AUTHORIZATION:

Section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986 allows the Corps of Engineers to study, design, and construct restoration projects adjacent to and near Corps projects. The original flood control levee was authorized by Section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1936 (Public Law (PL) 738, 74th Congress).

This authority focuses on modifications to Corps projects for improvement of the environment. The per-project Federal funding limit is $5M and the Section 1135 national program limit is $40M. These are two-phase projects – Feasibility and Design & Implementation. Feasibility studies that exceed $100,000 are cost-shared 50% Federal and 50% non-Federal. Design & Implementation is cost-shared 75% Federal and 25% non-Federal.

Location and Description:

Spunky Bottoms, located in the Little Creek Drainage District, is situated along the right descending bank of the Illinois River north of Meredosia, Illinois, and below the LaGrange Lock and Dam. This project will provide habitat restoration along the Illinois River by reconnecting the river with the backwater lakes and wetlands that once existed along the river. Possible project features include a fish passage/water control structure through the Federal levee, removal of the outdated pumps and pump stations, a low-profile berm and pumping capability to protect the landowner to the south of the project, raising a township road, and restoration plantings.