

**STATUS OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS OF THE
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DIVISION AND THE
MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION**

MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION

PUBLIC MEETINGS

August 2002

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**STATUS OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS OF THE
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DIVISION AND THE
MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION**

by

Brigadier General Edwin J. Arnold, Jr.

August 2002

This is a report on the status of the projects and programs of the Mississippi Valley Division and the Mississippi River Commission for the 364th session of the Mississippi River Commission. Meetings held during this session provide local interests and the public an opportunity to express views to the Commission, and provide the Commission opportunities to inspect projects along the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Rivers at or near low-water conditions.

Public meetings are scheduled at Marquette, Iowa; Davenport, Iowa; Alton, Illinois; Tiptonville, Tennessee; West Memphis, Arkansas; Lake Providence, Louisiana; and Houma, Louisiana.

All meetings are open to the public and with advance notice of time and place. Notices are printed in the Federal Register and all known interested parties are sent a copy. In addition, the news media are sent releases.

The area of responsibility of the Mississippi Valley Division encompasses nearly 370,000 square miles along the Mississippi River from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. This area includes all or portions of 12 states, 60 Congressional Districts and a population of 28 million people. Included are six District offices headquartered in St. Paul, Minnesota; Rock Island, Illinois; St. Louis, Missouri; Memphis, Tennessee; Vicksburg, Mississippi; and New Orleans, Louisiana. Included in this area is the Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) project, authorized in 1928 and subsequent Acts, which encompasses the alluvial valley of the lower Mississippi River and extends from Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to the Head of Passes below New Orleans, Louisiana. The headquarters of the Mississippi Valley Division and the Mississippi River Commission is located in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

This report provides updates on current river and weather conditions, summarizes the overall status of selected projects (including programs and funding), and highlights environmental initiatives of interest.

RIVER AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

Wild Rice River. The Wild Rice River at Ada, Minnesota experienced two major flood events in the month of June, with the second crest breaking the maximum of record that was set only 2 weeks prior. The record flooding was due to the 12 to 14 inches of rain that fell over the basin during the latter part of June. The Wild Rice River is on the rise once again due to approximately 3 inches of rain that fell over the basin during the first week of July. This rise is expected to produce some minor to moderate flood levels along the river.

St. Louis District Lakes. Up to 16 inches of rain fell on St. Louis District lakes in April and May, causing Carlyle Lake to reach a record level of 459.8 feet, exceeding the previous high by 2.4 feet. Shelbyville and Wappapello Lakes reached their second highest levels on record, while Mark Twain Lake reached its third highest level on record. At Wappapello Lake, the emergency spillway was sandbagged to prevent damage to a state highway located immediately downstream of the spillway.

Yazoo Basin Lakes. Twice-the-normal rainfall that fell over the Yazoo Basin during October through December 2001, causing Arkabutla Lake to spill for over a 4-week period, continued into this year and maintained the Yazoo Basin lakes at higher-than-normal levels for the past several months. In May of this year, Enid Lake spilled for the fourth time since its construction. Lake levels remain above normal, particularly at Sardis and Enid Lakes, which are using 74 and 73 percent, respectively, of their seasonal flood control storages.

Mississippi River. The Middle Mississippi River at St. Louis rose more than 30 feet between early April and mid-May to a crest of 37.3 feet on 17 May, 7 feet above flood stage and with a peak discharge of 633,000 cfs. The Ohio River peaked several days later at 774,000 cfs on 25 May. Two days following the St. Louis crest, the Mississippi River at Cape Girardeau, Missouri, located 52 miles above the confluence with the Ohio, crested at 45.3 feet, more than 13 feet above flood stage. It was the fourth highest crest on record at Cape Girardeau, surpassed only by the 47.9-foot crest in 1993, 46.7-foot crest in 1995, and 45.6-foot crest in 1973. At Cairo, Illinois, near the mouth of the Ohio, the river crested on 19-20 May at 54.9 feet, 15 feet above flood stage and the eighth highest crest on record (the highest was 59.5 feet in 1937). The May flood event was relatively short in duration with a rather steep rise and fall, and did not involve a large volume of water; hence, there was significant attenuation of the crest as it moved downstream. At Vicksburg, for example, the 2002 crest was only the

39th highest crest there. The Mississippi River fell rapidly following the crest and was back to normal by the latter part of June.

As the low-water season approaches, the stages along the Lower Mississippi River are near normal to slightly below normal for this time of year and are expected to continue the current falling trend into mid-August, which is typical for this time of year. Ground conditions are dry over much of the upper and central Missouri Basin and over most of Louisiana and near normal over the remainder of the Mississippi Basin. The six main stem reservoirs on the Missouri River are using less than 79 percent of their conservation storage while the Ohio Basin reservoirs are using 98 percent of their conservation storage. Precipitation outlook for July through September is for normal amounts throughout the entire Mississippi Basin; however, above normal amounts are expected during July over the lower Ohio and upper Mississippi Basins, particularly in eastern Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, and western Ohio.

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

Many of the projects in the Mississippi River Valley are for flood control and navigation purposes, but environmental aspects are given major consideration. Project impacts on the environment are identified, and a balance of environmental, economic, and engineering factors is attempted. This balanced decision process is further emphasized in the Environmental Operating Principles announced by Lieutenant General Robert B. Flowers, Chief of Engineers, on 26 March 2002. These principles reaffirm the Corps' commitment to the environment and incorporation of environmental concerns in all decision making and programs.

There are several noteworthy environmental decision-making and stewardship efforts in which the Corps is involved. The Environmental Management Program (EMP) was created with the goal of assuring a healthy Upper Mississippi River ecosystem, while sustaining or improving the navigation system which is of vital importance to the nation's economy. The EMP includes monitoring and research initiatives. As of June 2002, approximately 50,000 acres of aquatic, wetland, and floodplain habitat have been restored, protected, or enhanced under the EMP program. By completing implementation of the 20 projects currently being designed or constructed, the number of acres of habitat improved will increase to over 100,000.

Some of the current construction projects on the Mississippi River are Tunica Cut-Off Lake Weir and three Mississippi River dike

modifications within the Memphis District; the Upper Mississippi River System Environmental Management Program which includes Batchtown-2 and Swan Lake within the St. Louis District; Banner Marsh on the Illinois Waterway within the Rock Island District; and Ambrough Slough, Mud Lake, Oak Alley, and Pool 8 Draw Down within the St. Paul District. These projects are designed to increase overall habitat value for waterfowl and fish by substantially reducing future sedimentation, providing water level control, reducing wind-induced wave action and turbidity, and providing deeper water areas.

The New Orleans District Engineer signed the Atchafalaya Basin Master Plan on 22 August 2000, which provides a guide for the management, protection, and development of the environmental resources of lands over which the Corps has obtained real estate interests within the Atchafalaya Basin. The Master Plan will enable us to continue moving forward with the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana. Among the authorized features of the project are the acquisition of 338,000 acres of developmental control and environmental protection easements and the acquisition of 50,000 acres of public access lands in fee title from willing sellers. As of June 2002, over 47,300 acres in fee title have been acquired and over 143,700 acres in environmental protection easements have been negotiated. In addition, the Corps and the State of Louisiana are working expeditiously to implement recreation features and to improve water quality and circulation, thus enhancing the region's environmental values. New Orleans District is currently completing detailed design work on six public boat ramps throughout the basin and recently completed the Lake End Park detailed design report at Morgan City.

The Lower Mississippi River Environmental Program (LMREP), established in 1982, continues to provide environmental information to support the design, construction, and operation of the Mississippi River Levees and Channel Improvement features of the MR&T project. The LMREP is the foundation of MR&T environmental stewardship.

The goal of the LMREP is to develop general environmental inventory data for the Lower Mississippi River and floodplain and to improve environmental engineering design for levees, revetments, and channel training dike systems. To achieve these goals, system-wide habitat mapping and intensive vegetation, fish, invertebrate, and wildlife field investigations have been conducted. Information is stored and habitat spatial analyses are conducted in a geographic information system.

Aquatic habitat maps of the river channel for 1915 and for 10-year intervals from the 1930's to 1990's have been completed and

are being used to assess historic habitat trends and to evaluate project effects on endangered species such as the interior least tern and the pallid sturgeon. The Corps is currently studying the distribution of the pallid sturgeon in the Lower Mississippi. Terrestrial habitat and land cover maps have been prepared for 1982 and 1992 and have been used to delineate jurisdictional wetlands and plan levee construction work to avoid and minimize environmental impacts.

Information from the LMREP is used to modify MR&T designs to promote environmental sustainability. Today's borrow pits are designed to be more productive fish or wildlife habitat. Weir sections, or "notches," are now routinely incorporated into stone dike channel training structures to reduce sedimentation and improve habitat during low discharge periods and maintain flow in secondary channels. Articulated concrete mattress revetment, used to stabilize the banks of the lower Mississippi River, is now grooved during the casting process, at no cost, to increase surface area and provide a favorable substrate for growth of aquatic insect larvae, important components of the lower Mississippi River aquatic food web.

