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**FEB 16 2007**  
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**2005 Mississippi River Pool 26 - Mussel Survey**

funded by

**The Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund Project**

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## MISSISSIPPI RIVER, POOL 26 - MUSSEL SURVEY RESULTS

In September/October of 2005, Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund money was utilized to do a dive survey of Mississippi River Pool 26. Twenty-two sites (The Powder Mill bed and Site 11) were surveyed throughout the pool with two sites chosen as "representatives" of the pool. These two sites were sampled both qualitatively and quantitatively and will be utilized in the continuous monitoring of the pool's mussel population's health.

Thirteen state threatened butterfly mussels, 1 state threatened black sandshell, and 1 state threatened ebonyshell were collected during all dives. This project also resulted in the proposal and acceptance of three new Illinois Natural Areas Inventory sites and the species update of an already existing site.

The total number of live, individual mussels found for the entire pool was 1,486. There were a total of 20 different live species encountered. The threeridge and the mapleleaf were the two most commonly found mussels comprising 25 % each of the total sample. The next top two species were the washboard (20 % of the total sample) and the threehorn wartyback (11 % of the total sample).

### **Mississippi River Pool 26 Live Mussel Totals**

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number live</u>	<u>% of sample</u>
Threeridge	370	25.00
Butterfly*	13	0.87
Ebonyshell	1	< 0.01
Wabash pigtoe	6	0.40
Plain pocketbook	6	0.40
Yellow sandshell	28	1.88
Fragile papershell	16	1.07
Washboard	297	20.00
Threehorn wartyback	164	11.00
Hickorynut	31	2.08
Giant floater	33	2.22
Wartyback	23	1.55
Pimpleback	115	10.43
Mapleleaf	370	25.00
Rock pocketbook	3	0.20
Fawnsfoot	3	0.20
Deertoe	4	0.27
Black sandshell	1	< 0.01
Pink papershell	1	< 0.01
Paper pondshell	1	< 0.01
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>1486</b>	<b>100</b>