

August 6, 2024



Upper Mississippi River
Basin Association

171st Quarterly Meeting

Agenda
with
Background
and
Supporting
Materials

**Braemar Office Park
Edina, MN**

Agenda
August 6, 2024

Time	Topic	Presenter
1:00 p.m.	Call to Order and Introductions	Grant Wilson, <i>Minnesota DNR</i>
1:10	A1-8 Approval of Minutes of May 21, 2024 Meeting	
1:15	B1-15 Executive Director's Report	Kirsten Wallace, <i>UMRBA</i>
1:30	The UMRS Partnership: Existing and Unfolding and Collaborations Investments	Brian Stenquist, <i>UMRBA</i>
1:45	C1-4 Mississippi River Basin Partnership Meeting	Kim Lutz, <i>America's Watershed Initiative</i> and Liz Crowe, <i>The Nature Conservancy</i>
2:05	D1-2 Upper Mississippi River Nutrient Collaborations	Lauren Salvato, <i>UMRBA</i>
2:20	Break	
2:40	E1-37 Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Objectives of Proposed Legislation ▪ Collaboration with Existing Federal and State Actions ▪ Stakeholder Hopes and Perspectives for New Opportunities 	Rebecca Taylor, <i>Rep. Betty McCollum Office</i>
3:20	The UMRS Partnership: Existing and Unfolding Collaborations and Investments	Open Discussion
3:50	F1-8 Administrative Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FYs 2026 and 2027 Dues and Water Quality Assessment ▪ Future Meeting Schedule 	Grant Wilson, <i>Minnesota DNR</i>
4:00 p.m.	Adjourn	

ATTACHMENT A

Minutes of the May 21, 2024 **UMRBA Quarterly Meeting**

(A-1 to A-8)

Draft
Minutes of the 170th Quarterly Meeting
of the
Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

May 21, 2024
Davenport, Iowa

Grant Wilson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Participants were as follows:

UMRBA Representatives and Alternates:

Rick Pohlman	Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Loren Wobig	Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Chad Craycraft	Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Tim Hall	Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Jake Hansen	Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Nichole Hansen	Iowa Economic Development Authority
Sam Hiscocks	Iowa Department of Transportation
Grant Wilson	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Patrick Phenow	Minnesota Department of Transportation
Erin Fanning	Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Ken Henderson	Missouri Department of Agriculture (on behalf of Chris Klenklen)
Matt Vitello	Missouri Department of Conservation
Wade Strickland	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Federal UMRBA Liaisons:

Jim Bodron	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, MVD
JC Nelson	U.S. Geological Survey, Midcontinent Region
Sabrina Chandler	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Richard Vaughn	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conversation Service
Ken Hinterlong	Federal Emergency Management Agency

Others in Attendance:

Kirk Hansen	Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Zahrah Alghalibi	Iowa Department of Transportation
John Seitz	Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Matt O'Hara	Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Brian McCoy	Illinois Department of Transportation
BJ Murray	Illinois Department of Transportation
Vanessa Perry	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Charmayne Anderson	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Erin Fanning	Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Brenda Kelly	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Adrian Stocks	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Sammi Boyd	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Robyn Colosimo	Assistance Secretary of the Army for Civil Works
Lauren Lueck	Assistance Secretary of the Army for Civil Works
Elliot Carman	Assistance Secretary of the Army for Civil Works
Michael Tarpey	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Headquarters
BG Kimberly Peebles	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division
Beth Fleming	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division
Deanna Prestwood	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division
Brian Chewing	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division
Jim Cole	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division
Samantha Thompson	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division
Karl Jansen	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
Angela Deen	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
Craig Evans	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
John Henderson	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
Rob Maroney	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
Kim Warshaw	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
Scott Whitney	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District
Andrew Goodall	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District
Marshall Plumley	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District
Bethany Hoster	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District
Leo Keller	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District
Davi Michl	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District
Dan Smith	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District
Michael Feldmann	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District
Shawn Sullivan	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District
Brian Markert	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District
Jasen Brown	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District
John Miller	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District
Lane Richter	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District
Dane Boring	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
John Winter	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, UMR Refuges
Matt Mangan	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, UMR Refuges
Lauren Larson	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Illinois-Iowa Field Office
Heidi Keuler	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, La Crosse Field Office
Jennifer Dieck	U.S. Geological Survey, Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center
Mike Welvaert	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NWS
Madeleine Castle	Senator Josh Hawley
Melissa Kenney	University of Minnesota, Institute on the Environment
Brent Newman	Audubon
Bob Sinkler	Corn Belt Ports
Anshu Singh	Corn Belt Ports
Ted LaBelle	Crawford, Murphy, and Tilly
Jill Crafton	Izaak Walton League
Carolyn Mahlum-Jenkins	League of Women Voters – Upper Mississippi River
Olivia Dorothy	Mississippi River Network
Kim Schneider	<i>Our Mississippi</i>
Bryan Hopkins	The Nature Conservancy

Paul Rohde	Waterways Council, Inc.
Doug Daigle	Unaffiliated
Kirsten Wallace	Upper Mississippi River Basin Association
Brian Stenquist	Upper Mississippi River Basin Association
Mark Ellis	Upper Mississippi River Basin Association
Sam Hund	Upper Mississippi River Basin Association
Natalie Lenzen	Upper Mississippi River Basin Association
Ken Petersen	Upper Mississippi River Basin Association
Andrew Stephenson	Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

Minutes

Rick Pohlman moved and Wade Strickland seconded a motion to approve the draft minutes of the February 27, 2024 UMRBA quarterly meeting as provided in the agenda packet. The motion was approved unanimously.

Executive Director’s Report

Kirsten Wallace pointed to the Executive Director’s report in the agenda packet for a summary of the Association’s work efforts since the February 2024 meeting. Wallace elaborated on the following key events and UMRBA products:

- UMRBA has invested considerable staff resources advocating for UMRBA’s priorities in the forthcoming Water Resources Development Act as well as the 2024 and 2025 federal appropriations measures.
- Within the next few weeks, UMRBA is preparing to initiate a hiring process for a UMRBA Ecosystem Program Coordinator position.
- On May 7-9, 2024, UMRBA convened a workshop to bring together partners who work on, and participate in, the program’s habitat rehabilitation and enhancement projects and long term resource monitoring efforts. The workshop purpose focused on modeling applications to improve decision making across the UMRS, the design of habitat projects, as well as discuss various emerging programmatic efforts, such as advancing environmental justice strategies. UMRBA provided meeting design services for the workshop, working with an *ad hoc* team assembled by the UMRBA Program Manager and the UMRBA Coordinating Committee.

Wallace pointed to UMRBA’s January 2024 through March 2024 financial statements provided on pages B-18 to B-22 of the agenda packet. Tim Hall moved and Rick Pohlman seconded the motion to accept the Association’s budget report and balance sheet as included in the agenda packet. The motion was approved unanimously.

Kirsten Wallace provided a brief summary of the Association’s estimates for income and expenses in FY 2024 and FY 2025 as well as major assumptions. In response to a request from Wallace, Wade Strickland moved and Tim Hall seconded a motion to amend the FY 2024 budget for the Association as provided to the Board on May 17, 2024. The projected net income is \$9,268. This assumes cumulative state travel reimbursement of \$5,000.

In response to a request from Wallace, Tim Hall moved and Rick Pohlman seconded a motion to adopt the FY 2025 budget for the Association as provided to the Board on May 17, 2023. The proposed budget assumes full state travel reimbursement – i.e., \$28,500. The projected net income is a loss of \$7,310. Tim Hall moved and Rick Pohlman seconded a motion to approve the Association’s FY 2025 budget as provided to the UMRBA Board on May 17, 2024.

USACE Agency Specific Procedures for Principles, Requirements, and Guidelines

Robyn Colosimo provided an overview of the ASA(CW) Office’s of its new set of Agency Specific Procedures for USACE’s implementation of the Administration’s Principles, Requirements, and Guidelines. The purpose of the renewed agency specific procedures is to provide an updated framework for how the Corps evaluates proposed water resources development projects and programs. The new procedures are intended to maximize public benefits and ensure that recommended projects achieve their water management objectives and better reflect community needs and priorities.

Colosimo reported that the ASA(CW) published the new procedures in the Federal Register in February 2024 with a comment period that closed on April 15, 2024. The ASA(CW) Office is currently evaluating comments received and incorporating changes as needed. The ASA(CW) anticipates publishing a final rule by the end of calendar year 2024.

In response to a question from Loren Wobig, Colosimo said that the ASA(CW) Office will publish a summary of comments received as part of the process. In response to a question from Olivia Dorothy, Colosimo explained that the application of the renewed procedures to any programs or projects requiring supplemental environmental reviews depends on the specific situation. However, the new procedures may allow for broadening the benefits and exclusions.

Flood Risk Reduction and Resiliency Planning

Downscale Hydroclimatic Modeling Predictions

Via a pre-recorded presentation, Zac McEachran presented preliminary outcomes of the Upper Mississippi River Basin downscale hydroclimatic modeling predictions generated by the University of Minnesota and National Weather Service. McEachran explained that focus groups provided input on the scenarios that were run through the models. The final results are anticipated by the end of the calendar year.

Upper Mississippi River System Flow Frequency Study

Scott Whitney described the efforts to renew regulated and unregulated flow frequency curves and hydraulic provides along the mainstem of the Upper Mississippi River System. The existing dataset was published in 2004, using data covering the period of record through 1998.

The total project cost is estimated at \$3.6 million. The Corps allocated \$765 million in FY 2021 through FY 2023. Congress provided a \$1 million appropriation to support the project in FY 2024. That leaves \$1.8 million in remaining project costs.

Whitney elaborated on the Rock Island District’s communications plans to support the project development. Whitney underscored that there must be an open and transparent approach to

communications and stakeholder engagement. It is the Corps' intent to fully address questions, comments, and concerns and record how those inputs were considered and incorporated.

In response to a question from Brian Stenquist, Whitney explained that it may take a few years after the results are published for land management and regulatory agencies (local, state, federal) to integrate the results into their decision making.

Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program

Status Report and Outlook

Andrew Goodall provided an update on the progress of the Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program, with a more detailed assessment of project features and implementation schedule for the L&D 22 fish passage project and the construction of a second, 1,200-foot chamber at L&D 25 and La Grange L&D. Goodall explained that, assuming Congress provides efficient funding to NESP, the L&D 25 lock modernization cost estimate is approximately \$2.263 billion.

Goodall summarized the primary program activities that are ongoing in FY 2024 and are anticipated in FY 2025.

In response to a question from Matt Vitello about the Advisory Panel, Goodall pointed to pages E-1 to E-3 of the agenda packet. There is included the May 2, 2024 memo from the Corps Civil Works Director Eddie Belk regarding the Advisory Panel. It provides rationale for no funding having been allocated to the Advisory Panel to-date, but the possibility of it being allocated funding but requiring a separate line item. Goodall indicated a priority to convening the Advisory Panel.

In response to a question from Olivia Dorothy, Goodall reported that the Corps is developing a systemic mitigation plan for NESP lock construction and is preparing environmental analyses for the second, 1,200-foot lock chamber at La Grange L&D.

Wade Strickland raised the lack of clarity on definition and ways to measure progress regarding the provision of comparable progress in NESP's authorizing language.

Capital Investment Strategy

Michael Tarpey reported that the Corps has initiated an assessment to renew its 20-year planning framework to guide investment in the nation's inland and intercoastal waterways – i.e., the Capital Investment Strategy. Per statutory requirements, the Corps is coordinating with the Inland Waterways Users Board in developing the planning assumptions and investment strategy recommendations.

Tarpey underscored the value of renewing the strategy given the events in the past few years that have had significant impact on the construction schedules. This includes the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that provided \$2.5 billion in fully federal funding for navigation projects and Congressional actions to adjust the Inland Waterways Trust Fund cost share from 50 percent to 35 percent. Congress has also started new construction on several projects, including L&D 25 and NESP as a comprehensive program.

Tarpey said the Corps plans to disseminate a draft report in late June 2024, to request formal input from the Inland Waterways Users Board at its summer meeting (not yet scheduled), and finalizing the report in late summer or early fall 2024.

Tarpey explained that Congress recent enactment of the FY 2024 appropriations are requiring the Corps to adjust schedules. Congress is also considering another adjustment to the Inland Waterway Trust Fund cost share. For the latest information, recent briefings of the Capital Investment Strategy can be found on the Inland Waterways Users Board's website: <https://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/missions/navigation/inland-waterways-users-board/board-meetings/>.

