

Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program Coordinating Committee Quarterly Meeting

August 10, 2022

Highlights and Action Items

Program Management

- **UMRR has obligated nearly \$22 million, or just over 66 percent, of its \$33.17 million FY 22 funds as of August 1, 2022.** The cost for Conway Lake HREP is approximately \$439,000 less than estimated due to the project being completed faster than anticipated.
- **The President's FY 23 budget as well as the House and Senate FY 23 energy and water appropriations bills include \$55 million for UMRR.**
- **The FY 23 draft plan of work for UMRR at a \$55 million funding scenario is as follows:**
 - Regional Administration and Program Efforts – \$1,550,000
 - Regional management – \$1,280,000
 - Program database – \$100,000
 - Program Support Contract – \$120,000
 - Public Outreach – \$50,000
 - Regional Science and Monitoring – \$15,450,000
 - Long term resource monitoring – \$5,500,000
 - Regional science in support of restoration – \$8,350,000
 - Regional science staff support – \$200,000
 - Habitat evaluation (split across three districts) – \$1,275,000
 - Report to Congress – \$125,000
 - Habitat Restoration – \$38,000,000
 - Rock Island District – \$11,148,000
 - St. Louis District – \$13,502,000
 - St. Paul District – \$13,250,000
 - Model certification – \$100,000

The most substantial changes that would result from UMRR funded at \$55 million in comparison with its recent \$33.17 million appropriation include a) increasing regional science in support of restoration from approximately \$3.8 million to \$8.3 million and b) increasing habitat restoration funding in each district from between \$6 million to \$7 million to between \$11 million to \$13 million.

- **The draft Senate WRDA 2022 language includes an annual appropriation authorization increase for the HREP element of UMRR from \$40 million to \$75 million. With LTRM's authorized appropriation level of \$15 million annually, the total UMRR annual authorized funding level would be \$90 million.**

- Changes to the UMRR 10-year implementation plan include extending schedules for Reno Bottoms, Green Island, and Beaver Island Stages I and II; replacing Glades Refuge with Reds Landing; and adding Gilead Slough. **Increased appropriations would result in accelerated project schedules and expedited need for another project selection process. The next HREP selection process under a \$55 million funding scenario is anticipated to begin in calendar year 2024.**
- **Four projects are anticipated to be completed in 2022 that will collectively add 9,810 acres to UMRR's total restored or improved habitat.**
- The draft 2022 UMRR Report to Congress has been reviewed twice by UMRR Coordinating Committee members and once by some non-governmental partners. The report authors have addressed the comments in consultation with the UMRR Coordinating Committee. MVD is currently reviewing the draft report and has requested some additional text in the section on project partnership agreements to outline the origination of existing requirements from law and policies. The second in-progress review with USACE Headquarters is scheduled for August 29, 2022. **The delivery of the report to Congress is anticipated in December 2022.**
- Environmental justice is considered in all aspects of USACE's planning, operations, and management. The UMRR Coordinating Committee agreed to focused planning regarding how UMRR's current approaches, tools, and opportunities incorporate environmental justice and can be improved as well as how UMRR can engage with communities that have not been traditionally served by the program. In response to a request from the Coordinating Committee, **UMRBA staff will send an email to the UMRR Coordinating Committee to designate staff from their respective agencies to participate in an *ad hoc* group on UMRR's roles in environmental justice. The Coordinating Committee asked that, at the November 16, 2022 quarterly meeting, the *ad hoc* group provide a recommendation for objectives and a process for evaluating the ways in which UMRR can integrate environmental justice in its work.**
- UMRBA staff sent revised draft implementation issue papers to the UMRR Coordinating Committee July 12, 2022 reflecting input received from the Committee on earlier drafts. The Coordinating Committee is scheduled to meet on August 31, 2022 to discuss revisions to the implementation issue papers and identify the preferred actions to address each issue.
- Inflation is affecting all Corps programs and projects. **Two recent contract bids on HREPs were approximately 20 percent higher than the government estimate. In response to a request from the UMRR Coordinating Committee, Marshall Plumley will provide an assessment of the potential implications from inflation to all UMRR expense categories, including LTRM.**
- **The UMRR Coordinating Committee requested focused meetings on HREP and LTRM integration.** The Committee pointed to the benefits of LTRM staff intentionally embedded in the Lower Pool 13 HREP PDT, and requested learning from that opportunity. The PDT will conduct an after-action review (AAR) to identify what was supposed to happen, what did happen, and what could be done differently. The 2022 Science Meeting included a special session to discuss the Lower Pool 13 project as well. **In response to a request from the UMRR Coordinating Committee, the program will convene a small group to plan for additional discussion on integration of the two UMRR elements.**
- A new video celebrating the ribbon cutting of the Pool 12 Overwintering HREP is available at this link: [Pool 12 Overwintering Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Project Ribbon Cutting - YouTube](#). The video was applauded for utilizing a free-flowing conversation format.
- A video for the ribbon cutting of the renovated water quality lab at UMESC was suggested to showcase science and monitoring element of UMRR.

Strategic and Operational Plan Review

- On September 20, 2021, a survey was distributed to the UMRR partnership at-large regarding the 2015-2025 UMRR Strategic Plan. Of 15 success criteria included in the survey, 10 returned majority agreement. The survey data are available in a format that will allow for relatively quick, additional analyses of partners' perspective on various aspects the program. **A finalized report on the survey results is anticipated to be submitted to the UMRR Coordinating Committee in the coming months. A meeting will be convened to review and discuss the results.**

Status and Trends

- **The Ecological Status and Trends of the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers Report was published in June 2022.**
- The third status and trends report release, jointly issued by the Corps and USGS, received considerable media attention including from regional and national news outlets. Compared to other Corps press releases, this release has maintained greater longevity and has had a higher-than-normal distribution. The press release was shared through multiple mediums including print and radio media outlets, social media, and partner email distribution lists. The electronic press release was viewed 874 times.
- On July 26, 2022, USGS hosted reporters and the editor of the Mississippi River Ag and Water Desk. It was a unique opportunity to underscore the value of the regional partnership and UMRR. The Ag and Water Desk can be a medium through which to share future success stories.
- UMRBA staff will coordinate the development of a series of four two-page flyers related to findings presented in the status and trends report and create a plan for disseminating flyers to the UMRR partnership and media outlets. Topics will include fisheries, water quality and nutrients, floodplain forest loss, and sedimentation.

Communications

- The UMRR Communications and Outreach Team (COT) reflected on what worked well in disseminating the third LTRM status and trends report and offered the following improvements:
 - Overall, the press release was widely used by various publications. It provided adequate information that attracted broad media attention. It worked well to have state-specific information, partnership participation, points of contact for media requests, and planning six to eight months in advance.
 - Improvements include the focus of the press release, the availability of the press release or report in advance to states and partners, integrating information with river groups, and creating a standard of protocol for future efforts.
- UMRR COT fall 2022 activities center around learning, connecting, and sharing, including:
 - Incorporate wider partnership participation and leadership
 - Learn from Status and Trends release best practices
 - Complete the UMRR video series
 - Create communications inventory

- The COT members were recently asked to provide feedback on a) agenda items for meetings, b) presentation topics for UMRR communications or cross-cutting communication topics, c) how to integrate HREP and LTRM science into communications, and d) how the COT can support UMRR partners' communications goals and needs.

UMRR Showcase Presentations

- Nate De Jager, USGS UMESC, presented on the LTRM spatial data component, including land cover/land use imagery, topobathy, and landscape modeling as well as many analyses that utilize those datasets.

Habitat Restoration

- MVP's planning priorities include Big Lake – Pool 4, Reno Bottoms, and Lower Pool 10. Feasibility planning continues for Big Lake – Pool 4 and Reno Bottoms. The final report for Lower Pool 10 to was approved in June 2022. MVP has four projects in construction, including Harpers Slough, McGregor Lake, Bass Ponds, and Conway Lake. A ribbon cutting ceremony for Bass Ponds is anticipated in September 2022. The UMRR Coordinating Committee is scheduled to tour Bass Pond on August 10, 2022 and the River Resources Forum on August 24, 2022.
- MVR's planning priorities include Lower Pool 13, Green Island, Pool 12 Forestry, and Quincy Bay. The District's design priorities are Steamboat Island Stages I and II. Design of Steamboat Stage I is complete, and bids are due on August 9, 2022. MVR has five projects in construction. The Pool 12 Overwintering Stage II ribbon cutting took place on July 6, 2022. The ribbon cutting video was posted on July 28th and can be found via the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kJmUOQuOvqo>.
- MVS's planning priorities include West Alton Islands and Yorkinut Slough. MVS's design priorities include Piasa & Eagles Nest, Harlow Island, and Oakwood Bottoms. MVS has three projects in construction. Construction at Crains Island Stage 1 is anticipated to be completed in the fourth quarter of FY 22. Stage I of Piasa & Eagles Nest was completed and stage II work is anticipated to begin in fall or winter 2022.

