

Crosscurrent

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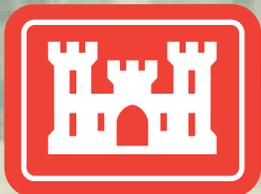
Serving the St. Paul District since 1977

Gull Lake Dam turns 100

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Endangered mussels get new home

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District

BUILDING STRONG®

On the Cover



Rick Magee, operations, dons a Lewis and Clark era military uniform during the Gull Lake Recreation Area Centennial Celebration Aug. 4, near Brainerd, Minn. Magee spoke during the ceremony about the life of settlers before the dam was constructed.

Photo by Patrick Moes

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Articles and photography submissions are welcome and must arrive by the 15th day of the publishing month for consideration. Submissions can be mailed or e-mailed.

Submissions should be in Microsoft Word format for all written copy and photos should be no smaller than a 5 x 7 at 300 dpi. All photographs appearing herein are by the St. Paul District Public Affairs Office unless otherwise accredited.

The mission of *Crosscurrents* is to support the commander's internal information program for the St. Paul District and its stakeholders.

Crosscurrents also serves as the commander's primary communication tool for accurately transmitting policies and command philosophy to the St. Paul District community and its customers.

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people like
Terri Stamm,
safety, read
Crosscurrents.**



Photo by Patrick Moes



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Comments from the top

Team,
As we close out another fiscal year, we can reflect on the many accomplishments we recognized this year. While we celebrate, we must remember that we are facing another continuing resolution and no new Water Resources Development Act. The Corps has been here before, and we will make it through another tough budget year.

I'd be remiss if I did not acknowledge some of the milestones we completed this past year. We dedicated the Pool 8 ecosystem restoration project. The two-decade old project created 22 islands and has already made dramatic, positive impacts on the habitat in Pool 8 of the Upper Mississippi River. We completed the Minot, N.D., recovery missions, which includes repairing the federal project from Burlington, N.D., to Velva, N.D. The Lock and Dam 3 improvement project, near Red Wing, Minn., is nearing completion, and we will soon dedicate its completion. Overall, the lack of spring flooding allowed the district to catch up on many things we've overlooked during the past few years. It also allowed us to take a breather and get ready for the next one.

This month, I would like to discuss some strategic issues that the district, the Corps and the nation face. At the national level, we are faced with colliding realities. Our nation's infrastructure is aging and needs repair, but our national economy is tenuous and infrastructure funding is lacking. Some have termed this the "silent crisis." Our nation was built on its ability to use the largest navigable waterway in the world. This waterway, the Mississippi River Watershed, is rich with natural resources, too. The resources

abounding the other two largest watersheds, the Amazon and the Congo, pale in comparison to the resources around the Mississippi basin. Our nation has a decision to make. Do we invest in the system that helped establish our nation's prominence or do we not invest and only fix what fails? The Corps is not immune to these challenges.

Our new chief, Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, has traveled across the Corps, and he has started setting his priorities. The Corps' number one priority remains – support the combatant commander and win the current fight.

We continue to have professionals willing to stand up and volunteer to serve overseas. This is important and very rewarding work. It also is going to come to an end shortly. So if you desire to serve in Afghanistan, talk to those that have deployed and request an assignment. You will not be disappointed if you are chosen to deploy. The Corps is also focusing on civil works transformation and a big part of that is budget transformation. In the "no earmark era," the Corps has to relook how we get budgeted for projects.

At the district level, we will continue to execute and deliver great engineering solutions and services. I have asked all of the branch and

section chiefs to think about areas we can improve. Specifically, we need to determine what actions are no longer needed, while setting our goals toward the future.