Industry Perspective

Paul Rohde, Waterways Council, expressed appreciation to the Corps for renewing the Capital Investment strategy. Rohde stressed the value of having a coordinated approach among the Congress, the Corps, navigation industry, and other stakeholders in working towards shared goals, particularly in the appropriations process.

Rohde pointed to the Corps' objective to fund projects to completion as soon as possible in an effort to minimize overall project costs and expedite project completion. Rohde expressed support for expediting design of L&D 25 lock modernization so that it is ready for construction funding as soon as possible.

UMR Refuge 100-Year Anniversary

Sabrina Chandler announced the themes and series of events related to acknowledging the 100-year Anniversary of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. The primary events will be hosted the La Crosse District Visitor Center in Onalaska, Wisconsin. Information about the celebratory events throughout the Refuge this summer at the following website devoted to the Anniversary celebrations are available at the following website: <https://www.uppermiss100.com/>.

Chandler thanked the Refuge Partners, including Audubon, for planning the celebration events. And, the UMRR Communications and Outreach Team for assisting in disseminating information about the anniversary.

Chandler reflected that local and state support were key to compelling Congress to secure the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. Chandler underscored the importance of partnership to the USFWS and Refuge System through continued support from the public and government agencies. UMRBA has been particularly important for convening the broader partnership among federal agencies, states, local entities, and private organizations and individuals.

Chandler remarked on the future outlook for the Refuge System. The Service is investing in land acquisition, which will allow for future opportunities to conserve lands, mitigate climate change, and manage the river for ecological purposes. Chandler highlighted the Service's recent expansion of the Middle Mississippi River of about 90,000 acres. Even though budgets are tight for the agency, the Service is pursuing opportunities for land acquisition through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Chandler underscored the potential to restore the Upper Mississippi River System through a landscape vision.

USACE Mississippi Valley Division

Brig. Gen. Kimberly Peeples reflected on her first year in her command post of the Mississippi Valley Division. Brig. Gen. Peeples said she has been particularly struck by the remarkable partnerships in the Upper Mississippi River Basin, and clarity around the set of issues and opportunities for addressing complex challenges. One of the more instrumental opportunities to connect with partners was the Mississippi River Commission's low water inspection tour in 2023, during which the Commission convened several site visits, public listening sessions, and focused panel sessions on particular issue sets.

Brig. Gen. Peeples emphasized that the strength of the regional partnership, authorities and funding, and state of the science collectively position our partnership to do extraordinary work. Brig. Gen. Peeples invited partners to lean into optimism and innovation, and to provide her office with suggestions related to the Corps' mission.

Waters and Wetlands Restoration

Lauren Leuck provided contextual background to the ASA(CW) Michael Connor's recent policy actions regarding the Corps' investment in wetlands and nature-based solutions, through both nonregulatory and regulatory programs and projects. Leuck explained how the Corps views and incorporates the use of nature-based solutions into its water resources development projects. Leuck cited the proposed new Agency Specific Procedures for implementing the Principles, Requirements, and Guidelines as better allowing the Corps to more comprehensively account for the benefits of nature-based solutions in the evaluation of project alternatives. Acknowledging the potential risks to nature-based solutions, Leuck said the Administration is developing methods for assessing and quantifying the benefits and costs of certain nature-based solutions and determining their project life cycles.

Leuck also pointed to the Corps' ecosystem programs, Engineering with Nature, and beneficial reuse of dredged material efforts as authorities through which the Corps can restore wetlands.

Loren Wobig mentioned the interest from Illinois lawmakers to protect wetlands in the state following the Supreme Court ruling on the *Sackett vs USEPA* litigation. Wobig said it would be helpful to have more clarity on the nonregulatory and regulatory work that will no longer be implemented by the federal government. In response, Lueck said she would explore the potential to further clarify the existing understanding of federal jurisdiction of managing waters and wetlands. Lueck is not aware of a comprehensive analysis.

Federal Agency Fiscal Reports

Representatives from UMRBA federal liaison partners reported on the UMRS-related implications in the FY 2024 appropriations and FY 2025 budget. Representatives included Anna Prestwood (Corps), JC Nelson (USGS), and Sabrina Chandler (USFWS).

A few key highlights include:

- The Corps budget has increased significantly over the past several years, but the increase has been highly variable. Large appropriations have occurred in disaster supplementals and infrastructure-

related spending authorities. The unpredictability in appropriations has presented a unique set of challenges. The Corps has found success in implementing the investments through partnerships.

- USGS continues developing a report to Congress regarding science needs for the Mississippi River Basin. This report builds from a workshop convened in spring 2023.
- USFWS experienced significant declines in the FY 2024 appropriations that affects programs and projects nationally and regionally, after previous years of declining appropriations. It will require USFWS to make sweeping changes to its operations. Chandler will convey those changes to the partnership when available.

Other Business

Future Meeting Schedule

August 2024 in Edina, Minnesota

- UMRBA Quarterly Meeting – August 6
- UMRB Coordinating Committee quarterly meeting – August 7

November 2024 in St. Louis, Missouri

- UMRBA Quarterly Meeting – November 19
- UMRB Coordinating Committee quarterly meeting – November 20

February 2025 to be held virtually

- UMRBA Quarterly Meeting – February 25
- UMRB Coordinating Committee quarterly meeting – February 26

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

ATTACHMENT B

Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director's Report *(B-1 to B-4)*
- Interstate Council on Water Policy's Multi-signatory Letter *(7/23/2024) (B-5 to B-6)*
- Treasurer's Quarterly Statement *(7/23/2024) (B-7)*
- FY 2024 Profit and Loss Statement *(7/23/2024) (B-8 to B-10)*
- FY 2025 Profit and Loss Statement *(7/23/2024) (B-11 to B-13)*
- Balance Sheet *(7/23/2024) (B-14 to B-15)*



Executive Director's Report August 2024

Association Personnel

UMRBA hired Laura Talbert to serve as the Ecosystem Program Coordinator. In this role, Talbert will support UMRBA's interagency and interdisciplinary cooperative planning and action for the purposes of improving and sustaining the Upper Mississippi River's ecological resources. Talbert started with the Association on July 1, 2024.

Advocacy

Water Resources Development Act

UMRBA joined a multi-organization letter requesting that Congress adjust the cost-share formula for the construction and major rehabilitation of inland navigation projects. The signatories are seeking this authorization in the Water Resources Development Act of 2024. The letter was dated July 23, 2024 and addressed to the Chair and Ranking Member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The letter is included on pages B-5 to B-6 of the agenda packet.

Commercial Navigation

Inland Waterways Users Board

UMRBA staff attended the August 1, 2024 Inland Waterways Users Board (IWUB) meeting in St. Charles, Missouri. The meeting included routine updates of the Inland Waterway Trust Fund, USACE navigation program fiscal status, and ongoing navigation projects that are cost-shared using the Inland Waterway Trust Fund monies. As part of the latter report, the Rock Island and St. Louis Districts reported on the L&D 25 and La Grange lock modernization projects.

Ecosystem Health

Policy and Programmatic Interagency Coordination

UMRR Coordinating Committee Meeting

The UMRR Coordinating Committee met on May 22, 2024 in Davenport, Iowa. The agenda involved programmatic briefings regarding accomplishments and progress related to habitat rehabilitation and enhancement projects (HREPs), long term resource monitoring, and communications. The Committee also convened a facilitated exercise to get input to UMRR's next strategic planning process.

NESP Coordinating Committee Meetings

The Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP) Coordinating Committee met in-person on June 26, 2024 in the Quad Cities. The quarterly meeting focused on routine program reports as well as focused briefings on the development of an ecosystem strategic framework, reach-based planning, and project selection. In addition to this public-facing session, the Committee also convenes monthly

meetings to advance programmatic priorities. Recent discussions have focused on a strategic planning framework and systemic and reach planning.

Programmatic Strategic Planning

Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program

The UMRR Coordinating Committee convened meetings to refine a process for developing the next strategic plan for UMRR, including a three-day in-person meeting in Edina, Minnesota. With advice from an “independent” facilitator, an interagency team of program leaders is exploring a series of issues and developing a set of priorities. The leadership team has agreed that the process shall employ a robust public participation, including through UMRR Coordinating Committee quarterly meetings, for exploration, discussion, review, and feedback on emerging ideas.

Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program

An *ad hoc* group of the Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program Consultation Committee is developing a framework to guide the purpose, objectives, and process for strategic planning. UMRBA staff are participating in the *ad hoc* group.

Communications

Communications and Outreach Team

UMRBA staff participated in monthly meetings of the UMRR Communication and Outreach Team’s (COT). Topics included employing a photo contest, social media events, and updating UMRR related material at current kiosks/interpretive stations along the UMRS. UMRBA contributed in an effort to develop a process for implementing the photo contest.

Ecological Sustainability and Restoration

Systemic/Reach Planning

UMRBA staff continue to participate in the Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program’s System Planning Team, which is validating system-wide ecosystem objectives and developing a process to guide four reach planning teams in their more refined development of restoration targets.

Project Selection

On July 12, 2024, UMRR convened the UMRR Coordinating Committee, River Team Chairs, and District HREP managers to review progress in identifying and prioritizing a new suite of UMRR habitat projects. The purpose of the meeting was to raise and deliberate outstanding questions of the process and to ensure alignment in the river teams’ processes. UMRBA staff participated in the meeting.

Hazardous Spills Emergency Management

Oil Pollution Act (OPA) Planning and Mapping

UMRBA has completed the Wisconsin statewide Inland Sensitivity Atlas (ISA) update and have completed most of the Minnesota statewide ISA updates. UMRBA incorporated the updates into the regional

database that it developed for Wisconsin and Minnesota as well as updates received from the Great Lakes Commission (GLC) for Indiana.

UMRBA supported the Regional Response Team (RRT) 5 meetings that were convened at the Minnesota PCA on April 30, 2024 and May 1, 2024.

UMRBA staff participated in monthly meetings for the Mapping Group and for the Inland Zone Planning team.

Upper Mississippi River Hazardous Spills Coordination Group (UMR Spills Group)

The UMR Spills Group convened a virtual meeting on July 30, 2024 to discuss the development of a response strategy carried out on a barge in the main stem of the Mississippi River. The Group also participated in coordinating a response strategy field reconnaissance held in the Quad Cities area on August 2, 2024.

UMRBA staff participated in a spill response exercise planning meeting on June 4, 2024 in the Quad Cities, and then engaged in the planning exercise which was executed on June 24-26, 2024 at the Scott County (Iowa) Emergency Operations Center in Bettendorf, Iowa. The spill response field exercise included shoreline clean-up training, response technique training, and a tabletop exercise addressing the scenario of the derailment of a train following a collision with a barge near Le Claire, Iowa. Participants included federal and state agencies, local government entities, and industry organizations.

Water Quality

Plastics Pollution

On July 16, 2024, USEPA held its third Mississippi River Plastic Pollution Research Project Workshop in St. Paul, Minnesota. UMRBA staff participated in the workshop, which included a structured decision making exercise to develop goals, objectives, and measures of success for plastic pollution reduction on the Mississippi River. USEPA is also convening similar workshops in four other locations along the Mississippi River: St. Louis, Baton Rouge, and Vicksburg.

Hypoxia Task Force Coordinating Committee

UMRBA staff participated in the Hypoxia Task Force Coordinating Committee's May 29-30 Workshop. The Workshop included discussions on CEAP data, approaches to monitoring and trends evaluation, communications strategies, and research priorities. UMRBA staff also continue to engage in the Committee's monthly meetings.

Partnership Collaboration

UMRBA staff provided remarks about successful collaboration in the Upper Mississippi River Basin through the following forums:

- National Conference of State Legislators: UMRBA's remarks summarized the major challenges to integrated river management (the overall health of the river) and underscored the value of multi-jurisdictional cooperation that is fostered through UMRBA. The National Caucus of State Legislators convened the Mississippi River Basin Legislative Cohort on June 6-7, 2024 in St. Paul, Minnesota.

