

MISSISSIPPI AND MISSOURI RIVERS

MISSOURI

Project Name: Mississippi and Missouri Rivers Confluence Restoration

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Recreational (Hunting)
- Restoration (Wetland)



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Project Description: The Nation's two largest rivers, the Mississippi and the Missouri, meet just north of the St. Louis metropolitan area. The confluence of the two rivers has provided a place where people have congregated and thrived for centuries. The starting point of the Lewis and Clark Expedition is now an important area for recreational canoeing, birding, fishing, hiking, boating, and hunting.

The Missouri and Mississippi River Confluence Restoration project is a partnership whose vision is to strategically implement alternatives, which enable voluntary landowners and local governments to maintain, protect, restore, and enhance the open space of the confluence area through existing federal, state, and local conservation programs and to initiate innovative and cooperative approaches to conserve the natural, cultural, and historical significance of the area.

Ongoing work has been performed on the floodplain of the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers since 2005, led by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. Projects include voluntary private land protections through conservation easements, private land habitat restoration and enhancement, public land acquisition, education, and outreach. The voluntary protection and restoration work is important to migratory birds and other wildlife, including the endangered Pallid Sturgeon. Maintaining connections to the River and restoring the wet prairie and emergent habitat will benefit bird and other wildlife species.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Department of Agriculture

Non-Federal Partners:

- 40 partners, including state and local agencies and non-profit organizations

Outcomes for 2012:

- Restore 120 acres of wetland
- Conserve 1,000 acres of habitat easements



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service