In south Louisiana, the Corps is continuing environmental initiatives begun under the Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA). The 11th Project Priority List under CWPPRA was adopted in January 2002. In concert with sister Federal agencies on the CWPPRA Task Force, the Corps is making positive contributions to coastal restoration. In Fiscal Year 2002 the Corps, as the lead Federal agency, is initiating one CWPPRA project, Grand Lake Shoreline Protection. A total of 14 projects are on the current priority list with three being more complex projects carried over from a prior list.

Another environmental initiative is the Louisiana Coastal Area study. This is a comprehensive look at sustainable wetland restoration and creation projects covering approximately 30,000 square miles over 20 Louisiana coastal parishes. Three specific actions are currently in progress including the development of an overall comprehensive study, a marsh creation study, and a barrier island shoreline study. Additional delta studies and a reef study are scheduled in the near future.

The Lower Mississippi River Resource Assessment (LMRRA) is a study authorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, Public Law 106-541, December 11, 2000. It will be a cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of the Interior, and the states of Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee. The LMRRA will include an assessment of information needed for river-related

management; natural resource habitat needs; and the need for river-related recreation and access. The 2 year assessment will result in a report to Congress that will contain recommendations for the collection, availability and use of data for river-related management; the planning, construction, and evaluation of potential restoration, protection, and enhancement measures to meet identified habitat needs; and potential projects to meet identified river access and recreation needs. A total of \$1,750,000 is authorized to be appropriated for the LMRRA. Memphis District has been designated to take the lead on this action. Memphis District POC is Mr. David Reece at (901) 544-3970. No money has been appropriated for this study as of July 2002.

These are just a few of the environmental initiatives in which the Corps is involved in the Mississippi River Valley. There are many more projects and programs, both large and small, that are supported. The Corps is committed to environmental initiatives, seeking innovation, and achieving environmentally sustainable solutions.

STATUS OF FUNDING

The five major appropriations for Fiscal Year 2002 for the Mississippi Valley Division and the Mississippi River Commission totaled \$988 billion. This included \$346 million for the Mississippi River and Tributaries program and \$642 million for the other major programs in the Mississippi Valley Division. By comparison, the President's budget request for Fiscal Year 2003 was for \$843 million. Amounts included in the above totals for each study and project are shown on the tables attached to this report.

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DIVISION PROGRAM

GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

The Fiscal Year 2002 program for General Investigations is \$15 million for studies and projects. These funds provide for initiation of two navigation, three flood damage prevention, two special, three watershed/ecosystem, and two comprehensive studies; initiation of three preconstruction engineering and design (PED) projects; completion of five reconnaissance studies; continuation of two navigation studies, six flood damage prevention studies, one special study, and eight watershed/ecosystem studies; continuation of one project review study; and continuation of six preconstruction engineering and design projects.

The Fiscal Year 2003 request for the General Investigations program is \$12 million. These funds will provide for initiation of five preconstruction engineering and design projects; continuation of three navigation studies, ten flood damage prevention studies, one special study, ten watershed/ecosystem studies, three comprehensive studies, one project review study, nine preconstruction engineering and design projects; and completion of one flood damage prevention study, one special study, and one watershed/ecosystem study.

STUDIES

Red River of the North Basin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Manitoba, Canada

The Red River of the North has experienced several major flood events in recent years. Drainage, river modifications, and land-use changes for enhancement of agriculture have adversely impacted natural ecosystems. In addition, the basin's water resources issues include surface water and groundwater quality problems and periodic droughts. The reconnaissance study will be the vehicle for preparing plans of study for interim feasibility studies in tributary sub-basins. Those feasibility studies will identify projects, verify the Federal interest, and establish feasibility for flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, water supply, and erosion and sedimentation reduction. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the reconnaissance phase for three priority areas (Red River Basin Main Stem, Fargo Moorhead and Upstream and Wild Rice River) and upon certification of the report and execution of a cost-sharing agreement, continue into the

feasibility phase. The funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the feasibility phase for the first interim feasibility study.

Minnesota Dam Safety, Minnesota

In the 1930's and early 1940's, the Civilian Conservation Corps, Works Progress Administration, and Works Projects Administration constructed hundreds of dams in the State of Minnesota. These aging dams may pose a threat to the life and safety of individuals and to properties downstream of the dams.

Section 524 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 provided for the inventory, inspection, and modification/rehabilitation of these dams. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate an inventory and assessment phase of the dams. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to complete the inventory and assessment phase and submit a report to Congress.

Upper Mississippi River, Watershed Management, Lake Itasca to Lock and Dam 2, Minnesota

From its source at Lake Itasca in northern Minnesota to Lock and Dam 2 at Hastings, Minnesota, the Upper Mississippi River is impacted by almost 100 years of continual changes. This study area is faced with increased flood damage reduction needs, reservoir operational plans that do not address today's problems, land and water development pressures, dwindling natural resources, decline of fish and wildlife populations, increased demand for water supplies, and water quality impacts. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the reconnaissance phase at full Federal expense and, if certified in accord with policy, cost-shared feasibility studies will be initiated. Three cost-shared feasibility studies have been identified: Minnehaha Creek Watershed; South Washington Watershed; and Surface Water Use (Metro Area). The funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the feasibility phase.

Baraboo River, Wisconsin

The Baraboo River is a tributary of the Wisconsin River, which flows into the Mississippi River near Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. Four dams were constructed beginning in the 1840's; however, three have been removed. The dams have a negative impact on the environment and ecology of the river by blocking natural migration routes of fish and aquatic fauna, preventing them from reaching important spawning, rearing, and feeding habitats. Compounding the situation is an accelerating degradation of ecosystems within the watershed, due to land use changes and development, which has

affected wetlands, water quality, and riparian areas. The study will determine the Federal interest in proceeding with ecosystem restoration projects such as dam removals; channel restoration; restoration of aquatic and riparian habitats; erosion and sediment control; and wetland restorations for reducing flood damage and improving water quality, fisheries, populations of endangered and threatened species, and natural river equilibrium. It is expected that a combination of structural and nonstructural solutions will be necessary to achieve the objectives for the long term. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the reconnaissance phase at full Federal expense, and if the reconnaissance report is certified to be in accord with policy, continue into the feasibility phase. The funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the feasibility phase.

Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers, Iowa

The City of Des Moines, located in Polk County, Iowa, continually sustains flood damages due to its location at the confluence of the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers. During the 1993 flood, Polk County suffered more than \$152 million in flood damages. The feasibility study includes hydrologic and hydraulic analysis of five streams within the Des Moines city limits (Phase 1) and the development and evaluation of economically justified alternatives of specific sites (Phase 2) that have been subject to frequent flooding. Fiscal Year 2002 funds and the funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 are being used to continue the feasibility phase of the study. The feasibility study is scheduled to be completed in Fiscal Year 2004.

Illinois River Basin Restoration, Illinois

This environmental initiative involves the development of a comprehensive plan for the Illinois River watershed that includes the identification of critical restoration sites, initiation of long-term resource monitoring, and development and implementation of sediment removal technology. This effort will be closely coordinated with the Illinois River Ecosystem Restoration Study. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the reconnaissance phase of the study, which involved development of an initial assessment and project management plan. The assessment summarizes restoration goals, describes comprehensive plan investigations, identifies types and general locations for future restoration efforts, and summarizes immediate monitoring needs. Upon execution of the cost-sharing agreement, the feasibility phase will be initiated. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue this feasibility effort.

**Upper Mississippi River System Comprehensive Plan, Illinois,
Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin**

The Upper Mississippi River Comprehensive Plan was authorized in Section 459 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 to develop a plan to address water resource and related land resource problems and opportunities in the upper Mississippi and Illinois River basins from Cairo, Illinois, to the headwaters of the Mississippi River, in the interest of the systemic flood damage reduction. With initial funding in Fiscal Year 2002, three U.S. Army Corps of Engineer Districts--Rock Island, St. Louis and St. Paul--are working in collaboration with Federal and non-Federal agencies and other stakeholders to conduct the 3-year study. This study will focus primarily on planning for the 500-year floodplains of the reach of the Upper Mississippi River between Anoka, Minnesota, and Thebes, Illinois, and the reach of the Illinois River between its confluence with the Mississippi and the confluence of the Kankakee and Des Plaines Rivers. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate the plan at full Federal expense. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the plan.

The Upper Mississippi River Comprehensive Plan will embrace the dual overarching national goals of flood damage reduction and environmental sustainability. The study will focus on development and evaluation of multiple systemic alternative plans composed of various combinations of structural and nonstructural measures that, if implemented, would result in net improvements to floodplain habitat conditions and reduced flood damage potential. An integrated study approach with the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Waterway System Navigation Study will allow both studies to benefit from the ongoing effort of identifying ecosystem goals and objectives for the Upper Mississippi River System. The study will build extensively upon previously completed work, including the 1993 flood reports, the Floodplain Management Assessment, the Galloway Report, Delft Plan, Working River, and innumerable other recent efforts to document the system's problems, needs, and opportunities.