Long Term Resource Monitoring and Science

- Accomplishments of the third quarter of FY 22 include publication of the following manuscript:
 - *Resisting-Accepting-Directing: Ecosystem Management Guided by an Ecological Resilience Assessment*
 - *Evidence of Alternative Trophic Pathways for Fish Consumers in a Large River System in the Face of Invasion*
 - *Darter (Family: Percidae) Abundance in Deep-Water Habitats of the Upper Mississippi River*
 - *What is a Stand? Assessing The Variability of Composition and Structure in Floodplain Forest Ecosystems Across Spatial Scales in the Upper Mississippi River*
 - *A Case Study of Large Floodplain River Restoration: Two Decades of Monitoring the Merwin Preserve and Lessons Learned through Water Level Fluctuations and Uncontrolled Reconnection to a Large River*
 - *Ecological Status and Trends of the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers*

- The LTRM water quality laboratory has temporarily moved to the University of Wisconsin La Crosse while renovations take place at UMESC. The laboratory renovation is expected to be completed in July 2023.
- UMRR’s LTRM FY 22 budget allocation includes \$6.3 million (i.e., \$5.0 million for base monitoring and \$1.3 million for analysis under base) with an additional \$2.5 million available for “science in support of restoration and management.” In the last quarter, execution of the FY 22 budget is at \$8.76 million (out of \$8.8 million). Any unspent funds will be rolled into FY 23.
- Karen Hagerty presented two FY 23 budget options. If UMRR is funded at \$33.17 million and LTRM receives \$8.8 million, funds would be allocated consistent with the past five years. If UMRR is appropriated \$55 million and LTRM receives \$13.85 million, allocations would be as follows:
 - Base monitoring would increase to \$5.5 million (from \$5 million),
 - Science in support restoration would increase to \$1.5 million (from \$1.3 million).
 - Science in support of restoration and management would increase to \$6.85 million (from \$2.5 million)
- The *ad hoc* LTRM implementation planning team has been tasked to determine opportunities for new research to expand the understanding of UMRS restoration and management in light of the potential for increased funding. The implementation planning team has met frequently over the past several months, drafted objectives, and identified information needs in four broad categories: floodplain ecology, hydrogeomorphic change, aquatic ecology, and restoration ecology. Agency review is ongoing of the draft information needs through August 25, 2022. On September 13-25, 2022, the implementation planning team will gather in person to score and prioritize the information needs based on objectives and quality.
- The A-Team met on August 4, 2022 and covered the following items:
 - Reviewed and approved previous meeting minutes
 - Updates from UMRR leadership, including Marshall Plumley, Karen Hagerty, Jeff Houser, and Jennie Sauer
 - Discussed science proposal updates and advance work to ensure the A-Team is not crunched for time in similar future efforts
 - Listened to information on paddlefish diet after ice out
 - Discussed the design of HREPs and how they may support the habitats for species of greatest conservation need
 - Agreed to continue to be people-centric and feature a field station during each meeting

Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP) Update

- **USACE wants to provide \$200,000 to the five states and UMRBA to increase NESP partner consultation.** Roles and responsibilities of UMRBA include collaboration, leverage resources, strategic planning, communication, and meeting and event participation. The state and federal agencies’ roles and responsibilities are strategic planning, communications, and technical expertise related to ecosystem restoration projects.
- Other items in development include a charter for the NESP program and standing up an advisory panel per NESP’s authorization. USACE will request review of the charter from the UMRS partnership.

- Goodall provided a status update on the two NESP projects funded through the 2022 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.
 - Lock 25 New 1200-foot Lock
 - In September 2022, contract awards are expected for lockwall modifications
 - USACE has conducted significant engagement with construction contractors and the navigation industry
 - Risk identification has begun, which involves identifying factors that could slow down the construction progress and mitigating those factors if possible
 - Lock and Dam 22 Fish Passage
 - A request for proposal has been sent for completion of the project design. The award is tentatively expected in the September 2022 timeframe
 - The final project information report was approved by the Chief of Engineers in early June 2022
 - Pre-project fish monitoring activities are beginning. USACE is working with USGS and USFWS in the next few weeks to finish fish tagging efforts.
- There is ongoing evaluation of NEPA compliance for NESP. ESA coordination was re-initiated with USFWS in June 2022.
- NESP project updates can be found on USACE’s NESP website: <https://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/NESP/>

Other Business

Upcoming quarterly meetings are as follows:

- **November 2022 – Quad Cities**
 - UMRBA quarterly meeting – November 15
 - **UMRR Coordinating Committee quarterly meeting – November 16**
- **February/March 2023 – Virtual**
 - UMRBA quarterly meeting – February 28
 - **UMRR Coordinating Committee quarterly meeting – March 1**
- **May 2023 – St. Paul, MN**
 - UMRBA quarterly meeting – May 23
 - **UMRR Coordinating Committee quarterly meeting – May 24**

UMRR COORDINATING COMMITTEE - REGIONAL MANAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP COLLABORATION



Marshall Plumley
Regional Program Manager
St. Paul District
Rock Island District
St. Louis District


10 August 2022




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REGIONAL MANAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP COLLABORATION

- FY 2022 Fiscal Update and FY 23 Outlook
- 2022 Report to Congress
- Environmental Justice
- Implementation Issues
- Odd & Ends



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FY 2022 FISCAL UPDATE AND FY 2023 OUTLOOK



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FY 22 APPROPRIATIONS

President's Budget	\$33,170,000
House	\$33,170,000
Senate	\$33,170,000
FINAL APPROPRIATION	\$33,170,000
Infrastructure Bill	\$0
FY 22 Workplan	\$0




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FINANCIAL REPORTING

UMRR Quarterly Budget Report: St. Paul District
FY2022 Q3, Report Date: Mon Jul 18 2022

Project Name	Cost Estimates			FY2022 Estimate			
	Non-Federal	Federal	Total	Carry in	Allocation	Funds Available	Actual Obligations
Habitat Projects							
East Florida Marsh and Wetland	\$6,300,000	\$6,300,000			\$275,000	\$275,000	\$187,298
Conroy Lake	\$7,418,000	\$7,418,000			\$390,000	\$390,000	\$419,773
Conroy Slough	\$18,675,000	\$18,675,000			\$2,480,000	\$2,480,000	\$66,000
Lower Pool 10 Island and Backwater Complex	\$17,000,000	\$17,000,000		\$93,750	\$390,000	\$483,750	\$356,880
Lower Pool 4, 5, 6 & 7 Lake				\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$248,000
Madison Lake	\$23,550,000	\$23,550,000		\$3,128,000	\$3,128,000	\$3,128,000	\$1,094,260
West Beltway	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000		\$52,370	\$52,370	\$52,370	\$26,197
Total	\$77,938,000	\$77,938,000		\$146,118	\$6,718,000	\$6,864,118	\$3,136,967
Habitat Rehabilitation							
Subcategory							
District Program Management						\$66,449	\$344,449
Total						\$66,449	\$344,449
Regional Program Administration							
Subcategory							
District Site Monitoring						\$222,364	\$222,364
Total						\$222,364	\$222,364
St. Paul Total	\$146,118	\$6,718,000	\$6,864,118		\$6,718,000	\$6,864,118	\$3,136,967




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FINANCIAL REPORTING

UMRR Quarterly Budget Report: Rock Island District
FY2022 Q3, Report Date: Mon Jul 18 2022

Project Name	Cost Estimates			FY2022 Estimate			
	Non-Federal	Federal	Total	Carry in	Allocation	Funds Available	Actual Obligations
Habitat Projects							
Beaver Island	\$14,200,000	\$14,200,000			\$71,000	\$71,000	\$136,200
Beaver Island 2A	\$16,710,000	\$16,710,000			\$140,000	\$140,000	\$16,500
Beaver Island 2B	\$28,400,000	\$28,400,000		\$10,400	\$28,400,000	\$28,400,000	\$148,700
Lower Pool 1 & 2	\$23,200,000	\$23,200,000		\$7,200	\$650,000	\$657,200	\$390,000
Pool 10				\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$371,100
Pool 12	\$28,470,000	\$28,470,000					\$60,000
Conroy Bay 2	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000		\$2,700	\$200,000	\$202,700	\$399,000
Headwaters	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000		\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$6,500
Total	\$142,080,000	\$142,080,000		\$22,700	\$1,070,400	\$1,093,100	\$600,000
Habitat Rehabilitation							
Subcategory							
Regional Program Administration						\$387,807	\$387,807
Total						\$387,807	\$387,807
Regional Science and Monitoring							
Subcategory							
Local Team Regional Monitoring					\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000
National Site Monitoring					\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Regional Science and Monitoring					\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Regional Program Administration					\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Regional Science and Monitoring					\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Total					\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
Rock Island Total	\$142,080,000	\$142,080,000	\$142,080,000	\$22,700	\$1,070,400	\$1,093,100	\$600,000



