

Missouri River Interagency Roundtable Meeting (MRBIR)

Meeting Summary v7

January 24, 2013

Kansas City, Missouri

Executive Summary

The Missouri River Interagency Roundtable, chaired by Tom Christensen, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), met at the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Weather Service Training Center in Kansas City, Missouri, on January 24, 2013. Missouri River Basin executives or their alternates, representing ten federal agencies, attended the meeting along with Planning Committee members and staff. The meeting was facilitated by Sarah Palmer of the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (U.S. Institute), and meeting notes were prepared by Mitch Chrismer (U.S. 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 July 2012. Several informational briefings were made at the meeting: an update by USACE regarding water management and the 2013 forecast; USGS shared information about the effects of the invasive species Asian Carp on the Missouri River ecosystem; and the National Integrated Drought Information System.

Updates from MRBIR committees included: (1) a report from the Tribal-Federal Relations Committee; (2) a report on the Missouri River Basin Soil Health Initiative from the PC ecosystems function topic team; (3) a report on Missouri River sediment made by the PC sediment topic team; and (4) a briefing from the climate collaboration topic team regarding next steps regarding the proposal to expand plains snow and basin conditions monitoring. The MRBIR executives discussed what topics and tasks within each respective topic are a priority for the teams to work on over the next six months. See Appendix B to this Executive Summary for the updated MRBIR work plan as of January 17, 2013.

This meeting also featured a transition of leadership from NRCS to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Brigadier General Anthony Funkhouser (USACE) and David Ponganis (USACE) are the new MRBIR Roundtable chairs, and Erik Blechinger (USACE) is the incoming PC chair.

Agreements Reached:

Executives agreed:

- To ask their respective staffs about potential agency interest and possible roles in a soil moisture monitoring initiative;
- To determine how each of their agencies can participate in the soil health initiative and perhaps share their findings at agricultural-related meetings in various agricultural regions of the Missouri River basin;
- To formally signal the group's support of a soil health initiative designed to improve basin conditions by signing a letter / statement of support that will be drafted by the Missouri River Basin Ecosystem Functions topic team;
- To hold the next MRBIR Meeting on July 17, 2013, in Kansas City, MO.

**Missouri River Basin Interagency Roundtable Winter
Meeting
Action items**

Below are the action items and task leads identified at the January 24, 2013 MRBIR meeting.

Action	Who	Complete by:
Submit ideas for topic ideas for the summer MRBIR Roundtable meeting July 17 in Kansas City, MO to Sarah Palmer (palmer@ecr.gov) and Mitch Chrismer (Chrismer@ecr.gov).	Executives and PC members	March 21, 2013
Submit ideas for a possible ½ day fieldtrip site visit opportunities for the next meeting in Kansas City complete by March 21.	Executives and PC members	March 21, 2013
Those who are interested in participating in the Bakken Executives Group are encouraged to email Jamie Connell to get on the mailing list at jconnell@blm.gov .	Executives and PC members	March 21, 2013
Contact Doug Kluck at doug.kluck@noaa.gov if interested in attending the February 21 and 22 meetings that focus on tribal resilience to climate change in the Missouri River Basin.	Executives and PC Members	February 15, 2013
Circulate the Tribal Federal Relations SharePoint site information to MRBIR Executives and PC members. Send screen shots from the SharePoint site to Mitch ASAP to include in the MRBIR meeting summary.	Cathi Warren	February 8, 2013
Determine if there is an opportunity to coordinate involvement with other agencies in Sacred Sites training and follow up with Diane Mann-Klager.	Steve Mietz and Mike Reynolds, NPS	March 21, 2013
Share fact sheets about civil works transformation with MRBIR.	David Ponganis	COMPLETED: http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Transformation.aspx
Share PowerPoint presentation about surplus water with MRBIR.	Tiffany Vanosdall	February 8, 2013
Ask their staff about potential agency interest and possible roles in a soil moisture monitoring initiative.	Executives	March 21, 2013

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Determine how each of their agencies can participate in the soil health initiative, and perhaps share their findings at agricultural-related meetings in various agricultural regions of the Missouri River basin.	Executives	March 21, 2013
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Draft a letter / statement of support for MRBIR executive signature to demonstrate support of this issue.	Soil Health topic team – Verlon Barnes	March 21, 2013
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Use feedback from Executives to revise the draft policy statement on Sediments, with added attention / focus on the classification of sediment as a pollutant, fine vs. coarse sediment, etc.	Steve Mietz	March 21, 2013
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Determine if his presentation on Asian Carp can be shared internally with MRBIR, since it cannot be posted on the website and inform Mitch at chrismer@ecr.gov of any updates.	Leon Carl	February 8, 2013
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