**Upper Mississippi River System Flow Frequency Study, Illinois,
Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin**

The Upper Mississippi River System Flow Frequency Study includes the Upper Mississippi River and its major tributaries. The study will include an examination of flow records for the river, a review of existing flow frequency data, and verification or development of a new set of river stage profiles. The new stage profiles are important for future flood control, environmental restoration, and flood plain and river management actions. Funds

available in Fiscal Year 2002 and requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the feasibility phase of the study. The results of the study will be used to develop and coordinate a revision to the 1979 stage profiles.

Upper Mississippi River-Illinois Waterway System Navigation Study, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin

The Corps of Engineers announced the resumption of the Upper Mississippi River-Illinois Waterway System Navigation Study on 2 August 2001. The refocused study will be modified to emphasize environmentally sustainable use of the river and to address concerns raised by the National Research Council (NRC) in February 2001.

Lieutenant General Robert B. Flowers, Chief of Engineers, paused the study in March 2001 to consider recommendations made by the NRC and others on the economic and environmental analyses. The pause also allowed General Flowers to invite Washington-level representatives from the Department of Agriculture, Environmental Protection Agency, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Department of Transportation (Maritime Administration) to provide a broader Federal perspective on the needs of the river basin and to advise the Corps on how to address the NRC recommendations.

The restructured feasibility study is focusing on the authorized Federal navigation projects on the Mississippi River above Cairo, Illinois, and the Illinois Waterway System and the ecological and floodplain resources that are affected by these navigation projects. The objectives of this feasibility study are to relieve lock congestion, achieve an environmentally sustainable navigation system, and address ecosystem and flood plain management needs related to navigation in a holistic manner. The restructured navigation study seeks to ensure that the rivers and waterway system will continue to be an effective transportation system and a nationally treasured ecological resource. This feasibility study has been restructured to incorporate recommendations from the recent National Research Council review and the Federal Interagency Principals Group. The restructured study will: (a) further identify the long-term economic and ecological needs, and potential measures to meet those needs, through collaboration with interested agencies, stakeholders, and the public; (b) evaluate various alternative plans to address those needs; (c) present a plan consisting of a set of measures for implementation that will achieve the study objectives; (d) identify and address issues related to the implementation of the recommended plan; and (e) possibly recommend interim measures to partially achieve the above objectives while the feasibility study is being completed.

The Corps released an Interim Report to the feasibility study in July 2002. The Interim Report includes a summary of past activities and the events leading up to the restructuring of the study. It provides a blueprint for moving forward with the feasibility study to ensure sustainability of the system and provides an opportunity for stakeholder input into the study. Recommendations for full-scale ecosystem and navigation improvement measures were not included in the Interim Report since economic and environmental evaluation will not be complete until 2003. The Interim Report was developed collaboratively with Federal and state agencies, non-governmental organizations, key stakeholders, and the public. The stakeholders on the system are in general support of the new direction and have pledged to work closely with the Corps on the development of the feasibility study scheduled for completion in 2004.

St. Louis Riverfront, Missouri and Illinois

The study area encompasses approximately 3,011 square miles in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and Jefferson County in Missouri and St. Clair, Madison, and Monroe Counties in Illinois. The primary focus of the study will address flood damage reduction, aquatic habitat restoration, and harbor safety issues. Secondary focus will be on public access to the river, regional greenways and bike trails, and other recreation/economic development opportunities. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate the reconnaissance phase of the study, which will be completed in Fiscal Year 2003. If the reconnaissance report is certified to be in accord with policy, funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue into the feasibility phase of the study.

Alexander and Pulaski Counties, Illinois

The Alexander and Pulaski Counties, Illinois, study area encompasses the southernmost Illinois counties of Alexander, Union, Johnson, Massac, and Pope. The study will determine the feasibility of implementing habitat restoration measures to offset the adverse effects of sedimentation on the Lower Cache River Swamp State Natural Area and creek entrenchment on the Heron Pond/Little Black Slough State Natural Area. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue the feasibility phase. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to complete the feasibility phase.

White River Basin Comprehensive, Arkansas

Section 729 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986 provides the authority for conducting this basin-wide study. Flood control remains a concern within the basin as evidenced by the \$10 million residual flood damages that occurred in 1992.

Local interests desire navigation improvements. The Corps is investigating the future requirements of the White River Basin, including impacts associated with future development on water quality, cultural and fish and wildlife resources, and compatibility with existing uses. The Corps executed a feasibility cost-sharing agreement in May 2002 with representatives of the States of Arkansas and Missouri. Funds available in Fiscal Year 2002 and requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue basin-wide studies.

Red River Navigation, Southwest Arkansas, Arkansas

The study area is located in northwest Louisiana and southwest Arkansas and includes the 135 miles of the Red River between Shreveport, Louisiana, and Index, Arkansas. The Red River throughout this reach is wide and shallow with an average slope of 0.7 foot per mile. Without the construction of locks and dams, commercial navigation would not be possible. Upon completion of the Red River Navigation project in 1994 and the establishment of dependable navigation on the Red River from the Mississippi River to Shreveport, Louisiana, local navigation interests are now refocused on extending navigation into southwest Arkansas. Organizations supporting this extension of navigation include the Arkansas Red River Commission, the Red River Valley Association, and the Red River Waterway Commission. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue the feasibility phase of the study. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this study.

Amite River and Tributaries Ecosystem Restoration, Louisiana

The study area includes the 2,200-square-mile Amite River drainage basin in southeastern Louisiana and southwestern Mississippi. The reconnaissance study will determine the feasibility of restoring the Amite River ecosystem to a condition similar to its natural state and reduce flood damages. This effort will consider the physical and biological aspects of the site, within the context of the entire watershed, to address all related issues and constraints. Fish and wildlife habitat has been directly degraded in approximately 25 miles of the Amite River, with potentially many more miles indirectly impacted. Approximately 10,690 acres have been directly disturbed in the study area. The Amite River Commission is the potential local sponsor for the study. Fiscal Year 2002 funds were used to negotiate terms for the feasibility cost-sharing agreement. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the feasibility phase upon execution of the FCSA.

Calcasieu River Basin, Louisiana

The study investigates methods of providing flood control protection and environment enhancement measures in Vernon, Rapides, Beauregard, Allen, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, and Cameron Parishes. The reconnaissance report was completed in January 2001. Fiscal Year 2002 funds were reprogrammed due to the delay in the signing of the FCSA. Funds requested in Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to initiate the feasibility phase of the study upon execution of the FCSA.

Calcasieu Lock, Louisiana

Calcasieu Lock is a feature of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway between Apalachee Bay, Florida, and the Mexican Border project. The lock, located east of the Calcasieu River in Calcasieu Parish, prevents saltwater intrusion from the Gulf of Mexico into the Mermentau River Basin, a major rice-producing area. This study is addressing the need for capacity increase at Calcasieu Lock. Funds available in Fiscal Year 2002 and requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the feasibility phase of the study.

Port of Iberia, Louisiana

The Port of Iberia is located at the inland terminus of the Commercial Canal in Iberia Parish in south-central Louisiana. The Port of Iberia is bounded by the cities of Lafayette and New Iberia to the north, the Mermentau Basin to the west, the Atchafalaya River Basin to the east, and the Gulf of Mexico to the south. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the reconnaissance phase and continue into the feasibility phase. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the feasibility phase of the study.

Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black, Louisiana

The Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black are located in Assumption, Iberville, and St. Mary Parishes in south-central Louisiana in the vicinity of Morgan City, Louisiana. The existing Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black, Louisiana, navigation project provides a 20- by 400-foot access channel between the Gulf of Mexico and oil and gas rig fabrication yards and offshore oil and gas service facilities located west of Morgan City as well as facilities located on the Atchafalaya River in the Morgan City-Berwick area. The existing channel also has a problem with fluff, a flocculant clay material that flows into the Atchafalaya Bar Channel immediately after maintenance dredging. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate the feasibility

phase of the study. A FCSA was executed with Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District in May 2002. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the feasibility phase of the study.

St. Charles Parish, Urban Flood Control, Louisiana

St. Charles Parish is located in southeast Louisiana on the southwest shore of Lake Pontchartrain, about 25 miles west of New Orleans. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the reconnaissance phase to address potential solutions to the rainfall flooding problems in St. Charles Parish. Flood control improvements are needed to reduce repetitive damages to residential development in the parish. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue into the feasibility phase of the study, pending certification of the reconnaissance report and signing of the FCSA.

Hurricane Protection, Louisiana

The study encompasses a multi-parish area in southeastern Louisiana. Funds available in Fiscal Year 2002 are being used to continue a reconnaissance study to evaluate the existing hurricane protection systems in southeast Louisiana and recommend improvements and modifications to the existing level of protection. Hurricane protection for category 4 and 5 storms will be analyzed. The reconnaissance report, submitted for certification on 1 July 2002, determined that there was a Federal interest in proceeding to the feasibility phase. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to complete the Project Management Plan and negotiate the FCSA.

St. Bernard Parish, Urban Flood Control, Louisiana

This urban flood control study is investigating flood control improvements that are needed to reduce repetitive damages to residential development caused by heavy rainfall from major floods that have occurred five times in the last 19 years. Funds available in Fiscal Year 2002 and funds requested in Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the feasibility phase of the study.