- Mississippi River Watershed Partnership Meeting: UMRBA’s remarks focused on the unique nature of the Upper Mississippi River Basin partnership in the context of historical mandates or events and social-political dynamics. America’s Watershed Initiative (AWI) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) co-hosted the Mississippi River Watershed Partnership Meeting on June 25-27, 2024 in St. Louis. The purpose of the convening was to explore how a broad cross-sector partnership, that builds upon existing initiatives through integrated action, can improve the environmental and economic health of the watershed. UMRBA staff also provided workshop design and facilitation services.
- Midwestern Legislative Conference: UMRBA staff participated in a plenary session focused on nutrient reduction policy. UMRBA’s remarks illuminated the opportunities for addressing nutrient runoff at the Mississippi River Basin scale. The Midwestern Legislative Conference held its annual meeting on July 21-23, 2024 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Financial and Administrative Report

UMRBA Financial Report

Attached as page B-7 is UMRBA Treasurer Jason Tidemann’s statement regarding his review of UMRBA’s financial statement for the period of April 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024.

Attached as pages B-8 to B-15 are UMRBA’s 2024 budget reports and balance sheet. As of June 30, 2024, ordinary income for FY 2024 totaled \$973,172.48 and expenses totaled \$1,103,867.84 for net ordinary income of -\$130,695.36. As of this date, UMRBA’s cash assets totaled \$72,193.33.

July 23, 2024

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Carper and Graves and Ranking Members Moore Capito and Larsen:

The undersigned organizations appreciate your leadership and commitment to the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) biennial process, and strongly urge the inclusion of Section 109 of the Senate WRDA 2024 in conference.

America's inland waterways system includes 12,000 miles of commercially operated navigable channels directly affecting 28 states. The inland waterways system transports the Nation's bulk commodities, keeping America competitive as the most energy-efficient, lowest cost, and environmentally friendly surface transportation mode. In 2021, about 500 million tons of commodities valued at over \$158 billion transited the inland waterways, supporting more than 541,000 American jobs.

As you move past House passage and into conference with the Senate, we ask that you accept Section 109 of the Senate WRDA 2024. This section adjusts the cost-share formula for the construction and major rehabilitation of inland waterways navigation projects. This policy change will increase the construction capacity at key lock and dam sites, ultimately creating more jobs for America's building trades and allowing the Nation to realize economic return more quickly, reduce the supply chain's environmental footprint, and address uncertainty in global agriculture and energy markets.

We strongly support your bipartisan leadership to improve our Nation's infrastructure, and we look forward to working with you to swiftly move this legislation into law.

Sincerely,

American Chemistry Council
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Soybean Association
American Waterways Operators
Associated General Contractors of America
Big River Coalition
Great Lakes Dredge and Dock

Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association (GICA)
Illinois Corn Growers Association
Illinois Soybean Association
Iowa Corn Growers Association
Missouri Corn Growers Association
Missouri Farm Bureau
Missouri Soybean Association
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Corn Growers Association
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Grain and Feed Association
National Mining Association
National Oilseed Processors Association
Pacific Northwest Waterways Association
Portland Cement Association
Tennessee River Valley Association
Tennessee-Cumberland Waterways Council
The Fertilizer Institute
Upper Mississippi River Basin Association
Warrior-Tombigbee Waterway Association
Waterways Association of Pittsburgh
Waterways Council, Inc.

Natalie Lenzen

From: Tidemann, Jason (DNR) <jason.tidemann@state.mn.us>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 2:04 PM
To: Natalie Lenzen
Subject: RE: UMRBA April 1 - June 30 Treasurer Report

Hello

As Treasurer, I have reviewed the monthly financial statements for the period 4/1/24-6/30/24. Activity reported on the Balance Sheet, Profit/Loss Budget Overview, Check Register, Visa statements and Open Invoices Report provide a reasonable and consistent representation of the monthly financial activity for the referenced period.

Jason Tidemann

From: Natalie Lenzen
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2024 9:36 AM
To: Jason Tidemann <Jason.Tidemann@state.mn.us>
Subject: UMRBA April 1 - June 30 Treasurer Report

Jason –

I would like to request your statement of review of our April 2024 through June 2024 financials for the Treasurer's report in the August 6, 2024 UMRBA Board meeting packet.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need any further information.

Thank you,
Natalie

Natalie Lenzen
Operations Manager | Upper Mississippi River Basin Association (UMRBA)
651-224-2880 (*main office*) | 763-349-2049 (*direct*)
7900 West 78th Street, Suite 380, Edina, MN 55439

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

FY 2024 Profit & Loss Budget Overview

July 2023 - June 2024

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
Revenue			
4000 State Dues			
Illinois Dues	67,000.00	67,000.00	0.00
Iowa Dues	67,000.00	67,000.00	0.00
Minnesota Dues	67,000.00	67,000.00	0.00
Missouri Dues	67,000.00	67,000.00	0.00
Wisconsin Dues	67,000.00	67,000.00	0.00
WQ Assessment	108,000.00	108,000.00	0.00
Total 4000 State Dues	443,000.00	443,000.00	0.00
4100 Contracts and Grants			
Interstate WQ Pilot	9,931.36	10,000.00	-68.64
Miss River Partnership (AWI)	11,000.00	12,000.00	-1,000.00
U.S. FWS	7,958.51	8,000.00	-41.49
UMN CIROH	10,000.00	12,000.00	-2,000.00
USACE (NESP)	79,840.38	100,000.00	-20,159.62
USACE (UMRR)	61,829.00	139,790.00	-77,961.00
USEPA (HTF)	7,454.48	5,000.00	2,454.48
USEPA (OPA)	280,128.39	270,000.00	10,128.39
USEPA (OWOW)	37,660.97	40,000.00	-2,339.03
USGS Nature-Based Solutions		47,000.00	-47,000.00
Total 4100 Contracts and Grants	505,803.09	643,790.00	-137,986.91
4200 Interest Income			
Short Term Interest			
Short Term (CD)	14,552.02	19,100.00	-4,547.98
Short Term (Checking)	4,707.21	6,000.00	-1,292.79
Short Term (Savings)		0.00	0.00
Short Term (Sweep)	2,537.73	2,500.00	37.73
Total Short Term Interest	21,796.96	27,600.00	-5,803.04
Total 4200 Interest Income	21,796.96	27,600.00	-5,803.04
4300 Other Income			
Meeting Meals Income	80.00		80.00
Workshop Meals Income	2,492.43		2,492.43
Total 4300 Other Income	2,572.43		2,572.43
Total Revenue	\$973,172.48	\$1,114,390.00	\$ -141,217.52
GROSS PROFIT	\$973,172.48	\$1,114,390.00	\$ -141,217.52
Expenditures			
5001 Payroll Expenses			
Benefits	-5,480.34		-5,480.34
ICHRA	867.58		867.58
Salary	735,497.74	751,862.30	-16,364.56
SocSec Company	-1,472.38		-1,472.38
Taxes	58,806.29	57,517.46	1,288.83

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

FY 2024 Profit & Loss Budget Overview

July 2023 - June 2024

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
SUTA (Minnesota UC)	-2.21	375.93	-378.14
Workforce Enhancement Fee	-2.21	375.93	-378.14
Total Taxes	58,801.87	58,269.32	532.55
Total 5001 Payroll Expenses	788,214.47	810,131.62	-21,917.15
5002 Benefits Administration	1,958.00	1,000.00	958.00
5100 Space Rental			
Office Rental	56,535.39	55,000.00	1,535.39
Total 5100 Space Rental	56,535.39	55,000.00	1,535.39
5101 Legal and Financial			
Bank Charges		40.00	-40.00
Insurance	3,936.35	6,200.00	-2,263.65
Legal and Tax Services	3,085.00	4,000.00	-915.00
Total 5101 Legal and Financial	7,021.35	10,240.00	-3,218.65
5102 Telephone/Communications	13,221.21	13,000.00	221.21
5103 Communications/Publications	81,120.00	75,000.00	6,120.00
5104 Equipment			
Equipment (Maint./Rental)	1,846.60	1,150.00	696.60
Equipment (Purchase)	4,241.92	1,000.00	3,241.92
Total 5104 Equipment	6,088.52	2,150.00	3,938.52
5105 Supplies	2,020.19	2,000.00	20.19
5106 Postage	118.13	200.00	-81.87
5107 Other Services	15,355.00	15,000.00	355.00
5108 Relocation Expenses	0.00		0.00
5200 Meeting Expenses	31,159.62	35,000.00	-3,840.38
5201 Travel	38,413.12	40,000.00	-1,586.88
5202 State Travel Reimbursement			
Illinois	2,149.84	5,000.00	-2,850.16
Iowa	563.44	5,000.00	-4,436.56
Minnesota	352.80	5,000.00	-4,647.20
Missouri	1,000.08	5,000.00	-3,999.92
State WQ Travel	494.39	3,500.00	-3,005.61
Wisconsin		5,000.00	-5,000.00
Total 5202 State Travel Reimbursement	4,560.55	28,500.00	-23,939.45
5300 OPA Expenses			
Equipment (Maint./Rental) OPA	530.10	4,000.00	-3,469.90
Equipment OPA	4,186.46	600.00	3,586.46
Other OPA		50.00	-50.00
Travel OPA	2,170.15	2,000.00	170.15
Total 5300 OPA Expenses	6,886.71	6,650.00	236.71
5301 USGS Nature-Based Solutions			
Other Contractual Services	12,616.42	30,000.00	-17,383.58
UMRBA Contractual Services		0.00	0.00

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

FY 2024 Profit & Loss Budget Overview

July 2023 - June 2024

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
Total 5301 USGS Nature-Based Solutions	12,616.42	30,000.00	-17,383.58
5302 USEPA NRS Workshops			
Communications	9,000.00	9,500.00	-500.00
Meeting Expenses	4,518.26	4,500.00	18.26
Supplies		200.00	-200.00
Travel	163.71	200.00	-36.29
Travel Assistance	6,841.38	7,000.00	-158.62
Total 5302 USEPA NRS Workshops	20,523.35	21,400.00	-876.65
5304 USEPA Gulf Hypoxia			
Contractual		300.00	-300.00
Other Gulf Hypoxia		100.00	-100.00
Supplies		100.00	-100.00
Travel	783.47	1,000.00	-216.53
Total 5304 USEPA Gulf Hypoxia	783.47	1,500.00	-716.53
5305 USACE NESP			
Other NESP	14,100.00		14,100.00
Travel	3,172.34		3,172.34
Total 5305 USACE NESP	17,272.34		17,272.34
5999 Miscellaneous Expense	0.00		0.00
Total Expenditures	\$1,103,867.84	\$1,146,771.62	\$ -42,903.78
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ -130,695.36	\$ -32,381.62	\$ -98,313.74
NET REVENUE	\$ -130,695.36	\$ -32,381.62	\$ -98,313.74

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

FY 2025 Profit & Loss Budget Overview

July 2024 - June 2025

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
Revenue			
4000 State Dues			
Illinois Dues		67,000.00	-67,000.00
Iowa Dues		67,000.00	-67,000.00
Minnesota Dues		67,000.00	-67,000.00
Missouri Dues		67,000.00	-67,000.00
Wisconsin Dues		67,000.00	-67,000.00
WQ Assessment		108,000.00	-108,000.00
Total 4000 State Dues		443,000.00	-443,000.00
4100 Contracts and Grants			
Interstate WQ Pilot		7,000.00	-7,000.00
Miss River Partnership (AWI)	0.00		0.00
UMN CIROH		165,000.00	-165,000.00
USACE (NESP)	0.00	200,000.00	-200,000.00
USACE (UMRR)	0.00	113,000.00	-113,000.00
USEPA (HTF)		133,000.00	-133,000.00
USEPA (OPA)	0.00	250,000.00	-250,000.00
Total 4100 Contracts and Grants	0.00	868,000.00	-868,000.00
4200 Interest Income			
Short Term Interest			
Short Term (CD)		17,900.00	-17,900.00
Short Term (Checking)		6,000.00	-6,000.00
Short Term (Sweep)		6,100.00	-6,100.00
Total Short Term Interest		30,000.00	-30,000.00
Total 4200 Interest Income		30,000.00	-30,000.00
Total Revenue	\$0.00	\$1,341,000.00	\$ -1,341,000.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$0.00	\$1,341,000.00	\$ -1,341,000.00
Expenditures			
5001 Payroll Expenses			
Salary	59,790.70	920,285.21	-860,494.51
Taxes	4,597.48	71,322.10	-66,724.62
Total 5001 Payroll Expenses	64,388.18	991,607.31	-927,219.13
5002 Benefits Administration	109.00	1,308.00	-1,199.00
5100 Space Rental			
Office Rental	6,868.37	68,520.48	-61,652.11
Total 5100 Space Rental	6,868.37	68,520.48	-61,652.11
5101 Legal and Financial			
Bank Charges		25.00	-25.00
Insurance	870.00	6,200.00	-5,330.00
Legal and Tax Services		12,000.00	-12,000.00
Total 5101 Legal and Financial	870.00	18,225.00	-17,355.00
5102 Telephone/Communications	4,553.90	10,200.00	-5,646.10