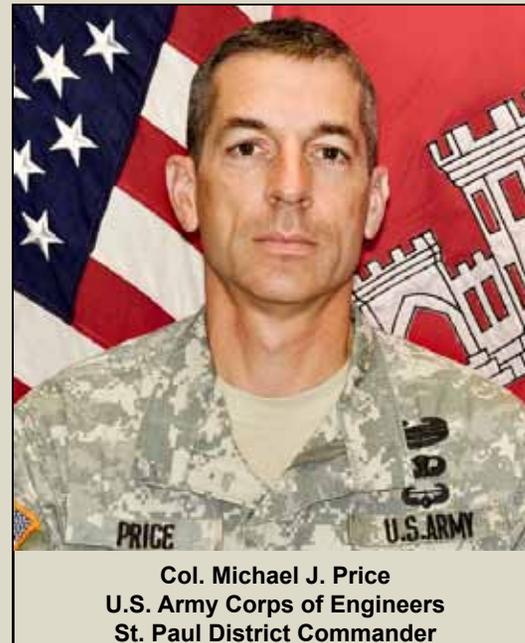
One area that is promising is value engineering. We have a good number of certified professionals and this makes St. Paul a lucrative location to perform value engineering for other districts. It is these types of things I am interested in exploring further. I am asking everyone to think about our organization's future and offer ideas that will make us better.

This leads me to continuous process improvement, or CPI.

The district will undertake CPI and eventually International Organization for Standardization, or ISO, certification. It will be costly upfront, but studies have shown dramatic savings in the future. Our journey begins now, and you are all part of this process. There will be much more to follow as we move forward.

The district continues to have a great reputation across the Corps. We continue to maintain great relationships with our partners and build better relationships with our customers. I continue to be extremely proud to be part of the St. Paul District and your team!

**BUILDING STRONG!
ESSAYONS!**



Col. Michael J. Price
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District Commander

Commanders tour, dedicate North Dakota project

Story by Shannon Bauer

North Dakota Governor Jack Dalrymple and Mississippi Valley Division Commander Maj. Gen. John Peabody dedicated the district's Tolna Coulee project with a ribbon cutting ceremony July 19. The ceremony was part of a three-day North Dakota tour undertaken by Peabody July 17-19, which also included a Devils Lake Executive Committee meeting in Bismarck, N.D., and stops in Devils Lake, N.D.; Minot, N.D.; and Valley City, N.D.

Located in the southwest corner of Stump Lake in North Dakota's Nelson County, the Tolna Coulee project included building an 800-foot structure to control the amount of water flowing from Stump and Devils lakes into the Sheyenne River. It is intended to prevent catastrophic flooding downstream in the event lake levels there continue rising.

Devils Lake began overflowing into Stump Lake in 1999, creating one lake with a combined surface area of nearly 300 square miles. At press time, the lake was at an elevation of 1,452.92 feet. If the lake rises to an elevation of 1,458 feet, it would naturally flow through Tolna Coulee into the Sheyenne, causing significant erosion and an estimated outflow of 14,000 cubic feet per second. This would cause the equivalent of roughly a 500-year flood downstream in Valley City.

The district and its project partner, the North Dakota State Water Commission, constructed the structure in a little more than a year for around \$9 million. "The Corps used its advanced measures authority to complete the project, and it did so in record time," said Peabody. "It shows our commitment to quickly finding reliable, resilient flood risk reduction solutions for the entire Devils Lake basin ... and while flooding continues in the basin, we will continue to use the best engineering solutions available to reduce and/or eliminate further flood damages."

During and after the dedication ceremony, Peabody and Col. Michael Price, district commander, recognized and praised the efforts of the district team that worked on the project. Peabody presented division coins to project manager Bill Csajko and engineering and construction staff Jason Johns and Loren Nishek.

Peabody's stop in the Minot area included a tour of Lake Darling Dam by U.S. Fish and Wildlife staff and Ed Eaton, hydraulics and hydrology. Then, Lt. Col. Kendall Bergmann, district deputy commander, and Mark Koenig, emergency operations manager, gave the Mississippi River



Photo by Bob Anderson

Col. Michael Price, district commander, left; Maj. Gen. John Peabody, Mississippi Valley Division commander; and Todd Sando, North Dakota state engineer, cut a ribbon during the Tolna Coulee dedication near Devils Lake, N.D., July 19.