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FINANCIAL REPORTING

UMRR Quarterly Budget Report: St. Louis District
 FY2022 Q3, Report Date: Mon Jul 18 2022

Habitat Projects

Project Name	Cost Estimates		FY2022 Financials			
	Non-Federal	Federal	Total	Carry In	Funds Available	Actual Obligations
Clarence Canyon		\$29,800,000	\$29,800,000	\$700,000	\$750,000	\$238,181
Crawfish Island	\$30,362,000	\$30,362,000	\$29,498	\$1,900,000	\$1,919,498	\$270,197
Hawley Island	\$27,971,000	\$27,971,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$26,763
Islewood Wetlands	\$29,000,000	\$29,000,000	\$470,000	\$470,000	\$470,000	\$798,101
Platte - Eagle's Nest Wetlands	\$26,748,000	\$26,748,000	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	\$3,484,309
West Alton-Minnow Islands				\$450,000	\$450,000	\$240,719
Yardley Slough, II	\$8,500,000	\$8,500,000	\$9,841	\$400,000	\$409,841	\$193,247
Total	\$108,379,000	\$108,379,000	\$27,841	\$2,750,000	\$2,777,841	\$5,474,298

Habitat Rehabilitation

Subcategory	FY2022 Financials		
	Carry In	Allocation	Funds Available
District Program Management			\$285,766
Total			\$285,766

Regional Program Administration

Subcategory	FY2022 Financials		
	Carry In	Allocation	Funds Available
Habitat Cost Monitoring			\$27,043
Total			\$27,043

St. Louis Total

Category	Carry In	Allocation	Funds Available	Actual Obligations
Total	\$27,841	\$2,750,000	\$2,777,841	\$6,159,837

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FY22 PLAN OF WORK

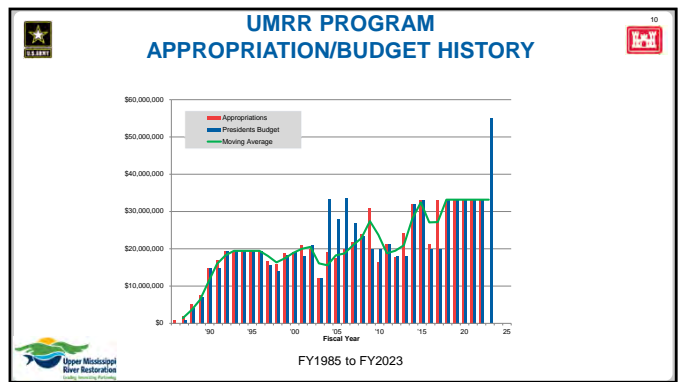
	Budget	Obligations 3 rd Qtr
TOTAL FY22 Program	\$33,170,000	\$20,816,949
Regional Administration and Program Efforts	\$ 1,450,000	\$ 963,762
Regional Management	\$ 1,180,000	
Program Database	\$ 100,000	
Program Support Contract (UMRBA)	\$ 120,000	
Public Outreach	\$ 50,000	
Regional Science and Monitoring	\$10,250,000	\$ 8,783,291
LTRM (Base Monitoring)	\$ 5,000,000	
UMRR Regional Science In Support Rehabilitation/Mgmt. (MIPR's, Contracts, and Labor)	\$ 3,800,000	
UMRR Regional (Integration, Adapt. Mgmt.)	\$ 200,000	
Habitat Evaluation (split between MVS,MVR,MVP)	\$ 1,125,000	
Report to Congress	\$ 125,000	
District Habitat Rehabilitation Efforts (Planning and Construction)	\$21,470,000	\$11,069,896
St. Paul District	\$ 6,718,000	
Rock Island District	\$ 7,502,000	
St. Louis District	\$ 7,150,000	
Model Cert.	\$ 100,000	

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FY22 PLAN OF WORK

	Budget	Obligations As of 1 Aug
TOTAL FY22 Program	\$33,170,000	\$21,999,719
Regional Administration and Program Efforts	\$ 1,450,000	\$ 1,029,170
Regional Management	\$ 1,180,000	
Program Database	\$ 100,000	
Program Support Contract (UMRBA)	\$ 120,000	
Public Outreach	\$ 50,000	
Regional Science and Monitoring	\$10,250,000	\$ 8,946,886
LTRM (Base Monitoring)	\$ 5,000,000	
UMRR Regional Science In Support Rehabilitation/Mgmt. (MIPR's, Contracts, and Labor)	\$ 3,800,000	
UMRR Regional (Integration, Adapt. Mgmt.)	\$ 200,000	
Habitat Evaluation (split between MVS,MVR,MVP)	\$ 1,125,000	
Report to Congress	\$ 125,000	
District Habitat Rehabilitation Efforts (Planning and Construction)	\$21,470,000	\$12,023,663
St. Paul District	\$ 6,718,000	
Rock Island District	\$ 7,502,000	
St. Louis District	\$ 7,150,000	
Model Cert.	\$ 100,000	

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FY 23 APPROPRIATIONS



President's Budget	\$55,000,000
House	\$55,000,000
Senate	\$55,000,000
FINAL APPROPRIATION	\$?
FY 23 Workplan	\$?

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FY23 DRAFT PLAN OF WORK

	Budget
TOTAL FY22 Program	\$55,000,000
Regional Administration and Program Efforts	\$ 1,550,000
Regional Management	\$ 1,280,000
Program Database	\$ 100,000
Program Support Contract (UMRBA)	\$ 120,000
Public Outreach	\$ 50,000
Regional Science and Monitoring	\$15,450,000
LTRM (Base Monitoring)	\$ 5,500,000
UMRR Regional Science In Support Rehabilitation/Mgmt. (MIPR's, Contracts, and Labor)	\$ 8,350,000
UMRR Regional (Integration, Adapt. Mgmt.)	\$ 200,000
Habitat Evaluation (split between MVS,MVR,MVP)	\$ 1,275,000
Report to Congress	\$ 125,000
District Habitat Rehabilitation Efforts (Planning and Construction)	\$38,000,000
St. Paul District	\$11,148,000
Rock Island District	\$13,502,000
St. Louis District	\$13,250,000
Model Cert.	\$ 100,000

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POTENTIAL WRDA 2022 CHANGES TO UMRR

Senate SEC. 317. UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER SYSTEM ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.



Section 1103(e)(3) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 652(e)) is amended by striking "\$40,000,000" and inserting "\$75,000,000".

HREP \$75,000,000 + LTRM \$15,000,000

\$90,000,000




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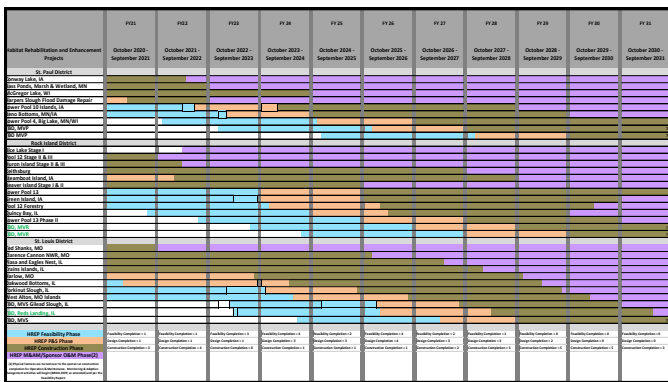



FY 23 PRESIDENTS BUDGET



South Florida Ecosystem Restoration, FL	\$ 406,982,000
Estimated Total Federal Cost	\$11,101,414,000
Estimated Total Non-Federal Cost	\$ 9,916,663,000
Total Balance to Complete after FY 2023	\$ 5,467,119,000



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UMRR HREP CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS

	2021		2022 Planned
Conway Lake (MVP)	1,170	Bass Ponds (MVP)	2,090
Pool12 Overwintering (MVR)	1,280	Harpers Slough (MVP)	1,680
Ted Shanks (MVS)	3,140	Beaver Island Stage I & II (MVR)	3,510
Total Acres	5,590	Huron Island (MVR)	2,530
		Total Acres	9,810





