

Kaskaskia River

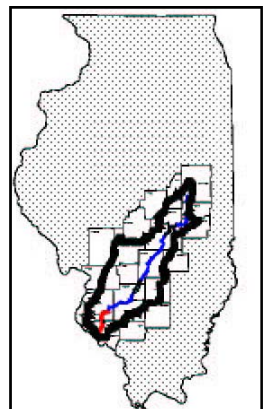
“Securing Our Future”



**2009 Annual Kaskaskia Watershed Assn., Inc.
“Showcasing”—Fayetteville to Confluence of Mississippi River
Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders, Inc.
“An Evening on the Kaskaskia”**



**September 11, 2009
Kaskaskia Lock and Dam
Modoc, IL**



Kaskaskia Watershed Association, Inc. (KWA)

Ted Beier, President



As President of KWA, I would like to welcome everyone to the 9th Annual Showcasing from Fayetteville to the Confluence with the Mississippi River with an afternoon “three hour tour” on the Kaskaskia River followed by the Annual LKSI night barge trip. Each year we showcase a different reach of the watershed to help stakeholders, elected officials and state, local and federal agencies understand the diversity and importance of each reach and how together we can accomplish more and enhance and preserve our natural resources.

This year’s theme “**The Kaskaskia River – “Securing Our Future.”**” is very appropriate in this exciting time for our Country. With the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 the legislation will provide \$45 million for the three federal projects in our watershed. The Water Resource Development Act (WRDA)” of 2007 contains Section 5073 which calls for the “Kaskaskia River Basin to develop a Comprehensive Plan. Also, good news from IDNR for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) for the Kaskaskia. \$45 million was included for

CREP in the States’ Capital Bill which will allow for CREP to be reopened and expanded.

KWA will continue to work together to “**Secure Our Future on the Kaskaskia**”.

Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholder’s, Inc. (LKSI)

Pat Wetzel, President



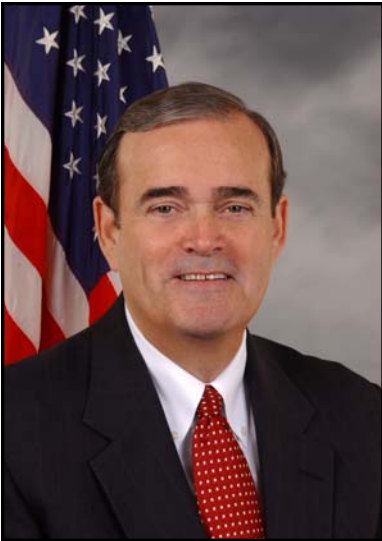
The Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholder’s, Inc. (LKSI) would like to welcome you to the 9th Annual Kaskaskia Watershed Association, Inc. (KWA) Showcasing with an afternoon barge trip “On a Three- Hour Cruise “or on their annual barge trip “An Evening on the Kaskaskia River”. These events on the lower reach are to keep the importance of the Kaskaskia River in the forefront and to focus on the value of the river to our area. This year’s theme is: “**The Kaskaskia River – “Securing Our Future.”**”

LKSI was incorporated on August 3, 1999 with 30 board members representing agencies, organizations, business, governmental and others at-large who have interests in the use and management of the lower Kaskaskia River and adjacent area. Membership of LKSI includes: landowners, boaters, fisherman, hunters, commercial transporters, environmentalists, farmers, industry, government and other river-interest organizations. LKSI is a member of Kaskaskia Watershed Association,

Inc. (KWA). LKSI is working to secure our future by expanding business opportunities, maintaining oxbows, improving safety and preserving our natural resources and educating the public on our water quality needs.

Thanks to everyone who have worked hard and contributed time and money in making this Showcasing/Barge trips a success and to everyone for attending. A special thanks to U. S. Congressman Jerry Costello for his continued support of LKSI and southwestern Illinois.

Enjoy, visit, learn, and experience our special place—The Kaskaskia River!



Congressman Jerry F. Costello Illinois 12th Congressional District

Jerry Costello is recognized as a Congressman who works hard and gets the job done. When he served in local public office, Costello laid out a vision for Southwestern and Southern Illinois which he took to Congress: To boost the local economy by building a new transportation network for the region. That is one of the reasons why the respected Almanac of American Politics has said that Costello is “as practical and district-minded as any Member of the House...If it can be done, Costello will surely do it.”