[Click on the photo to view additional pictures on the district's Flickr webpage.](#)

Commission president a tour of Minot's flooded areas, as well as one of the temporary housing sites built by the district's housing team during the recovery process. Peabody also made time during the day to meet with a number of local mayors in the area.

The Souris River experienced a flood of record that damaged more than 10,000 homes in the Minot area and caused nearly \$700 million in damages in June 2011. Following the flood, the district operated a recovery field office in Minot for more than six months and continues to have staff in the city monitoring contractors working at its housing sites.

In Valley City, Peabody toured Baldhill Dam and met with district staff, before taking a tour with Nan Bischoff, project manager, and Sierra Schroeder, planner, both of which are working with the city on a feasibility study for flood risk management.

District celebrates 100 years of dam operations at Gull Lake



Story by Patrick Moes

A celebration 100 years in the making occurred Aug. 4 at the Gull Lake Recreation Area as the district recognized the past century of dam operations at the site, located near Brainerd, Minn.

The last of the six Headwaters dams placed into operation, the site is unique in the fact that it was the only location to be initially constructed out of concrete. The other dams were all built with timbers before the Corps converted each of them to concrete during later modifications.

When the Gull Lake Dam was completed in 1912, it raised the reservoir elevation by 5 feet, which helped create the Gull Lake Chain of Lakes. The dam, as well as others in the region, allowed for transportation and commerce throughout the Mississippi River Headwaters region. The reservoir system also served to supply the navigation industry with a consistent water supply during the summer months from St. Paul, Minn., to Prairie du Chien, Wis.



Photo by Patrick Moes

Mary Kay Larson, Gull Lake Recreation Area park manager, center, receives an Honored Institution Award from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration during the Gull Lake Recreation Area centennial celebration Aug. 4. [Click on the photo to view additional pictures on the district's Flickr webpage.](#)

Following the completion of the locks and dams in the 1930s, the Headwaters dams were no longer used as a water source. Since then, the lakes have provided flood relief, water supply and recreational opportunities. "The reservoirs are unique in the fact that they can add water or hold back water during times of flooding," said Kendall Bergmann, deputy district commander.

Reducing flood risks is not the only economic benefit the dam provides. "The Gull Lake Recreation Site averages about 500,000 visitors a year," said Bergmann. "That's about

100,000 families and with that; [the dam] adds money for the local economy to support the lake and the other businesses. It's a win-win situation for everyone."

In addition to the economic value that the Gull Lake Dam provides to the local economy, the dam also provides nearly 40 camp sites and many other recreation facilities. Bergmann said, "Our park rangers and volunteers take pride in keeping our recreation sites clean, up to date, and [making them] a good family place for recreation, for learning and for other events."

Following the ceremony, the park rangers

hosted a medallion hunt for kids. The kids had to visit every part of the park in order to complete the challenge and receive their souvenir. The first person to complete the challenge earned a commemorative coin from Bergmann. In addition to the scavenger hunt, historians were on hand to discuss what the region was like prior to the dam being built.



Photo by Patrick Moes



Photo by Patrick Moes

(Left) Lt. Col. Kendall Bergmann, district deputy commander, left, and Sara Hight, Confidence Learning Center chairperson, sign a partnership agreement during the Gull Lake Recreation Area centennial celebration Aug. 4.

(Above) Jaden Kraus, center, shows off the pendant she found during a medallion hunt with Reid Kraus, and Ella Sechafer. Jaden received a commemorative coin from Lt. Col. Kendall Bergmann, district deputy commander, for being the first person to complete the medallion hunt.

Corps, partners work together to preserve endangered mussels



Story by Patrick Moes

Working side-by-side with boats and divers, the district and its partners worked as a unified team to place three federally endangered mussel species within the Mississippi River at Pool 2, Aug. 17.

