

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Reforestation in the Lower Mississippi River batture makes economic sense. It will:

- Reduce financial demand for disaster assistance and crop insurance on lands with repeated losses from flooding.
- Help protect federal navigation and flood-control infrastructure (levees) from erosion and catastrophic failure during floods.
- Help diversify local and regional economies by providing highly valued hunting and other outdoor recreational activities. The region includes 18 of the 50 poorest counties in the nation.

Reforestation in the batture is also cost-effective. Land values are relatively low, and most of the land has not been leveled, which ensures that a diverse array of forested wetland habitat types will be available to wildlife.