Plaquemines Parish, Urban Flood Control, Louisiana

Plaquemines Parish is located along both banks of the Mississippi River from New Orleans, Louisiana, to the river's mouth, a distance of about 80 miles. Flood control improvements are needed to reduce repetitive damages to residential development. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate the feasibility phase of the study. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the feasibility phase of the study.

Louisiana Coastal Area - Ecosystem Restoration, Louisiana

Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue the Barataria Basin feasibility studies (Wetland Creation and Restoration and Barrier Shoreline Restoration) based on the Coast 2050 Plan. This plan, completed in December 1998, documents the perceived coastal problems and describes potential strategies for sustainable coastwide ecosystem restoration. Additionally, these funds are being used to initiate the Comprehensive Coastwide Ecosystem Restoration feasibility study. This study will evaluate the strategies identified in the Coast 2050 Plan by studying the strategies for the four regions and ultimately selecting plans for recommendation that best address the ecosystem restoration needs for those regions, while complying with applicable laws, rules, regulations, and administration policy. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue feasibility study tasks on the Comprehensive Coastwide Ecosystem Restoration feasibility study and complete feasibility study tasks on the Barataria Basin feasibility studies.

PRECONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING AND DESIGN

Devils Lake Outlet, North Dakota

Devils Lake is located in northeastern North Dakota in a closed basin with no natural outlet except at extremely high lake levels. Over the past 8 years, Devils Lake has risen nearly 25 feet, flooding homes, roads, farmlands, utilities and railways and threatening several communities. If the lake were to rise an additional 13 feet, it would flow into the Sheyenne River in the vicinity of Tolna, North Dakota. Over \$500 million in potential flood damages would occur between the present lake level and the natural overflow elevation. The objective of the proposed project is to reduce the flood damages related to the rising lake levels in the flood-prone areas around Devils Lake and to reduce the potential for a natural overflow event. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue PED activities including data collection and alternatives evaluation. A draft report with an integrated Environmental Impact Statement evaluating outlet alternatives is currently under review. Use of funds in Fiscal Year 2003 is dependent on the recommendation of that study and its approval. Funds could potentially be used to continue studies or initiate construction, if approved.

Davenport, Iowa

After experiencing three significant floods in the last 10 years, the City of Davenport, Iowa, requested that this deferred project be restudied. The PED resumption was approved by the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Committee in October 2001. Fiscal Year 2002 funds were used to complete the limited reevaluation report, which recommends protection of the water treatment facility. Upon execution of the cost-sharing agreement, the PED effort will continue. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue the PED phase.

Wood River Levee, Illinois

The Wood River Levee, Illinois, project lies in the Mississippi River floodplain of Madison County, just upstream of the City of St. Louis. The area is protected by an urban design levee, authorized in 1938 and constructed in the 1950's. The recommended project includes rehabilitation of the levee system to bring it into original performance compliance. The reconstruction evaluation will address the need for reconstruction or replacement of pump stations, levees, and other appurtenances. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue the reconstruction evaluation. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to finalize this evaluation.

Chesterfield, Missouri

The Monarch-Chesterfield levee system lies on the right bank of the Missouri River and is located approximately 40 miles above the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. The existing 100-year levee system is 11.5 miles and protects approximately 4,240 acres. The authorized plan includes construction of a 5- to 7-foot levee raise to provide 500-year flood protection to the Chesterfield Valley area. Other project features include seepage berms and relief wells to control underseepage, four closure structures, several pump stations, several gravity drains, and environmental mitigation. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to obtain surveys and mapping and initiate design of the major components for the first construction contract. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue PED.

St. Louis Flood Protection, Missouri

The St. Louis Flood Protection project is located in St. Louis, Missouri, on the right bank of the Mississippi River between miles 176.3 and 187.2 above the mouth of the Ohio River. The St. Louis Flood Protection project failed during the 1993 flood. A reconstruction evaluation is underway to determine Federal interest

in correcting design or construction deficiencies. The recommended project includes the correction of structural deficiencies and geotechnical concerns and the enhancement of recreation features within the project area. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue the reevaluation. This effort will continue in Fiscal Year 2003.

St. Louis Harbor, Missouri

The St. Louis Harbor project includes construction of a harbor area in the vicinity of the Tri-City Regional Port District, either along the east side of the Chain of Rocks Canal in Illinois or just below the mouth of the canal in Illinois, and a sediment control project to improve access to the City of St. Louis Municipal Dock. The current reevaluation shows that this portion of the project is infeasible. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue a reevaluation of the project. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to complete the reevaluation and continue PED.

River des Peres, Missouri

River des Peres drains an 111-square-mile area in the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County, Missouri. The authorized project includes two subprojects, Deer Creek and University City. The sponsors for Deer Creek have signed a design agreement and the sponsors for University City have signed a letter of intent. Deer Creek consists of 2.5 miles of channel widening and stabilization improvements through the cities of Brentwood, Maplewood, Rock Hill, and Webster Groves. The University City portion consists of channel enlargement and stabilization along 2.5 miles of the University City branch of upper River des Peres. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue the reevaluation of Deer Creek and to initiate a reevaluation of University City. Reevaluations of both portions will continue in Fiscal Year 2003.

White River Navigation to Newport, Arkansas

This shallow-draft navigation project located in east-central Arkansas includes the White River from Newport to the Arkansas Post Canal. A reevaluation is underway. A Preliminary Draft General Reevaluation Report and Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) are scheduled to be completed by the end of September 2002. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this project.

CONSTRUCTION, GENERAL

The Fiscal Year 2003 budget request is \$138 million, including \$16 million from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. By comparison, the Fiscal Year 2002 allocation was \$218 million, which included \$11 million from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund and a reduction for savings and slippage.

Grafton, Park River, North Dakota

The recommended plan would provide flood protection for the City of Grafton. It consists of a 3.75-mile-long bypass channel that would extend upstream and to the west of Grafton along the South Branch Park River. The tieback levee would direct the flood flows to the inlet of the bypass channel. A diversion structure would be at the point where the levee crosses the Park River. Funds available in Fiscal Year 2002 are being used to complete the General Reevaluation Report. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this project.

Grand Forks, North Dakota - East Grand Forks, Minnesota

The Cities of Grand Forks and East Grand Forks are located on the Red River of the North directly across the river from each other. Until 1997, a permanent levee in one short reach of Grand Forks, plus emergency flood-fight efforts in other areas of the two cities, prevented significant flood damages. The catastrophic event of 1997 was the largest flood ever experienced in the area. Despite major emergency flood-fight efforts, both cities were inundated. Estimates indicate that about \$2 billion in damages were sustained in the two cities as a result of the 1997 flood. The threat of future flooding has led to a sense of urgency for an expedited permanent solution.

In September 1997, the Corps entered into a formal ongoing total project partnering relationship with both cities, both counties, both states, and representative citizens. A detailed design report to support project authorization was completed in December 1998. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue levee construction contracts, initiate construction on the English Coulee Diversion, and continue engineering and design. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue the first phases of levee construction, initiate additional construction phases, and continue engineering and design.

Homme Lake, North Dakota

The Homme Lake, North Dakota, dam safety assurance project provides for modification of the dam spillway, which has been

identified as having inadequate capacity. The dam embankment would be overtopped by approximately 2.3 feet during the probable maximum flood, which would cause substantial damage and threaten human safety downstream. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue construction, and Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to complete construction of the project.

Sheyenne River, North Dakota

The project consists of four separable elements: the Horace to West Fargo unit completed in 1992; the West Fargo unit completed in 1994; the Maple River Dam, which was determined to be economically infeasible; and the Baldhill Pool Raise, for which construction was initiated in Fiscal Year 2000. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate construction of the West Fargo pump station and to continue construction on the Baldhill Pool Raise unit. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to complete construction of the pump station of the West Fargo unit and complete construction on the Baldhill Pool Raise unit.

Crookston, Minnesota

About 800 Crookston residences are located in flood-prone areas of the city. The 1950 flood inundated most of the flood-prone properties. The recommended plan consists of two downstream high-flow channels, levees providing protection from the 100-year flood events for the neighborhoods of Woods Addition, Thorndale, and Riverside/Downtown, and flood plain management techniques for areas not protected by permanent levees. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the first stage and initiate the second stage of construction. The funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to complete the second stage of construction.

Lower St. Anthony Falls Rapids Restoration, Minneapolis, Minnesota

St. Anthony Falls restoration would include development of a formal whitewater rapids channel and trail/park on the east bank of the Mississippi River, adjacent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, within the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County. The facility would utilize the vertical drop created by the dam and include a new river channel approximately 2,000 feet long and 40 feet wide, with a vertical drop of 25 feet. The channel would flow parallel to the Mississippi River main stem in a park setting. The facility would include a recreational whitewater course for kayaking, canoeing, and rafting as well as improved public access to the river and formal shore fishing opportunities. A principal objective is to provide the opportunity to upgrade, restore, and protect a

significant segment of the Mississippi River within an urban corridor. The project would be multipurpose with environmental and recreational features. Shoreline stabilization and revegetation measures would also be incorporated. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue PED activities. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this project.

