



US Army Corps
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Omaha District

Information Paper

Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Project Hamburg Bend, NE



Looking south across side channel, May 2004

Contact

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Location

8 miles southeast of Nebraska City, Otoe County, Nebraska.

Description

The Hamburg Bend site is located on 1,544 acres of former agricultural land purchased by the Corps of Engineers. The area is adjacent to the right descending bank of the Missouri River, at river miles 556 and 552.

The side channels at Hamburg Bend were closed in conjunction with the Missouri River Bank Stabilization and Navigation Project (BSNP). The construction allowed land at this bend to accrete. The area became agricultural lands, but was low lying and subject to frequent flooding.

After the Corps purchased the accreted lands for the mitigation project, work began to re-open the side channels. The Corps constructed a flow-through

side channel and several backwater areas. The side channel was constructed using a 10-foot bottom width pilot channel, which has been allowed to erode and expand over time. The backwater areas were dredged to their current configuration.

The channel is connected to the river at both ends. The channel and backwater areas provide critical shallow water habitat for numerous fish species. The increase in the numbers and variety of fish at this location shows that excellent aquatic habitat has been created at this site. In addition, terrestrial species are also increasing in this area.

Current Status

The Nebraska Game & Parks Department has assumed operation and management of the constructed features. During FY05, NGPC will be adding additional wetlands at this location. No motor vehicles are allowed on the site, but public foot access is available. This site can be used for a variety of outdoor activities including fishing, bird watching, hiking and hunting when in season.



Aerial view of the inlet to the side channel, May 2004