

Kingsbury Bay – Grassy Point Habitat Restoration

October 5, 2020 Update



Photo Caption: A surveyor checks the location of a boulder being placed in the Keene Creek channel during J-hook construction.

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 removing invasive cattails from Kingsbury Bay
- ✓ Excavated sediment (“biomedium”) from Kingsbury Bay
- ✓ Placed Kingsbury Bay biomedium to restore target areas at Grassy Point and 40th Ave West (completed).
- ✓ Installed a J-hook and boulder vane in Keene Creek

Upcoming Work

- Continue dredging biomedium and other sediment from Kingsbury Bay

- Continue placing Kingsbury Bay biomedium and sediment at Grassy Point to restore habitat there.
- Construct a J-hook, cross vane, and log sill in Kingsbury Creek
- Restore the Kingsbury Bay access road
- Survey the areas where work was completed

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. To reflect the latest production rates, the project is now scheduled to be completed in summer 2021.

Haul Routes: No hauling is occurring.

Did You Know? J-hooks, cross vanes, and log sills are examples of structures used to control stream grade, reduce erosion, and enhance fish habitat. Each boulder must be placed precisely before moving on to the next, so lots of surveying and adjustment is required (see top photo).

For More Information

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Project website: [St. Louis River Restoration Initiative](http://St.LouisRiverRestorationInitiative)