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

FY 2025 Profit & Loss Budget Overview

July 2024 - June 2025

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
5103 Communications/Publications	0.00	40,000.00	-40,000.00
5104 Equipment			
Equipment (Maint./Rental)		2,350.00	-2,350.00
Equipment (Purchase)		3,000.00	-3,000.00
Total 5104 Equipment		5,350.00	-5,350.00
5105 Supplies	250.63	1,500.00	-1,249.37
5106 Postage		100.00	-100.00
5107 Other Services		15,000.00	-15,000.00
5108 Relocation Expenses	1,525.40		1,525.40
5200 Meeting Expenses		35,000.00	-35,000.00
5201 Travel	1,722.95	40,000.00	-38,277.05
5202 State Travel Reimbursement			
Illinois		5,000.00	-5,000.00
Iowa		5,000.00	-5,000.00
Minnesota		5,000.00	-5,000.00
Missouri		5,000.00	-5,000.00
State WQ Travel		3,500.00	-3,500.00
Wisconsin		5,000.00	-5,000.00
Total 5202 State Travel Reimbursement		28,500.00	-28,500.00
5300 OPA Expenses			
Equipment (Maint./Rental) OPA		1,500.00	-1,500.00
Equipment OPA		500.00	-500.00
Travel OPA		1,000.00	-1,000.00
Total 5300 OPA Expenses		3,000.00	-3,000.00
5304 USEPA Gulf Hypoxia			
Contractual		10,000.00	-10,000.00
Other Gulf Hypoxia		2,000.00	-2,000.00
Supplies		1,500.00	-1,500.00
Travel		1,500.00	-1,500.00
Total 5304 USEPA Gulf Hypoxia		15,000.00	-15,000.00
5305 USACE NESP			
Other NESP	0.00	20,000.00	-20,000.00
Travel	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00
Total 5305 USACE NESP	0.00	25,000.00	-25,000.00
5306 CIROH UMRS			
Contractual		45,000.00	-45,000.00
Other CIROH		3,500.00	-3,500.00
Supplies		1,500.00	-1,500.00
Total 5306 CIROH UMRS		50,000.00	-50,000.00
5999 Miscellaneous Expense	61.50		61.50
Total Expenditures	\$80,349.93	\$1,348,310.79	\$ -1,267,960.86
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ -80,349.93	\$ -7,310.79	\$ -73,039.14

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

FY 2025 Profit & Loss Budget Overview

July 2024 - June 2025

		TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
NET REVENUE	\$ -80,349.93	\$ -7,310.79	\$ -73,039.14

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

Balance Sheet

As of June 30, 2024

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Checking HT 2732	72,193.33
Investment	
CD_1 LPL	50,000.00
CD_2 HT	50,000.00
CD_2 LPL	50,000.00
CD_3 LPL	73,000.00
CD_4 LPL	50,000.00
CD_5 LPL	100,000.00
LPL Cash Account	1,000.00
Total Investment	374,000.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$446,193.33
Accounts Receivable	
Contract/grants	66,731.03
Invoiced/Billable	48,990.10
Total Contract/grants	115,721.13
Total Accounts Receivable	\$115,721.13
Other Current Assets	
Prepaid Expense	8.00
Office Rental Prepaid Expense	15,112.47
Total Prepaid Expense	15,120.47
Total Other Current Assets	\$15,120.47
Total Current Assets	\$577,034.93
Fixed Assets	
604(b) Equipment	568.95
Accum. Deprec. 604(b)	-568.95
Accum. Deprec. OPA	-23,004.15
Accum. Deprec. STC	-2,989.68
Accum. Deprec. UMRBA	-32,789.73
Accum. Deprec. WQ	-1,290.00
OPA Equipment	28,205.12
STC Equipment	4,332.67
UMRBA Equipment	100,270.13
WQ Equipment	1,290.47
Total Fixed Assets	\$74,024.83
TOTAL ASSETS	\$651,059.76

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

Balance Sheet

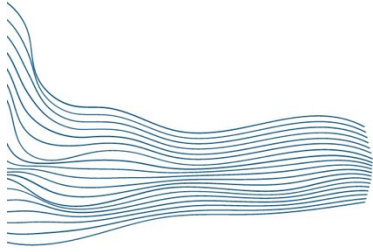
As of June 30, 2024

	TOTAL
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
Visa Chase 5294	5,323.25
Total Credit Cards	\$5,323.25
Other Current Liabilities	
Deferred MO DoC (WLM) Revenue	4,206.05
Office Expense Liabilities	-1,483.22
Communications/Publications	13,950.00
Travel Expense	4,470.17
Total Office Expense Liabilities	16,936.95
Payroll Liabilities	-695.34
Accrued Vacation	51,656.55
Accrued Vacation FICA	3,951.71
Federal Withholding	189.00
Medicare	
Medicare Company	39.17
Medicare Employee	39.17
Total Medicare	78.34
Minnesota Withholding	-1,113.17
MN Income Tax	1,206.17
MN Unemployment Taxes	515.50
Social Security	
SocSec Company	167.50
SocSec Employee	167.50
Total Social Security	335.00
SUTA (Minnesota UC)	325.51
Workforce Enhancement Fee	334.97
Total Payroll Liabilities	56,784.24
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$77,927.24
Total Current Liabilities	\$83,250.49
Total Liabilities	\$83,250.49
Equity	
Retained Earnings	698,504.63
Net Revenue	-130,695.36
Total Equity	\$567,809.27
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$651,059.76

ATTACHMENT C

Mississippi River Watershed Partnership Meeting Agenda (6/25/2024)

(C-1 to C-4)



Mississippi River Watershed Partnership Workshop

Overview

THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP WORKSHOP: A Collaboration Kickoff

Workshop Purpose:

- Clarify the value of forming a new Mississippi River Watershed Partnership.
- Identify opportunities for positive change that such a Partnership will make possible.

Workshop Products:

- New and strengthened relationships among leaders across the Mississippi River Watershed and its major basins.
- Recognition of the value of a Mississippi River Watershed Partnership.
- Opportunities for positive change that such a Partnership makes possible.
- Valuable information about watershed management, collaboration, and leadership.
- Next steps to promote individual and collective goals in the MS River Watershed and its major basins.
- A summary report of the workshop proceedings.

Workshop Process:

- June 25 – 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm Conference opening and welcome reception
- June 26 – 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Plenary and working sessions
- June 27 – 8:00 am – 2:00 pm Plenary and working sessions
- Participants will use a workbook to help guide tabletop discussions and individual learning experiences throughout the workshop.
- Participants will transcribe answers to some discussion questions onto post-it notes and place them on the walls, thereby creating a written record of important workshop conversations. Participants' ideas and insights will literally show up on the workshop walls.

Workshop People:

- Leaders from organizations engaged in basin management and collaboration within the Mississippi River Watershed

Agenda

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

- 4:00 pm **Opening Reception**
Join our opening event where you'll have time to renew old acquaintances and make new contacts with fellow leaders in the Mississippi River Watershed and its major basins. Light bites and drinks will be served (cash bar).
- 5:00 pm **Welcoming Remarks**
Kim Lutz, Executive Director America's Watershed Initiative (AWI)
Rainy Shorey, Board Chair, America's Watershed Initiative and Global Manager, Product Compliance & Support, Caterpillar Inc.
Michael Reuter, Director, Midwest Division, The Nature Conservancy
General Peter "Duke" DeLuca, Brigadier General, U.S. Army (Retired), President, ACULED Global Consulting, Adjunct Research Staff Member, Institute for Defense Analyses
- 7:00 pm **Closing**

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

- 8:00 am **Doors Open**
- 8:30 am **Welcome**
Mayor Tishaura Jones, St. Louis, Missouri
- Overview of the Workshop Process** Emcee
- 8:50 am **The Promise of a Mississippi River Watershed Partnership**
Mr. Jaime A. Pinkham, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Army for Civil Works
Mr. Robert Bonnie, Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Hear from leaders about the value proposition they believe is possible through a Mississippi River Watershed Partnership.
- The Reasons We are Here: Why This? Why Now?**
Kim Lutz, Executive Director, America's Watershed Initiative
America's Watershed Initiative (AWI) will share the "why" behind this effort and the optimism they have for the Mississippi River Watershed Partnership. You will get to introduce yourself and share with others at your table what your expectations are for the workshop and for a Mississippi River Watershed Partnership.
- 10:00 am **What's Happening around the Mississippi River Watershed** Presentations and Panel Discussion
Craig Butler, Chair, Ohio River Basin Alliance
Kirsten Wallace, Executive Director, Upper Mississippi River Basin Association
Angeline Rodgers, Coordinator, Lower Mississippi River Conservation Committee
Richard Vaughn, Coordinator, Missouri River & Upper Mississippi Basins
Emily Mott, Executive Director, Red River Valley Association

A panel of leaders in the MS River Watershed’s five major basins will share what is going well, what’s missing, and what should change in their basin around fish and wildlife resources, recreation, water quality, flood and drought resilience, and the navigation system.

- 11:00 am **Break**
- 11:15 am **Tabletop Discussions**
Reflections on the Panel Presentations - Sharing additional ideas
Tabletop discussions will be used to elevate key ideas to share with the room.
- 12:00 pm **Lunch**
- 1:00 pm **Leadership Issues Facing Basin Organizations** **Tabletop Discussion**
Discuss with your table what the top leadership challenges are as you pursue your basin mission and vision. Also, learn about key initiatives leaders are taking to meet those leadership challenges, as well as some of the organizational biases we have that keep us from seeing important issues and hearing important voices within your basin.
- 2:30 pm **Break**
- 3:00 pm **Goals, Actions, Gaps at the Mississippi River Watershed Level** **Interactive Exercise**
Based on the presentations and discussions so far, reflect on and collectively share with others at your table meaningful goals and actions that could be taken at the Mississippi River Watershed level to improve fish and wildlife resources, recreation, water quality, flood and drought resilience, and the navigation system. Time will also be given to discuss any organizational capabilities and priorities that might be missing at the Mississippi River Watershed level.
- 4:45 pm **Reflections on Day 1 Presentations and Discussions**
A spokesperson from each table will share one highlight from the day’s many discussions.
- 5:00 pm **Wrap Up – Overview of Tonight and Tomorrow**
- 6:00 pm **Dinner Experiences**
Reservations will be made at a variety of local restaurants and participants will sign up for a desired location to continue conversations over some of St. Louis’ best.

Thursday, June 27, 2024

- 8:00 am **Doors Open**
- 8:30 am **Welcome Back – Overview Day 2** **Emcee**
- 8:45 am **Important Patterns in the Ideas Shared So Far: A Gallery Walk** **All Participants**
Workshop participants will walk around the room reading the ideas posted on flipcharts during Day 1. You will note common themes, surprising and insightful ideas, which you will share with each other in tabletop discussions. In addition, workshop organizers will synthesize ideas generated from Day 1 and share important patterns they’ve identified. These observations and discussions may help illuminate some of the systems dynamics unfolding at the Mississippi River Watershed level.