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2022 REPORT TO CONGRESS



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REPORT TO CONGRESS: AT A GLANCE

Forward

Executive Summary

History and Background

Chapter 1- Strategic Partnership and Vision (Partnership focus)

Chapter 2- Enhancing Habitat (HREP focus)


Chapter 3- Improving River Restoration and Management Through Increased Understanding of the River System (LTRM focus)

Chapter 4- Implementation Issues

Chapter 5- Conclusions and Recommendations

Features

- ❖ Plain language
- ❖ Clear graphics
- ❖ Updated UMRS & UMRR timelines
- ❖ Case Studies on LTRM science, HREPs, and Partnership to summarize success



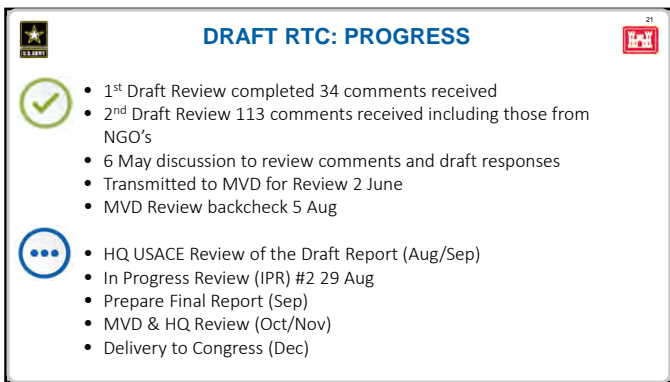
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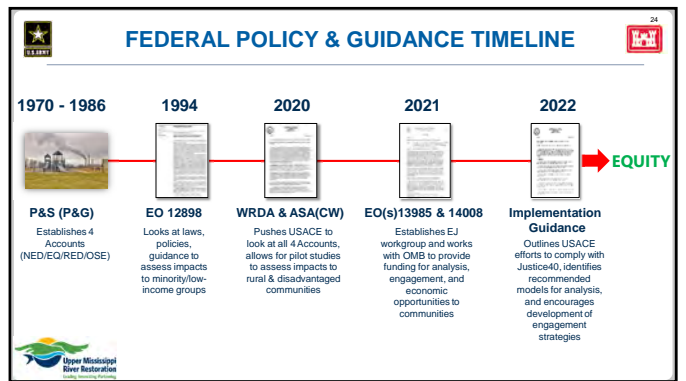
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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE DEFINED

EXECUTIVE ORDER 12898

- Environmental Justice:** is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.
- Socially Vulnerable, Rural, and Disadvantaged Communities:** are generally defined as those persons of Asian/Pacific Islander, Native American and Alaskan Tribes, African American, Hispanic, Rural, and Low-income populations.
- DOD (USACE) Responsibilities:** To make achieving EJ part of its MISSION by identifying and addressing... disproportionately high AND adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority and/or low-income populations in the United States and its territories...
 - Agencies shall conduct its programs, policies, and activities (actions) that effect human health/environment in a manner that ensures such actions do not have the effect of **EXCLUDING** persons/populations from participation in, denying them the **BENEFITS** of, or subjecting them to discrimination under such actions because of their race, color, (income standing), or national origin.

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RECOGNIZING THAT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IS BOTH...

A MOVEMENT & POLICY...

DELIVERING EJ REQUIRES a holistic approach

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RECOGNIZING THAT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IS BOTH...

DELIVERING EJ REQUIRES a holistic approach

ASA (CW) Interim Guidance March 15 2022, Section 3.

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RECOGNIZING THAT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IS BOTH...

DELIVERING EJ REQUIRES a holistic approach

Participation

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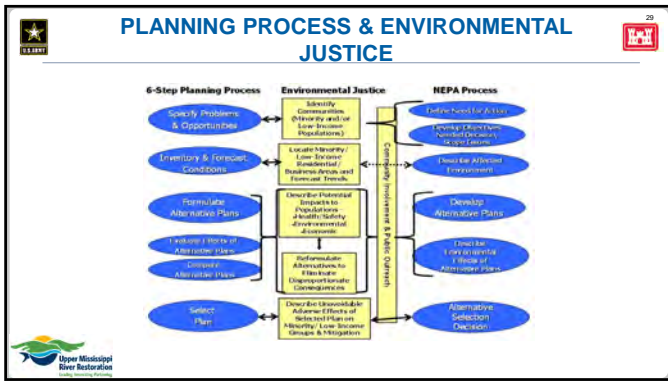
Access

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Equity

ASA (CW) Interim Guidance March 15 2022, Section 3.

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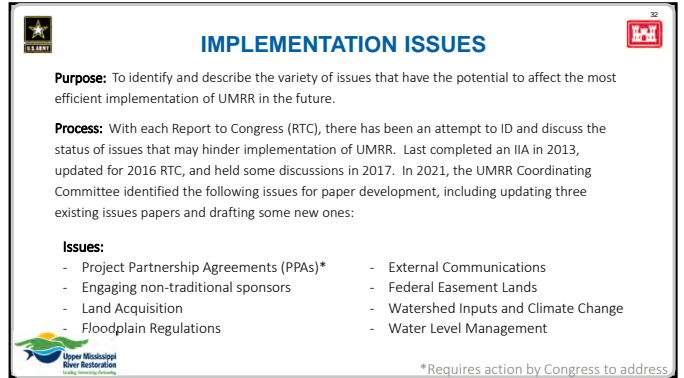
THOUGHTS

- USACE will continue to fully integrate environmental justice into all aspects of its programs, including planning, design, construction, and operations and management. This includes UMRR.
- Dialog about partners policy & approach regarding Environmental Justice
 - Share tools
 - Develop options
 - Identify opportunities to engage communities

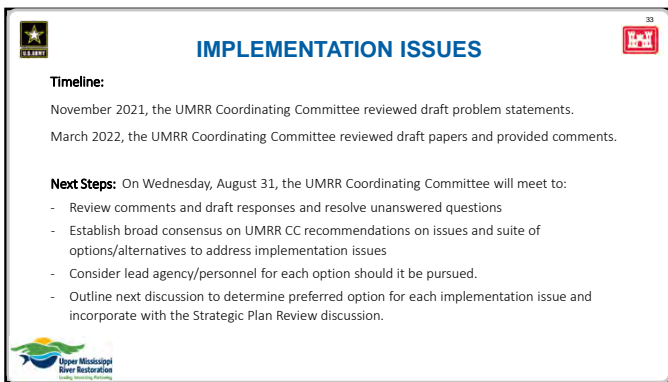
30



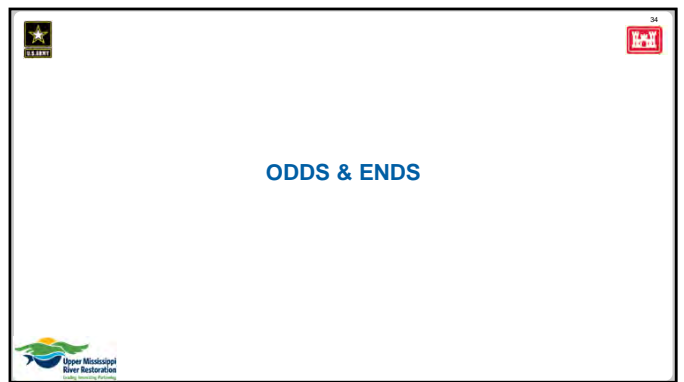
31



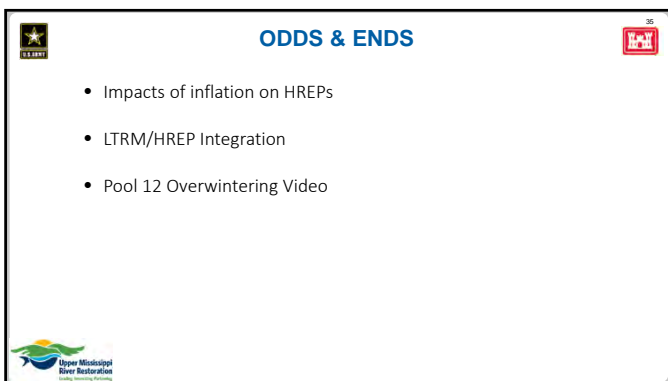
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33



34



35



36

37

DISCUSSION



Upper Mississippi River Restoration
Healthy Watersheds. Healthy People.

37



1

Purpose

In the summer of 2021, the UMRR Coordinating Committee requested an interim review of the UMRR 2015-2025 Strategic Plan by the broad program partnership. This serves as a valuable check-in on the progress UMRR has made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Plan as well as affords the Partnership an opportunity to prioritize activities through 2025.

