



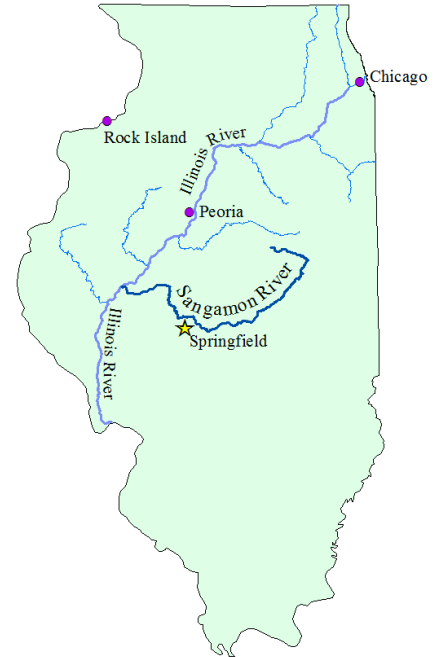
Sedimentation Impacts at the Confluence of the Sangamon and Illinois Rivers

Description

The Sangamon River flows into the Illinois River near Beardstown, IL. In an effort to develop sediment management strategies for this area, a system wide approach of understanding land use patterns and sediment transport throughout the watershed will be taken.

Issue/Challenges

The Illinois River was recognized by WRDA '86 as “a nationally significant ecosystem and commercial navigation system.” As with most navigable waterways, dredging must occasionally be performed in certain areas to maintain required depths. One significant area that requires frequent dredging on the Illinois River is at the confluence with the Sangamon River. In 1949, the mouth of the Sangamon River was relocated from river mile 98 to 89 of the Illinois River near a backwater area called Muscooten Bay. Over time, Muscooten Bay has filled with sediment, impacting the local boat harbor and inhibiting its use. In the last 20 years, the sediment has started to deposit in the main channel of the Illinois River, impacting navigation.



Expected Products

- RSM strategy to take action and optimize use of sediments at the confluence of the Illinois and Sangamon Rivers
- Application of stream energy equations to predict sedimentation patterns
- Technical Note summarizing knowledge gained, lessons learned, and identified actions with plan/schedule for implementation in FY13/14
- Regional Sediment budget covering the Lower Sangamon River watershed and confluence of the Illinois and Sangamon Rivers

Potential Users

USACE Illinois River Program Managers and local non-federal sponsors/partners, USACE Operations Managers

Projected Benefits

Reduce sediment delivered; increase knowledge base of innovative technologies.

Leveraging Opportunities

Illinois River Basin Restoration Program (IL 519)

Points of Contact

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Participating Partners

To Be Determined