

Kingsbury Bay – Grassy Point Habitat Restoration

September 1, 2020 Update



Left: amphibious excavators remove invasive plants at Kingsbury Bay;



Right: Biomedium placement and new islands at Grassy Point. Aerial photos provided by the 1854 Treaty Authority.

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

- ✓ Finished excavating wood from Grassy Point
- ✓ Removed invasive cattails from Kingsbury Bay
- ✓ Hauled cattails to an upland disposal site.
- ✓ Excavated sediment (“biomedium”) from Kingsbury Bay
- ✓ Placed Kingsbury Bay biomedium to restore target areas at Grassy Point

Upcoming Work

- Finish removing invasive cattails at Kingsbury Bay
- Continue dredging biomedium and other sediment from Kingsbury Bay

- Continue placing Kingsbury Bay biomedium and sediment at Grassy Point and 40th Ave. W to restore habitat there.
- Restore the Kingsbury Bay access road
- Install channel control structures in Kingsbury and Keene Creeks

Public Interest Items

Access: The Pulaski St. parking lot near Kingsbury Bay is being used by Veit. For safety reasons, it is closed to public access and no parking is allowed. Signs will direct users to alternate parking areas. Segments of the trail will 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. The project is on schedule to be completed by the end of 2020.

Haul Routes: Dump trucks are travelling between Kingsbury Bay and Carlton. They are accessing I-35 using Hwy 23 and Becks Rd or 63rd Ave and Cody St.

Did You Know? “Biomedium” is a term we use to describe the sediment from Kingsbury Bay that is rich in organic matter, plants, and aquatic bugs. A thin layer of biomedium will be placed to jump start the restored habitats at Grassy Point and 40th Ave West.

For More Information

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Renée Samuelson, Admin. Specialist, Renee.Samuelson@state.mn.us
Project website: [St. Louis River Restoration Initiative](http://St.LouisRiverRestorationInitiative)