Survey:

A survey was designed and distributed in fall 2021 to a broad group of UMRR partners.

Respondents were asked to evaluate how well UMRR has implemented actions and addressed needs outlined in the 2015-2025 UMRR Strategic Plan.

2

Survey Elements

- Information about respondents' involvement with UMRR
- Goal 1. Enhance habitat for restoring and maintaining a healthier and more resilient Upper Mississippi River ecosystem.
- Goal 2. Advance knowledge for restoring and maintaining a healthier and more resilient Upper Mississippi River ecosystem.
- Goal 3. Engage and collaborate with other organizations and individuals to help accomplish the Upper Mississippi River Restoration vision.
- Goal 4. Utilize a strong, integrated partnership to accomplish the Upper Mississippi River Restoration vision.

3

Success Criteria – Majority Agreement

Goal	Success criteria	Percent Agree
Goal 1	Restoration projects provide opportunities for scientific research and inquiry	89
	HREPs enhance the health and resilience of the UMR	85
	UMRR serves as a source of guidance on restoration for similar programs nationally	69
	UMRR is recognized as a premier program in large river restoration	69
Goal 2	Research and monitoring inform restoration and management efforts	84
	UMRR is recognized as a premier program in large river monitoring and science	69
	UMRR serves as a source of guidance on monitoring and science for similar programs nationally	62
Goal 4	UMRR effectively detects the status and trends of the UMR as related to indicators of ecosystem health and resilience	57
	The partnership is supportive of the program and its output	80
	UMRR has a highly engaged regional partnership	79

4

Success Criteria – Greater Uncertainty

Goal	Success criteria	Percent Unsure
Goal 1	*UMRR serves as a source of guidance on restoration for similar programs internationally	36
	UMRR serves as a source of guidance on monitoring and science for similar programs internationally	46
Goal 2	*UMRR serves as a source of guidance on monitoring and science for similar programs nationally	27
	*UMRR is recognized as a premier program in large river restoration	20

*Item has high agreement

5

Awareness of UMRR

"There is greater awareness of the LTRM component than HREPs. Predominantly because of peer reviewed publication of the LTRM research and monitoring and presentations at professional conferences. However, it is much more challenging to get peer review publication of each individual HREPs project performance and/or the science and data that goes into the project design."

"Prior to my appointment as... Rep to this project, I knew very little or nothing about UMRR, and I was actively working on another big river immediately adjacent."

"I have worked on many inter-state groups. The restoration work we do is almost always news to them... have the biologists and managers talk about the program so other on the ground practitioners are aware of how integral the managers/biologists are to successful projects..."

6

Priority Actions

Goal	Priority Action	Percent High Priority
Goal 1	Centralize HREP data and collect and digitize historic data currently stored in computers and file cabinets	66
Goal 4	Create a narrative around missed-restoration opportunities because of existing policies	57

7

Priority Action	Percent High Priority
Centralize HREP data and collect and digitize historic data currently stored in computers and file cabinets	66
Goal 1	
Define appropriate temporal and spatial scales for determining physical and biotic response of habitat project objectives	56
<p>"Evaluating projects and providing summary reports in a timely fashion pre- and post-construction allows us to make any necessary informed design modifications and/or implement adaptive management strategies in a timely fashion. Further, it helps to inform the development of future projects based on what has been successful and lessons learned."</p>	

8

Priority Action	Percent High Priority
Connect resilience concepts with ongoing and future restoration work	54
<p>"Resilience is key with regards to a changing system...we are in a constant flux regardless of what we would like to believe. Climate change is only exacerbating that issue and furthering the need to focus on resilience."</p> <p>"There is a need for a structured somewhat mechanistic way to incorporate resilience concepts into project selection."</p> <p>"Include a finer resolution step that includes what specific combination of resiliency concepts/drivers are needed to achieve habitat for species/ guilds/major resources so that the engineers can cross-walk HREP design criteria to the resilience controlling variables."</p>	

9

Priority Action	Percent High Priority
Link together habitat restoration projects with existing watershed projects and upstream contributors	50
<p>"Connecting, enhancing, and working mutually with watershed efforts in any way should be a priority. Strengthening or influencing restoration efforts in the watershed will improve what is flowing to us (the mainstem UMR)."</p> <p>"If you desire outside participation and support, may need to secure upfront participation in development of scope and plan."</p>	

10

Priority Action	Percent High Priority
Create a narrative around missed-restoration opportunities because of existing policies	57
<p>"Existing policies and requirements that prevent us from following through with HREPs that fit the restoration needs should be addressed as soon as possible."</p> <p>"There is a large number of potential HREPs that could be completed if the current policies were more [non-federal sponsor] friendly."</p> <p>"Any opportunities missed because of a policy should be reported in a specific section annually, along with projected economic and environmental lost benefits."</p>	

11

Next Steps

Finalize and distribute draft report to UMRR Coordinating Committee.
 Schedule a meeting with UMRR Coordinating Committee to review results in-depth.

Other considerations

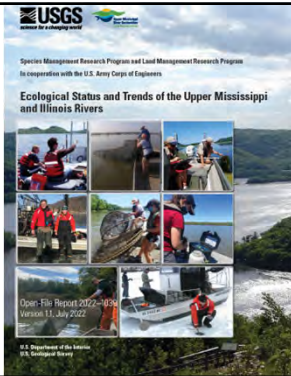
We have partnership input, and the data is in a format where we can now do additional analyses.

Can this data be used as a tool to set priorities as a program or inform specific efforts such as adaptive management or communication priorities?

12

Report: Ecological Status and Trends of the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers
<https://doi.org/10.3133/ofr20221039>

- **Chapter Leads**
 - Nathan De Jager; Jeff Houser; Brian Ickes; Kathilo Jankowski; Danelle Larson; Molly Van Appledorn
- **Contributing Authors**
 - Rob Burdis (MNDNR), Eric Lund (MNDNR), Andy Bartels (WDNR), Alicia Carhart (WDNR), Deanne Drake (WDNR), Shawn Giblin (WDNR), John Kalas (WDNR), Kyle Bayles (IADNR), Mel Bowler (IADNR), Kris Maxson (INHS), Levi Solomon (INHS), Kristen Bouska (UMESC), Jim Rogala (UMESC)
- **Maps:** Jason Rohweder (UMESC)
- Jennifer Sauer (UMESC)
- Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program and its Long Term Resource Monitoring (LTRM) element
- All LTRM field station staff past and present



1



UMRR Status and Trends Report

2

Media Coverage (8/5/2022)

- 2 x LinkedIn Posts; Local TV spots
- 3 x News releases (WI DNR, MN DNR, Joint release); Radio Spots; Presentations
 - Joint digital press release – viewed 874 times
- 5 x Twitter posts; Websites posting report
- 6 x Email Distributions (e.g., UMRCC, UMRBA, AWI, MRN)
- 7 x Facebook posts
- 31 x News articles, Website articles, blogs
 - Including regional and national news outlets.**

3

Long Rollout

UMRBA will coordinate development of a series of four 2-page flyers related to findings presented in the status and trends report and create a plan for disseminating flyers to the UMRR partnership and media outlets.

Topics will include:

- Fisheries
- Floodplain forest loss
- Water quality and nutrients
- Sedimentation

4

Key Findings

Forest Loss: Floodplain Forest loss has occurred across most of the system.

Water Quality: Concentrations of nutrients, notably nitrogen and phosphorus, remain high, exceeding U.S. Environmental Protection Agency benchmarks. However, total phosphorus concentrations has declined in many of the studied river areas.

Fish Communities: The river system continues to support diverse and abundant fishes. However, invasive carps have substantially affected the river ecosystem where they have become common.

Sedimentation: TBD

5

Key Findings

Sedimentation:

Sediment accumulation has changed the river structure by creating new floodplain land areas and reducing depths in backwater areas. These changes affect the quality and availability of habitat for fish and wildlife.

The loss of deep backwater areas can reduce suitable habitat for some fish species, especially for overwintering.

New landforms with sandy substrates can be important habitats for shorebirds and waterbirds and offer ideal conditions for the establishment of important tree species such as willows and cottonwoods.