Dan Kelner, the district's lead mussel biologist, said the team positioned Higgins eye, snuffbox and winged mapleleaf mussels in areas along the river where they once lived. He added that these and other native mussels are critical to the overall ecosystem in the region because they cleanse the water,



Photo by Patrick Moes

Dan Kelner, left, district mussel biologist, and Nathan Eckert, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service mussel biologist, talk with Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior Ken Salazar during an endangered mussel release in the Mississippi River Aug. 17.

stabilize the river bottom where they attract other organisms, and they truly are an indicator of good water quality. "They're the canary in the coal mine," said Kelner.

Native mussels and many other fish species were nearly wiped out during the first part of the 20th century due to pollution and other activities within the river from Minneapolis to Lake Pepin, near Red Wing, Minn. Phil Delphey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist, said the mussel population destruction was caused, in part, by overharvesting for button production and pollution. The river served as the dump for carcasses from slaughter houses, sewage outlets for cities along the river and a collection point for agricultural runoff. "The water quality and the habitat changed so drastically that a lot of these species just disappeared," said Delphey.

The Mississippi River continued its downward spiral in water quality until the Clean Water Act was passed in 1972. With water quality conditions greatly improved in the area, biologists from the district, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and the Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin Departments of Natural Resources teamed up to place the mussels downstream of Lock and Dam 1 in Minneapolis. Kelner said "We're just trying to give the federally endangered species, which have been hit particularly hard, a boost."



Photo by Patrick Moes

Nathan Eckert, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service mussel biologist, places two federally endangered winged mapleleaf mussels on a tray after marking them with paint Aug. 17.

[Click on the video link to view the district's YouTube webpage and watch the video.](#)



Dredge Goetz crew keeps the river open for navigation

Story by Patrick Moes

The district's Dredge Goetz crew has been working hard maintaining the 9-foot channel along the Mississippi River to ensure the river stays open for business this summer.

One of the projects the crew recently completed was removing dredge material from a temporary placement, or transfer site, nears Reads Landing, Minn., to a permanent location nearly 2 miles away. The crew removed just under 900,000 cubic yards of dredged material. This is enough material to fill a football field more than 400 feet tall.

Paul Machajewski, channels and harbors, said the dredge material can be used for many things. "We use the material for building islands out in the river for

habitat. Material can be moved upland so contractors ... can use it for roadbeds and general fill at construction sites." He added that material is also used for backyard sandboxes and placing sand on roads during the winter for added traction.

Regardless of the final resting spot for dredge material, the dredge crew continues working to ensure the navigation channel remains open. In 2010, 16.2 million tons of commodities were shipped on the Mississippi River within the St Paul District's area of operation, including 8 million tons of grain grown in the Upper Midwest. The industries making these shipments saved nearly \$384 million by using the inland waterways instead of overland shipping methods.



Photo by Laura Bremer

Jake Berhardt, operations, monitors operations aboard the Dredge Goetz July 10, near Reads Landing, Minn. [Click on the video link to view the district's YouTube webpage and watch the video.](#)

District honors, welcomes newest hall of fame inductee – Mark Nelson

Story by George Stringham

Corps of Engineers' employees, past and present, gathered for the district's annual hall of fame induction and retiree luncheon Sept. 13. Nearly 50 past and current employees were on hand for the 37th annual event at the Lost Spur Golf and Event Center in Eagan, Minn., to see familiar faces, relive past memories and usher in the new member to the district's hall of fame – Mark Nelson.

Lt. Col. Kendall Bergmann, deputy district commander, gave a brief overview of district projects, noting both ongoing projects, as well as recently completed significant projects accomplished since the group's last meeting in September 2011. The portion of the presentation sparking the most "side channel" conversations was the transfer of the former Dredge Thompson. The dredge, which served the nation and the district for almost 70 years, made its final trip to Prairie Du Chien, Wis., where the nonprofit group Community Development Alternatives, Inc., hopes to turn it

into a floating museum.

