMVR-EC-DN.

2.2. Limiting Conditions and Methodologies Used. The techniques used to assess HTRW contamination within and adjacent to the Study Area consisted of review of historical documents, Federal and state environmental databases, aerial photographs, topographic maps, and conducting interviews and site visits. The scope of inquiry was limited to investigating onsite HTRW potential within the study boundaries as well as offsite HTRW potential within a reasonable distance (according to ASTM standards) from the Project.

3. STUDY AREA

3.1. Description. The Project is located between river miles 548.5 and 546 along the right descending bank of the Mississippi River within Pool 13, just southeast of the confluence with the Maquoketa River in Jackson County, Iowa. The Project lies with portions of the Sections 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 29 of Township 85 North, Range 6 East of the 5th Principal Meridian. The Study Area lies entirely within the Green Island Wildlife Management Area (WMA) operated and maintained by the Iowa DNR. The Green Island WMA is located behind the Green Island Levee system, which is part of the Green Island Levee and Drainage District. The Green Island WMA consists of a managed wetland complex that includes shallow oxbow lakes, emergent vegetation and managed moist soil areas, and braided channels surrounded by floodplain timber stands. The Green Island WMA wetland complex is listed as Ramsar site, being recognized as a wetland of international significance. The WMA permits public recreational uses, such as hunting (deer, turkey, pheasant, squirrel, waterfowl, and dove), trapping, fishing, recreational paddling, and bird watching.

3.2. Physical Setting. The USGS topographical maps from 2022 were used for records review. Surface elevation for the Study Area is approximately 600 feet above mean sea level (NAVD 1988). Land use is a wildlife refuge, consisting of bermed wetlands, ditches, access roads, a pump station, isolated woodlands, open water ponds and lakes, and a levee separating the Study Area from the main channel of the Mississippi River. The Study Area of Green Island is Southeast of Bellevue, Iowa and across the Mississippi River from the Savannah Army Depot located near the Township of Hanover, Illinois. Green Island is bound by the confluence of the Maquoketa River to the west, and the Mississippi River to the north and east of the Project Area. To the south, the Project Area is bound by the Canadian Pacific railroad which separates Green Island from the higher elevation of the towns of Reeceville and Twin Springs, Iowa, located approximately 2 miles from the Project Location. The Study Area is within the floodplain of the Mississippi River but surrounded by a levee. The surrounding area consists of large fields used for agriculture and heavily wooded areas delineating change in elevation or property.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT

4.1. Historical Use Information. Based on aerial photos (1936, 1952, 1994 and 2021) and interviews, the Study Area itself has primarily been used for recreation such as fishing, hunting, bird watching and paddling. This is due in part to the fact that the Study Area is a wetland complex that includes shallow oxbow lakes. The area surrounding the Study Area has historically been used for agriculture.

4.2. Site Reconnaissance. A site visit was conducted by USACE representative Steve

Gustafson on July 27, 2021. A reconnaissance was performed with visual inspection of surrounding properties. The following observations were made:

- No indications of spills or staining on the natural or manmade surfaces.
- No indications of hazardous materials storage areas.
- No indications of refuse or illegal dumping.

No indications of recognized environmental conditions (REC's) were observed in the Site Reconnaissance phase.

4.3. Findings. One Historical Recognized Environmental Condition was identified near the Study Area. Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) Incident # 7LTS38 is located southwest of the Study Area along the Canadian Pacific railroad. Leakage from a 250-gallon gasoline Underground Storage Tank was identified in 1990. After investigation and remedial activities, the Iowa DNR classified the incident as No Further Action in July 2009. Therefore, this assessment has not identified any REC's in or near the Study Area.

5. CONCLUSIONS

Sites identified in the database searches are a significant distance from the Study Area and/or do not indicate any releases of hazardous substances occurred in the vicinity of the Study Area. The LUST incident 7LTS38 has been remediated and is no longer considered an REC.

No other REC's or real or potential HTRW issues are present in the Study Area.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

No further HTRW assessment is recommended.

7. LIMITATIONS

No ESA can wholly eliminate uncertainty regarding the existence for recognized environmental conditions concerning a property. This assessment is intended to reduce, but not eliminate, uncertainty regarding the existence of recognized environmental conditions in connection with a property with reasonable limits of time and cost. If any previously unaddressed recognized environmental condition should arise, this HTRW Documentation Report will be revisited. Title searches and research into environmental liens were not conducted for this report but will be required prior to construction phase of the preferred alternative.