6

UMRR COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH TEAM Update

Jill Bathke
St. Paul District- Plan Formulation





1

Wanted: COT Feedback

The COT was recently asked:

- Are there agenda items you would like to discuss at meetings?
- Do you have any UMRR communications-related or cross-over topics that you or others at your agency could present on?
- Any ideas on how to integrate HREP work or LTRM science better into general communications efforts?
- Does your agency's leadership have communication goals or needs that could be better supported by this team?**



2

FUTURE MEETING ACTIVITIES & TOPICS

Learn


- From S&T release lessons learned
- Short presentations and Q&A from COT members about different initiatives that have been effective for them & what they have learned

Connect

- Promote and coordinate partnership stories about proactive collaborative work
- Facilitate ways River organizations & public can better connect with UMRR
 - In-person UMRR & UMRR-related events
 - Increase public understanding of the decision-making process (HREPs)

Share



- UMRR short topic videos
- Public or river group education webinars and storymaps
- Build virtual space to consolidate, organize, & share completed outreach materials



3

Fall 2022: COT Next Steps

- Incorporate wider partner participation & leadership
- Learn from Status and Trends Release best practices
- UMRR video series
- Create communications inventory

4


Status and Trends

What worked well:

- Press release was a well-used resource with good level of information
- State-specific information
- Partnership participation
- Points of contact for media requests
- Broad media attention
- Planning early ~6-8 months out

What could be improved:

- Focus of press release
- Press release availability to states/partners
- Not integrated with river groups
- Create SOP for future efforts




5

UMRR Communication and Outreach Team

Points of Contact:

Jill Bathke
USACE-RPEDN-PD-F @ MVP
Jill.C.Bathke@usace.army.mil

Rachel Perrine
USACE-RPEDN-PD-F @ MVR
Rachel.E.Perrine@usace.army.mil



6

HABITAT RESTORATION – DISTRICT REPORTS



1

ST. PAUL DISTRICT (MVP)

PLANNING

- **Big Lake – Pool 4, MN/WI**
 - Formulating alternatives, H&H modeling
 - Site Visit (29 July)
- **Reno Bottoms HREP – Pool 9, MN/IA**
 - Successful TSP Meeting (18 Jul)
 - DQC of final report (8 Aug)
 - Public Review (Sept/Oct)
- **Lower Pool 10 HREP – Pool 10, IA**
 - Final Report approved (June)

DESIGN


- **Lower Pool 10 HREP – Pool 10, IA**
 - Kicked-off Plans & Specs, Stage I
 - Site visit (Sept)

CONSTRUCTION

- **Harpers Slough HREP – Pool 9, IA**
 - Final grading complete, willow planting underway
- **McGregor Lake HREP – Pool 9, WI**
 - Stage I: 80% Complete
 - Stage II: Bid opening (28 Jul); Award (TBD)
- **Bass Ponds, Marsh & Wetland HREP – MN River**
 - 97% Complete
 - Dedication Event (TBD, Sept)
- **Conway Lake HREP – Pool 9, IA**
 - 99% Complete, Tree planting underway

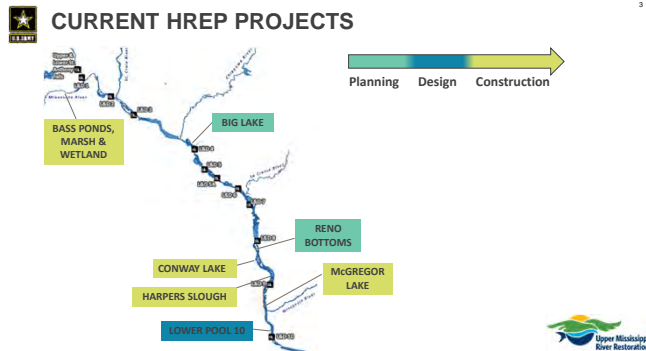

Other Activities

- RRF site visit to Bass Ponds (24 Aug)
- O&M Manuals



2


CURRENT HREP PROJECTS

3

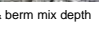
CONSTRUCTION

McGregor Progress



F14 Tail - willow plantings

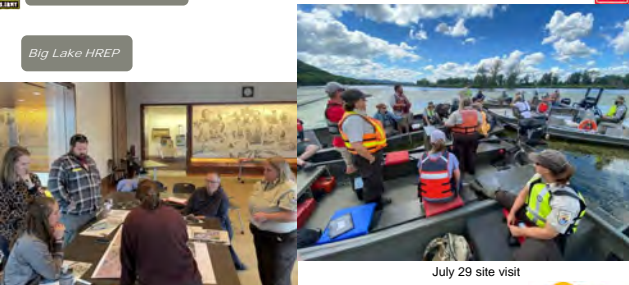
Fines placement & berm mix depth



4


FEASIBILITY

Big Lake HREP



Spring Measures Workshop



July 29 site visit



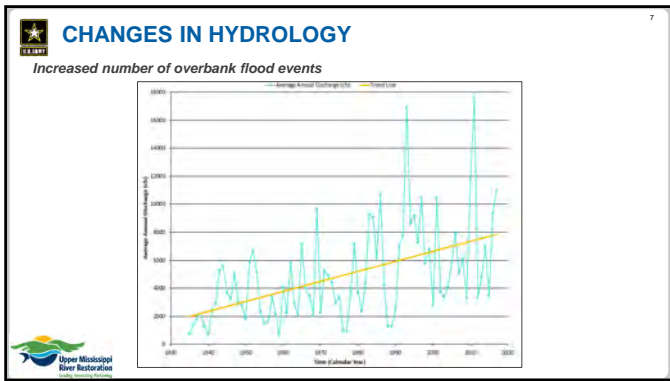
5

TODAY'S SITE VISIT: BASS PONDS HREP

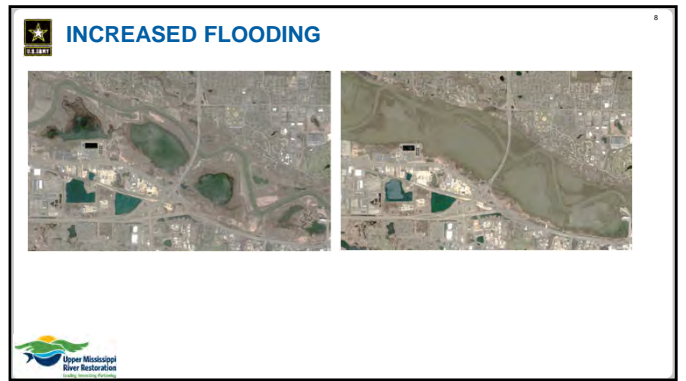
Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

6



7



8

CONDITION OF EXISTING STRUCTURES

Existing Conditions

Non-functional - Collapsed Stoplog

Rusting - CMP Stoplog

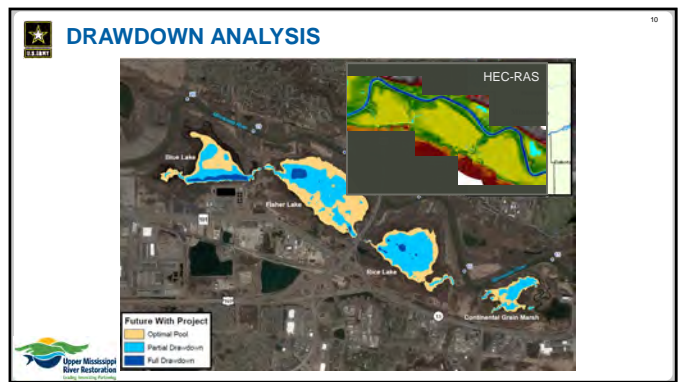
High O&M - Clogged with debris

Desired Future Conditions

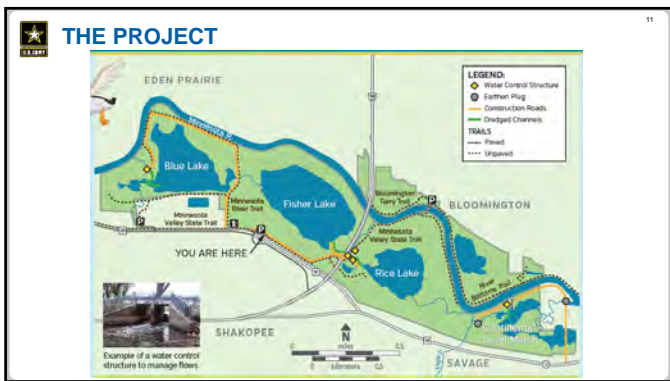
- ✓ Ability to manage water levels
- ✓ Long-lasting
- ✓ Less O&M

Upper Mississippi River Restoration
Lower Mississippi Valley

9



10



11



12

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Google Maps: "Minnesota Valley NWR – Wilkie Unit"
 Proceed through the parking gate, continue ½ mile to project location under Hwy 169.