Attention was then turned to the highlight of the afternoon, honoring and inducting the latest member to the hall of fame. As the former chief of real estate, Nelson managed the acquisition and disposal of countless parcels of Corps property. He led Corps emergency response efforts both inside and outside district boundaries. His leadership and experience was sought out by the district's executive office, where he served four assignments as deputy district commander. Finally, upon his retirement in 2010, Nelson received the Army Engineer Association Bronze de Fleury Medal.

Jim Kursu, district retiree, coordinated the event and Wayne Knott, district retiree, served as the event emcee.



Photo by George Stringham

Mark Nelson, left, receives his 2012 St. Paul District Hall of Fame Plaque from Lt. Col Kendall Bergmann, deputy district commander, during the 37th annual hall of fame induction and retiree luncheon at the Lost Spur Golf and Event Center in Eagan, Minn., Sept. 13. Click on the photo to view additional pictures on the district's Flickr webpage.





District, partners dedicate Pool 8 islands project

Story by Patrick Moes

District staff gathered near Brownsville, Minn., Aug. 30, to highlight and dedicate the completion of a 3,000-acre environmental project along the Mississippi River in Pool 8.

Completed as a cooperative effort among the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Wisconsin and Minnesota Departments of Natural Resources and the public; the Pool 8 project is part of the Upper Mississippi River Restoration - Environmental Management Program.

"The dedication of this phase marks the end of 20 years of restoration efforts in Lower Pool 8," said Tom Novak, Pool 8 construction project manager.

Novak said the project included building a

total of 22 islands, three breakwaters and one offshore rock mound. The islands were constructed with dredged material from various sources within the floodplain and protected with rock structures and vegetation to prevent future erosion. The completion of the islands provides the necessary conditions for the re-establishment of aquatic plant beds and deepwater habitat, to benefit a wide spectrum of fish and wildlife in the region.

Located in the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, many of the Pool 8 islands eroded or disappeared during the past 40 years. The loss of these islands increased river flows through the backwaters and increased wind fetch, which created higher turbidity in the backwater areas. These

factors led to the loss of valuable aquatic plant beds, said Novak. The loss of the islands also degraded the shallow-water fish and wildlife habitat because the higher turbidity levels produced undesirable conditions for aquatic plant beds. The plant beds provided a valuable food source for fish and migrating birds such as canvasback ducks.

The EMP program includes two primary elements: habitat rehabilitation and enhancement projects and the long term resource monitoring. The program was authorized by Congress in 1986, and it allows the Corps the ability to monitor the river, obtain information needed for effective river management and construct projects that restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat.

Bosse navigation charts in the new century

Story by Vanessa Hamer

As commercial navigation becomes more dependent upon electronic technology, the use of paper navigation charts like the hand written ones completed by Henry Bosse in the early 1900s and used on the Dredge Thomson until 2005 are becoming a thing of the past.

Recognizing the technology change occurring within the industry, the Corps is adapting, too, by providing navigation data in electronic format, as well as the traditional print version. The program is part of the Inland Electronic Navigational Chart, or IENC, program, which started in 2001.