Northeastern Minnesota, Minnesota

Section 569 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 provided a Congressional authorization for the Corps of Engineers to establish a program to provide environmental assistance to non-Federal interests in northeastern Minnesota. The area considered for assistance includes the Minnesota counties of Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Itasca, Cass, Crow Wing, Aitkin, Carlton, Pine, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Benton, Sherburne, Isanti, and Chisago. Work under Section 569 may be in the form of design and construction assistance for water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to develop the Project Cooperation Agreement and related data. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this project.

Garrison and Kathio Township, Minnesota (Mille Lacs Regional Sewage Treatment Plant, Minnesota)

Section 108(d)(61) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2001 authorized \$11 million for a wastewater infrastructure project for the City of Garrison and Kathio Township, Minnesota. The proposed project involves construction of a regional sewage treatment plant and collector system in Mille Lacs County that would service the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and the surrounding localities. The treatment plant would replace the area's patchwork of unreliable septic tanks and the reservation's overloaded lagoon system. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to fund seven infrastructure projects. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this project.

Lock and Dam 3, Mississippi River, Minnesota (Major Rehabilitation)

The Lock and Dam 3 Major Rehabilitation project is located on the Mississippi River about 30 miles southeast of St. Paul, Minnesota. Repair of the Lock 3 embankment system is vital to navigation and environmental interests and a nuclear plant that relies on maintenance of Pool 3. The main embankment is subject to overtopping and severe damage during major flood events. The project is being reevaluated to include a navigation safety component in addition to the embankments project. Fiscal Year 2002

funds are being used to prepare a Reevaluation Report and a draft Environmental Impact Statement. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to complete the Reevaluation Report and complete the plans and specifications.

LaFarge, Kickapoo River, Wisconsin (Project Modification)

In accordance with the project modification, approximately 8,569 acres of land associated with the LaFarge Dam and Lake portion of the Kickapoo River, Wisconsin, flood control project were transferred in December 2000. Of this land, 1,200 acres with cultural and religious significance to the Ho-Chunk Nation were transferred to the Secretary of the Interior, and the remaining 7,400 acres to the State of Wisconsin. The modification also includes deauthorizing the construction of the reservoir and dam, while completing other features of the original project. These features include the reconstruction of State Highway 131 and County Routes P and F, necessary environmental remediation, and site safety modifications. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used for highway relocations and final site remediation. The funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used for reimbursement for highway relocations to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

Upper Mississippi River System Environmental Management Program, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin

During Fiscal Year 2002, the unique Upper Mississippi River Environmental Management Program will continue. Through this program, important fish and wildlife habitat is being restored and protected and river conditions monitored throughout the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Waterway. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue habitat rehabilitation projects and the Long-Term Resource Monitoring program and to utilize the habitat needs assessment which was developed to determine the type, location, informational needs, and size of future habitat projects. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue design and construction of critical habitat restoration projects, as well as collection and evaluation of data under the Long-Term Resource Monitoring program.

Lock and Dam 11, Mississippi River (Major Rehabilitation)

The project is located on the Mississippi River, in Dubuque, Dubuque County, Iowa. Lock and Dam No. 11 was placed into operation in 1937 and has performed very well in the intervening 62 years of service. However, reliability and operational problems are occurring that have significant impacts to the navigation users of the Upper Mississippi River. These impacts, in the form of service disruptions leading to stalls and delays in traffic, result

in increased transportation costs for grain, coal, petroleum products, and other bulk commodities.

Significant features of the work include miter gate electrical systems replacement, miter gate and tainter valve machinery replacement, miter gate anchorage bar replacement, culvert valve rehabilitation, dam tainter gate chain replacement, and additional scour protection above and below the dam. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate construction. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue construction.

**Lock and Dam 24, Mississippi River, Illinois and Missouri
(Major Rehabilitation)**

Lock and Dam 24 is located near Clarksville, Missouri. Major rehabilitation of this aged structure has been underway since Fiscal Year 1996; Part 2 of this effort began in Fiscal Year 2000. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue the rehabilitation of the auxiliary lock concrete. This effort will continue in Fiscal Year 2003.

Nutwood Drainage and Levee District, Illinois

The project is located in Greene and Jersey Counties, Illinois, on the east bank of the Illinois River. The project provides for 12.1 miles of levee and 11 relief wells. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used for the preparation of plans and specifications. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this project.

Melvin Price Lock and Dam, Illinois and Missouri

Melvin Price Lock and Dam is located in the vicinity of Alton, Illinois. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the esplanade landscaping and continue the design of the Visitor Center exhibits. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue the exhibits.

**Mississippi River Between the Ohio and Missouri Rivers
(Regulating Works), Missouri and Illinois**

The Regulating Works project provides channel improvements on the Mississippi River from the mouth of the Ohio River to the mouth of the Missouri River. These improvements are constructed to ensure a safe, dependable navigation channel between St. Louis, Missouri, and Cairo, Illinois. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue Thompson Bend and complete Mosenhien/Ivory Landing, Chester, and Devil's Island. Funds requested for Fiscal

Year 2003 will be used to continue Thompson Bend and engineering and design work for future contracts.

Missouri River Levee System, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri (Unit L15)

The L15 project provides for total enlargement of 23.8 miles of levee along the Missouri River. The average increase in levee height is 1.6 feet, depending on the grade and location of the existing levee. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate the first item of levee construction. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to complete the first item and initiate the final item of levee construction. Completion is scheduled in Fiscal Year 2005.

Madison and St. Clair Counties, Illinois

Design and construction funds were congressionally added in Fiscal Year 2002. The project is located in the downtown area of East St. Louis, Illinois, and includes the rehabilitation of some 8,400 linear feet of the combined sewer system. The project supports a brownfield redevelopment program that is a focus of the Environmental Protection Agency's Showcase Communities Initiative. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used for a design/build contract that will complete project work in the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2003.

Chain of Rocks Canal, Mississippi River, Illinois (Deficiency Correction)

The Chain of Rocks Levee Design Deficiency Correction project is located on the Mississippi River near Madison County, Illinois. Emergency repairs were completed in Fiscal Year 1997, and the design deficiency correction project was initiated in Fiscal Year 1999. In Fiscal Year 2002, funds are being used to continue work on the relief wells. This work will continue in Fiscal Year 2003.

East St. Louis, Illinois

The East St. Louis, Illinois, flood protection rehabilitation project protects an 85,000-acre closely developed residential, urban, and commercial floodplain in St. Clair and Madison Counties, Illinois. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate Canteen Creek excavation and rehabilitation of the north and east pump stations. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue these contracts.

East St. Louis and Vicinity, Illinois

The ecosystem restoration and flood damage reduction project includes the creation or improvement of a total of 4,420 floodplain acres and 320 upland acres in the ecological restoration. When complete, the project will additionally produce annualized flood damage reduction benefits totaling some \$900,000. The current reevaluation shows the project is feasible. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue PED activities. A draft report is due for release to the public by the end of the summer. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this project.

Alton to Gale Organized Levee Districts, Illinois and Missouri

The Alton to Gale levee system is located adjacent to the Mississippi River between Alton and Gale, Illinois. During spring levee inspections in 1996 and 1997, slides were discovered that were outside the authority for Public Law 84-99 repairs. Subsequent correspondence with local interests regarding their willingness to cost share these slide repairs resulted in a negative response. In November 2000, the Corps received an exception to the cost-sharing provisions outlined in the Water Resources Development Act of 1986. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete repairs on 44 levee slides and to initiate a supplement to the 1986 design deficiency report. The supplement will be completed in Fiscal Year 2003.

St. Louis, Missouri (Combined Sewer Overflow)

Congress added funds in Fiscal Years 2001 and 2002 for the St. Louis, Missouri, Combined Sewer Overflow project, located in south St. Louis. A design agreement with the local sponsor, the Metropolitan Sewer District, was signed in November 2001. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to define scopes of work, prepare cost-sharing documents, and provide planning and design assistance to the sponsor. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this project.

Meramec River Basin, Valley Park Levee, Missouri

The Meramec River Basin, Valley Park Levee, Missouri, flood control project is located southwest of St. Louis along the left bank of the Meramec River. Since the early 1900's, the City of Valley Park has experienced 12 major floods, including the December 1982 flood of record. This flood caused damages estimated in excess of \$21 million. The most recent flooding occurred in April 1994. The project provides for 3.2 miles of levee, 3 closure structures, 6 gravity drains, and 47 relief wells. The project is about 60 percent complete, including about 1.2 miles of levee, 3

closure structures, and 3 gravity drains. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to design the last segment of levee and to coordinate land acquisition with the sponsor. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to prepare plans and specifications for the last levee contract.

Ste. Genevieve, Missouri

The Ste. Genevieve flood control project consists of four parts. The first phase of the project includes a levee, closure structures, and a pump station to protect Ste. Genevieve's National Historic Landmark District from Mississippi River flooding. Other phases of the project consist of improvements on two interior tributary streams and recreation facilities. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the relief wells, pump station and gravity drain contract, and the decision document for Parts 2, 3, and 4. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used for planning, engineering, and design for tributary improvements and recreation.

