

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

SUBJECT: Gardner Division (Long Island Division) HREP, 2004 Performance Evaluation Report

1. On June 26, 2003, a joint inspection was made at the Gardner Division (Long Island Division) Rehabilitation and Environmental Project (HREP). The inspection included representatives from the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The following personnel were present at the site visit:

Corps of Engineers – Julie Fisher, Project Engineer  
Gary Swenson, Forrester

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Dave Ellis, Site Manager  
Dick Stenibach, Refuge Manager  
Karen Westphall, EMP Coordinator

2. The rock protection on the head of Islands A, B, C, D, and E were inspected from a boat. The photographs of the site visit are attached in Attachment A. Over all the rock protection has reduced erosion on the head of the islands to help restore habitat. On Island D, east side, a scour hole can be seen. It was discussed that the scour hole should be watched.
3. The head of Long Island and the head of Lagrange Island have major erosion problems. See photo A-14 thru A-16. At this time, different bankline protections are being evaluated for the head of Long Island and the head of Lagrange.
4. O'Dell chute closure structure was not access during this site visit due to low water.
5. Also the mast tree planting on Long Island was not viewed due to boat problems.
6. A meeting was held on 12 November 2003 at the project's construction site on Long Island to inspect the mast tree plantings. The following representatives from the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service were in attendance:

Corps of Engineers – Julie Fisher, Project Engineer  
Joe Lundh, Forrester

Darron Niles, Technical Coordinator  
Kara Mitvalsky, Engineering EMP Coordinator  
Rod Clausen, Construction Officer

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Dave Ellis, Site Manager  
Karen Westphall, EMP Coordinator

7. The purpose of the meeting was to inspect the recently completed mast tree planting (planting 3 of 3) and assess the success and condition of the previous two plantings. R. Clausen had raised concerns about tree survival due to the abundant weed growth in a memo dated 6 November 2003 and requested a site visit to determine the impact of the weeds and identify any remedial actions.
8. Based on our limited survey, J. Lundh (Forester) said the tree plantings appeared to have good survivability, but were stressed by the amount and height of weeds around them. He also said the tall weeds had the potential to lay over the tree plantings, which would stunt their growth or kill them.
9. R. Clausen recommended that we use the herbicide and seeding options in the current contract to aid in the tree's survival. The herbicide would be sprayed in a 6' radius from each tree, while the seeding option would plant grass on the raised berms where the trees were planted. Previously, grass was only planted in the rows between the berms, which reduced but did not eliminate the weedy growth. Future mast tree planting contracts need to ensure that berms are seeded as well as the rows between the berms. The cost for this additional work is estimated to be \$20-30,000. J. Fisher will coordinate this effort. The contractor will need to know of any contract changes by 4 April 2004.
10. Completing a tree survey was also discussed to determine how many trees have died. The survey will be performed by foresters or possibly contracted out.
11. While boating to this site visit, we did some sounding in O'Dell Chute and the access channel to the chute. Depths in both areas, after adjusting for the stage, were ~7.5' (elev. 463.5). Both areas were dredged to elev. 462.5 in 2001.
12. The site visit 11/12/03 photographs of the mast tree planting can be seen in Attachment B.
13. Late May of 2004 an inspection of O'Dell Chute closure structure was preformed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Dave Ellis and Karen Westphall. Overall all the closing structure was in good condition, however

some erosion is taking place on the bankline near the closing structure. Photographs can be view in Attachment C.

14. Another site visit was held on 7 July 2004 to inspect the mast tree plantings after the flooding and to inspect the closing structure. The following representatives from the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service were in attendance:

Corps of Engineers – Julie Fisher, Project Engineer  
Gary Swenson, Forrester  
Joe Lundh, Forrester  
Lynn Daughtry, Construction Officer  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Dave Ellis, Site Manager

15. Gary Swenson and Joe Lundh both felt that the flooding helped manage the weeds around the mast trees and will give the trees a better survival rate. Once the mast tree planting area is mowed the forresteres will assess the survival rates of all trees.
16. Also the closing structure in O'Dell Chute was inspected. The closing structure looked in good condition. However erosion is taking place on the bankline. It was discussed that this area needs to be monitored. Therefore this next PER should discuss if the erosion has worsen. Also, if the USFWS is in the area they will stop by and inspect the closing structure if the water levels allow. After their inspection of the closing structure they will contact the project engineer if the erosion worsens. All photographs from the 7 July 2004 site visit can be viewed in Attachment C.
17. All photograph locations were complied and place on a site Map. See Attachment D

