

Mike Eng

From: Mike Eng
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 7:16 PM
To: Mike Eng
Subject: Next Meeting of MRRIC Planning Group's Drafting Team and Review Panel: Wednesday, April 25, in Kansas City, MO

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

Dear Drafting Team and Review Panel for the MRRIC Planning Group Process:

The next combined meeting of the Drafting Team and Review Panel for the MRRIC Planning Group will take place on Wednesday, April 25, at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center (<http://crowncenter.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/index.jsp>), 2345 McGee Street, Kansas City, MO. The meeting will begin at 3:30pm and conclude at 9:00pm. A buffet dinner will be provided for Planning Group members.

PLEASE RSVP TO PAT LEWIS (lewis@ecr.gov or 520-901-8538) IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEETING SO WE CAN GET A COUNT FOR THE BUFFET DINNER.

Drafting Team and Review Panel members who were not able to attend the initial meeting in Omaha, are asked to also attend an orientation session from 1:00pm to 3:00pm, on Wednesday, April 25, before the start of the formal meeting of the Planning Group.

Efforts to fully convene the MRRIC Planning Group are continuing. An announcement will be made shortly to briefly re-open the application process to recruit additional individuals wishing to serve on either the Drafting Team or the Review Panel. We hope to be joined in Kansas City by several new members to the MRRIC Planning Group.

This combined meeting of the Drafting Team and the Review Panel is being held in conjunction with the 2nd National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration (<http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/NCER2007/>). All members of the MRRIC Planning Group are encouraged to register and attend as much of the conference as possible. Many of the sessions will have relevance to the anticipated future work of the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee. For MRRIC Planning Group members who can attend the conference, we will identify several opportunities to get together informally during the scheduled receptions, box lunches, etc. during the conference.

The initial meeting in Omaha of the Drafting Team (also attended by several members of the Review Panel) focused on interviewing four potential facilitation teams to assist the MRRIC Planning Group process in developing a recommended initial Charter for the Missouri River Recovery. These four teams were identified as finalists through an extensive recruitment and preliminary selection process conducted by the U.S. Institute. The Drafting team also had the opportunity to meet with the two proposed Co-Chairs for the MRRIC Planning Group process and to discuss their backgrounds, their interest in assisting with this effort, and their anticipated role. The Drafting Team also learned about the efforts of the Federal Working Group over the last six months in developing this MRRIC Planning Group process as the next step towards establishing the actual Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee.

Based on the feedback provided by the Drafting Team and participating Review Panel members following the interviews conducted in Omaha, the U.S. Institute has narrowed the field down to two facilitation teams. One is the team lead by Mike Hughes, which also includes Todd Bryan, Jody Erikson, and Ed Moreno; the other team is lead by Ruth Siguenza and also includes Karen Amen, Martha Gilliland, Steve Miller, and Lisa Burns. These two teams are being invited to attend the Kansas City meeting and make separate one-hour presentations on Preliminary Draft Proposed Operating Procedures and Ground Rules for the MRRIC Planning Group process. These presentations should provide you with a good idea about how well each team would be able to work with the members of the Planning Group. The presentations will

also allow the Planning Group to move forward towards adopting its own Operating Procedures and Ground Rules, so that it can then turn to the task at hand of developing an initial recommended Charter for MRRIC. Drafting Team members will also have a brief opportunity to ask any final questions of the two teams before the Planning Group as a whole will be asked to make its recommendation to the U.S. Institute regarding which facilitation team should be contracted to assist the MRRIC Planning Group with its efforts.

Please plan to review the two teams' proposals before the meeting, so they will be fresh in your mind.

A meeting agenda and specific meeting location information will be sent out in the next few days.

If you have any logistical questions about conference registration or hotel reservations, please contact Pat Lewis at lewis@ecr.gov or 520-901-8538.

We are very much looking forward to seeing you in Kansas City. Thanks for your service to the basin.

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