



## Interior Drainage Impacts

This Fact Sheet provides a brief overview of a specific topic important to the Master Water Control Manual Review and Update Study process. Information contained in this Fact Sheet is summarized from technical reports and the preliminary Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement.



### Summary

Impeded drainage is a factor that can reduce the productivity of cropland in the Missouri River basin protected by levees. Average annual impacts range from a \$36 thousand negative impact (FW20) to a \$71 thousand beneficial impact (FW10) for the 1950 to 1994 study period, a difference of \$107 thousand. All alternatives except C44 and FW20 decrease interior drainage damages compared to the CWCP. The variation in these impacts is due to the lower river stages in mid-summer under alternatives FW10 and FW15, which does not always occur under the CWCP and alternative FW20.



### Existing Conditions

The Missouri River floodplain downstream of Gavins Point Dam contains about 1.2 million acres of productive agricultural land along the Lower River. In addition to Missouri River flooding, poor drainage reduces the productivity of this land. In response to the public comments on the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) regarding the lack of interior drainage information, the Corps conducted additional studies at six levee units downstream of Gavins Point Dam from Nebraska City to Hermann: levee unit L575 around Hamburg, Iowa; levee unit L536 near Corning, Missouri; levee unit L488/497 north of St.

Figure 1. Differences in average annual interior drainage impacts