As a senior Democrat on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the second ranking Democrat on the Science and Technology Committee, Costello has had a major role in writing several major pieces of legislation while focusing on improving the transportation infrastructure of our nation and his district

Costello has been recognized as “the patron saint of Scott Air Force Base” and is credited with saving Scott during rounds of the Base Realignment. While this is true KWA/LKSI also considers Congressman Costello the Patron Saint of the Kaskaskia River. LKSI wants to thank Congressman Costello for all of his past efforts and continued support in the future. We are grateful for Cong. Costello’s support for the American Recovery Act.

CREP for the Kaskaskia

For years the Kaskaskia Watershed Association has been working very hard to get enhanced conservation benefits for the fragile and environmentally sensitive lands in the watershed. Through USDA farmers and landowners have been participating in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). This program has been used by many and has been a staple in the conservation toolbox available to landowners and farmers. To achieve stronger conservation benefits and to target strategic conservation objectives the opportunity exists to create an “enhanced” CRP program. This new program is called Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The State of Illinois, through its capital bill, will be providing the financial enhancement for the CREP program. IDNR will be the agency to partner with USDA for the enhanced funds. For years the CREP program was available to landowners and farmers in the Illinois River Watershed. The CREP Program there has been a tremendous success. This fall, KWA and IDNR will work with USDA to open CREP in the Kaskaskia Watershed. Signup dates for CREP have not been set, but it is anticipated in early 2010. Watch for more information soon.

WRDA

The Water Resources Development Act is the key legislation that provides the authority for the CORPS to work on various projects and initiatives. The KWA board works closely with Congressman Costello and Congressman Shimkus to insure that the priorities of the watershed are reflected in the WRDA legislation. To that end KWA had language approved in WRDA 2007 that called for the development of a Comprehensive Plan. WRDA is not a funding document but rather an authorizing document. Efforts are underway by KWA to secure funding for the CORPS so that they can begin work on the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan will include the following components:

- Sediment Removal
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat
- Long-term Resource Monitoring
- Conveyance Study from Vandalia to Carlyle Lake
- Inventory and Analysis System
- Flood Reduction by Ecosystem Management
- Reduction of Headcutting

