



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
St. Louis District

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Rivers Project had 4.1 million visitors in 2010. Percentage for recreational use shown below. (Source: Value to the Nation, 2010)**

Rec Usage	%
Sightseers	48%
Fisherman	43%
Boaters	39%
Swimmers	28%
Water Skiers	16%
Hunters	15%
Picnickers	14%
Others	6%

- **Visitors resulted in over one billion dollars in visitor spending within 30 miles of the Project. (Source: Value to the Nation, 2010)**
- **The National Great Rivers Museum had 80,523 visitors in 2012.**
- **The Audubon Center at Riverlands had 40,000 visitors in 2012.**



- **Riverlands will celebrate its 25th anniversary this year.**

Rivers Project Master Plan

Update April 2013

Master Plan Information

The Rivers Project Master Plan is the required U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approval document that guides public use and management on the Project's 48,792 acres of Federal public lands and 106,208 acres of Project waters for environmental stewardship and recreation related purposes.

The Project area for the Master Plan extends from Mississippi River Mile 0, at Cairo, IL; upstream to the tail water of Locks and Dam 22, Mississippi River Mile 301, at Saverton, MO; and the lower 80 miles of the Illinois River from LaGrange, IL to Grafton, IL. The majority of the Project's public lands are upstream of St. Louis, Missouri.



The current Rivers Project Master Plan was approved in 2001, to ensure effective natural resource management practices and be responsive to existing and future needs. Public involvement is helpful during the update process to ensure the final plan and future activities meet the needs of various interests; including providing safe recreational opportunities, fostering stewardship of the environment and economic support to local river communities.

Public Open Houses - January 2013

The purpose of the open houses were to informally meet with the public to discuss the Master Plan update. This provided the opportunity to learn about the status of natural resource activities of the Project, provide comments on land management issues and resource objectives, and give feedback what they would like to see.



The Alton open house was attended by 45 non-Corps attendees; 15 different agency/organization representatives and a congressional aide.

The Clarksville open house was attended by 19 non-Corps attendees; 7 different agency/organization representatives and two congressional aides.

PLEASE SUBMIT COMMENTS:

Please continue to submit comments on the Rivers Project Master Plan update. We will review all comments received through the end of the update process, even though the initial public comments period has ended. All written comments received will be used in developing the final document. The public will have an opportunity to comment until the final draft of the Master Plan update is completed.

We anticipate the release of the draft Rivers Project Master Plan for final public review by the end of the calendar year. The document will be posted to the Rivers Project Master Plan website and a press release will be sent out.

Consideration of all submitted comments will be completed and the Master Plan will be reviewed and edited accordingly prior to final approval by the St. Louis District Commander and implementation of the plan.

Please email comments to Sarah.B.Miller@usace.army.mil.

Proposed Changes to the Master Plan

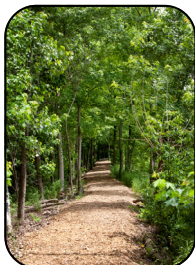
Pool 24

- Willow North Access Area - Add one way road with small parking lot and ADA compliant fishing area. Create a nature trail connecting to Willow South Access Area.
- Willow South Access Area - Make determination to repair/replace/remove current unusable boat ramp.
- Two Rivers North Access Area - Create a trail through the adjacent public lands area.
- Two Rivers Recreation Area - Rehabilitate courtesy docks, possibly making ADA compliant. Rehabilitate boat ramp to accommodate larger boats.
- Silo Access Area - Repair/Replace boat ramp. Create trail to Clarksville Refuge. Improve the parking lot for boat trailers.
- Pleasant Hill Access Area - Potential for trail development and opening spillway for pedestrian access.



Pool 25

- Westport Island - Timber Stand Improvement.
- Hurricane Access Area - Relocate boat ramp.
- Foley Access Area - Relocate boat ramp. Build a gravel parking lot landside of the spur dike, adjacent to the entrance road.
- Winfield Access Area - Rehabilitate overlook; replace restrooms; add security lighting to the parking lot; add picnic shelter; improve nature trail to be ADA compliant; eagle viewing platform - looking for partner to aid in the replacement of the structure.



Chain of Rocks Canal Area

- Chouteau Slough Area - Thinning successful mitigation tree planting.



Pool 26

- Sherwood Access Area - Add picnic tables, courtesy dock, & fishing pier. Riprap part of shoreline for erosion control.
- Ameren Missouri Lease - Continue discussions about potential land exchange.
- Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary:
 - Teal Pond Aquatic Area - Remove some rip rap to improve visitor access. Create ADA accessible fishing pier. Establish aquatic vegetation.
 - Upgrade the Environmental Learning Facility.
 - Audubon Center at Riverlands Enhancements: Viewing structure additions throughout the Sanctuary; Bridge/Boardwalk across Ellis Bay; Maple Island bridges and/or trails; Add greenhouse; Upgrade existing observation deck.
 - Prairie-Marsh Area - Timber Stand Improvement to improve and increase marsh/wet prairie habitat.
- National Great Rivers Museum:
 - Congressional authorized 12,000 ft² expansion.
 - Update exhibits.
 - Reconfigure office space.
 - Add kitchen facilities.
- Perry Island Area - Improve backwater habitat for submerged aquatic vegetation and fisheries habitat.
- Slim Island Area - Change classification from Environmental Sensitive to Vegetation Maintenance.



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www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/RiversProjectOffice