



# Eagle Marsh, Fort Wayne, Indiana

November 2012

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

**Project Facts:** The Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) Eagle Marsh Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Controls Report, Fort Wayne, Ind. was prepared pursuant to the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, Public Law 110-114, Section 3061(d).

**Project Location:** Eagle Marsh is located in Allen County on the west side of the city of Fort Wayne, Ind., and it is situated on the continental divide between water that flows into the Atlantic Ocean through Lake Erie and water that drains into the Gulf of Mexico via the Mississippi River. The report considers ANS that may be anywhere within the Great Lakes and Mississippi River watersheds, and the detailed evaluation and location of measures to prevent the spread of ANS between these two basins begins at Eagle Marsh and extends approximately 20 miles west along the Little River and tributaries to the town of Huntington, Ind.



**Project Description:** The Eagle Marsh was identified in the GLMRIS Other Pathways Preliminary Risk Characterization as the only one of 18 potential aquatic pathways other than the Chicago and Sanitary Ship Canal where there is a near term risk of aquatic nuisance species (ANS) spread between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins. Based on the proximity of Asian carp in the Wabash River downstream of Huntington and the periodic aquatic pathway that forms between the basins almost every year, the Indiana DNR, supported by federal funds and technical support, expeditiously constructed a temporary barrier across the marsh in October 2010. The purpose of this report is to identify a range of permanent measures to prevent interbasin spread of ANS. It provides a detailed assessment of nine structural measures, and presents an array of non-structural measures that could compliment any structural measure. The report is based on considerable technical input and support of a wide array of stakeholder organizations, including but not limited to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Geological Survey, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and the Little River Wetlands Project. The GLMRIS authority is limited to completion of a study, and this report is intended to efficiently and effectively advance implementation of permanent remedy to prevent interbasin spread of ANS in both directions, by USACE or other capable stakeholder organizations.

**Issues and public review process:** Currently, a non-Federal Sponsor has not been identified, which is critical to efficient project development and long-term operations and maintenance. The draft report is scheduled for public release on November 16, 2012 with a 60-day comment period. A public informational meeting in Fort Wayne, Ind. is tentatively scheduled for December 4, 2012. The results of the public comments will be used to finalize the report, and dependent upon identification of a non-Federal sponsor, the report may be finalized to recommend a plan for a partnered federal action.