HERITAGE TOURISM



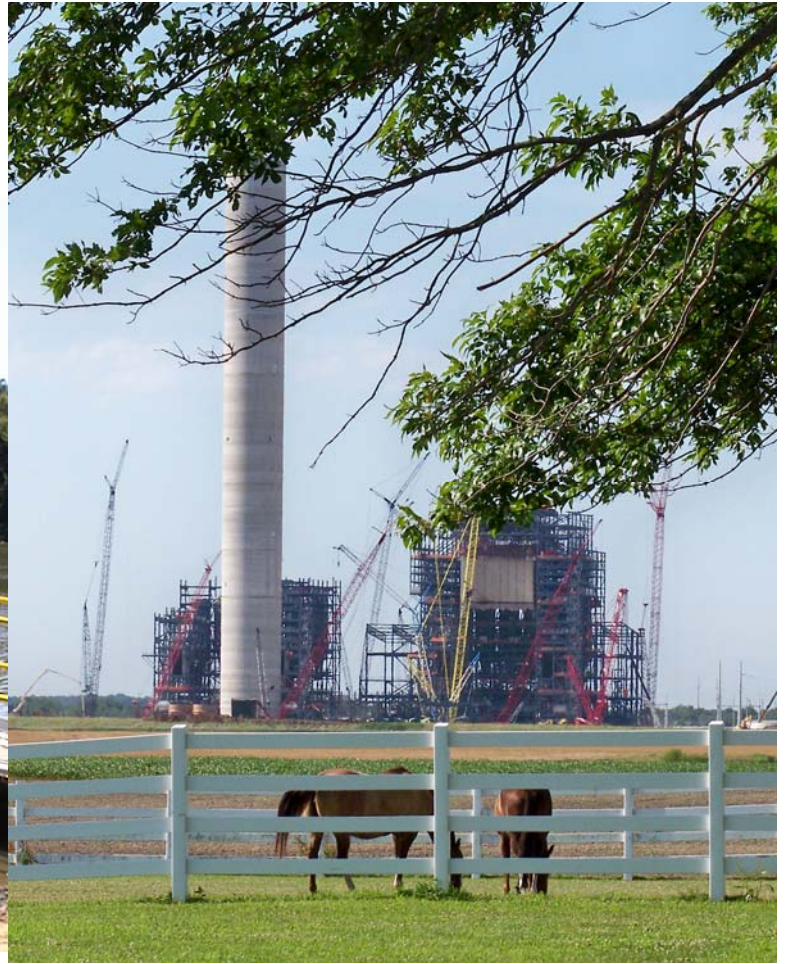
Navigation



AGRICULTURE

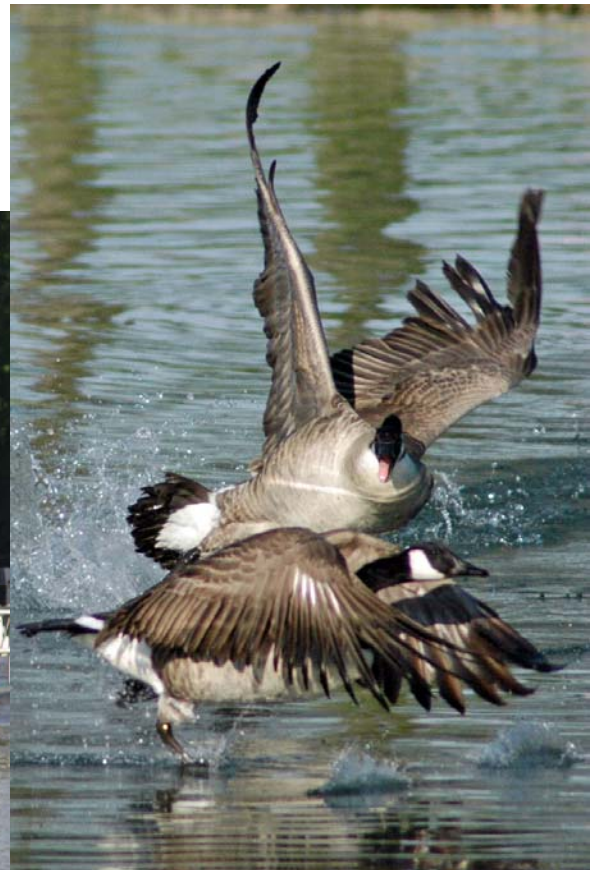


ENERGY PRODUCTION

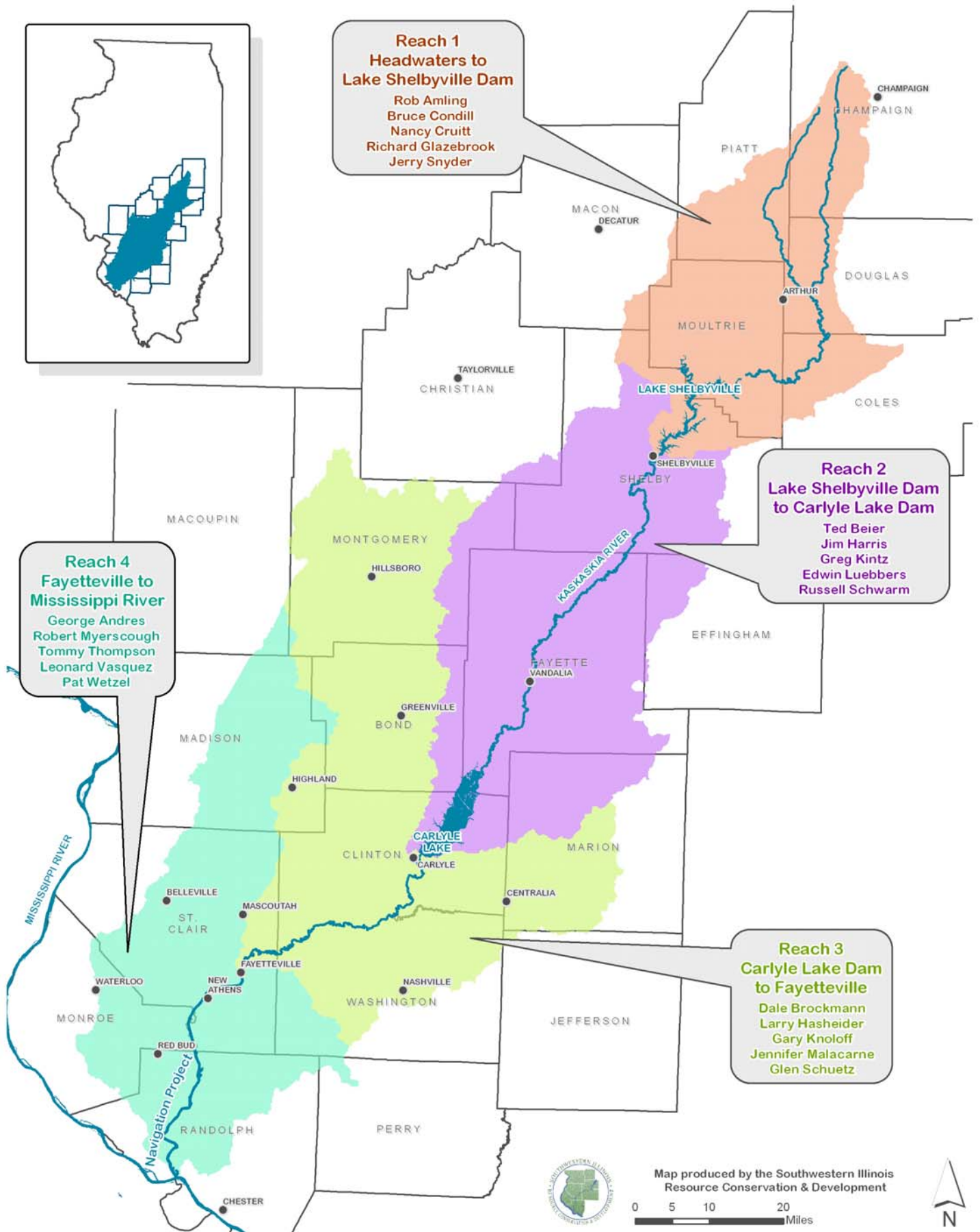


Water Quality

Recreation



Wildlife



KASKASKIA RIVER – OUR SECURITY, OUR FUTURE

American Recover and Reinvestment Act (Stimulus Funds)

Overview of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) was signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009. It is an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create or save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century. The Act is an extraordinary response to a crisis unlike any since the Great Depression, and includes measures to modernize our nation's infrastructure, enhance energy independence, expand educational opportunities, preserve and improve affordable health care, provide tax relief, and protect those in greatest need.

The Corps nationally has allocated \$4.6 billion for the civil works program which includes \$2 billion for construction and \$2.075 billion for O&M. The Mississippi River and Tributaries account will receive \$375 million in appropriations. Selected projects will be distributed across the U.S. and across USACE programs to provide the nation with inland and coastal navigation, environmental, flood risk management, hydropower, recreation, and more

Many projects have been approved for the Kaskaskia Watershed. The next few pages lists the projects.

We have grouped the projects to reflect how they benefit the river and its watershed for environmental health, transportation and recreational enjoyment. Total funds for the Kaskaskia \$51,580,000

- Environmental Health in the Kaskaskia
- Transportation for the Kaskaskia
- Recreational Enjoyment in the Kaskaskia
- Multiple Benefits

Category	Lake Shelbyville		Carlyle Lake		Kaskaskia River Project	
	Number	Dollars	Number	Dollars	Number	Dollars
Environmental Health	2	\$2,360,000	4	\$2,840,000	1	\$150,000
Transportation	0	0	0	0	3	\$945,000
Recreation	2	\$1,143,000	3	\$550,000	0	0
Multiple Benefits	4	\$9,492,000	7	\$18,497,000	4	\$15,603,000
Total	8	\$12,995,000	14	\$21,887,000	8	\$16,698,000