9:45 am	<p>Options for Moving a Mississippi River Watershed Partnership Forward</p> <p>Brainstorm and collectively share with your table the answers to important questions related to forming a Mississippi River Watershed Partnership. Questions include: 1. The pros and cons of moving forward with a Partnership. 2. Any important actions you would suggest the Partnership take in the near term. 3. What would motivate your organization to actively support and participate in a Mississippi River Watershed Partnership? 4. What would keep your organization from being supportive?</p>	<p>Tabletop Discussion and Presentation</p>
11:00 am	<p>Break</p>	
11:15 am	<p>Gallery Walk: Moving a Partnership Forward</p> <p>Workshop participants will walk around the room reading the ideas posted on flipcharts during the discussion Options for Moving a Mississippi River Watershed Partnership Forward. You will note common themes, surprising and insightful ideas, which you will share with each other in tabletop discussions.</p>	<p>All Participants</p>
11:45 am	<p>Table Report Outs on Key Ideas</p> <p>As a table group, select 1-2 key observations or ideas to share with the full group for moving a Mississippi River Watershed Partnership forward.</p>	<p>Table Groups</p>
12:00 pm	<p>Feedback and Final Thoughts</p> <p>We will use this time to collect immediate feedback from attendees on how the workshop went for each of you using a one-page feedback sheet. We'll also provide space for attendees to share their reflections and feedback with the full group.</p>	<p>All Participants</p>
12:30 pm	<p>Lunch</p>	
1:30 pm	<p>Wrap up the Workshop</p> <p>Final Thoughts and Next Steps from Workshop Organizers</p> <p>Kim Lutz, AWI and Elizabeth Crow, Government Relations Director, North America and Mississippi River Basin Programs, The Nature Conservancy</p> <p>Leaders from America's Watershed Initiative and The Nature Conservancy will share the next steps in this effort, how they plan to utilize the workshop ideas, discussions, and results, and their hopes for continued engagement with each of you and those unable to attend.</p>	

ATTACHMENT D

UMRBA Nutrient Workshop Insights and Outcomes

- Conclusions (10/2023) *(D-1)*
- Proposed Systems Map of Multi-Benefit Conservation Practices (10/2023) *(D-2)*
- Agendas, Summaries, Participants:
<https://umrba.org/document/multi-benefit-workshops>

UMRBA Convenes Nutrient Reduction Leaders

The Upper Mississippi River Basin Association (UMRBA) hosted a “Multi-Benefit Conservation Practice Workshop” on October 3-4, 2023 in downtown St. Paul. 58 participants attended, representing a variety of organizations and sectors: government (local, state, federal), private, agricultural, industry, universities, and nonprofits.

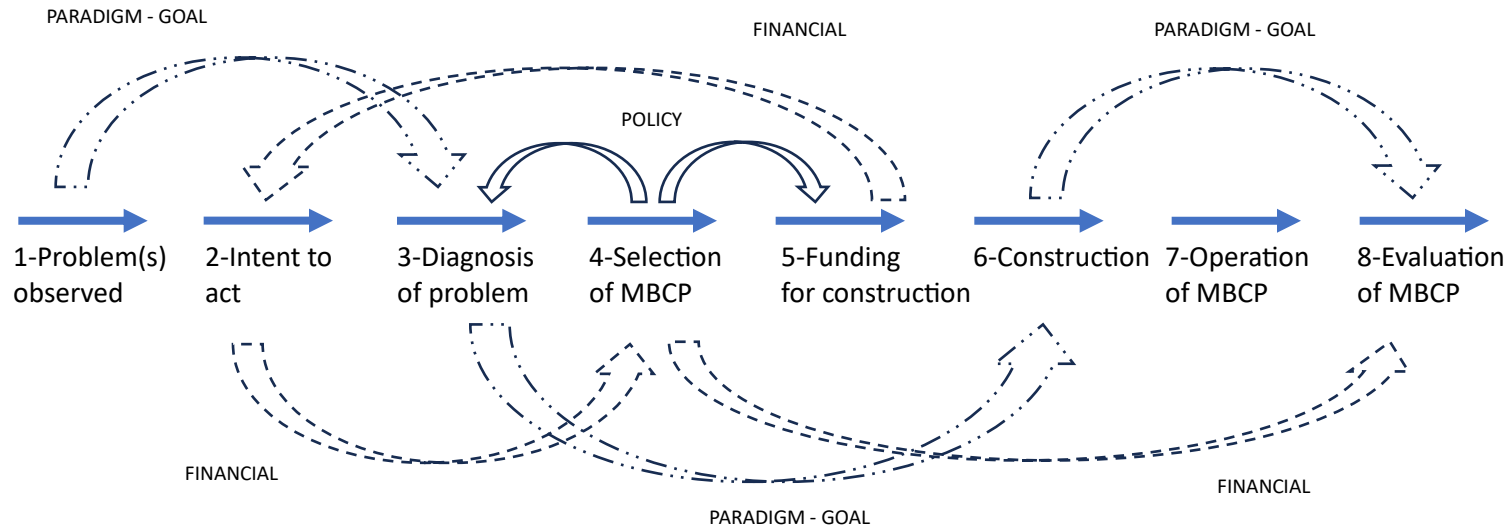
The purpose of the October workshop was to explore leverage points of change that could increase implementation of multi-benefit conservation practices. A preceding UMRBA-hosted workshop, held in St. Louis in November 2022, explored how organizations can accelerate the implementation of multi-benefit conservation practices that address nutrient reduction in the Upper Mississippi River Basin.

UMRBA offers the following conclusions reflecting on the two-part workshop series on multi-benefit conservation practices:

1. The acceleration of adopting multi-benefit conservation practices is important in the Upper Mississippi River basin to ensure farmland is healthy for continued production of crops and to protect and build resilience in those lands.
2. UMRBA's two-part workshop series focused on how to increase the adoption of multi-benefit conservation practices series. The two workshops drew a wide range of people working in agriculture-related areas from a variety of educational backgrounds and organizations/agencies. The cross collaboration of public and private sector groups and the structure of the workshops allowed for thoughtful and innovative idea sharing.
3. The first workshop was designed to balance information sharing and breakout group discussions around three topic areas: research, communication, and financial. The conversations highlighted the importance of multiple disciplines and multiple layers of organizations and agencies being involved to reduce nutrient loading in the Upper Mississippi River basin.
4. The systems map utilized in the second workshop helped workshop participants understand how to map and identify leverage points. The systems map can be applied to various levels of an organization's or agency's work. UMRBA encourages referencing the systems map linked here: <https://umrba.org/sites/default/files/documents/workshop-systems-map.pdf> (<https://umrba.org/sites/default/files/documents/workshop-systems-map.pdf>).
5. Many presenters in the second workshop emphasized the power of peer-to-peer communication, education, and leadership as leverage points for increasing multi-benefit conservation practice adoption by commodity and specialty crop producers. This was especially true for women, tribal, and BIPOC farmers. The power of peer-to-peer communications reinforces the insight that messages and messengers geared to specific and different audiences are keys to unlocking and leveraging positive change.
6. UMRBA will continue to work on behalf of its five member states to increase the collaboration and sharing of resources supporting nutrient reduction strategies. The UMRBA will be organizing and coordinating the Upper Mississippi River Sub-basin Committee to the Hypoxia Task Force, and this committee will focus on interstate collaboration with respect to the basin states' nutrient management strategies.

A WORKSHOP SYSTEMS MAP: IMPLEMENTATION OF MULTI-BENEFIT CONSERVATION PRACTICES

A Logic Model Systems Map - Steps in Implementing Multi-Benefit Conservation Practices

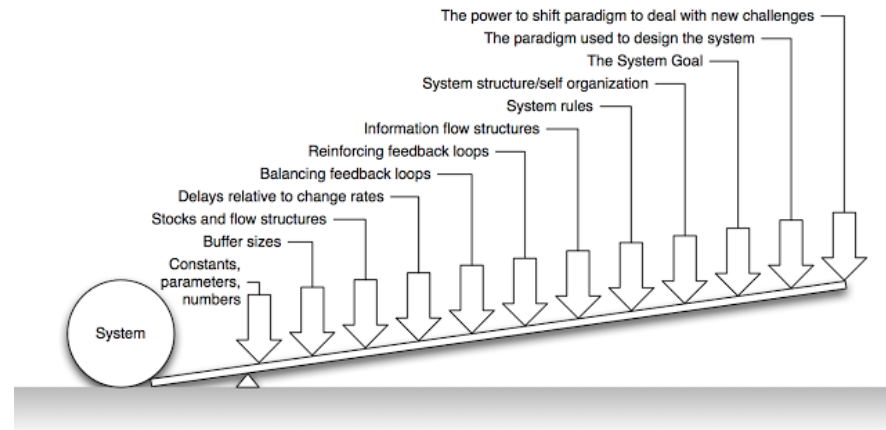


Possible sources of information, leadership, and support at each step:

1-Operation Issue	2-Govt Agent	3- Govt Agent	4- Govt Agent	5-Govt	6-Private Company	7-Land owner	8-Govt Agent
Runoff Issue	Crop Consultant	Crop Consultant	Crop Consultant	Product Purchaser	Do-it-yourself	Operator (if rented)	Crop Consultant
Regulatory Issue	Peer-to-Peer	Peer-to-Peer	Peer-to-Peer	Personal finance	Govt agent		Peer-to-peer
Aesthetic Issue	Personal Learning Family Network	Personal Learning Family Network	Personal Learning Family Network	Bank	NGO		Personal Learning NGO Product Purchaser

Select References related to Systems Thinking

1. <https://www.academyforchange.org/>
2. <https://donellameadows.org/archives/leverage-points-places-to-intervene-in-a-system/>
3. Thinking In Systems: a primer by Donella Meadows
4. <https://www.solonline.org/>
5. Leadership and the New Science by Margaret Wheatley



ATTACHMENT E

Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative (MRRRI)

- Fact Sheet (*E-1 to E-2*)
- Proposed Legislation (11/22/2023) (*E-3 to E-37*)

MRRRI

The Mississippi River Restoration & Resilience Initiative

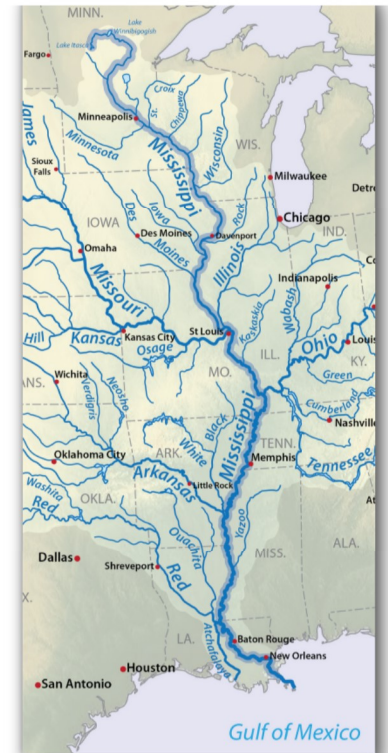


THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI

Our Mississippi River is vital to our nation's health:

- It's the heart of a \$500 billion-a-year natural resource- and recreation-based economy, employing more than 1.5 million Americans, and is an important shipping corridor.
- More than 20 million people rely on it for drinking water.
- It serves as a migration corridor for 60% of North American birds.
- And it speaks to our cultural heritage, the inspiration for countless stories and songs that weave through the fabric of America.

But it is also a river at risk on many fronts, facing severe ecological decline.



RESTORING AMERICA'S RIVER

We need a federal Mississippi River initiative.



As we have with other treasured, critical waterways—the Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay, and the Everglades—it's time to establish a national coordination effort and direct federal funding to support local initiatives that will restore America's River and build resilience for the communities that depend on it.

A CRITICAL INVESTMENT

Modeled on the successful Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the Mississippi River Restoration & Resilience Initiative (MRRRI) would provide the framework, funding, and focus to protect America's River.

MRRRI directs the Environmental Protection Agency to consult and collaborate with other agencies, states, tribal nations, and local governments as well as non-governmental organizations to develop and coordinate the initiative. A regularly updated action plan, developed with public input, will guide the implementation of MRRRI and the use of federal funds in order to:

- Protect our drinking water, wildlife, and river-dependent industries by **reducing runoff pollution**
- Reduce flood and storm risks and **increase community resilience** through ecologically sound management
- Protect and **restore wildlife habitat**, including by preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species

MRRRI will provide grants for restoration projects in mainstem river states, cities, townships, and tribal nations while prioritizing our most at-risk communities. The projects and activities funded by MRRRI would complement and build upon existing federal and state programs to ensure the Mississippi is a healthy working river for generations to come.