Upper Mississippi River Restoration
 Land, Energy, and Planning

13

ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT (MVR)

PLANNING

- >Lower Pool 13 – Pool 13, IA/IL
 - DQC review started on June 1st
 - PDT backchecking comments
- >Green Island – Pool 13, IA
 - PDT finalizing cost
 - TSP selection is scheduled for September
- >Pool 12 Forestry – Pool 12, IA/IL/WI
 - PDT is working on defining alternatives
- >Quincy Bay – Pool 21, IL
 - PDT still working on measures
 - Planning an online public input opportunity for September

DESIGN

- >Steamboat Island Stage II – Pool 14, IA/IL
 - 35% DQC/BOE review schedule for late August
- >Steamboat Island Stage I – Pool 14, IA/IL
 - Completed design – bids are due on August 9th

CONSTRUCTION

- >Pool 12 Overwintering, Pool 12, IL
 - Stage II – Ribbon Cutting took place on July 6th (photos)
 - Ribbon cutting video posted on July 28th
- >Beaver Island Stage IB, Pool 14, IA/IL
 - Spring seeding is completed
- >Keithsburg Division Stage I, Pool 18, IL
 - Construction will start once water levels recede
- >Keithsburg Division Stage II, Pool 18, IL
 - Contractor finished grading the site (photos)
- >Huron Island, Stage III – ERDC, Pool 18, IA
 - Plants were monitored on June 28th (photos)
 - Completed additional plantings on July 26th & 27th
 - Ribbon cutting schedule for September 7th

FACTSHEETS

- Still addressing sponsor comments on Upper Pool 13

Upper Mississippi River Restoration
 Land, Energy, and Planning

14

ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT

Pool 12 Overwintering Ribbon Cutting

Upper Mississippi River Restoration
 Land, Energy, and Planning

15

ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT

Keithsburg Division Stage IIA

Grading work completed at storage building location

Upper Mississippi River Restoration
 Land, Energy, and Planning

16

ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT

Huron Island - Monitoring

Huron Island - Planting

Upper Mississippi River Restoration
 Land, Energy, and Planning

17

MVR HREP PROJECTS

Upper Mississippi River Restoration
 Land, Energy, and Planning

18

ST. LOUIS DISTRICT (MVS)

PLANNING –

- West Alton Islands, MO, HREP (Pool 26)**
 - Continue Feasibility Planning
 - Completed additional surveys
 - H&H existing conditions complete Sept.
- Yorknut Slough, IL HREP (IL River)**
 - Continue Feasibility Planning
 - Preliminary run of ICA for TSP w/O&M Oct

DESIGN –


- Piasa & Eagles Nest, IL HREP (Pool 26)**
 - Award Stage 2, Channel Excavation
 - P&S 4th Quarter FY22
- Harlow Island, IL HREP (Open River)**
 - Initiate Stage 2, P&S 1st Quarter FY23
- Oakwood Bottoms, IL, HREP (Open River)**
 - Complete 4 P&S packages 1st Quarter FY23
 - Pump Station, Well Pumps, North Units
 - Earthwork & Water Control Structures, South Units Earthwork & Water Control Structures

CONSTRUCTION –

- Crains Island, IL HREP (Open River)**
 - Complete Stage 1, 4th Quarter FY22
- Piasa & Eagles Nest, IL HREP (Pool 26)**
 - Completed Stage I, Rock Structure 3rd Quarter FY22
 - Stage II work anticipated to start Fall/ Winter 2022 into 2023
- Clarence Cannon Refuge, MO (Pool 25)**
 - Completed Pump Station –3rd Quarter FY22
 - Exterior Berm (Levee) Setback Underway

Other Activities

- FS, INDR/TNC, FWS - New Fact Sheets Drafted
- Swan Lake Flood Damage Assessment
- HREP Construction Lessons Learned



19

ST. LOUIS DISTRICT

Piasa & Eagles Nest Islands HREP Stage I











20

ST. LOUIS DISTRICT

Clarence Cannon HREP Pump Station Completed







21

MVS HREP PROJECTS

Planning Design Construction



ILLINOIS

- Mark Twain Lake
- Piasa and Eagles Nest Islands
- Harlow Island
- Crains Island
- Oakwood Bottoms

MISSOURI

- Clarence Cannon



22



1

Publication: Resisting-Accepting-Directing: Ecosystem Management Guided by an Ecological Resilience Assessment. In: Environmental Management
 Kristen Bouska, Nathan De Jager, Jeff Houser
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00267-022-01667-y>

- Management implications of the resilience assessment
 - Ties together aspects of general resilience, distance to thresholds, and desirability of current conditions (via HNAII) to navigate the resist-accept-direct framework
 - Describes a suite of RAD mgmt. strategies in the context of aquatic vegetation, floodplain vegetation, and fish communities in the UMRS
 - Highlights a few specific HREPs: Reno Bottoms, Lower Pool 13, Crains Island

2

Publication: Evidence of alternative trophic pathways for fish consumers in a large river system in the face of invasion. In: River Research and Applications.
 John Gatto, Brian Ickes, and John Chick
<https://doi.org/10.1002/rra.3992>

Investigated spatial-temporal patterns of functional fish communities

Evaluated the impact of newly introduced species on the proportion of feeding guilds following invasion

The composition of feeding guilds differs among the six study reaches

The feeding guild associated with Silver Carp steadily increasing since invasion; however, little to no impact of Silver or Bighead Carp on changes in feeding guild proportions

Systemic decline in invertebrate/detritivores (Common Carp) over 25 years

3

Darter (Family: Percidae) Abundance in Deep-Water Habitats of the Upper Mississippi River. Natural Areas Journal, 2022
 D. Dieterman, S. DeLain, C. Dawald, A. Herberg
<https://doi.org/10.3375/21-36>

- Sampled darters in main and side channels using a small-mesh benthic trawl at sites in five navigation pools and a portion of the lower St. Croix River
- Captured six darter spp; no state endangered crystal darters
 - Western sand darter
 - River darter
 - Logperch
 - Johnny darter
 - Mud darter
 - Slenderhead darter

4

Publication: What is a stand? Assessing the variability of composition and structure in floodplain forest ecosystems across spatial scales in the Upper Mississippi River. In: Forest Ecology and Management. 2022.
 M. Windmuller-Campoione, L. Reuling, Molly Van Appledorn, D. Nielsen, Andrew Meier
<https://doi.org/10.3375/21-36>

Legend:

- dead
- silver maple
- river birch
- green ash
- cottonwood
- swamp white oak
- American elm
- other

5

Publication: A Case Study of Large Floodplain River Restoration: Two Decades of Monitoring the Merwin Preserve and Lessons Learned through Water Level Fluctuations and Uncontrolled Reconnection to a Large River. In: Wetlands. 2022.
 Levi Solomon, Andy Casper, Kris Maxson, Jim Lamer, T. Ford, Doug Blodgett, T. Hobson, D. Perry, N. Grider, R. Hilsabeck, Thad Cook, Kevin Irons, Mike McClelland, Matt O'Hara.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s13157-022-01581-3>

6

LTRM WQ lab temporarily moved to UWL and
UMESC renovations have begun



7

Questions?



8

UMRR MONITORING AND SCIENCE UPDATE

Karen Hagerty
Rock Island District
August 2022

The views, opinions and findings contained in this report are those of the author(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or direction, unless so designated by other official documentation.

1

UMRR MONITORING & SCIENCE FY22

2 SOWs in FY22
 SOW for LTRM base monitoring
\$5.0M
 SOW for science in support (analysis under base)
\$1.3M
Both SOWs together are equivalent to a fully funded UMRR LTRM element \$6.3M

Science in Support of Restoration & Management
\$2.5M

TOTAL: \$8.8M

2

UMRR MONITORING & SCIENCE FY22

FULLY FUNDED to date

LTRM
 A. Standardized base monitoring \$5,000,000
 B. Analysis under Base* \$1,300,000

Science in Support of Restoration and Management
 A. LTRM balance \$ 554,097
 B. IWW monitoring (FY22) \$ 32,135*
 C. IWW aerial data collection report \$ 25,034

Total \$6,911,266

*budget before states carry-in=\$96,970

3

UMRR MONITORING & SCIENCE FY2022

PROPOSAL	PI(s)	COST
Evaluating the LOCA-VIC-mizuRoute hydrology data products for scientific and management applications in the UMRS	Sawyer (MVR) Van Appledorn, Delaney (UMESC)	\$390,528
Assessing forest development processes and pathways in floodplain forests along the UMR using dendrochronology	Windmuller-Campione (UM), Van Appledorn (UMESC), Meier (MVP)	\$447,158
Assessing long term changes and spatial patterns in macroinvertebrates through standardized long-term monitoring	Lamer et al (IRBS), Sobotka (MDC), Giblin (WDNR), DeLain (MDNR), Gritters (IDNR), Vander Vorste (UWL)	\$620,475*
Putting LTRM's long-term phytoplankton archive to work to understand ecosystem transitions and improve methodological approaches	J. Larson, Jankowski (UMESC), Magee (WDNR), Fulgoni (KWC)	\$326,986