**Attachment A**  
**June 26, 2003-Site Visit**



**Photo A-1:** Island A (head on view)



**Photo A-2:** Island A (west side of island)



**Photo A-3:** Shandrew Island



**Photo A-4:** Shandrew Island



**June 26, 2003-Site Visit**



**Photo A-5:** Island B



**Photo A-6:** Island B



**Photo A-7:** Island C



**Photo A-8:** Island D



**June 26, 2003-Site Visit**



**Photo A-9:** Island D (east side)



**Photo A-10:** Island D (west side)



**Photo A-11:** Island E



**Photo A-12:** Island E



**June 26, 2003-Site Visit**



**Photo A-13:** Island E



**Photo A-14:** Head of Long Island



**Photo A-15:** Head of Long Island



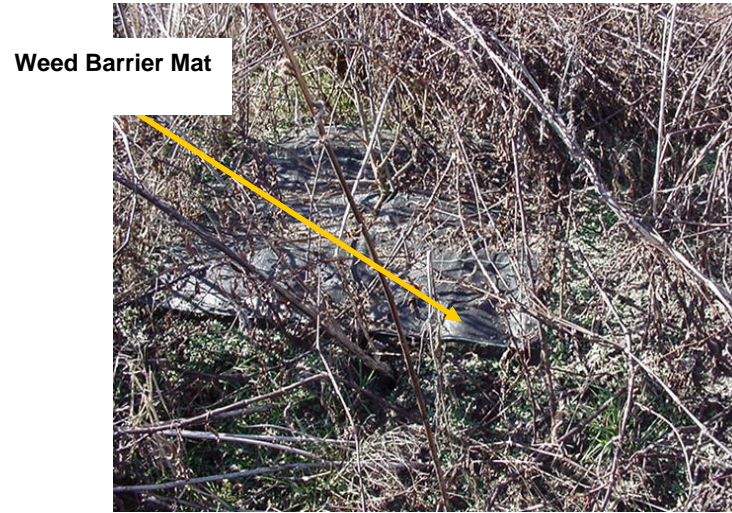
**Photo A-16:** Head of LaGrange Island



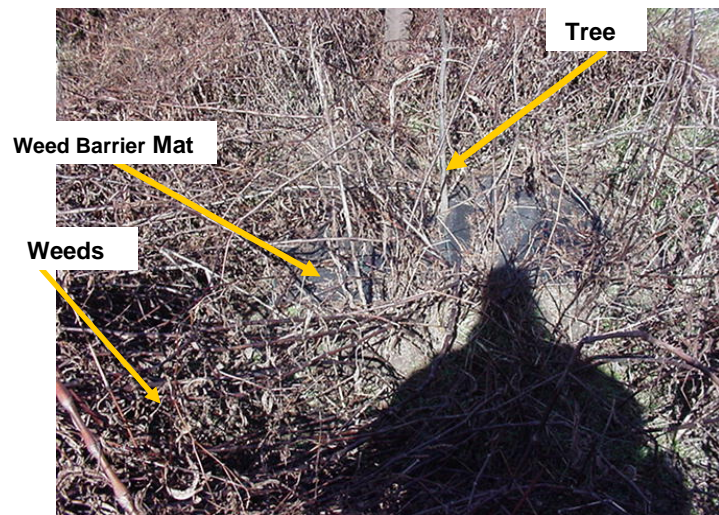
**Attachment B**  
**November 12, 2003-Site Visit**