Lake Shelbyville



Environmental Health	Hire 20 summer employees to perform backlog maintenance in recreation and environmental areas. Improves condition of facilities to meet customer needs, reduces safety risk to visitors, increases level of environmental stewardship and reduces future maintenance and operations cost.	\$360,000
Recreational Enjoyment	Complete Bo Wood Campground Shoreline erosion repairs and recreation facility consolidation. Completed project will provide improved recreational opportunity, complies with ADA standards and reduces future maintenance and operations cost	\$963,000
Environmental Health Recreational Enjoyment	Repair and/or replace flood damaged facilities in recreation areas with a more "flood resistant" design to improve public health and safety, plus reduce future maintenance and operations cost.	\$1,342,000
Recreational Enjoyment	Purchase and install three automatic fee-collection machines in recreation areas. Purchase and installation of fee machines to improve efficiency and security of collecting use fees and reduce future maintenance and operations cost.	\$180,000
Recreational Enjoyment Environmental Health	Replace deteriorating administration building with consolidated environmentally sustainable structure located next to the maintenance compound. This work will provide an energy efficient administrative building that meets the interpretive/education needs of the visitors, new security, energy and ADA requirements, and reduces future maintenance and operations cost. Major Safety improvement to public and lake personnel.	\$4,000,000
Recreational Enjoyment Environmental Health	Replace deteriorating Visitor Center Groves building and consolidate next to Administration building complex. Work will provide an energy efficient structure that meets the interpretive/education needs of the visitors, new security, energy and ADA requirements, and reduces future maintenance and operations costs. Safety improvement to public and lake personnel.	\$4,000,000
Recreational Enjoyment Environmental Health	Replace unsafe center gallery and west spiral stairway in main dam. Work will provide safe access to critical areas of the dam, insuring continued safe operations of the dam reducing risk of dam failure and downstream flooding.	\$150,000
Environmental Health	Perform suppression of terrestrial invasive plant species on 1,000 acres of project lands. Eliminating or reducing invasive plant species will improve the quality of the ecosystem and improve habitat values for wildlife.	\$200,000





Carlyle Lake



Environmental Health	Replace trees in recreational areas lost during flooding and repair Boulder Flats Wetland area. Restored hardwood plantings will serve as filler strips to diminish lake bank erosion, improve wildlife habitat, reduce lake sedimentation, and recycle nutrients.	\$100,000
Environmental Health Transportation Recreational Enjoyment	Resume operation and maintenance of all facilities at acceptable service levels. Increase level of environmental stewardship, and maintenance and operations of facilities to meet public needs improving health and safety conditions of the areas. Perform by construction contract. Contract employees and new temporary hires.	\$1,335,000
Recreational Enjoyment	Raise/extend breakwater at Boulder boat ramp to protect government investment and improve public safety. Boat ramp not adequately protected from wave damage of the main portion of the lake. Added rip-rap rock breakwater which will shelter boats using ramp and protect lake shoreline from increased erosion.	\$100,000
Environmental Health Transportation Recreational Enjoyment	Replace worn out and defective project equipment and plan for Environmental Stewardship & Recreation program. Reliable equipment and plan improves safety to public, volunteers, and employees. Repair costs exceed replacement of some equipment, and parts are often unavailable.	\$150,000
Recreational Enjoyment	Replace safety buoys with small craft barriers at spillway. Reduces risk of water-borne attack and improves boater safety at the spillway. Reduces risk of dam failure and downstream flooding.	\$100,000
Environmental Health	Replace 14 block comfort stations (over forty years old) in recreation areas, with efficient, handicap accessible units. Improves Public health and safety. Complies with ADA requirements. Reduces future operations & maintenance costs.	\$1,500,000
Recreational Enjoyment Transportation	Perform maintenance to roads in recreation areas and on saddle dam structures. Repair of damaged roads, and parking lots will provide safe public access and reduce future maintenance costs.	\$1,000,000
Environmental Health	Repair remaining damages caused by 2005/2008 floods including revetment and erosion repairs. Coles Creek recreation area, Coles Creek Point and beach plus Boulder campground area. Riprap repairs to shoreline erosion will reduce risk to public, improve water quality, decrease sedimentation and reduce further erosion damages.	\$240,000
Recreational Enjoyment Transportation	Installation of pre-fab bridge to connect spillway road with existing bike trail. Partnership with city of Carlyle will improve public safety and increase recreation opportunities.	\$200,000
Recreational Enjoyment Environmental Health	Maintenance dredging for four high-use marina harbors. Siltation continues to reduce water depths subjecting boats to groundings and damage. Removal of silt will improve public access and safety.	\$400,000