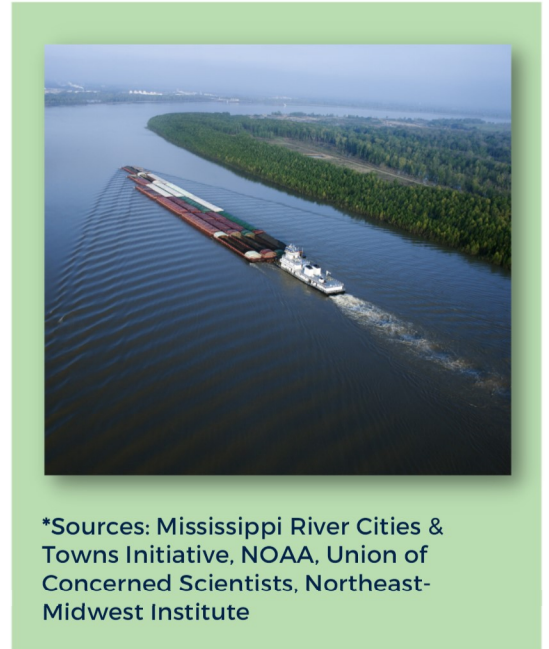
For our communities, wildlife, and economy, we need to fill this clear gap in our nation's regional waterway restoration programs. It's time to create a federal Mississippi River Restoration & Resilience Initiative (MRRRI).

THE COST OF INACTION

Without MRRRI's investments, so much would remain at risk: our economy, wildlife, recreational opportunities, and ever-rising costs to keep our communities safe and our drinking water clean.

- Unable to absorb floodwaters or build wetlands, today's Mississippi makes riverfront communities more vulnerable to floods, hurricanes and other storms. Damages to main-stem states from the historic 2019 floods alone cost **\$6.2 billion***.
- Excess nitrates flow into the river and its tributaries creating a dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico, costing our seafood and tourism industries at least **\$82 million** a year.
- Habitat loss and aquatic invasive species threaten the river and gulf's wildlife, fisheries and recreational opportunities — and the nearly **700,000 jobs** that these natural resources support.
- Water utilities up and down the river face substantially increasing financial burdens. Just one mid-sized plant to reduce nitrate pollution costs around **\$10-15 million**.

Communities of color, Indigenous, rural and low-income communities along the river disproportionately bear these costs. Existing federal programs lack sufficient coordination and partnerships to address these challenges and shared responsibility.



.....
(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To establish the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative to carry out projects for the protection and restoration of the Mississippi River Corridor, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. McCOLLUM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative to carry out projects for the protection and restoration of the Mississippi River Corridor, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Mississippi River Res-
5 toration and Resilience Initiative Act” or the “MRRRI
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The Mississippi River flows more than
4 2,300 miles from its source at Lake Itasca through
5 the center of the continental United States to the
6 Gulf of Mexico.

7 (2) The main stem of the Mississippi River
8 flows through 10 States that collectively are home to
9 55.4 million people as of 2019.

10 (3) The Mississippi River provides drinking
11 water to more than 20 million people in 50 cities.

12 (4) The Mississippi River drives a vibrant nat-
13 ural resource and recreation-based economy that
14 generates nearly \$500 billion in annual revenue and
15 directly employs more than 1.5 million people.

16 (5) The Mississippi River and its 30 million
17 acre floodplain provide an ecological lifeline for all of
18 North America, supporting more than 780 species of
19 fish and wildlife and providing a vital migration cor-
20 ridor for 60 percent of all North American birds and
21 40 percent of the migratory waterfowl in the United
22 States.

23 (6) The Mississippi River serves as a major
24 transportation corridor for grain and cargo.

25 (7) Congress has designated the Mississippi
26 River System as a nationally significant ecosystem

1 and a nationally significant navigation system and is
2 the only inland river system to receive both designa-
3 tions.

4 (8) Despite its critical value to the United
5 States, the Mississippi River is in a severe state of
6 ecological decline, as documented by the United
7 States Geological Survey, the Army Corps of Engi-
8 neers, and other Federal and State agencies.

9 (9) Modifications to the Mississippi River have
10 resulted in the extensive loss of wetlands and com-
11 plex river habitats causing profound harm to the
12 treasured fish and wildlife resources in the United
13 States and increasing flood risks to communities.

14 (10) Polluted runoff has drastically reduced
15 water quality and created a massive dead zone in the
16 Gulf of Mexico.

17 (11) Invasive aquatic species threaten the eco-
18 logical integrity of the Mississippi River and Gulf of
19 Mexico, and the fisheries and recreation that rely on
20 a healthy ecosystem.

21 (12) Ecological degradation of the Mississippi
22 River has resulted in—

23 (A) more flooding;

24 (B) less wildlife;

25 (C) fewer jobs;

1 (D) reduced recreational opportunities; and

2 (E) higher costs for keeping communities
3 safe and ensuring that communities have clean
4 drinking water.

5 (13) The consequences of ecological degradation
6 have disproportionately harmed rural communities,
7 economically disadvantaged communities, and com-
8 munities of color.

9 (14) Existing Federal programs lack sufficient
10 coordination, funding, and participation with States,
11 Tribes, local governments, and nongovernmental or-
12 ganizations to address these ongoing challenges and
13 reverse the decline of the Mississippi River.

14 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to estab-
15 lish the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Ini-
16 tiative to protect and restore the ecological health and re-
17 silience of the Mississippi River for current and succeeding
18 generations of Americans and for the fish and wildlife that
19 rely on the Mississippi River and its floodplain. The
20 MRRRI is a nonregulatory initiative that will build upon
21 existing efforts and provide funding for projects and ac-
22 tivities to protect and restore the nationally significant re-
23 sources of the Mississippi River by—

24 (1) establishing the Mississippi River National
25 Program Office;

1 (2) establishing the focus areas and identifying
2 qualifying activities for MRRRI programs and
3 projects;

4 (3) directing the development of actionable
5 goals, an action plan, and a science plan, and reg-
6 ular updates to such plans, to guide the MRRRI and
7 ensuring the integration of the MRRRI with other
8 Federal, State, Tribal, and local programs;

9 (4) establishing criteria for measuring the suc-
10 cess of the MRRRI in restoring the ecological health
11 and resilience of the Mississippi River;

12 (5) requiring the Environmental Protection
13 Agency to coordinate and consult with Federal and
14 non-Federal stakeholders to implement the MRRRI;
15 and

16 (6) establishing the Mississippi River Corridor
17 Research Centers.

18 **SEC. 3. MISSISSIPPI RIVER RESTORATION AND RESILIENCE**

19 **INITIATIVE.**

20 Title I of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act
21 (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
22 the following:

23 **“SEC. 127. MISSISSIPPI RIVER.**

24 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 “(1) AGENCY.—The term ‘Agency’ means the
2 Environmental Protection Agency.

3 “(2) MRRRI.—The term ‘MRRRI’ means the
4 Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initia-
5 tive established by this section.

6 “(3) PROGRAM OFFICE.—The term ‘Program
7 Office’ means the Mississippi River National Pro-
8 gram Office established by this section.

9 “(4) MRRRI DIRECTOR.—The term ‘MRRRI
10 Director’ means the Director of the Mississippi
11 River National Program Office established under
12 this section.

13 “(5) MISSISSIPPI RIVER CORRIDOR.—The term
14 ‘Mississippi River Corridor’ means the portions of
15 the Mississippi River watershed (including tributary
16 watersheds) located in a Mississippi River State.

17 “(6) MISSISSIPPI RIVER STATE.—The term
18 ‘Mississippi River State’ means Arkansas, Illinois,
19 Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi,
20 Missouri, Tennessee, or Wisconsin.

21 “(7) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.—The term ‘Tribal
22 government’ means the recognized governing body of
23 an any Indian tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village,
24 community, component band, or component reserva-
25 tion, individually identified (including parentheti-

1 cally) in the list published pursuant to section 104
2 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of
3 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5131).

4 “(8) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘Tribal
5 organization’ has the meaning given such term in
6 section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
7 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

8 “(9) RURAL.—The term ‘rural’ means an area
9 that is not delineated by the Bureau of the Census
10 as an urbanized area or an urban cluster based on
11 decennial census results.

12 “(10) ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED COMMU-
13 NITY.—The term ‘economically disadvantaged com-
14 munity’ means any census block group in which 30
15 percent or more of the population are individuals
16 with an annual household income equal to, or less
17 than, the greater of—

18 “(A) an amount equal to 80 percent of the
19 median income of the area in which the house-
20 hold is located, as reported by the Department
21 of Housing and Urban Development; and

22 “(B) an amount equal to 200 percent of
23 the Federal poverty line.

24 “(11) COMMUNITY OF COLOR.—The term ‘com-
25 munity of color’ means a geographically distinct area

1 in which the population of any of the following cat-
2 egories of individuals is higher than the average pop-
3 ulation of such category for the State in which the
4 geographically distinct area is located:

5 “(A) Black.

6 “(B) African American.

7 “(C) Asian.

8 “(D) Pacific Islander.

9 “(E) Hispanic.

10 “(F) Latino.

11 “(G) Indian (as such term is defined in
12 section 202 of the Indian Land Consolidation
13 Act (25 U.S.C. 2201)).

14 “(12) RELEVANT FEDERAL AGENCY.—The
15 term ‘relevant Federal agency’ means any of the fol-
16 lowing agencies:

17 “(A) The Department of Agriculture—

18 “(i) the Natural Resources Conserva-
19 tion Service; and

20 “(ii) the Forest Service.

21 “(B) The Department of the Interior, in-
22 cluding—

23 “(i) the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

24 “(ii) the United States Fish and Wild-
25 life Service;

1 “(iii) the United States Geological
2 Survey; and

3 “(iv) the National Park Service.

4 “(C) The Corps of Engineers.

5 “(D) The Federal Emergency Management
6 Agency.

7 “(E) The National Oceanic and Atmos-
8 pheric Administration.

9 “(F) The Coast Guard.

10 “(G) Any other Federal agency the
11 MRRRI Director determines is relevant.

12 “(b) MISSISSIPPI RIVER NATIONAL PROGRAM OF-
13 FICE.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall es-
15 tablish a Mississippi River National Program Office
16 within the Agency to carry out the Mississippi River
17 Restoration and Resilience Initiative.

18 “(2) LOCATION.—The Program Office shall be
19 located in a Mississippi River State.

20 “(3) DIRECTOR.—The Program Office shall be
21 headed by a Director, appointed by the Adminis-
22 trator, who has management experience and tech-
23 nical expertise relating to the Mississippi River and
24 who is highly qualified to direct the development of

1 programs and plans on a variety of issues related to
2 restoration of the Mississippi River.

3 “(4) FUNCTIONS.—The MRRRI Director
4 shall—

5 “(A) coordinate actions of the Agency that
6 seek to protect and restore the Mississippi
7 River Corridor;

8 “(B) develop, implement, and update the
9 MRRRI, actionable goals, and action plan re-
10 quired by this section, in coordination with rel-
11 evant Federal agencies and non-Federal enti-
12 ties;

13 “(C) document information and updates
14 related to the development and implementation
15 of the MRRRI, actionable goals, and action
16 plan and make such information and updates
17 available to the public, including on a public
18 website;

19 “(D) facilitate engagement and consulta-
20 tion with Tribal governments and Tribal organi-
21 zations to ensure Tribal needs and priorities are
22 solicited early and throughout the development
23 of the actionable goals and action plan required
24 by this section;

1 “(E) work cooperatively with the Bureau
2 of Indian Affairs and other Federal agencies to
3 carry out subparagraph (D); and

4 “(F) submit to Congress, and make avail-
5 able on a public website, an annual report de-
6 scribing—

7 “(i) progress made in implementing
8 the MRRRI;

9 “(ii) the coordination of the MRRRI
10 with other Federal, State, Tribal, and local
11 programs;

12 “(iii) any funds transferred to rel-
13 evant Federal agencies under this section;

14 “(iv) any grants awarded under this
15 section; and

16 “(v) specific projects and activities
17 carried out pursuant to this section.

18 “(5) AGREEMENTS.—In carrying out paragraph
19 (4), the MRRRI Director may enter into agree-
20 ments, as applicable, with relevant Federal agencies
21 and non-Federal entities.

22 “(6) TRIBAL LIAISON.—The MRRRI Director
23 shall appoint a Tribal Liaison within the Program
24 Office to ensure enhanced interagency technical sup-
25 port, communication, and coordination with Tribal

1 governments, Tribal organizations, and Tribal stake-
2 holders, and to carry out other duties as determined
3 necessary to meet the needs of Tribes.

4 “(c) MISSISSIPPI RIVER RESTORATION AND RESIL-
5 IENCE INITIATIVE.—

6 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established
7 within the Agency the Mississippi River Restoration
8 and Resilience Initiative to implement projects for
9 systemic, large-scale restoration of the Mississippi
10 River Corridor.