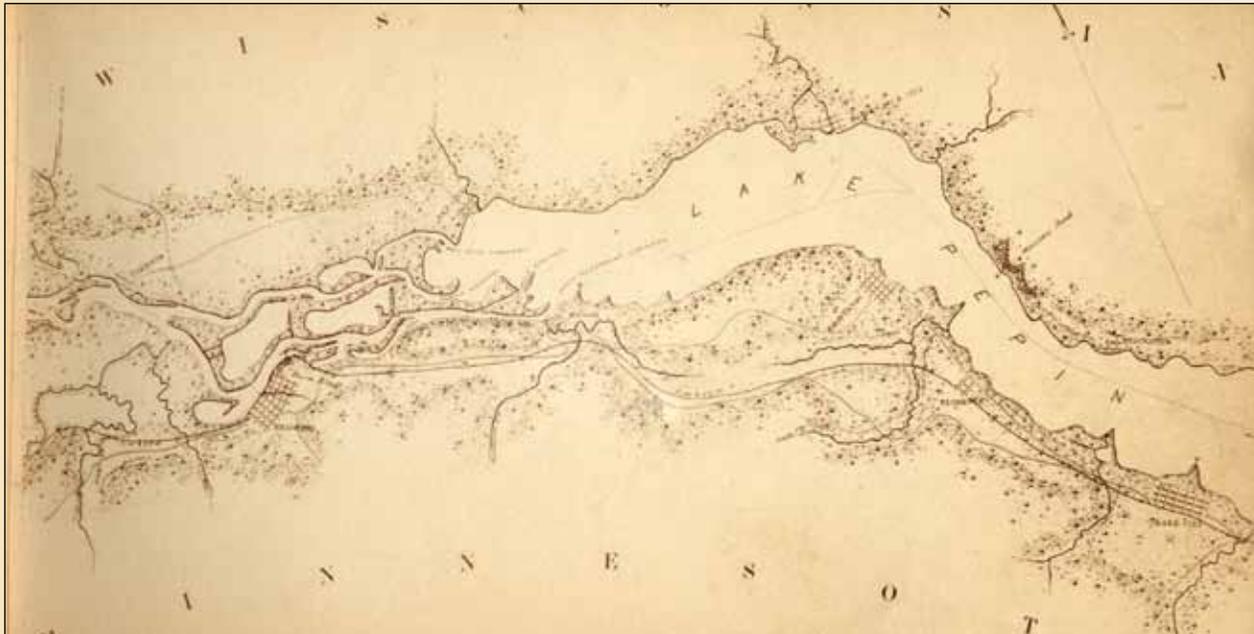
The Corps maintains approximately 8,200 miles of rivers, within 22 states, spanning 15 districts. The IENC program is centrally based at the Army GeoSpatial Center in Alexandria, Va. Denise LaDue, IENC production manager, said a significant part of the success in getting surveys and initiatives needed for the electronic charts is the coordination between all the districts. "The individual districts collect survey data for their respective area of responsibility and then send it to the Army GeoSpatial Center for inclusion in the IENCs," she said.

The towing industry downloads the IENCs

and uses an electronic charting system, or ECS, to utilize the charts for navigation. The boat captain then inputs information into the system, such as the boat dimensions and the number of barges. Keith LeClaire, technical lead for the St. Paul IENC program, said the district maintains 76 data layers within the charting system such as channel depth, hazards, lights or daymarks, bridge profiles including their pictures and dimensions, as well as automatic alerts of caution areas such as dredging operations. With all this data, captains can get a pictorial representation of their boat on the river and see their alignment in relation to the navigation channel, said LeClaire. "It's exactly like the [global positioning system] in your car that shows you how to get from point A to point B.

"The Corps has always had the responsibility to provide navigation charts for the commercial towing industry," he continued. "We still have this responsibility, but now in addition to publishing paper charts, we support the IENC program by providing high resolution navigation data as well as storing, updating and maintaining this data."

The district updates and maintains data for approximately 243 river miles within the inland waterway system, including the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix rivers. "With our technology, we can provide precision data that supports the mariner," said LeClaire. "With the program being around for more than 10 years, our primary job now is to provide quality assurance through field reconnaissance." He said this is done by comparing the historical



A hand-drawn map by Henry Bosse shows the Mississippi River near Red Wing, Minn., as it looked in 1878. Bosse was one of the first draughtsman to document the river.

