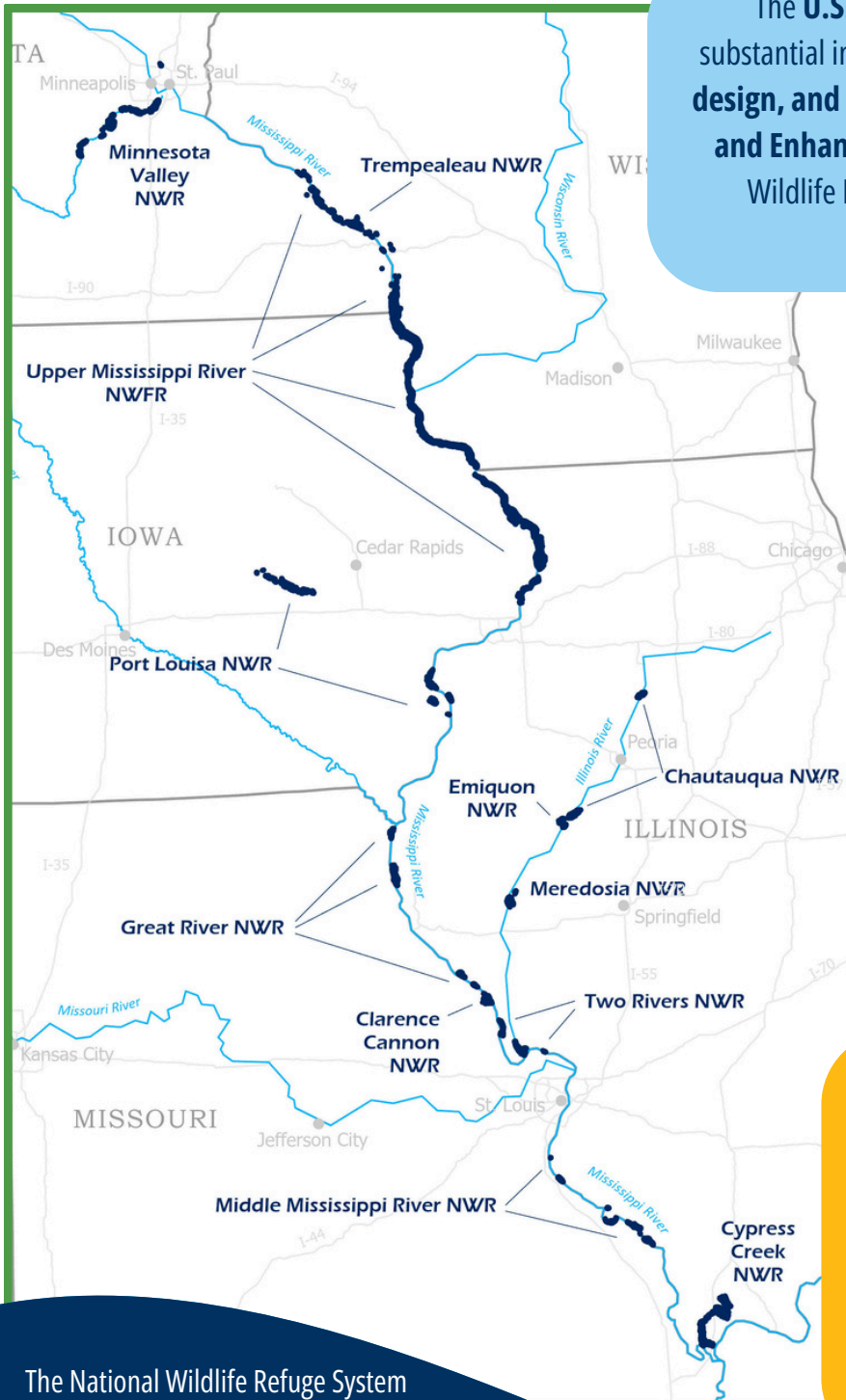


U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program

The Upper Mississippi River Restoration program (UMRR) operates through a truly unique and remarkable partnership.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) makes substantial investments in UMRR by supporting the **planning, design, and monitoring of UMRR's Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Projects (HREPs)** through the National Wildlife Refuge System, fisheries resource offices, and ecological services field offices.



How Does the USFWS Support UMRR?

- Holds responsibility for **operation, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, and replacement (OMRR&R)** for habitat projects located on USFWS lands.
- Assists with the **planning and design of habitat projects**. From 2016-2022, UMRR restored over 15,000 acres of habitat.
- Participates in pre- and post-**project monitoring** on sponsored projects.
- Provides **expertise in river ecology** and **prioritizing restoration investments**.
- Improves the experience of the Upper Mississippi River Refuge's **3.7 million annual visitors**.

The UMRR program's **interagency partnership ensures the program's success** in achieving a healthier and more resilient system that sustains the river's multiple uses.

The partnership enables the UMRR program to manage resources provided by Congress in the most efficient and effective way possible.

U.S. Geological Survey in the Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program

The Upper Mississippi River Restoration program (UMRR) operates through a truly unique and remarkable partnership.

The **U.S. Geological Survey** (USGS), through its Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center, provides scientific expertise and administration for **implementing UMRR's Long Term Resource Monitoring (LTRM)**.

The data collected **over 35 years** has produced many insights that would be otherwise unobtainable.

How Does the USGS Support UMRR?

- Provides a scientific basis for restoration **practitioners** to assess the river ecosystem's habitat needs and optimize project investments
- Creates **new tools to better understand the ecosystem, informing decision makers**
- Collaborates with partner agencies to **identify information needs**
- Executes research, data analysis, and management, modeling, and decision support
- Produces scientific reports, including a **thorough assessment of the ecological resilience of the river**, identifying key indicators of ecosystem structure and function critical to understanding, restoring, and managing the river and watershed
- Enables the program to understand and address the most pressing issues the UMRS is facing



Recent advancements in knowledge supported by USGS are outlined in the following scientific publications:



2022 Ecological Status and
Trends of the Upper
Mississippi and Illinois Rivers

2018 UMRR
Habitat Needs
Assessment II

