LOCATION
Densford Dike Field, Tipton County, Tennessee
River Miles 757.3-756L.

TIMELINE
2021

DESCRIPTION
The Densford Dike Field flow restoration project involves creating five notches, or gaps, in rock dikes to increase the flow of water for most of the year. This will substantially improve habitat for at-risk fish and other aquatic life, improve water quality, and improve conditions for the Interior Least Tern and other birds that nest on sandbars. Maintaining more consistent flows through the channel will help keep raccoons and other predators from reaching sandbars and islands at the project area. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers installed rock dikes at the site in 1966 to aid navigation. As a result, sand has built up in the secondary channels, restricting fish passage in summer and fall. Since 2006, the LMRCC has worked with the Corps and other partners to restore flow to nearly 30 secondary channels, enhancing more than 100 miles of aquatic habitat.

GOALS
- Restore flow through 4.5 miles of degraded secondary channels.
- Facilitate movement of fish in and out of channel.
- Improve habitat for trust species such as Pallid Sturgeon and enhance reproductive success of the Interior Least Tern and other sandbar-nesting species.
- Improve water quality.
- Increase recreational fishing opportunities.

PARTNERS
Corps of Engineers, Memphis District
Mississippi River Trust

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Prepared September 2021