11 “(2) FOCUS AREAS.—Any project or activity
12 carried out under this section shall address at least
13 1 of the following focus areas:

14 “(A) The improvement of water quality in
15 the Mississippi River Corridor and drinking
16 water quality in the Mississippi River States
17 by—

18 “(i) reducing the amount of polluted
19 runoff, excess agricultural nutrients, and
20 sediment in the Mississippi River Corridor;
21 and

22 “(ii) improving source water protec-
23 tions.

24 “(B) The improvement of community resil-
25 ience throughout the Mississippi River Corridor

1 by restoring the ability of the Mississippi River
2 floodplain, riverine wetlands, delta and coastal
3 wetlands, and backwaters to minimize and ame-
4 liorate flood and storm risks.

5 “(C) The protection and restoration of fish
6 and wildlife habitat in and along the Mississippi
7 River Corridor.

8 “(D) The prevention of the spread of
9 aquatic invasive species in the Mississippi River
10 Corridor.

11 “(E) The improvement of communication
12 and partnership activities related to the focus
13 areas described in subparagraphs (A) through
14 (D).

15 “(F) Monitoring, collecting, and evaluating
16 scientific data to assess the focus areas de-
17 scribed in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

18 “(3) PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Funds made available
20 to carry out the MRRRI may be used to imple-
21 ment eligible projects and activities described in
22 paragraph (5) that are carried out by a relevant
23 Federal agency or by a non-Federal entity.

24 “(B) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The MRRRI
25 Director, or the head of any other Federal

1 agency receiving funds under this section, may
2 make a grant to, or otherwise enter into an
3 agreement with, any non-Federal entity (includ-
4 ing any State, local, or Tribal governmental en-
5 tity, nonprofit organization, institution of high-
6 er education (as such term is defined in section
7 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
8 U.S.C. 1001)), or individual) that the MRRRI
9 Director or agency head determines is qualified
10 to carry out an eligible project described in
11 paragraph (5).

12 “(4) PROJECT SELECTION.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the
14 MRRRI, the MRRRI Director shall collaborate
15 with relevant Federal agencies to select projects
16 and activities to be implemented pursuant to
17 this section using appropriate principles and
18 criteria, including—

19 “(i) the selection of an equitable dis-
20 tribution of projects and activities along
21 the entire Mississippi River Corridor;

22 “(ii) the ability of a project to achieve
23 strategic and measurable environmental
24 outcomes;

1 “(iii) the recognition that projects
2 may provide benefits to local or regional
3 communities or to the entire Mississippi
4 River Corridor;

5 “(iv) the feasibility of prompt imple-
6 mentation, timely achievement of measur-
7 able results, and resource leveraging; and

8 “(v) the opportunity to improve inter-
9 agency, intergovernmental, and inter-
10 organizational coordination and collabora-
11 tion to reduce duplication and improve
12 measurable environmental outcomes.

13 “(B) PRIORITY.—In selecting projects and
14 activities under this paragraph, the MRRRI Di-
15 rector shall give priority to projects or activities
16 that carry out actions described in paragraph
17 (5)(B)(xi).

18 “(C) COMPATIBILITY.—The MRRRI Di-
19 rector shall ensure that projects and activities
20 carried out under this section are compatible
21 with—

22 “(i) the ability of the Corps of Engi-
23 neers to maintain navigation in the Mis-
24 sissippi River; and

1 “(ii) the structural integrity or effec-
2 tiveness of Federal, State, local, or Tribal
3 disaster risk reduction infrastructure.

4 “(5) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Funds made available
6 to carry out this section may only be used to
7 implement a project or activity that addresses
8 at least 1 of the focus areas described in para-
9 graph (2) and that carries out at least one of
10 the actions described in subparagraph (B).

11 “(B) ACTIONS DESCRIBED.—The actions
12 referred to in subparagraph (A) are actions
13 that—

14 “(i) protect or restore naturally occur-
15 ring hydrologic, geomorphic, and ecological
16 functions and processes, including the res-
17 toration or rehabilitation of wetlands, in-
18 stream habitats (including through re-
19 connection of side channels and back-
20 waters), living shorelines, or upland habi-
21 tats;

22 “(ii) remove or modify structures , in-
23 cluding culverts, levees, and dams, to re-
24 store—

1 “(I) natural hydrology of rivers,
2 streams, floodplains, wetlands, or
3 coasts; or

4 “(II) the form, function, or proc-
5 esses of rivers, streams, floodplains,
6 wetlands, or coasts;

7 “(iii) permanently protect privately
8 owned lands through fee title acquisition or
9 enrollment into voluntary permanent wet-
10 land, flooding, or other conservation ease-
11 ments;

12 “(iv) facilitate habitat restoration
13 using responsibly sourced and clean
14 dredged sediment material by covering the
15 cost differential between the Federal
16 standard for dredge disposal and the cost
17 of transportation;

18 “(v) relocate, elevate, or demolish, and
19 clean up flood-prone structures, and carry
20 out any related floodplain restoration;

21 “(vi) increase water retention and in-
22 filtration through actions that promote a
23 healthy soil ecosystem, including maxi-
24 mizing soil cover, maximizing soil biodiver-

1 sity, and maximizing the presence of living
2 roots;

3 “(vii) reduce nonpoint sources of pol-
4 lution and promote landscape-scale vegeta-
5 tive cover (including perennial grains, pe-
6 rennial woody crops, winter annual cover
7 crops, perennial pasture, and other ap-
8 proaches to maintain year-round vegetative
9 cover) through the implementation of vol-
10 untary initiatives developed with the sup-
11 port of market research;

12 “(viii) reduce stormwater flows and
13 inflows that contribute to combined sewer
14 overflow events, and accelerate the adop-
15 tion of urban stormwater pollution preven-
16 tion minimum control measures through
17 municipal separate storm sewer system
18 permits issued under section 402(p);

19 “(ix) facilitate the cleanup of legacy
20 contaminants that are not hazardous sub-
21 stances (as defined in section 101 of the
22 Comprehensive Environmental Response,
23 Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980
24 (42 U.S.C. 9601)) or designated as haz-
25 ardous substances pursuant to section 102

1 of the Comprehensive Environmental Re-
2 sponse, Compensation, and Liability Act of
3 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9602);

4 “(x) control, manage, or eradicate
5 nonnative aquatic invasive species or re-
6 introduce native aquatic species, including
7 through—

8 “(I) investments in technology
9 and research to combat the spread of
10 aquatic invasive species;

11 “(II) the use of in-river physical
12 deterrent or controls; or

13 “(III) the promotion of commer-
14 cial harvesting of nonnative aquatic
15 species;

16 “(xi) address the disproportionate ef-
17 fects of the ecological degradation of the
18 Mississippi River Corridor on economically
19 disadvantaged communities in rural and
20 urban areas and on communities of color,
21 including through—

22 “(I) community based
23 participatory research;

24 “(II) project or community-wide
25 planning;

1 “(III) outreach and community
2 engagement; or

3 “(IV) restoration-related job
4 training and workforce development;
5 or

6 “(xii) additional actions determined to
7 be eligible pursuant to subsection
8 (d)(2)(B)(v).

9 “(C) PROTECTION AGAINST INVASIVE
10 PLANT SPECIES.—Funds made available to
11 carry out this section may not be used for a
12 project or activity that proposes to use a plant
13 that has an elevated risk of becoming invasive,
14 as determined by the MRRRI Director through
15 the use of a credible weed risk assessment tool.

16 “(6) MONITORING PLAN.—A Federal agency or
17 non-Federal entity receiving funds to carry out a
18 project or activity under this section shall develop a
19 detailed plan for monitoring the implementation and
20 ecological success of such project or activity, as ap-
21 plicable, that—

22 “(A) describes criteria for ecological suc-
23 cess by which the project will be evaluated
24 based on replacement of lost functions and val-
25 ues of the Mississippi River Corridor habitat,

1 including hydrologic and vegetative characteris-
2 tics;

3 “(B) identifies an entity responsible for
4 such monitoring; and

5 “(C) includes continuation of such moni-
6 toring until the project is determined to be suc-
7 cessful based on documented achievement of the
8 ecological success criteria described under sub-
9 paragraph (A).

10 “(d) ACTIONABLE GOALS; ACTION PLANS.—

11 “(1) ACTIONABLE GOALS.—Not later than 1
12 year after the date of enactment of this section, the
13 MRRRI Director shall develop measurable goals for
14 the MRRRI, including establishing criteria for meas-
15 uring the success of the MRRRI in addressing the
16 focus areas established in subsection (c)(2) and in
17 restoring the overall ecological health and resilience
18 of the Mississippi River Corridor.

19 “(2) ACTION PLAN.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years
21 after the date of enactment of this section, the
22 MRRRI Director shall develop an action plan to
23 make progress on the MRRRI through the im-
24 plementation of MRRRI projects and activities
25 under subsection (c).

1 “(B) CONTENTS.—The MRRRI Director
2 shall include in the action plan developed under
3 subparagraph (A)—

4 “(i) a description of existing Federal,
5 State, Tribal, and regional plans, pro-
6 grams, and activities affecting the Mis-
7 sissippi River Corridor that may be used to
8 advance the MRRRI;

9 “(ii) recommendations for a com-
10 prehensive approach to advancing systemic,
11 large-scale restoration of the Mississippi
12 River Corridor that, where appropriate,
13 leverages existing Federal and State pro-
14 grams;

15 “(iii) a multi-year plan that identifies
16 objectives within each of the focus areas
17 described in subsection (c)(2), with cor-
18 responding commitments for activities, re-
19 search, and measures for progress;

20 “(iv) a plan to monitor the implemen-
21 tation of any recommendations developed
22 under this subparagraph; and

23 “(v) a description of any additional
24 actions the Director determines are eligible
25 under this section.

1 “(C) PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS.—The
2 action plan described in subparagraph (A) may
3 include recommendations for specific projects or
4 activities that advance the objectives developed
5 under subparagraph (B)(iii), including
6 timelines, budgets, and the identification of en-
7 tities responsible for the implementation of such
8 projects.

9 “(3) UPDATES.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not less than once
11 every 5 years, the MRRRI Director shall review
12 and update the actionable goals and action plan
13 developed under this subsection.

14 “(B) INTEGRATION WITH SCIENCE
15 PLAN.—In updating the action plan pursuant to
16 this paragraph, the MRRRI Director shall in-
17 corporate any relevant information contained in
18 the science plan developed pursuant to section
19 4(b) of the MRRRI Act.

20 “(4) COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION.—In
21 developing and updating the actionable goals and ac-
22 tion plan required under this subsection, the MRRRI
23 Director shall—

24 “(A) consult with Mississippi River States,
25 Tribal governments within such States, the Sec-

1 retary of the Interior, the Chief of Engineers,
2 and the Secretary of Agriculture;

3 “(B) engage with relevant Federal agen-
4 cies, local governments, nongovernmental orga-
5 nizations, institutions of higher education (as
6 defined in section 101 of the Higher Education
7 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)), and members
8 of the public; and

9 “(C) solicit input from the entities de-
10 scribed in subparagraph (B) through a formal
11 public notice and comment period.

12 “(e) FUNDING.—

13 “(1) TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO FEDERAL ENTI-
14 TIES.—With funds made available to carry out this
15 section for each fiscal year, the MRRRI Director
16 may—

17 “(A) transfer funds to the head of any rel-
18 evant Federal agency, with the concurrence of
19 the head of such agency, to carry out activities
20 in accordance with this section;

21 “(B) transfer funds to other Federal pro-
22 grams to be used for achieving specifically tar-
23 geted and measurable environmental outcomes
24 that advance the actionable goals developed and
25 updated under subsection (d); and

1 “(C) enter into an interagency agreement
2 with the head of any relevant Federal agency to
3 carry out activities in accordance with this sec-
4 tion.

5 “(2) TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO BUREAU OF IN-
6 DIAN AFFAIRS.—The MRRRI Director shall transfer
7 not less than 5 percent of the funds made available
8 to carry out this section to the Director of the Bu-
9 reau of Indian Affairs, with the concurrence of such
10 Director, to make grants or otherwise enter into
11 agreements with Tribal governments or Tribal orga-
12 nizations to carry out projects or activities under
13 this section.

