

**MRBIR Meeting  
July 17, 2013**

**US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Kansas City  
Richard Bolling Federal Bldg; Room 204  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106  
Main Number: (816) 389-3205**

**Security Code to enter room: 204**

**To Participate in the Meeting Remotely**

**Online Access:** <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/642348257>

Note: To reserve a space, **please register in advance of the meeting using the link above.** Once you register you will receive an email with your own link to access the meeting online.

**Call number: 1-888-557-8511  
Access code: 7956172**

**8.30 AM – 4.30 PM Central**

**Meeting Objectives:**

- Update one another about Basin agency programs, projects, and recent activities.
- Discuss how FY13 and 14 budgets are impacting Missouri River programs.
- Report from the Tribal-Federal Relations Committee.
- Report on Missouri River sediment and finalize federal position paper
- Hear from other groups working in the Missouri River or adjacent watersheds
- Learn about the current status of Missouri River water management; Update on drought and impacts to community water supply; and drought assessment and attribution reports from NOAA
- Report on Missouri River Basin Soil Health Initiative and discuss and decide next steps.
- Discuss and decide if there are next steps regarding the proposal to expand plains snow and basin conditions monitoring.
- Attend to operations of MRBIR, plan for next meeting.

*NOTE: Please bring your Federal identification with you to facilitate your access into the building.*

8:30 – 8:50 Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks– MRBIR Chair COL John Kem, Northwest Division, USACE

8:50 – 9:00 Agenda Review, Meeting Guidelines, Announcements – Sarah Palmer, US Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (IECR), meeting facilitator

**Read Ahead: Tab 1. MRBIR Agenda Final  
Background document: MRBIR Guidelines v3**

- 9:00 – 10:00 Agency Round Robin – MRBIR Executives or designated alternates  
**Goal:** Brief updates (~3-5 minutes per agency) from member agencies about matters FY13 and 14 budget issues impacting agency mission and goals in the Missouri River basin.
- 10:00– 10:20 BREAK
- 10:20 – 10:50 Coordinating Missouri River Activities in FY2014  
**Goal:** Discuss where there are opportunities for MRBIR member agencies to work together to address resource constraints in various Missouri River programs impacted in FY13 and 2014.  
**Executive Discussion:** *How might agencies approach resource constraints together? Where are the opportunities for coordination across programs to ensure continuity of programs in FY14?*
- Possible opps:  
How and what to prioritize interagency efforts and intergovernmental/ngo efforts?  
-MR Basin focused  
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snow/stream gauge monitoring –among USGS NRCS NOAA  
If WRDA passes potential need for coordination across USACE, DOI, Commerce re monitoring. If no WRDA engage MoRAST, WGA (Western States Water Council)
- Climate change – in light of recent Presidential directive – coordinate planning across climate coordination [NPS climate change scenario planning] USGS Climate Centers and USFWS LCCs , USDA AARs climate centers
- Flood water management – strategies and projects that help manage flood water
- Potential for shared positions across agencies especially where technical expertise is needed  
Large scale planning efforts
- 10:50 – 11:35 Sediment Team Report: Draft Sediment Position Paper  
**Goal:** Update from Sediment Topic Team and executive discussion of draft sediment position paper.
- Executive Discussion:** What actions, if any, would MRBIR like to take to support or advance this paper?
- Read Ahead:** **Tab 2.** MRBIR Sediment Position Paper-28May2013
- 11:00 -11.35 **Missouri River Recovery Program Management Plan – Jennifer Switzer, USACE**  
(20 minute presentation plus 10 minutes for Q&A)
- 11:35– 12:00 *Break for Lunch*
- 12:30– 1:15 Public Session (40 minutes plus 10 minutes for Q&A)

Briefing from America's Watershed Initiative, Great River Partnership –Harald (Jordy) Jordahl, Director

**Read Aheads:** **Tab 3a.** AWI 2013 Fact Sheet rev05-13

**Tab 3b.** AWI report card 053113

**Tab 3c.** AWI Report Card Goals and Values logo May 2013

1:15– 2:10

Updates on Missouri River Water Management –USACE, NOAA

**Goal:** Learn about the current status of Missouri River water management; Update on drought and impacts to community water supply; and drought assessment and attribution reports from NOAA

Water Management and Mid-Season Flow Predictions – Jody Farhat, USACE

*~15 minute presentation 10 minute Q&A*

Drought assessment for 2012 and drought attribution reports – Doug Kluck, NOAA

*~20 minute presentation 10 minute Q&A*

2:10 – 2:40

Climate Collaboration Topic Team Report – Doug Kluck, NOAA

**Goal:** Learn about status of the Plains Snow and Basin Conditions Monitoring Proposal in current proposed WRDA and an update on the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) pilot project.

*20 minute presentation 10 minute Q&A*

**Read Ahead:** **Tab 4.** *RC Central\_Final\_6-20-2013*

2:40 – 3:00

BREAK

3:00 – 3:30

Missouri River Basin Ecosystem Functions - Verlon Barnes, NRCS

**Goal:** Update on MRBIR approved Missouri River Basin Initiative (with focus on soil health) to improve basin conditions to improve water infiltration into soil, improve water-holding capacity of soil, recharge ground water and springs, reduce flooding, reduce impacts of drought, reverse climate change, and create a more sustainable ecosystem. Specific goals are to:

- Provide a brief update on the MRBIR Soil Health Support Letter;
- Review the MRB Initiative concept proposal and discuss.

*20 minute presentation, 10 minute discussion*

3:30– 4:00

Missouri River Basin Tribal Federal Relations Committee Report – Paul Cloutier, USACE (20 minutes)

Executive Q&A (10 minutes)

**Read Aheads:** **Tab 5a.** MRBIR FTRC Calendar

**Tab 5b.** MRBIR Tribal Leader List\_July 2013

*(Note: the above read aheads are works in progress and updated versions may be handed out at the meeting.)*

4:00– 4:20      Recap of MRBIR FY13/14 Priorities and Goals – Executives or designated alternates  
**Goals:** Review current MRBIR priorities, affirm, revise or sunset MRBIR PC topics and identify new opportunities.

**Handout provided at meeting:** *MRBIR Work Plan v10 updated 07-11-13*

Possible Updates:

How and what to prioritize interagency efforts (and intergovernmental/ngo efforts as appropriate)?

-MR Basin focused

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Snow/stream gauge monitoring –among USGS NRCS NOAA

If WRDA passes potential need for coordination across USACE, DOI, Commerce re monitoring. If no WRDA engage MoRAST, WGA (Western States Water Council)

Climate change – in light of recent Presidential directive – coordinate planning across climate coordination [NPS climate change scenario planning] USGS Climate Centers and USFWS LCCs , USDA AARs climate centers

Flood water management – strategies and projects that help manage flood water

Potential for shared positions across agencies especially where technical expertise is needed  
Large scale planning efforts

4:20 – 4:30      MRBIR Operations – US Institute

- Is there interest in a between-meeting information sharing webinar? If so what topics are of interest to the group?
- Winter meeting date
- Review action items from today

4:30              Adjourn - MRBIR Chair COL John Kem, USACE

Infrastructure

Platte River

Tribal Leader briefing

2011 Attribution and Prediction studies

2012 Drought Assessment

Federal Tribal consultation pp- Fall webinar

MRR Plan briefing—Fall webinar

Climate Science Centers/LCCs

NIDIS briefing—Fall webinar

Report back from Sediment Team (talking points, education)

Ecosystem Fctns, climate collaboration