

MRBIR Executive Meeting

Loveland, CO

September 13, 2022

Executive Summary

The Missouri River Basin Interagency Roundtable (MRBIR), chaired by Brent Esplin, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) met at the Northern Water facility in Loveland, CO, on September 13, 2022. Missouri River Basin Executives or their alternates, representing 13 Federal agencies, attended the meeting along with Planning Committee members and agency staff. The meeting was facilitated by Marci DuPraw of the National Center for Environmental Conflict Resolution (National Center) with support from Mitch Chrismer. The meeting notes were prepared by Elyse Magen (National Center). The meeting participants and agenda are provided in Appendix A-B, and supplementary reading materials in Appendix C.

A main purpose of the meeting was for agency Executives to brief one another on Missouri River Basin agency programs, projects, and recent activities occurring since the group met last in February 2022. Several informational briefings were given at the meeting, including: (i) updates on the prevention of looting of cultural resources; (ii) updates to ongoing litigation; (iii) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s presentation on their community drought project; (iv) presentation and discussion on opportunities for MRBIR collaboration on drought challenges; (v) updates on water management and climate; (vi) the United States Forest Service (USFS) source water protection and ten year wildfire crisis strategy; (vii) Colorado's 2020 wildfire season; and (ix) MRBIR operations. In addition to these reports and updates, the MRBIR group discussed the top priorities and pressing issues from their respective agencies.

As a result of this meeting, MRBIR agreed to stand up a Subcommittee on drought. The efforts will specifically focus on how to support Tribes strengthen their drought resiliency. A full list of action items is shown on the table on the next page.