Recreational Enjoyment Environmental Health	Complete installation of breakwater adjacent to the Carlyle Sailing Association. North portion of harbor subject to damage from high wind/wave action. Protection of harbor will improve access to lake, protect government investment and increase public safety.	\$412,000
Environmental Health	Modernize water/sewer systems by replacing 40 plus year old deteriorated lift stations and sewer lines. Replacement will protect public health and safety by eliminating possible leakage and contamination, comply with public health and EPA regulations, and reduce future operation & maintenance costs.	\$1,000,000
Recreational Enjoyment	Visitor Center Audio-Visual Room Expansion. Expansion will meet public needs for meeting space (local dam safety, emergency preparedness, and environmental spill preparedness, etc.).	\$350,000
Recreational Enjoyment Environmental Health	Renew properly sized and graded riprap along lakeside faces of the main dam, saddle dam 2, as identified in Dec 2008 SPRA Critical dam safety requirement will ensure 50 year protection and integrity of the main dam and adjacent saddle dams. Reduces risk of dam failure and subsequent flooding downstream. Will protect integrity of main dam, saddle dams and Keyesport levee during FRM operations.	\$15,000,000





Kaskaskia River Project



Environmental Health Recreational Enjoyment	Install accessible and flood proof vault toilets at upstream and downstream boat ramps. Will improve health and safety of visitors; reduce operation and maintenance costs.	\$87,000
Transportation	Complete critical ongoing maintenance and repair to operating equipment including completion of electric system repairs, machinery repairs, and completion of remote lock control capabilities. Completion of this work will restore system reliability to the project and provide opportunity for improved efficiency through remote control.	\$400,000
Recreational Enjoyment Transportation	Open additional side channels. Removal of siltation from remnant side channels, opening mouths closed to sediment. Improving fish and wildlife habitat, connecting side channels to main channel.	\$500,000
Transportation	Replace emergency generator for back-up power to navigation lock to improve reliability of lock and provide critical control of the pool during frequent utility power failures. Existing generator- is 35 years old and has low reliability and insufficient capacity to reliably back-up project.	\$250,000
Transportation	Replace failed miter gate springs on navigation lock restoring reliability to the project and reducing risk of further damage to structural features of the gates and prolonged closures to navigation.	\$295,000
Recreational Enjoyment Environmental Health	Provide potable water supply for lock operations and associated recreation facilities by connecting to local Ellis Grove water system. Will provide more efficient operations at the lock as well as healthier experience for visiting public by replacing existing well which is contaminated and can not be used for drinking.	\$216,000
Transportation Recreation	Re-establish channel from New Athens upstream to Fayetteville to original Project authorized width and depth to provide authorized navigation capability and promote increase industry and economic significant growth in the area.	\$14,800,000
Environmental Health	Remove asbestos from lock and maintenance building. Safety, health , and environmental hazard Improvements for staff and visitors to lock facility. Control house, visitor area, restrooms and maintenance area have floor tiles, heat shield insulation and pipe insulation containing asbestos.	\$150,000



Special Thanks

Norma J Hall, Chairperson Special Projects Ranger

I would like to give a special thanks to **my committee** and the Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders, Inc. (LKSI) for another year of support, hard work and commitment in putting together not one but two barge trips this year. Through the years many stakeholders throughout the watershed have asked to go on LKSI's

annual barge trip. This year LKSI for their showcase offered (300) stakeholders an opportunity to join them on an afternoon cruise and experience "locking thru" for the 9th Annual KWA Showcase on September 11 followed by the night annual "Evening on the Kaskaskia River." This year's theme is "**The Kaskaskia River – "Securing Our Future."**"

Also, thanks to Kurt Johnson, and crew of Southern IL Transit, Inc. and all the many contributors who made these barge trips possible. Thanks to U S. Congressman Costello for your continued support with LKSI and the U S Army Corps of Engineers.

This year brought some changes to the Lock and Dam. Happy retirement to Rick Stubits, Asst. Lockmaster (12/73-2/2009) and Robert (Bob) Lockhart, Lock Operator/Park Ranger (07/71-10/2009). We experienced the loss of Thomas M. Pigg on 7/11/2009. Tom started with the Corps at Carlyle as a Student Ranger 2/2004. He transferred to the Lock and Dam in April of 2007 as a Park Ranger/Lock Operator.

With this year's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Carlyle Lake, Lake Shelbyville and the Kaskaskia Project in the Kaskaskia Watershed is receiving approximately \$45 million to do numerous projects. While these many projects in the watershed are being constructed, dredged, roads closed etc. the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers would like to remind you – "don't leave safety to chance," **slow down, buckle up, and always wear your life jacket.**



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