

Missouri River Basin Interagency Roundtable (MRBIR) Meeting Summary

August 25, 2016

Bellevue, NE

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

Executive Summary

The MRBIR, chaired by Jeff Robichaud, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), met at the Fontenelle Forest Nature Center in Bellevue, Nebraska, on August 25, 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 Jeff Robichaud (EPA). Carrie Thompson of the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (US Institute) planned the meeting 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 February 2016. Several informational briefings were made at the meeting, including: (1) an update on the Bakken Federal Working Group; (2) an update on the Ideker Farms and Intake litigations; (3) a report on the Missouri River Recovery Management Plan EIS; (4) a report on Urban Waters Partnership; (5) a report on Catalyzing Science, Tools & Partnerships – The Sagebrush Science Initiative; (6) a report on Science Hubs - What are they and how they benefit the Missouri River; (7) an update on the climate outlook for the Missouri River basin; (8) an report on Landscape Conservation Cooperatives; (9) a report from the USGS Climate Centers; (10) an update on the Midwest Stream Quality Assessment; (11) a report on Harmful Algal Blooms; (12) a report on Recreational Criteria for HABs, and (13) a report on Runoff Risk Advisory Forecast for HABs and Water Quality.

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 May 17, 2016).