Bois Brule Drainage and Levee District, Missouri

The Bois Brule Drainage and Levee District is located in Perry County, Missouri, approximately 10 miles east of the town of Perryville. The existing Federally constructed levee system protects about 26,000 acres of prime farmland, two industrial facilities, and a few residences. The Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 2002 authorizes a project to correct design deficiencies and restore the existing flood control system to its authorized 50-year level of protection. This authorization also provides for an increase in the level of protection to 100-year. Congress added funds for the design deficiency correction project (includes restoration of 50-year level of protection) and the Bois Brule Section 205 Continuing Authorities project (increase to 100-year protection) in Fiscal Year 2002. These funds are being used to prepare a draft combined Design Deficiency Report and Detailed Project Report. This report will be finalized in Fiscal Year 2003; engineering and design activities will continue.

Cape Girardeau-Jackson, Missouri

The Cape Girardeau-Jackson, Missouri, project consists of a dry detention reservoir, channel improvements, bridge replacements, and recreation facilities. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the detention reservoir. Project completion is scheduled in Fiscal Year 2003.

**DeSoto County Regional Wastewater System, DeSoto County,
Mississippi**

Section 502 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 and Section 108 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2001 authorized \$20 million for the design and construction of a regional wastewater system in DeSoto County, Mississippi. Of the \$4 million appropriated in Fiscal Year 2002, \$451,000 is being used to complete a letter report and project management plan, prepare and execute a design-construction project cost-sharing agreement (PCA), verify NEPA compliance by local interests, conduct design review and value engineering studies, and prepare contracting documents for project construction. The PCA for construction of the first item of work was executed on 13 May 2002. Design for the first item of work is being conducted by local interests utilizing Environmental Protection Agency grant funds. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this project.

**J. Bennett Johnston Waterway, Mississippi River
to Shreveport, Louisiana**

The J. Bennett Johnston Waterway project provides for a 9-foot by 200-foot navigation channel from the Mississippi River, via Old and Red Rivers to Shreveport, Louisiana. The project includes five locks and dams sufficient to pass a six-barge tow. The entire waterway was dedicated in May 1995. Remaining work consists of additional channel training works, purchase of remaining mitigation lands, and construction of recreation features. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue two revetment reinforcements, two capouts, one project visitor center, three comfort stations, and three recreation facilities; acquire mitigation lands and wildlife management development measures on previously purchased mitigation lands; and complete one revetment, two dikes, and two reinforcements. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to initiate the Regional Visitor Center and complete two reinforcements, three comfort stations, project visitor center, and three recreation facilities.

East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana

The recommended project for East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana, will provide channel improvements for flood control on Beaver Bayou, Blackwater Bayou and tributaries, Jones Creek and tributaries, Ward Creek and tributaries, and Bayou Fountain. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete and submit a Post Authorization Change Report that will be used as the basis for re-authorization. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this project.

Comite River Diversion Channel, Louisiana

The project is located in East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana, and consists of a 12-mile-long diversion channel and associated structures that are designed to divert flood waters from the Comite River into the Mississippi River. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete plans and specifications and initiate construction of Lilly Bayou Control Structure-Phase I; continue plans and specifications for Lilly Bayou Control Structure-Phase II construction contract, drop structures, channel, and highway bridges. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue Lilly Bayou Control Structure-Phase I; and continue plans and specifications for drop structures, channel, and highway bridges.

Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity, Louisiana

Levee and floodwall work in Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, and St. Charles Parishes continues on the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity, Louisiana, Hurricane Protection project. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue construction on authorized project features. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue construction of five contracts, real estate support, and engineering and design activities.

Southeast Louisiana, Louisiana

The Southeast Louisiana, Louisiana, project will provide improvements for flood control and rainfall drainage systems in Jefferson, Orleans, and St. Tammany Parishes, Louisiana, and hurricane surge protection features in St. Tammany Parish. Construction now underway involves only Jefferson and Orleans Parishes. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue five and complete five contracts in Jefferson Parish; continue seven contracts and complete two contracts in Orleans Parish; and continue real estate acquisition, surveys and layouts, and engineering and design efforts in both Jefferson and Orleans Parishes. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to complete five contracts in Jefferson Parish; continue four contracts and complete three contracts in Orleans Parish; and continue real estate acquisition, surveys and layouts, and engineering and design efforts in both Jefferson and Orleans Parishes.

West Bank - Vicinity of New Orleans, Louisiana

The West Bank and Vicinity, New Orleans, Louisiana, project combines three project areas: Westwego to Harvey Canal, Lake Cataouatche, and East of Harvey Canal. The project provides hurricane protection to the urban areas on the west bank of the Mississippi River in the vicinity of New Orleans and in Jefferson,

Orleans, and Plaquemines Parishes. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate four contracts; continue one contract; complete four contracts; and continue engineering and design of the project. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue four contracts; complete one contract; and continue engineering and design.

Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Lock, Louisiana

The project is located within the City of New Orleans, Louisiana, in Orleans Parish. It is a combined deep- and shallow-draft lock connecting the Mississippi River, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, and the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue two contracts, engineering and design, and the Community Impact Mitigation Plan. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to complete two contracts, the real estate purchase, and the Florida Avenue siphon relocation and to continue engineering and design and the Community Impact Mitigation Plan.

Larose to Golden Meadow, Louisiana

The Larose to Golden Meadow, Louisiana, project will provide hurricane protection to developed land along Bayou Lafourche, Louisiana. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete two contracts and continue engineering and design activities. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue engineering and design activities.

New Orleans to Venice, Louisiana

The New Orleans to Venice, Louisiana, project provides hurricane protection along both banks of the Mississippi River south of New Orleans. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete one contract, initiate one construction contract, and continue engineering and design activities. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue one contract and continue engineering and design activities.

FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

The purpose of the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) is to clean up radioactive contamination generated by activities of the Manhattan Engineer District and the Atomic Energy Commission during the development of atomic weapons from the

1940's to the 1960's. The Department of Energy initiated FUSRAP in 1974 and Congress transferred management of the program to the Corps of Engineers in October 1997. Five sites, containing roughly half of the contamination in the nationwide program, lie within the boundaries of the St. Louis District. Four of the sites are being remediated at this time. Remediation at the fifth site in Madison, Illinois, was completed in Fiscal Year 2000. Fiscal Year 2002 efforts include the excavation and disposal of approximately 70,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and building debris. The total estimated volume to be remediated at these four sites is approximately 600,000 cubic yards. A sixth site, located on an Army ammunition plant near Burlington, Iowa, was approved for inclusion in the FUSRAP program on 1 July 2002.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE, GENERAL

The Operations and Maintenance, General appropriation provides annual funding necessary to operate and maintain the projects that are the responsibility of the six Districts in the Mississippi Valley Division. These projects include 31 channel projects, 13 canalized waterways, 22 flood control reservoirs, and 4 multi-purpose power projects.

Funding for the Operations and Maintenance, General program has remained relatively constant in Fiscal Year 2001 (\$387 million), Fiscal Year 2002 (\$357 million), and Fiscal Year 2003 (\$355 million).

Dredging in Fiscal Year 2002 has been very different from the previous 2 years which had drought-related river stages. Early in the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2002, a severe low-water period in St. Louis District required 31 days of out-of-cycle dredging. A late spring flood on the Upper Mississippi River required additional dredging in St. Paul, St. Louis, and Rock Island Districts. Adding to this problem, the upper three districts experienced a warmer than usual winter where contractors experienced few cold-weather delays causing accelerated contract earnings. The New Orleans District, which had very little dredging in the Southwest Pass the previous 2 years, contracted as many as seven hopper dredges and one cutterhead dredge to keep the Southwest Pass open. When the river rises above 10 feet on the Carrollton gage, the flows produce shoaling at an above-normal rate that requires a response with hopper dredges to keep the ship channel open.

The Mississippi Valley Division (MVD) has a Fiscal Year 2002 shortfall of about \$52 million with \$18 million designated as

critical. Without the \$52 million, MVD will have an appropriate funding tail of \$26 million carried over into Fiscal Year 2003, which will create shortfalls in the program beginning 1 October 2002. Funding requirements for stoplogs/bulkheads remain a high priority in St. Paul, Rock Island, St. Louis, Vicksburg, and New Orleans Districts.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES PROGRAM

The Mississippi River and Tributaries program has three appropriation categories: General Investigations, Construction, and Maintenance. These appropriation categories are essentially the same as the separate appropriations for General Investigations; Construction, General; and Operations and Maintenance, General.

GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

Funds in the amount of \$10 million were provided in Fiscal Year 2002 and \$6 million was requested for Fiscal Year 2003. The funds requested for Fiscal Year 2002 are being used for initiation of one flood damage prevention reconnaissance study and completion of one environmental reconnaissance study; initiation of four flood damage prevention feasibility studies and one environmental feasibility study; continuation of one agricultural feasibility study and one flood damage prevention feasibility study and collection and study of basic data; and the continuation of three and completion of one PED project. The funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue two and complete two flood damage prevention feasibility studies; continue two environmental feasibility studies; continue collection and study of basic data; and continue one and complete one PED project.

