

# MRBIR Executive Meeting Agenda

IN-PERSON: 8:30 am – 8:30 pm MT Tuesday, August 29, 2023

USFS Helena-Lewis & Clark Supervisor's Office

2880 Skyway Dr, Helena, MT 59602

Remote Participation:

## Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

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Meeting ID: 283 329 894 111

Passcode: Qa23iZ

- 8:30am**      **LOGISTICS, AGENDA REVIEW (10min):** Site Host; Marci DuPraw, NCECR
- 8:40am**      **ROLL CALL, INTRODUCTIONS (15min):** Executives and PC Members
- 8:55am**      **WELCOME AND SETTING THE STAGE (20 MIN):** BLM CHAIR AND PC CHAIR
- Ms. Sonya Germann
  - Ms. Ruth Miller
- 9:15AM**      **EXECUTIVE AGENCY PRIORITIES ROUND-ROBIN (120 min)**
- Lead: Facilitated
  - Approach: Each Executive (or agency stand-in) takes 10 minutes to share:
    - Top Missouri River Basin priorities /pressing agency issues
    - Prep for Drought discussion in afternoon – agencies can provide high-level drought related updates during this round-robin, to include an overview of individual agency-specific drought missions and authorities
- 10:15AM**      **BREAK (15 MIN)**
- 10:30AM**      **EXECUTIVE AGENCY PRIORITIES ROUND-ROBIN (Con't) (120 min)**
- Lead: Facilitated
  - Approach: Each Executive (or agency stand-in) takes 10 minutes to share:
    - Top Missouri River Basin priorities /pressing agency issues
- 11:30AM**      **MO RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT & CLIMATE UPDATE (30 MIN)**
- Climate Outlook, Soil Moisture Update – Kevin Low & Doug Kluck, NOAA (15min)
  - Water supply update and 2023 flow predictions – John Remus, USACE (15min)

- 12:00PM LUNCH – BOX LUNCHESES DELIVERED (\$20 CASH REQ'D FOR LUNCH)**
- 1:00PM BLM SPECIFIC TOPIC: RESTORATION LANDSCAPES (30MIN)**
- Ruth Miller, BLM Deputy State Director for Resources and Planning
- 1:30PM MRBIR DROUGHT WORK GROUP UPDATE (15MIN)**
- Lead: Ms. Tiffany Vanosdall, Missouri River Liaison, USACE, Northwest Division
  - Updates since last Executive Meeting
- 1:45PM MRBIR DROUGHT RESILIENCY DISCUSSION (60MIN)**
- MO RIVER DROUGHT RESILIENCY – COLO. RIVER LESSONS & MRBIR NEXT STEPS (60 MIN)
    - Facilitated discussion on Drought Resiliency and lessons learned from previous Executive Meeting in CO River Basin
    - Open discussion for all agencies to participate and share their agency-specific missions and authorities as relates to drought
      - Also discuss the drought “triggers” that agencies look for
      - Steps taken to date to address drought
      - Anticipated agency-specific steps that will take in future
    - Discuss opportunities for collaboration and next steps for MRBIR with goal of avoiding a CO River Basin situation
- 2:45PM BREAK (15 MIN) – DISTRIBUTE MEETING EVALUATION FORMS**
- 3:00PM COLLABORATING WITH TRIBAL AND REGIONAL PARTNERS (30MIN)**
- Rosebud Sioux Tribe’s request for in-person Federal/tribal MO River meeting
  - Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe’s request for in-person presentation on Cultural Resources Subcommittee’s work products
  - Fort Peck Tribes’ request for list of federal agencies’ tribal liaisons
  - Executive discussion on potential engagement with MO River Basin tribes and Mississippi River Watershed Initiative
- 3:30pm LITIGATION UPDATES (15 MIN ): CHRISTINA AUSTIN SMITH, USACE**
- Quick briefing on ongoing litigation issues in MO River Basin
- 3:45pm MRBIR OPERATIONS (10 MIN)**
- Mitch Chrismer, NCECR
    - 2024 funding updates
    - MRBIR Contact List
    - Chair Rotation Schedule
    - Meeting Evaluation
    - Field Trip Updates
    - Dinner Options

- 3:55pm**      **MEETING CLOSEOUT – BLM (5 MIN)**
- Sonya Germann BLM
- 4:00pm**      **BREAK FOR DINNER (ON OWN) (90 MINUTES)**
- 5:30pm**      **BOARD BUS TO GATES OF THE MOUNTAIN / MANN GULCH BOAT TOUR (30 MINUTES)**
- <https://gatesofthemountains.com/>
  - Bus will depart from Hampton Inn by Hilton
    - Address: **725 Carter Drive Helena, Montana, 59601, USA**
- 6:00pm**      **BOAT TOUR OF GATES OF THE MOUNTAIN / MANN GULCH (120 MINUTES)**
- Dave Turner (Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation) will lead tour to Mann Gulch and speak about that historic fire event and subsequent lessons learned in fire safety
    - Mr. Turner is considered the foremost authority on the Mann Gulch Fire and leads all staff rides in Mann Gulch for the DNRC
- 8:00pm**      **RETURN BY BUS TO HELENA (30 MINUTES)**
- 8:30pm**      ***ADJOURN***