

# Long Lake Habitat Project , Trempealeau, Wisconsin

## Location/Description

Part of the Corps of Engineers' Environmental Management Program, the site is in the upper reach of pool 7 on the Wisconsin side of the Mississippi River near Trempealeau, Wis. The site lies within the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge.

Long Lake is a semi-isolated backwater lake of the Mississippi River, approximately 15 acres in size. Much of the lake is 5 to 7 feet deep, with a maximum depth of 13 feet. Monitoring by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources indicated that the lake suffers dissolved oxygen depletion during both the summer and winter. Lack of dissolved oxygen was considered a significant factor limiting the use of Long Lake by fish species such as crappie, bluegill, and largemouth bass. A reliable source of fresh water to the lake was needed.



The project included excavation of a 760-foot-long channel from the Mississippi River to Long Lake. The channel has a 10-foot bottom width. A 48-inch culvert with a slide gate regulated fresh water flows through the channel. Two rock jetties were constructed at the river-end of the channel to deflect sediment and debris from entering the channel.

## Status

A construction contract was awarded in May 1999, and construction was completed in 2001. The gate would be opened in November for winter flows, closed in March prior to spring high water, and opened in May for summer flows. However, the channel and culvert structure were severely damaged by the 2001 flood. The project rehabilitation included replacing the slide gate with a stoplog structure and adding a flood spillway. Rehabilitation began in November 2002 and was completed in June 2003.

## Authority

The Long Lake Habitat Project was planned and designed under the authority of the Upper Mississippi River System - Environmental Management Program and constructed in accordance with a definite project report dated June 1989. The Environmental Management Program was authorized by Section 1103 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 and reauthorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 1999.

The Long Lake Habitat Project was planned and designed as part of a cooperative effort of the Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and local interests.

## Fiscal

Project design and construction costs are 100-percent federal because the project is on lands managed as a national wildlife refuge. Operation and maintenance costs are 100-percent federal (a responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).

Federal cost \$649,000  
Federal rehabilitation cost \$469,000  
Non-federal cost \$0  
Total estimated cost \$1,118,000