

Kingsbury Bay – Grassy Point Habitat Restoration

July 1, 2020 Update



Photo: Wood waste being excavated from the waters of Grassy Point and placed to construct a new island

Project Overview

In April 2020, Minnesota DNR resumed restoring and enhancing coastal marsh habitat at Kingsbury Bay and Grassy Point by excavating excess sediment, remediating legacy wood waste, and removing non-native vegetation. This work will mitigate historic impacts to fish and wildlife habitat and help delist the St. Louis River Area of Concern. The DNR has contracted Veit & Company, Inc. to construct the project and Barr Engineering Co. to provide construction administration and quality control oversight. This \$18 M project is being completed with funding from Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Minnesota Outdoor Heritage Fund, and St. Louis River/Interlake/Duluth Tar Superfund Site Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration settlement.

Work Completed

- ✓ Removed invasive cattails at Grassy Point
- ✓ Excavated legacy wood waste at Grassy Point
- ✓ Used excavated materials to begin building new island features at Grassy Point

Upcoming Work

- Complete wood waste removal and island construction at Grassy Point
- Finish removing and hauling the non-native cattails at Kingsbury Bay.

- Remove Kingsbury Bay sediment and transport it to Grassy Point and 40th Ave. W to enhance habitat restoration there.

Public Interest Items

Access: The Pulaski St. parking area near Kingsbury Bay is being used by Veit. It may be periodically closed to public access when needed for equipment staging. Posted signs will direct users to an alternate parking area. Segments of the trail near Kingsbury Bay may also be closed; users should follow all posted signs.

Work Schedule: Veit is currently working 24 hours a day, consisting of two 12-hr shifts, Monday-Saturday. Schedules are subject to change depending on the type of work being done and holidays.

Haul Routes: Dump trucks will travel between Kingsbury Bay and Carlton starting mid-July. They will access I-35 using Hwy 23 and Becks Rd or 63rd Ave and Cody St.

Did You Know? St. Louis Lumber Co. and Lesure Lumber each operated sawmills at Grassy Point between 1895-1913. The mills were built over the water and dumped their waste wood and sawdust directly into the river.

For More Information

Renée Samuelson, Admin. Specialist, 218-302-3252
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Project website: [St. Louis River Restoration Initiative](#)