



Revealed Choice Estimate of the Demand for Barges on the Mississippi River

Start Date: Sep 2003

POC:

Projected End Date: Mar 2005

[POC](#)

Problem Addressed:

Shippers' use (demand) of the inland waterways is elastic, meaning it is influenced by a variety of factors, including what alternative means of transporting commodities are available and what they cost, what it costs to ship by barge, etc. Understanding the factors that affect demand is crucial to accurately project the costs and benefits of proposed changes to the waterway systems. Current planning models do not adequately address demand elasticity.

Objective:

The goal of the study is to develop a model for assessing demand on the Upper Mississippi River system and how it might be affected by proposed changes to the waterways. The model will incorporate key factors that influence shippers choices, which will allow for a better understanding of the elasticity of demand. The model will be developed based on the decisions of individual shippers as revealed in data available from the Corps, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other sources.

Benefits:

The study will assist the Corps in more accurately projecting demand and how it will be affected by various proposed changes to the waterways. This in turn will enable the Corps to more effectively estimate the benefits of proposed changes.

Status:

Completed

Contract Data:

120171, A1080

Progress:

[Presentation by Kenneth Boyer](#) (123 KB, ppt)

[Paper by Kenneth Boyer, April 3, 2004](#)
(98 KB, pdf)

Products (Bookshelf/Toolbox):

[Report by Kenneth Boyer and Wesley Wilson, March 14, 2005](#) (1.25 MB, pdf)

[Paper by Kenneth Boyer and Wesley Wilson, July 27, 2004](#) (467 KB, pdf)

Related Links:

Revised 15 Sep 2008