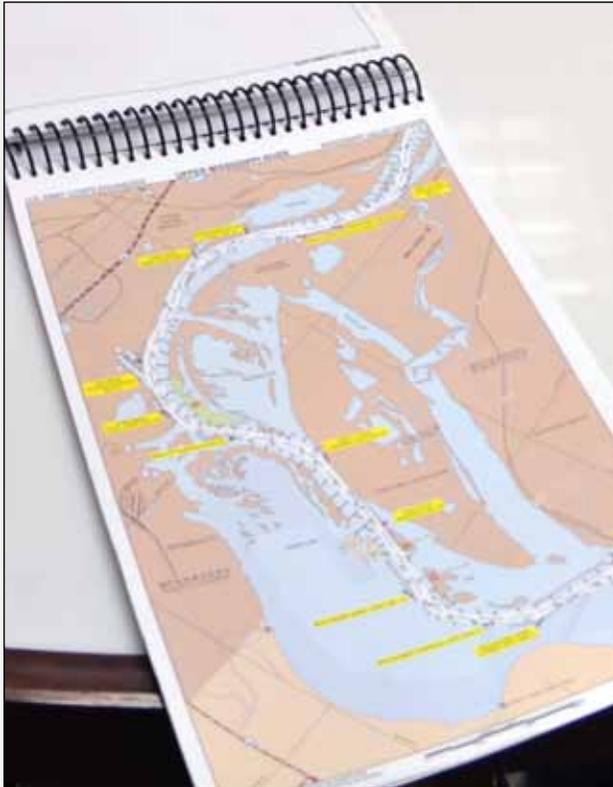


Photo by Patrick Moes

The latest version of the Upper Mississippi River printed maps are drastically different compared to the earliest 19th century Bosse maps.

IENC data to the data collected during on-water reconnaissance every year.

This means accurate, real-time data and greater consistency for the commercial navigation industry. The program's value, said LeClaire, lies in the fact that the river is always changing and this program allows navigation captains to not only be aware of the changes, but know about them when they happen.

LaDue said the program goal is to increase navigation safety. She added that as the program progresses, the rate at which the Corps can provide important information, such



Photo by Patrick Moes

From left, Paul Machajewski, Inland Electronic Navigational Charts, or IENC, project manager; Mike Walker, IENC technical support; and Keith LeClaire, IENC technical lead, compare traditional print maps to the new electronic maps. The digital maps provide navigation industry captains, fishermen and boat recreators the ability to use digital precision to safely travel the river.

as hazard alerts, to the towing industry will be faster, which will continue to provide value to the industry.

These days commercial navigation is becoming dependent upon the electronic chart program, the newer captains vs. the old timers, said LeClaire. Before captains carried around

paper charts and worked on specific areas of the river, becoming familiar with that area. Now, with the electronic system, captains do not need to know the river like they use to and can extend their shipping area. Now-a-days you see captains carrying around a briefcase with their electronic gadgets in it.

Fargo, N.D./ Moorhead, Minn., diversion team receives planning award

Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recently selected the St. Paul District as the 2011 Outstanding Planning Achievement Award recipient July 17 for completing the Fargo, N.D. / Moorhead, Minn., Metropolitan Area Flood Risk Management Feasibility Study.

While similar studies can take several years to complete, the team completed this study in less than 36 months.

"I take great pride in the team for earning this great award," said Col. Michael Price, St. Paul District commander. "They performed exceptional work on developing and executing the accelerated schedule to complete the final feasibility report and environmental impact statement."

During the study, the team encountered several challenges, to include three major flood events. The 2009 flood event in the Fargo, N.D. / Moorhead, Minn., was the highest recorded flood event in history.

The proposed project involves the construction of a 36-mile long diversion channel located in North Dakota that would direct floodwater around the Fargo-Moorhead metropolitan area. The project would temporarily store up to 200,000 acre-feet of flood water immediately upstream of the diversion channel inlet in order to minimize downstream impacts.

Fall safety tips

The leaves are turning colors, furnaces are being started and the frost is on the pumpkins.

The arrival of fall means deer will be more active and hunters will be out and about. Slow down and be alert while driving because deer will be moving more frequently. If you are out walking, wear bright colored clothing so hunters can see you better. If they see a deer, they might not see you behind it if you are blending into the environment.