STUDIES

Southeast Arkansas, Arkansas

The Southeast Arkansas study area includes the Boeuf-Tensas and Bayou Bartholomew areas of southeast Arkansas. Counties included in the study area are Jefferson, Lincoln, Drew, Ashley, Chicot, and Desha. Flooding between November 1982 and January 1983 caused damages in excess of \$47 million to approximately 1,170,000 acres of primarily agricultural lands in the Boeuf-Tensas Basin. Extensive agricultural farming has heavily utilized groundwater resources in the area. The study will address current flooding, agricultural water supply, and environmental restoration problems and needs. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue the feasibility study. Funding for this study has been excluded from the Fiscal Year 2003 budget.

Coldwater River Basin Below Arkabutla Lake, Mississippi

The Coldwater River Basin Below Arkabutla Lake, Mississippi, area is located in northwest Mississippi approximately 30 miles south of Memphis, Tennessee. Increased development within this segment of the Coldwater River Basin has created pressure on area streams to meet water quality standards while maintaining flood damage reduction goals. In particular, the potential sponsors want to implement specific projects and develop guidelines for future development that will improve the aquatic environment and conserve water resources for use in agricultural production and habitat restoration. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue into the feasibility phase of the study. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue the feasibility phase of the study.

Spring Bayou, Louisiana

The Spring Bayou, Louisiana, area encompasses at least 43 lakes and streams and includes three state wildlife management areas and two national wildlife refuges. This ecosystem is rapidly degrading from pollution of water, sedimentation, rampant growth of exotic aquatic plants, and frequent excessive flooding. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the reconnaissance phase of the study. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue into the feasibility phase of the study.

Tensas River Basin, Louisiana

The Tensas River Basin is bounded by the Mississippi River on the east and the Ouachita-Black Rivers on the west, and extends southward from the Louisiana/Arkansas state line to Old River Control Structure in Concordia Parish, Louisiana. Parts or all of Cathoula, Concordia, East Carroll, West Carroll, Ouachita, Richland, Franklin, Madison, Morehouse, and Tensas Parishes lie in the basin. It encompasses approximately 3.3 million acres with over 50 lakes and streams, 4 national wildlife refuges, 11 wildlife management areas, 1 state wildlife refuge, 1 game and fish preserve, 2 state parks, 2 ports, and a historical site at Poverty Point. Flooding, water supply, and the decline of environmental resources are problems in the basin. In particular, this ecosystem is being rapidly degraded due to pollution of water, sedimentation, and frequent flooding. A comprehensive study will balance these competing demands and is critical for this area to ensure the wise and efficient use of the basin's water resources. The study scope is more in accord with that requiring a comprehensive watershed approach to these problems, based on the size and complexity of the area (5,141 square miles with very sensitive environmental resources and complex hydrologic conditions). Fiscal Year 2002

funds are being used to initiate a reconnaissance study. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this study.

Alexandria, Louisiana, to the Gulf of Mexico

The Alexandria, Louisiana, to the Gulf of Mexico study area encompasses about 1,700 square miles extending through nine parishes from Alexandria, Louisiana, to the Gulf of Mexico. Alexandria has experienced numerous floods in its metropolitan area and widespread flooding throughout the basin in more rural and agricultural areas. The first phase of the feasibility study, which will address flooding problems in the Alexandria area, will be initiated in Fiscal Year 2002 upon execution of the FCSA with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development scheduled to be signed in late Fiscal Year 2002. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue the feasibility phase.

Donaldsonville, Louisiana, to the Gulf of Mexico

The study area is located in the Louisiana Parishes of Assumption, St. James, St. John the Baptist, Lafourche, St. Charles, Jefferson, and Plaquemines. The basin is subject to rainfall, tidal, and hurricane flooding resulting in structural, agricultural, and environmental damages. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue into the feasibility phase of the study. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue the feasibility phase.

PRECONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING AND DESIGN

Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee and Kentucky

The Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee and Kentucky, project area is located in northwest Tennessee and southwest Kentucky. The project will help restore fish and wildlife habitat. The State of Tennessee, acting through the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency, cost-shared both feasibility studies and design activities. Funds available in Fiscal Year 2002 were used to complete design for the first construction item, the spillway, and to complete an analysis of the potential flooding impacts associated with the construction of the proposed new spillway and its operation. The findings of this analysis indicate the proposed spillway and the associated water level management plan will not significantly impact the area of concern in Kentucky. Congressional interests have been briefed on the report and the report was also sent to the Governors of Kentucky and Tennessee. Once their comments are received, the report will be finalized, made an addendum to the Reelfoot Lake

Feasibility Report, and submitted to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) for approval. Funding for this project has been excluded from the Fiscal Year 2003 budget.

Wolf River, Memphis, Tennessee

The Wolf River environmental restoration project is located in southwest Tennessee and northwest Mississippi. Investigations concern measures to protect public infrastructures and to restore and protect the nationally significant fish and wildlife habitat in the basin. Fiscal Year 2002 and 2003 funds are being used to continue and complete PED. The project will be ready for construction in 2004.

Bayou Meto Basin, Arkansas

The Bayou Meto Basin project area is located in east-central Arkansas in the alluvial valley of the Mississippi River. The project is located in Lonoke, Prairie, Jefferson, and Arkansas Counties. The project includes water supply needs for 277,000 acres of irrigated cropland, as well as flood control and fish and wildlife restoration needs. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to continue the general reevaluation. Funding for this project has been excluded from the Fiscal Year 2003 budget.

Morganza, Louisiana, to the Gulf of Mexico

The Morganza, Louisiana, to the Gulf of Mexico project will provide hurricane protection in portions of Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes. On 23 April 2002, the Mississippi River Commissioners recommended that the final feasibility report be forwarded to the Corps Headquarters for approval. Data collection for PED of the levee system was initiated in May 2002. PED for the Houma Navigation Canal Lock (HNCL) was initiated in Fiscal Year 2000, prior to completing the feasibility study. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete the feasibility phase of the study, continue PED for the HNCL, and initiate PED for the hurricane protection levee system. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue preconstruction engineering and design for these project features.

CONSTRUCTION

The Mississippi River and Tributaries construction program received \$182 million for Fiscal Year 2002. These funds allow continuation of 17 construction projects. Funds requested for

Fiscal Year 2003 include \$126 million before reductions for savings and slippage and will allow continuation of 15 construction projects.

Mississippi River Levees

The Mississippi River Levees project is a component of the main stem system for the control of floods on the Mississippi River. The levee system provides protection for 23,620 square miles and partial protection for an additional 3,780 square miles of land in the alluvial valley subject to flooding by the project flood. The value of lands and improvements protected by authorized works against the design flood is \$139 billion in 2000 dollars. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate seven items, initiate and complete three items, continue five items, and complete nine items. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to initiate ten items, initiate and complete one item, continue six items, and complete six items.

There are 1,610 miles of authorized levees on the main stem of the Mississippi River. A total of 1,373 miles of these levees are in place to grade and section. For the levees not to grade, 29 miles are under construction, and an additional 28 miles are scheduled to be awarded in Fiscal Year 2003. After Fiscal Year 2003, there will be approximately 173 miles of levee which require raising and approximately 7 miles (Obion Levee extension) of new levee which will complete the system.

Design studies indicate that approximately 652 miles of seepage control measures are required. There are 537 miles complete, leaving a balance to complete of 115 miles.

Some reaches of the mainline Mississippi River Levees are inadequate to safely convey project design flood flows. Correction of these inadequacies in levee grade and/or section is given a funding priority within the Mississippi River and Tributaries program. Critical levee enlargements are now underway in Louisiana and Mississippi. The status of the levee work is summarized on Tables 1 and 2 attached to this report.

Channel Improvement

The Channel Improvement construction program planned for Fiscal Year 2002 includes the following new work: construction of 1.6 miles of articulated concrete mattress (ACM) revetment at four locations on the Mississippi River; construction of 1.5 miles of ACM at four locations on the Atchafalaya River; construction of 0.5 miles of ACM at one location on the lower Red River; construction of 0.4 miles of stone revetment at one location on the Mississippi

River; construction of 2.0 miles of stone dikes at seven locations on the Mississippi River; and construction of 0.3 miles of foreshore at one location on the Mississippi River. We are also constructing a one-mile test section of ACM revetment on the Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet channel.

In addition to the construction work listed above, during the low-water season we will complete all maintenance and reinforcement work needed to ensure the stability of our existing dikes and revetments.

The Vicksburg District revetment plant is presently scheduled to sink approximately 257,200 squares of ACM in performing construction and maintenance work at 32 locations. The plant should complete all of its work by mid-November 2002. Channel Improvement funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to place 2.4 miles of revetment and to construct dikes at 13 locations.

St. John's Bayou-New Madrid Floodway, Missouri

The authorized St. John's Bayou-New Madrid Floodway, Missouri, project consists of 137 miles of rural channel improvement, 6.7 miles of urban channel improvement, two pumping stations, and mitigation. Construction on the first item of work was initiated in late September 1997 and was completed in October 1997. Fiscal Year 2002 funds were used to prepare a revised supplemental environmental impact statement. The 19 July 2002 Federal Register contained the notice of availability of the Final Revised SEIS. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue engineering and design activities.