**Photo B-1:** Tree planting from year 2



**Photo B-2:** Tree planting from year 2



**Photo B-3:** Tree planting from year 2



**Photo B-4:** Tree planting from year 3



**Attachment C**  
**July 7, 2004 and Late May 2004-Site Visit**



**Photo C-1:** Closing Structure (West Side)



**Photo C-2:** Closing Structure (East Side)



**Photo C-3:** Closing Structure – East Side Bankline



**Photo C-4:** Erosion (Late May-By Karen Westphall)

**Late May 2004-Site Visit**

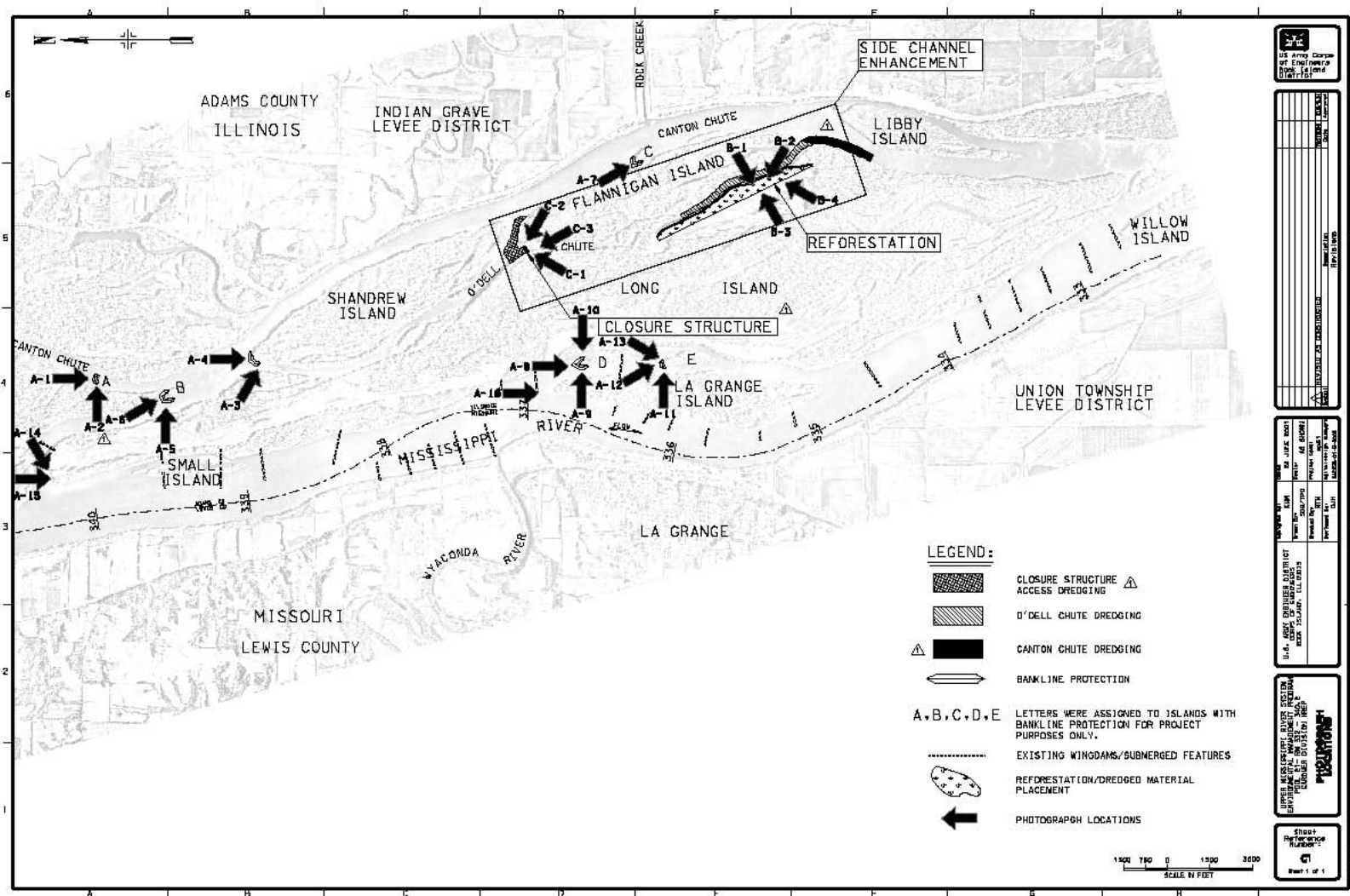


**Photo C-5:** Erosion (Late May- Karen Westphall)



**Photo C-6:** Erosion (Late May- Karen Westphall)





U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
Battalion 100

Project Name	MISSISSIPPI RIVER DISTRICT INDIAN GRAVE LEVEE DISTRICT
Project Number	100-100-100
Project Date	100-100-100
Project Status	100-100-100
Project Location	100-100-100
Project Description	100-100-100
Project Objectives	100-100-100
Project Results	100-100-100
Project Conclusions	100-100-100
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MISSISSIPPI RIVER DISTRICT  
INDIAN GRAVE LEVEE DISTRICT  
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Sheet 1 of 1

Sheet Reference Number: 5  
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