Archery hunting has already started. Falls from elevated stands account for most injuries, and fatalities and are easily prevented by wearing a safety harness. Is any deer worth your life?

Having a Carbon Monoxide, or CO, detector in your house is critical. For less than \$50 you can buy a piece of equipment which can truly be a life saver. Furnaces can develop all sorts of problems which can produce dangerous CO levels and then pump them into your home. You cannot smell or see CO. By the time you might notice it, it may be too late. Please ensure you have them outside every bedroom and on each level of your home. Also, the time change is the traditional time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and CO monitors. They don't do any good without batteries!

Finally, colder weather creates frost and fog on your windshield. Please remove any visual distractions before you start driving. As the colder weather moves in, it's also important to remember to wear the proper clothing for the season.

Engineering and construction employee recognized for excellence

Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recently selected district employee and Devils Lake, N.D., resident Loren Nishek as the recipient of its 2011 Construction Hard Hat of the Year Award.

Nishek received the Corps' Mississippi Valley Division Hard Hat Award in February 2011, making him a contender for the national level award.

The award is given out annually to recognize excellence in construction quality management.

Nishek, a senior project engineer, was recognized for his actions as project engineer in the Western Area Devils Lake Resident Office, where he has provided leadership for construction efforts associated with numerous Corps contracts in the Devils Lake Basin.

"Those who have worked with [Loren] fully recognize and respect his capabilities and standards of excellence, whether outside or inside the Corps of Engineers," said Mike Evenson, the district's western area engineer.



Loren Nishek

Editor's Note

Do you have news you want to share with the district? Send your announcements of births, weddings, graduations, etc., to *Crosscurrents*. cemvp-pa@usace.army.mil.

Newcomers

Anthony Feilzer, civil engineer, engineering and construction, district office
Jolene Haines, employee and labor relations specialist, personnel, district office
Channing Helgeson, deckhand, Dredge Goetz, Fountain City, Wis.
Joshua Isakson, deckhand, Dredge Goetz, Fountain City, Wis.
Justin Rose, contract specialist, contracting, district office
Dale Rud, deckhand, Dredge Goetz, Fountain City, Wis.
Brenen Steele, deckhand, Dredge Goetz, Fountain City, Wis.
Benjamin Virock, deckhand, Dredge Goetz, Fountain City, Wis.

Congratulations

Adèle Braun, engineering and construction, and **Chris Haring**, planning, were selected as the St. Paul District representatives to the Mississippi Valley Division Emerging Leaders Program.
Christine Craig was selected as the head operator at Lock and Dam 9, in Lynxville, Wis.
The 2013 leadership development class includes:
Angela Deen, project management
Jake Fall, engineering and construction
Jay Grimsled, operations
Elizabeth Killian, engineering and construction
Liz Nelsen, engineering and construction
Kelli Phillips, operations
David Potter, planning
Nathan Wallerstedt, project management

Eau Galle parks rangers promote water safety



Photo by Kelli Phillips

Bobber was a hit at the Spring Valley Dam Days Parade, in Spring Valley, Wis., Sept. 16. **Bobber** and Corps park rangers reminded kids to wear their life jackets and to always swim with a buddy in designated areas only.

Retirements

Tom Caya, lock and dam operator, Lock and Dam 9, Lynxville, Wis.
Steve Engler, 2nd Mate PLD Class 1, Dredge Goetz, Fountain City, Wis.
Cheryl LaRose, lock and dam operator, Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, Minneapolis
Steve Mottl, engineering technician, district office
Daniel Reinartz, civil engineer, district office

Taps

George McAlister, passed away Aug. 22. Services were held Aug. 25 at the Mattson Funeral Home in Forest Lake, Minn.
Dean Winters, passed away Sept. 2. Services were held Sept. 5 at Abbott Funeral Home in Wabasha, Minn.