

# ***Project Status Update***

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## **Status as of July 2000**

The Long Term Resource Monitoring Program (LTRMP) continued to collect survey data for completion of pool-wide coverages through September 1999. All those data have been processed and geographic information system coverages created for additional pools. The most recent available data can be viewed from the bathymetry web page as maps under the heading of "Status of completed pools."

Although the importance of these pool-wide coverages has been well established by LTRMP partners, bathymetry data collection was discontinued in order to continue the routine monitoring of other components (e.g., fish) due to budget shortfalls in 2000. Therefore, no additional data have been collected since September 1999. The Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center (UMESC) has been able to maintain survey capabilities in order to meet survey needs in the future. However, UMESC will not likely resume pool-wide surveys in the next couple of years. Upcoming surveys will likely be focused surveys to meet specific research needs.

The need for pool-wide bathymetric coverages for the UMRS in a timely fashion will likely be obtained through more aggressive approach. Rather than continue with completion of one or two pools per year with a single survey crew, the surveys will likely be conducted by survey companies under contract. This will provide the opportunity to complete coverages more rapidly through the use of multiple survey crews. Staff at UMESC are working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to (1) complete an inventory of existing data so that data needs can be developed, (2) develop a scope of work and procedures, and (3) write contracts for acquisition of the bathymetric data.

In addition to bathymetric surveys, surveys of the terrestrial portions of the floodplain will also be contracted to allow the creation of a seamless coverage of elevation. Emerging technologies such as light detection and ranging system may make a systemic elevation coverage a realistic goal.