

MONKEY CHUTE

HABITAT REHABILITATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

**Pool 21
Upper Mississippi River Mile 326**

**Marion County, Missouri
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District**



RESOURCE PROBLEM:

The upstream end of Monkey Chute was cut off many years ago by the accumulation and deposition of sediment coming off the main channel of the Mississippi River. Sedimentation at the downstream end of the chute, near its mouth with the Mississippi River, was also becoming acute in the 1980's. In severe cases, when Pool 21 was below normal pool levels, the sedimentation prevented access into the chute, stranding fish and causing stagnation by isolating the chute from the river. Continued sedimentation would have resulted in the conversion of the open backwater habitat into a marsh and then lowland brush habitat.

PROJECT FEATURES:

- * Hydraulically dredged a cut approximately 6 feet deep by 30 feet wide by 600 feet long at the downstream end of Monkey Chute. Removed about 3,000 cubic yards of material and pump into a sand/mud area immediately adjacent to the dredge cut; and,
- * Constructed a silt-retaining fence to screen silt from the water column.

PROJECT OUTPUTS:

The project continues to maintain a suitable depth at the downstream end of the chute, assuring a supply of well-oxygenated water during low pool and low flow periods, while enabling access into the chute by boaters and spawning/juvenile fish. The accumulation of sediment at the mouth of the chute may become an issue as the project matures and will need to be monitored/discussed in the future Monkey Chute performance evaluation reports. Bass tournament participants have commented on the quality of the backwaters within Monkey Chute.

FINANCIAL DATA:

General design costs were \$16,000, and construction costs were \$40,000. No operation, maintenance, and/or repair costs were identified or have been appropriated for this project. The Missouri Department of Conservation is the non-Federal project sponsor.

STATUS:

Project construction was completed in August 1989. The Initial Performance Evaluation Report for the Monkey Chute Rehabilitation and Enhancement Project was completed in March 1995 and was the 6-yr post-construction report. Also, 9-yr and 12-yr supplemental performance evaluation reports were completed and distributed in April 1998 and June 2001, respectively. A 15-yr post-construction report is scheduled and will be completed in 2004. Reports are filed at the Rock Island District.