

June 2023 USACE Report

1. The hydraulic dredge Goetz began the dredging season on May 21st at UMR 249. Recently the dredge Goetz partially completed a dredging job at Buffalo, Iowa. They were pulled off this dredging project as it was deemed necessary to move up to Cassville, WI for some critical work at this location. The Goetz is began dredging at Cassville WI on June 13th. They are scheduled to mobilize to St. Paul District after that.
2. The Government mechanical dredge plant Wade on their second job in pool 6. They are expected to be there until mid-July.
3. Currently there are 3 Contract Mechanical Dredges operating, Contract Plant 1 is in Pool 4 and Plant 2 is in Pool 2, Plant 3 is just getting started in Pool 9. Conditions are significantly worse after the highwater occurred we have had one closure in Pool 4 but otherwise traffic has been able to pass.
4. Lower Pool 2 Channel Mgmt Project: Phase I is complete and appears to be working as designed as it is scouring the channel. Phase II: Dredging portion; The primary constraint to do the expanded dredging in Lower Pool 2 is placement site capacities. ***No Change***
5. Pool 2 Pigs Eye Lake Project: Contractors request to place granular fill during the fisheries exclusion was approved by the DNR. This will allow the contractor to finish placing granular fill by hydraulic placement early in the year and likely allow them to finish remaining granular fill, fine fill, rock groins and seeding this year. Proposed work plan right now is placing granular fill as soon as water levels allow; duration ~6 weeks. At the end of the fisheries exclusion, the contractor will access dredge to Island 1 and begin placing rip rap and fine fill. Islands will be seeded before demobilizing this fall. Current projection is for willow plantings in spring of 2024. ***No change***
6. Lock and Dam 5: University of MN and Barr Engineering are conducting a feasibility study for a potential invasive carp deterrent, current design is an air screen immediately below downstream miter gates. Discussions ongoing. Funding for the construction of the barrier has not been approved.
7. Lock and Dam 7: Team investigating upper miter gate structural issues. The upper miter gates will be operated in slow speed until new miter gates are installed in 2025 or the issue is resolved. Divers were on site week of June 5th to inspect diagonals and dredge gate bays using airlift. Reported less sediment than last year, loose diagonals, but no structural damage. Survey was there as well to take elevations to help establish control benchmark.
8. Lock and Dam 9: Lower bullnose concrete and steel repair: Work paused due to staffing needs on higher priority projects. Work is planned to be completed with future installation of end cell. Work rescheduled to winter 2024-2025. ***No Change***
9. Lock and Dam 10, Install auxiliary sheet pile closure. The Contractor has demobilized from the site and will return in the spring to complete punch list items like touch-up painting, etc. no impacts to navigation. Brennan Marine to be on-site week of 20JUN to finish punch list items. Should only take 2 days to complete.
10. Pool 2 DMMP: Project Delivery Team continues implementation. A new appraisal of the Lower Grey Cloud Island property is complete and an offer to purchase is expected soon. Additional efforts include continuing pursuit of less than fee alternatives. ***No change***

11. Upper Pool 4 Pierce County Islands 1122 Project: Groundbreaking was held 16-May, well attended by the public. Construction expected to begin this summer, estimated to complete in 3.5 years (summer 2026). ***No Change***
12. Pool 4 DMMP: St. Paul District is working with City of Wabasha on the Sec 217(d) agreement and the various docs that will accompany it (i.e. Ops Plan, RE License Agreement..etc); optimistic the 217(d) could be signed this summer ('23). The St. Paul District is also developing plans and specifications for a CT to install a pipeline from Reads Landing to the COE-owned Wabasha Gravel Pit in 2023 for initial use in 2024; CT advertisement JUL, award AUG, construction NOV '23 - APR '24, ready to use 01 MAY 24. ***No Change***
13. Pool 5, Rolling Prairie site: St. Paul District team is developing a long-term use plan for the entire ~1000 acres IDing future farming, wetland preservation and restoration & beneficial use areas; the plan has been shared with agency partners and a public meeting is scheduled for 21 JUN in Kellogg, MN from 6-8 pm. Site construction began on a 10-ac parcel fall of '22 (topsoil pulled back, access road construction); anticipate ready for use late summer/fall '23.
14. Pool 6 DMMP: Col Swenson signed the FONSI on 24 MAY, the PDT is now working on implementation. Most of the RRF agencies (the key agencies) have endorsed the project. The District continues to work with Canadian Pacific Railroad and MnDOT to make plans for safety improvements at our Homer West upland placement site; it's hoped the improvements will occur in the summer '23.
15. Pools 9 & 10 DMMPs: The team continues to develop a matrix of placement sites alternatives. Pool 9: Working with Dairyland Power at Genoa for future material placement (coal area capping). Pool 10: District investigating sediment by-pass system for McMillan Island reach. ***No Change***