St. Francis Basin, Arkansas and Missouri

The St. Francis Basin project provides protection against headwater floods of the St. Francis and Little Rivers to an area of over 1.4 million acres and against backwater floods of the Mississippi River to an area of over 500,000 acres. Fiscal Year 2002 and Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue relocations and channel improvements as well as continue engineering and design of future items and acquisition of mitigation lands.

Grand Prairie Region, Arkansas

The Grand Prairie Region project area is located in east-central Arkansas. The project addresses the problems of depletion of the alluvial aquifer with resulting losses to the agricultural-based economy and opportunities for environmental restoration and

enhancement. A Congressional Add of \$12 million was provided in Fiscal Year 2002 to continue construction. Office of Management and Budget apportionment guidance limited use of these funds to on-farm features only and prohibited their use to advertise, award, or otherwise move forward on any contract actions associated with the proposed pumping plant, pipeline, or outlet structure. Funding for this project has been excluded from the Fiscal Year 2003 budget.

Tensas Basin, Arkansas and Louisiana

Current activities on the Tensas Basin project are in the Sicily Island portion of the Red River Backwater area. The Sicily Island area consists of about 100,000 acres of land and rural development in Catahoula and Franklin Parishes in east-central Louisiana. This area is subject to frequent flooding caused by backwater from the Mississippi and Red Rivers and floods from the Ouachita and Tensas Rivers. The project will provide 100-year protection to the Sicily Island area. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete two levee items, which will complete construction of the Sicily Island portion of the project. Funds were not included in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget for this project.

Yazoo Basin, Mississippi

On the Yazoo Basin project, work on the reformulation study is continuing. This study involves four portions of the Yazoo Basin project and is estimated to cost \$32.4 million. Based on results of completed reformulations for the Upper Steele Bayou and Upper Yazoo projects portions, the reformulation effort has, to date, been completely successful in that project costs have been reduced by \$75 million, environmental impacts have been reduced, and environmental and local interests are satisfied. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate design on the Yazoo Backwater Area (Pump); on the Upper Yazoo Projects to continue construction of channel improvement items, reforestation efforts, and for purchase of project and mitigation lands; on the Yazoo Reformulation to continue the reformulation study; on the Big Sunflower project to continue Swan Lake, Levee Item 66A/B, and for the purchase of mitigation lands and reforestation; on the Demonstration Erosion Control program for work on bank stabilization, grade control structures, levees, floodwater retarding structures, and channel improvement. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to continue design on the Yazoo Backwater Area (Pump); continue lands, channel improvement items, and reforestation on Upper Yazoo Projects; continue studies on Yazoo Reformulation; and continue lands and reforestation and complete Swan Lake, Levee Item 66A/B on the Big Sunflower project. Funding for the Demonstration Erosion Control program has been excluded from the Fiscal Year 2003 budget.

Louisiana State Penitentiary Levee, Louisiana

The Louisiana State Penitentiary Levee, Louisiana, project is located near Angola, Louisiana, approximately 40 miles northwest of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The project provides for improving about 12 miles of existing levees along the Mississippi River which currently provide flood protection to the penitentiary. By improving the existing levees to Federal standards, risk of flooding with its attendant property damage and threat to the lives of over 5,100 inmates, 1,750 employees, and 527 residents will be reduced. A Limited Reevaluation Report was approved and the Project Cooperation Agreement was executed in July 1999. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to complete two levee contracts and a drainage structure contract and initiate one levee enlargement contract. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to complete the final levee contract downstream of Camp C.

Atchafalaya Basin, Louisiana

There are 449 miles of authorized levees in the Atchafalaya Basin project. All of these levees are in place; about 379 miles are to design grade and section, and the remaining 70 miles require raising. The reevaluation study of the Lower Atchafalaya River is continuing. The reevaluation is investigating possible changes to the existing project which would assure continued project flood conveyance capacity and which may also facilitate improvements to the environment, navigation, recreation, and operation and maintenance and reduce the volume of flood waters passing Morgan City and Berwick, Louisiana, for flows smaller than project flood flows. Due to the unique riverine and coastal nature of the area and the wide and diverse interest in the reevaluation, an intensive public involvement program is being employed throughout the reevaluation effort. The draft report is scheduled for submission to higher authority in September 2002. The report recommendations include the modification of the authorized 1982 project for the basin by enlarging levees and discontinuing the control of the Wax Lake Outlet, further study of a barrier levee to provide for backwater protection of the area east of Morgan City, and floodproofing, relocation, or buyout of the riverfront businesses of Morgan City and Berwick as part of the authorized MR&T project. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to initiate three levee contracts, complete three contracts, and continue bank stabilization. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to initiate six levee contracts, initiate and complete one levee contract, complete three levee contracts, and continue bank stabilization.

Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana

Within the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System project, programmed work provides for acquisition of 50,000 acres in fee for public access and easements on 338,000 acres for flowage, developmental control, and environmental protection. Approximately 47,300 acres of fee land have been acquired and 143,700 acres of easements have been negotiated. Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to acquire additional easements and complete acquisition of lands in fee; execute the project cooperation agreement for the Myette Boat Launch; and continue design work on the management and recreation units. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue easement lands acquisition, continue design work, and initiate construction on management units and the Simmesport and Myette Point Boat Launches.

Mississippi and Louisiana Estuarine Areas, Mississippi and Louisiana

The Mississippi and Louisiana Estuarine Areas project will provide means to divert water from the Mississippi River to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin and Mississippi Sound. An extensive reanalysis of the project by Federal, state, and environmental interests, with additional input from local academic institutions, was completed in July 1996. A status report along with options and alternatives was submitted to Congress in May 1997. The states of Mississippi and Louisiana are working to establish a mutually agreeable plan that would achieve project goals. Funds available in Fiscal Year 2002 and funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to continue water quality monitoring, coordinate a suitable project plan with Louisiana and Mississippi, and determine if the plan can be implemented under existing authorities.

Mississippi Delta Region, Louisiana

The Mississippi Delta Region, Louisiana, project consists of two freshwater diversion structures designed to divert freshwater from the Mississippi River into coastal bays and marshes for fish and wildlife habitat enhancement. The completed Caernarvon structure on the east bank of the Mississippi River is preserving about 16,000 acres of wetlands in the Breton Sound estuary. The Davis Pond diversion structure on the west bank of the Mississippi River was completed in March 2002 and will preserve an estimated 33,000 acres of wetlands. Additionally, 777,000 acres of marshes and bays in the Barataria estuary will be benefited by the project. Funds for Fiscal Year 2002 are being used to complete the Davis Pond diversion structure, complete relocation contracts, and continue oyster relocation efforts. Funds requested for Fiscal Year 2003 will be used to prepare plans and specifications for

second lift levee contracts, construct the site operations building, and continue oyster relocation mitigation.

MAINTENANCE

Funds available in Fiscal Year 2002 are being used on 35 completed projects for operation of projects and repairs of levee slides, repairs to revetments, harbor dredging, and dredging of the Mississippi River. The Fiscal Year 2003 request for Mississippi River and Tributaries maintenance is \$162 million, which is an increase of \$8 million from the level allocated in Fiscal Year 2002. This request will allow continuation of necessary operations and maintenance activities on 35 completed projects. Of the \$162 million request, \$103 million, or 64 percent, will be used for operation and maintenance of main stem levees, channels, and harbors. This work consists of Mississippi River main stem channel and harbor dredging and repairs of levee slides, banks, dikes, and revetments. Another \$55 million, or 34 percent, is for operation and maintenance of tributary river basin projects and \$3 million, or 2 percent, is for mapping and inspection of completed works; and the remaining \$1 million is for facility protection.

Opposition continues to the implementation of the Big Sunflower River maintenance project. The prior Federal Court litigation before the Federal District Court in Washington, D.C., concluded with a ruling in favor of the United States and the local sponsors. The local sponsor levee boards and communities in the Delta that benefit from this project intervened in that Federal Court litigation. No appeal was taken. In a separate legal action, the Sierra Club and a local landowner challenged the water quality certificate issued by the State of Mississippi for this project. The full Commission of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi, both affirmed the issuance of the water quality certificate. The plaintiffs appealed to the Mississippi State Supreme Court. On 19 April 2001, the State Supreme Court issued an opinion vacating the decision of the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality and remanding the case to the Commission for further action. The state and the sponsors filed motions for reconsideration on 3 May 2001. The Court affirmed its prior decision on 9 May 2002. EarthJustice Legal Defense Fund, Inc., issued a Notice of Intent to Sue on 21 February 2001, on behalf of Concerned Parents of Leland, the Sierra Club, American Rivers, and Friends of the Earth. The Notice alleges violations of the Clean Water Act.

At Wappapello Lake, Missouri, relocation of state and county roads impacted by lake operations was initiated in July 1998.

Fiscal Year 2002 funds are being used to operate and maintain the lake and continue road relocation work. Fiscal Year 2003 funds will be used to operate and maintain the lake and continue relocation of the state and county roads.