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Missouri River Recovery Program: Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee

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08/29/2008

Missouri River

RECOVERY PROGRAM

MISSOURI RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

US Army Corps of Engineers

What/Who is MRRIC?

The Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC) will serve as a collaborative forum to develop a shared vision and comprehensive plan for the restoration of the Missouri River ecosystem. This committee will provide recommendations to federal, tribal, state, local and private entities in the basin on efforts to recover threatened and endangered species and restore their habitats while sustaining the river's many uses. Section 5018 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 authorizes the Secretary of the Army to establish the MRRIC.

By involving stakeholders who represent a wide range of interests, the MRRIC will ensure that stakeholder and public values are considered and incorporated into ecosystem restoration plans. In addition to providing guidance on the existing recovery and mitigation program, the MRRIC will be a key forum for shaping the Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan. The study leading up to the Plan is authorized in Section 5018 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 and will be developed in consultation with the MRRIC.

While the federal agencies will not participate in decisions regarding the recommendations of the MRRIC, the federal agencies will support and inform the MRRIC.

A Federal Working Group (FWG) of agency representatives has been appointed by the federal executives of the Missouri River Basin Interagency Roundtable. These agencies have responsibilities for management of resources or other functions on the Missouri River and will advise the MRRIC as the committee considers recommendations.

The Federal Working Group includes the following agencies:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Federal Highway Administration
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- Maritime Administration
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service
- National Park Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Western Area Power Administration

A broad, unified, inclusive, transparent basin-wide approach is necessary to successfully recover the protected Missouri River species and the ecosystem on which they depend.

MRRIC Charter Approved

On July 1, 2008, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, the Honorable John Paul Woodley, Jr., approved the Charter for the MRRIC. Approval of the MRRIC Charter was the culmination of over a year of intense work by the MRRIC Planning Group. The Planning Group was comprised of representatives of Missouri River basin Tribes and states and a wide range of stakeholder interests that were asked by the Corps and other federal agencies to develop a Recommended Charter for the MRRIC.

Membership of the MRRIC is comprised of representatives of federal agencies, Tribes, states and stakeholders from throughout the Missouri River basin. Each federal agency head, tribal chairman and state governor may appoint one representative to the MRRIC. Stakeholder representatives apply for membership by identifying their interest in one of the 16 interest categories. The MRRIC was established in 2008 and meets a minimum of twice a year. More information, including a roster of current members, may be found at www.MRRIC.org.

The following states, Tribes and stakeholder interests are eligible for membership on the MRRIC:

STATES	TRIBES		STAKEHOLDER INTERESTS
Iowa	Ft. Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes	Omaha Tribe of Nebraska	Navigation
Kansas	Blackfeet Tribe	Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	Irrigation
Missouri	Cheyenne River Sioux	Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation	Flood Control
Montana	Chippewa Cree Tribe	Rosebud Sioux Tribe	Fish and Wildlife
Nebraska	Crow Creek Sioux Tribe	Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska	Recreation
North Dakota	Crow Nation	Santee Sioux Nation	Water Quality
South Dakota	Eastern Shoshone Tribe	Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe	Water Supply
Wyoming	Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe	Spirit Lake Sioux Tribe	Agriculture
	Ft. Belknap Indian Community	Standing Rock Sioux Tribe	Conservation Districts
	Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Missouri	Three Affiliated Tribes	Waterway Industries
	Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas	Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa	Major Tributaries
	Lower Brule Sioux Tribe	Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska	Thermal power
	Northern Arapaho Tribe	Yankton Sioux Tribe	Hydro power
	Northern Cheyenne Tribe		Other Interests, such as cultural and historic preservation
	Oglala Sioux Tribe		Local Government
			Environmental/Conservation Organizations

The mission of the Missouri River Recovery Program is to implement actions to accomplish Missouri River ecosystem recovery goals in coordination and collaboration with agency partners and stakeholders. The vision of the program is to create a sustainable ecosystem supporting thriving populations of native species while providing for current social and economic values.

For more information on the Missouri River Recovery Program, please visit www.moriverrecovery.org.

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