



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Northerly Island, Chicago, IL

**Great Lakes Fishery & Ecosystem Restoration
Nearshore Health & Nonpoint Source Focus Area**

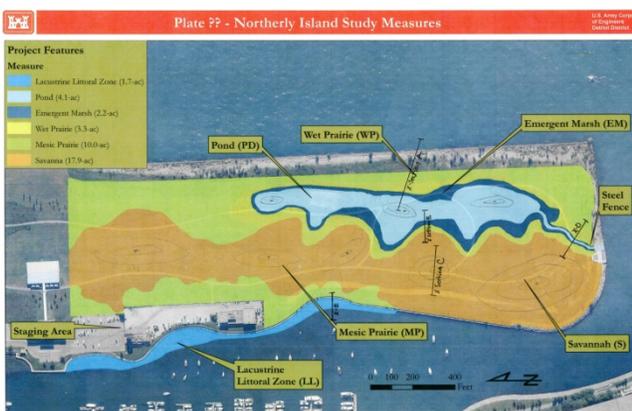
Project Location: Northerly Island is a 91-acre manmade peninsula on the shores of Southern Lake Michigan in Chicago, Ill. Northerly Island is located adjacent to the Adler Planetarium in the famous Museum Campus Park where it provides protection to Burnham Harbor Marina from wave action. The project is located in the southern 40 acres of the island.

Project Description: Currently, the southern portion of Northerly Island is being used for passive recreation. A paved bicycle path meanders throughout the park and is surrounded by a failing prairie-like field that provides important stop-over habitat for many species of migratory birds. The field consists of a combination of invasive species and random native plants. In addition, much of the field is mowed and has very little ecologic value. Aquatic resources in the project area are limited to the surrounding lake. The perimeter of the project area is contained using revetment walls that provide a monotonous ecosystem with very few macrophytes and habitat niches for aquatic organisms to thrive. Overall, the southern portion of Northerly Island is providing very little ecosystem benefits and lowering the ecological integrity of the surrounding area.

Nonfederal Partner: Chicago Park District

Project Benefits: The project will create approximately 40 acres of coastal habitat in southern Lake Michigan. Habitats will include 18 acres of oak savanna, 10 acres of mesic prairie, 3.3 acres of wet prairie, 2.2 acres of emergent marsh, 4.1 acres of pond, and 1.7 acres of lacustrine littoral habitat. The project will greatly benefit habitat for a variety of migratory and resident bird species, fish, amphibians, reptiles, insects, and mammals. Specifically, the state threatened banded killifish (*Fundulus diaphanous*) and mudpuppy (*Necturus maculosus*) may benefit from this project.

Project Status: The construction contract was awarded September 2012 using a combination of GLRI and USACE-base funding. The project is expected to generate 66 jobs in private industry.



Estimated Project Costs

Federal	\$5,011,500
Nonfederal	\$2,698,500
Total	\$7,710,000

Project Milestones

Award construction contract	Sep 2012
Complete construction	Sep 2017

Point of Contact

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