4

UMRR MONITORING & SCIENCE FY22

FY2022 Funding

- LTRM/Analysis \$ 6,300,000
- Previous Science support work \$ 611,266
- 4 new science proposals \$ 1,785,157
- Facilitators for LTRM Implementation Planning \$ 59,303

GRAND TOTAL \$ 8,755,726

5

UMRR MONITORING & SCIENCE FY23



\$33.17 Million UMRR Program

2 SOWs in FY23
 SOW for LTRM base monitoring
\$5.0M
 SOW for science in support (analysis under base)
\$1.3M
Both SOWs together are equivalent to a fully funded UMRR LTRM element \$6.3M

Science in Support of Restoration & Management
\$2.5M

TOTAL: \$8.8M

6

UMRR MONITORING & SCIENCE FY23

\$55 Million UMRR Program
2 SOWs in FY23

- SOW for LTRM base monitoring **\$5.5M**
- SOW for science in support (analysis under base) **\$1.5M**

Both SOWs together are equivalent to a fully funded UMRR LTRM element \$7.0M

Science in Support of Restoration & Management

TOTAL: \$13.85M





LTRM Implementation Planning Update

Opportunity statement

- ...increased funding from \$10.42M to \$15M creates an **opportunity for new work** above base monitoring, analysis, and current research..
- ...expand **understanding of UMRS, restoration and management...**
- ...portfolios of funding actions that address **priority information needs...**
- **Invest in:**
 - multiyear projects, baseline monitoring, analysis of existing data

Slides revised from David Smith and Max Post van der Burg (USGS, IP facilitators)



LTRM Implementation Planning Update

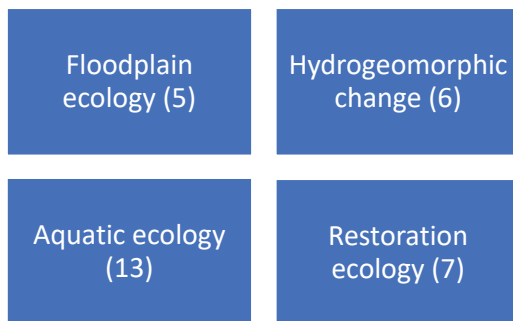
Draft objectives

- Provide information that is relevant to:
 - fundamental health and resilience of the UMRS (**Monitoring objective**)
 - management and restoration of the UMRS (**Management objective**)
 - respond to emerging issues (**Responsiveness objective**)
- Maximize benefits from information for a given cost (**Efficiency objective**)
- *Additional considerations:* Integrate HREP and LTRM; Complement or build upon existing program; Produce LTRM information relevant to partners' priorities



LTRM Implementation Planning Update

Four broad categories



LTRM Implementation Planning Update

Draft Identifying (specifying) the information needs *Complete*

- What is the Information need?
- How will the information be used? **Improving mgmt & restoration; Preparing for emerging issues; Assessing ecosystem health and resilience**
- What will be measured or what will be the endpoint?
- What will be the geographic extent? **Reach/UMRS scale; Project Scale**
- What will be the primary approach to meet the information need? **Long-term monitoring (or expansion of baseline monitoring); analysis of existing data; sequence of defined-term studies (or adaptive management); other**



LTRM Implementation Planning Update

Next Step Sharing with other Agency Staff

- Consider whether the information need is stated clearly.
- Significant information need that is not in the draft list:
 - Assess whether your information need is similar enough to an already listed need that it could be added to that need.
 - If your information need does not fit well with any of the already listed information needs, then add it as a new information need and describe it using the same format as those on the draft list.



LTRM Implementation Planning Update

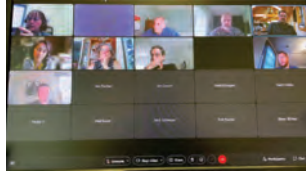
In-Person Meeting Sept. 13-15 Information need prioritization

- Score the information needs based on objectives and quality
- Qualitative value of information:
 - How relevant (important) is each information need to the stated objectives?
 - How much uncertainty is associated with each information need?
 - How feasible is it to reduce the uncertainty?
 - How expensive is it to provide the information?


Thank you to all participants!

- Kirk Hansen IDNR
- Jim Lamer IRBS
- Molly Sobotka MDC
- Matt Vitello MDC
- Rob Burdis MDNR
- Nick Schlesser MDNR
- Neil Rude MDNR
- Andrew Stephenson UMRBA
- Davi Michl USACE
- Rob Cosgriff USACE
- Karen Hagerty USACE
- Matt Mangan USFWS
- Steve Winter USFWS
- Kristen Bouska USGS
- Nate De Jager USGS
- Jeff Houser USGS
- Jennie Sauer USGS
- Robb Jacobsen USGS
- Jim Fischer WDNR
- Madeline Magee WDNR

David Smith and Max Post van der Burg
(USGS, IP facilitators)




NAVIGATION AND ECOSYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM (NESP)



AUGUST 2022 UMRR-CC QUARTERLY MEETING

Andrew Goodall, P.E., PMP
NESP Regional Program Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District
9 August 2022



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NESP PARTNER CONSULTATION

Funding agreements

- The board recommended that the State partner and UMRBA funding be provided to UMRBA.
- UMRBA would hire representatives for each State partner.
- MOU required between UMRBA and USACE.

Charter Development

- Draft charter developed


Advisory Panel

- Recommendation will be made to stand up the advisory panel per the authorization details below.

Chairperson
ASA (CW) Designee

Advisory Panel

- One representative of each of the five States' resource agencies or a designee of the Governor of the State (5)
- Department of Agriculture (1)
- Department of Transportation (1)
- United States Geological Survey (1)
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (1)
- Environmental Protection Agency (1)
- Affiliated Landowner Representative (1)
- Conservation and Environmental Advocacy (1)
- Industry and Agricultural Advocacy (1)



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NESP PARTNER CONSULTATION ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES

UMRBA

- Collaboration/Leverage Resources
- Strategic planning
- Communications
- Participate in various meetings and events

Partner States/Federal Agencies Roles and Responsibilities


- Strategic planning
- Communications
- Technical expertise related to identification, selection, and implementation of ecosystem restoration projects

AUTHORIZING LANGUAGE

(e) CONSULTATION AND FUNDING AGREEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the environmental sustainability, ecosystem restoration, and monitoring activities authorized in this section, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of the Interior and the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin.

(2) FUNDING AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary is authorized to enter into agreements with the Secretary of the Interior, the Upper Mississippi River Basin Association, and natural resource and conservation agencies of the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin to provide for the direct participation of and transfer of funds to such entities for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of projects and programs established by this section.



3


NEPA AND ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT COORDINATION

NEPA

- Evaluation of NEPA compliance ongoing

Endangered Species Act Coordination

- ESA coordination reinitiated for the program on 27 June 2022



4


NESP IJJA PROJECT STATUS

Lock 25 New 1200' Lock

- Lockwall modifications contract on schedule for an award in September 2022
- Significant construction contractor industry engagement
- Risk identification

Lock and Dam 22 Fish Passage

- Request for proposal sent for completion of design.
- Final PIR approved by the Chief of Engineers
- Pre-project fish monitoring activities beginning



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PROJECT UPDATES: PROGRAM MAP



NAVIGATOR AND ECOSYSTEMS PROJECTS

ACTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

- Lock 25 New 1200' Lock
- Lock and Dam 22 Fish Passage Improvement Project
- Plant 2 Bypassing Locking
- Lock 24 Mowing Cut
- Scouring Rock Breakwater
- Worona's Treated System Mitigation
- Fish Hatchery Island Protection and Enhancement
- Missouri Delta Island Island Protection and Site Channel Restoration

ECOSYSTEMS PROJECTS - APPROVED

- Systemic Forest Restoration
- Multi-Pass Forest Restoration
- North Morgan Lake
- Worona Bay
- Johnson Island
- Johns Lake
- Antioch Island Complex
- Lock 24 Island
- Worona's Dam
- Plant 23 Stop Channel
- Combs/Cornell Island
- Lower Plant 23 Complex
- Worona's Dam
- Worona's Dam

NAVIGATION PROJECTS

- Mowing Facilities
- Lock and Dam 22 Lock Design
- Systemic Mitigation - Throughout the Upper Mississippi River Basin

PARTNERS




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