

Missouri River Basin Interagency Roundtable (MRBIR) Meeting Summary\

February 11, 2016

Kansas City, MO

<http://projects.ecr.gov/mrbir/>

Executive Summary

The Missouri River Basin Interagency Roundtable, chaired by Tim LaPointe, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) met at the Hilton Kansas City Airport in Kansas City, Missouri, on February 11, 2016. Missouri River Basin executives or their alternates, representing twelve federal agencies, attended the meeting along with Planning Committee members and staff. The meeting was facilitated by Carrie Thompson of the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (US Institute), and meeting notes were prepared by Mitch Chrismer (US Institute). The meeting agenda is provided in Appendix A.

A main purpose of the meeting was for agency executives to brief one another on Basin agency programs, projects, and recent activities occurring in the Missouri River Basin since the group met last in August 2016. Several informational briefings were made at the meeting, including: (1) an update on the Bakken Federal Working Group; (2) an update on the status of the Intake Project and Environmental Assessment; (3) an update on the Ideker Farms and Intake litigations; (4) a report on the Missouri River Recovery Management Plan EIS; (5) a report on the status of WRRDA Implementation; (6) a climate outlook report; (7) a report on Indian water rights; (8) an update on the Ogallala Aquifer Initiative; (9) an update on Missouri River flood summary; (10) a report from the Federal Partners Interagency Mitigation and Resiliency group; (11) an update on the Drought Resilience Pilot; and (12) a report on efforts to streamline the federal permitting process for pipelines.

Updates from MRBIR committees included: (1) an update from the Sediment topic team; (2) a briefing from the Climate Collaboration topic team; and (3) an update from the Ecosystems Functions topic team. MRBIR executives and Planning Committee members provided updates from each of their agencies and discussed Missouri River basin issues and opportunities for increased collaboration and coordination amongst federal agencies working in the region (see Appendix B to this Executive Summary for the updated MRBIR work plan as of August 18, 2015).