14 “(3) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT
15 PROJECTS PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF THE FIRST AC-
16 TION PLAN.—Before the date on which the first ac-
17 tion plan is developed under subsection (d)(2), the
18 MRRRI Director may transfer funds to another
19 Federal entity, or award a grant or otherwise enter
20 into an agreement with a non-Federal entity, to—

21 “(A) carry out projects or activities that
22 meet the requirements of subsection (c)(5); or

23 “(B) establish the research centers re-
24 quired under section 4(a) of the MRRRI Act.

25 “(4) COST SHARE.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
2 subparagraph (B), the Federal share of the cost
3 of a project or activity carried out by a non-
4 Federal entity under this section shall not ex-
5 ceed 80 percent of the total cost of the project
6 or activity.

7 “(B) EXCEPTION.—The Federal share of
8 the cost of a project or activity carried out by
9 a Tribal government or Tribal organization
10 under this section, and the Federal share of the
11 cost of a project or activity described in sub-
12 section (c)(5)(B)(xii) carried by a non-Federal
13 entity, shall be 100 percent of the total cost of
14 the project or activity.

15 “(C) IN KIND CONTRIBUTION.—The non-
16 Federal share of the cost of a project or activity
17 carried out under this section may include the
18 value of an in-kind contribution provided by a
19 non-Federal entity.

20 “(5) LIMITATIONS.—No funds made available
21 to carry out this section may be used for any water
22 infrastructure activity for which financial assistance
23 is received under—

24 “(A) a State water pollution control revolv-
25 ing fund established under section 603;

1 “(B) a State drinking water treatment re-
2 volving loan fund established under section
3 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42
4 U.S.C. 300j–12); or

5 “(C) the Water Infrastructure Finance and
6 Innovation Act of 2014 (33 U.S.C. 3901 et
7 seq.).

8 “(6) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
9 this section may be construed to waive any require-
10 ment under any applicable Federal environmental
11 law, including—

12 “(A) this Act;

13 “(B) the National Environmental Policy
14 Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

15 “(C) the Endangered Species Act (16
16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.); or

17 “(D) the Fish and Wildlife Coordination
18 Act of 1934 (16 U.S.C. 662 et seq.).

19 “(f) SET-ASIDE.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the total amount of
21 funds made available to carry out the MRRRI under
22 this section for each fiscal year—

23 “(A) not less than 25 percent shall be used
24 for projects or activities that carry out actions
25 described in subsection (c)(5)(B)(xi); and

1 “(B) not less than 10 percent shall be used
2 for projects or activities carried out in a per-
3 sistent poverty county that has had poverty
4 rates of 20 percent or greater, as determined by
5 the Bureau of the Census, for at least 30 con-
6 secutive years preceding such fiscal year.

7 “(2) ACTION PLAN.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the total amount
9 of funds made available to carry out the
10 MRRRI under this section for each fiscal year
11 beginning with the first fiscal year after which
12 the action plan required under subsection (d)(2)
13 is developed, not more than 5 percent may be
14 used for projects and activities that are eligible
15 under subsection (c)(5), but that do not address
16 an objective identified in the action plan under
17 subsection (d)(2)(B)(iii).

18 “(B) PRIORITY.—In using funds under
19 subparagraph (A), the MRRRI Director shall
20 prioritize projects that reduce the effects of nat-
21 ural disasters or respond to emerging threats
22 from natural disasters.

23 “(g) ACTIVITIES BY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of a relevant
25 Federal agency that is engaged in, or has authority

1 over, programs relating to research, monitoring, and
2 planning to maintain, enhance, preserve, or rehabili-
3 tate the environmental quality and natural resources
4 of the Mississippi River shall—

5 “(A) submit an annual report to the Ad-
6 ministrator describing the activities of the agen-
7 cy relating to the MRRRI;

8 “(B) strive to identify new projects and ac-
9 tivities to support the goals of the MRRRI;

10 “(C) ensure that any funding provided
11 through the MRRRI supplements, and does not
12 supplant, funding obtained through other agen-
13 cy budgets or other sources of funds for activi-
14 ties related to the Mississippi River; and

15 “(D) strive to maintain, and where possible
16 increase, the base level of funding for activities
17 of such agency related to the Mississippi River,
18 without regard to funding under the MRRRI.

19 “(h) BUDGET ITEM.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, in
21 the Agency’s annual budget submission to Congress,
22 include a funding request for the MRRRI as a sepa-
23 rate budget line item.

24 “(2) INCLUSION.—The budget justification for
25 the budget line item described in paragraph (1) shall

1 include the amount to support the operation and ac-
2 tivities of the Program Office.”.

3 **SEC. 4. MISSISSIPPI RIVER CORRIDOR RESEARCH CENTERS**
4 **AND SCIENCE PLAN.**

5 (a) MISSISSIPPI RIVER CORRIDOR RESEARCH CEN-
6 TERS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Inte-
8 rior shall coordinate with the MRRRI Director to es-
9 tablish a network of 4 Mississippi River Corridor
10 Research Centers within the United States Geologi-
11 cal Survey.

12 (2) LOCATION.—The network of research cen-
13 ters established under paragraph (1) shall consist
14 of—

15 (A) a National Mississippi River Corridor
16 Research Center located at an office of the
17 United States Geological Survey; and

18 (B) 3 regional research centers, each of
19 which shall be based out of a host university, as
20 follows:

21 (i) An Upper Mississippi River Re-
22 search Center located in the region from
23 the headwaters of the Mississippi River to
24 the confluence with the Missouri River.

1 (ii) A Middle Mississippi River Re-
2 search Center located in the region
3 downriver from the confluence of the Mis-
4 souri River to the confluence of the Ohio
5 River.

6 (iii) A Lower Mississippi River Re-
7 search Center located in the region
8 downriver from the confluence of the Ohio
9 River to the Gulf of Mexico.

10 (3) FUNCTIONS.—The functions of the research
11 centers established under this subsection shall be
12 to—

13 (A) conduct scientific research on the
14 MRRRI focus areas described in section
15 127(c)(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Con-
16 trol Act (as added by this Act);

17 (B) consult with and advise relevant Fed-
18 eral agencies on—

19 (i) the improvement of programs that
20 monitor water quality in the Mississippi
21 River Corridor and the health of the Mis-
22 sissippi River Corridor habitat or the es-
23 tablishment of such programs, where nec-
24 essary;

1 (ii) the impact of projects and activi-
2 ties carried out under the MRRRI; and

3 (iii) any additional goals, priorities,
4 metrics, and research objectives proposed
5 as part of the science plan described in
6 subsection (b)(2); and

7 (C) consult, and to the extent practicable,
8 collaborate with relevant Federal agencies and
9 non-Federal entities regarding research, moni-
10 toring, and other efforts to promote the restora-
11 tion and resiliency of the Mississippi River Cor-
12 ridor.

13 (4) INTEGRATION WITH OTHER FEDERAL AC-
14 TIVITIES.—The Secretary of the Interior shall en-
15 sure that research and other activities carried out
16 under this subsection are carried out in coordination
17 with other Federal research and monitoring activi-
18 ties related to efforts to promote the restoration and
19 resiliency of the Mississippi River Corridor.

20 (b) SCIENCE PLAN.—

21 (1) MISSISSIPPI RIVER SCIENCE FORUM.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year
23 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Di-
24 rector of the United States Geological Survey
25 shall host a Mississippi River science forum

1 with relevant Federal agencies, Mississippi
2 River States, Tribal governments, Tribal orga-
3 nizations, academia, and other non-Federal en-
4 tities to—

5 (i) share current science and identify
6 data gaps and areas of concern related to
7 the ecological health of the Mississippi
8 River Corridor; and

9 (ii) determine the resources that are
10 necessary to—

11 (I) address any data gaps and
12 areas of concern identified under
13 clause (i); and

14 (II) develop an integrated science
15 plan under paragraph (2).

16 (B) REPORT.—Not later than 270 days
17 after the Director of the United States Geologi-
18 cal Survey hosts the Mississippi River science
19 forum under subparagraph (A), the Director
20 shall submit a report on the findings from such
21 forum to—

22 (i) the Administrator of the Environ-
23 mental Protection Agency;

24 (ii) the MRRRI Director;

1 (iii) the Committee on Appropriations
2 and the Committee on Natural Resources
3 and the Committee on Transportation and
4 Infrastructure of the House of Representa-
5 tives; and

6 (iv) the Committee on Appropriations
7 and the Committee on Energy and Natural
8 Resources of the Senate.

9 (2) SCIENCE PLAN DEVELOPMENT.—

10 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years
11 after the conclusion of the Mississippi River
12 science forum required by paragraph (1), the
13 Director of the United States Geological Survey
14 shall develop a science plan that establishes pri-
15 orities, metrics, and research proposals for the
16 MRRRI.

17 (B) SUBMISSION.—Upon completion of the
18 science plan developed under this paragraph,
19 the Director of the United States Geological
20 Survey shall make such plan available on a pub-
21 lic website and submit such plan to the MRRRI
22 Director to inform the implementation of the
23 actionable goals and action plans developed for
24 the MRRRI under section 127(d) of the Fed-

1 eral Water Pollution Control Act (as added by
2 this Act).

3 (C) UPDATES.—Not less than once every 5
4 years, the Director of the United States Geo-
5 logical Survey shall coordinate with the MRRRI
6 Director and the research centers established
7 under subsection (a) to review and update the
8 science plan developed under this subsection.

9 (D) COORDINATION.—In developing and
10 updating the science plan, the Director shall so-
11 licit input and comment from the public
12 through a formal public notice and comment
13 period.

14 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

15 In this Act, the terms “MRRRI”, “MRRRI Direc-
16 tor”, “Mississippi River Corridor”, “Mississippi River
17 State”, “relevant Federal agency”, “Tribal government”,
18 and “Tribal organization” have the meanings given such
19 terms in section 127(a) of the Federal Water Pollution
20 Control Act, as added by this Act.

ATTACHMENT F

Additional Items

- Future Meeting Schedule (*F-1*)
- Frequently Used Acronyms (4-29-2022) (*F-2 to F-8*)

**QUARTERLY MEETINGS
FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE**

NOVEMBER 2024	
<u>St. Louis</u>	
November 19	UMRBA Quarterly Meeting
November 20	UMRR Coordinating Committee Quarterly Meeting

FEBRUARY 2025	
<u>Virtual</u>	
February 25	UMRBA Quarterly Meeting
February 26	UMRR Coordinating Committee Quarterly Meeting

Acronyms Frequently Used on the Upper Mississippi River System

AAR	After Action Report
A&E	Architecture and Engineering
ACRCC	Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee
AFB	Alternative Formulation Briefing
AHAG	Aquatic Habitat Appraisal Guide
AHRI	American Heritage Rivers Initiative
AIS	Aquatic Invasive Species
ALC	American Lands Conservancy
ALDU	Aquatic Life Designated Use(s)
AM	Adaptive Management
ANS	Aquatic Nuisance Species
AP	Advisory Panel
APE	Additional Program Element
ARRA	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
ASA(CW)	Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works
A-Team	Analysis Team
ATR	Agency Technical Review
AWI	America's Watershed Initiative
AWO	American Waterways Operators
AWQMN	Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Network
BA	Biological Assessment
BATIC	Build America Transportation Investment Center
BCOES	Bid-ability, Constructability, Operability, Environmental, Sustainability
BCR	Benefit-Cost Ratio
BMPs	Best Management Practices
BO	Biological Opinion
CAP	Continuing Authorities Program
CAWS	Chicago Area Waterways System
CCC	Commodity Credit Corporation
CCP	Comprehensive Conservation Plan
CEICA	Cost Effectiveness Incremental Cost Analysis
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CFS	Cubic Feet Per Second
CG	Construction General
CIA	Computerized Inventory and Analysis
CMMP	Channel Maintenance Management Plan
COE	Corps of Engineers
COPT	Captain of the Port
CPUE	Catch Per Unit Effort
CRA	Continuing Resolution Authority
CREP	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program

CSP	Conservation Security Program
CUA	Cooperative Use Agreement
CWA	Clean Water Act
CY	Cubic Yards
DALS	Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
DED	Department of Economic Development
DEM	Digital Elevation Model
DET	District Ecological Team
DEWS	Drought Early Warning System
DMMP	Dredged Material Management Plan
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
DO	Dissolved Oxygen
DOA	Department of Agriculture
DOC	Department of Conservation
DOER	Dredging Operations and Environmental Research
DOT	Department of Transportation
DPR	Definite Project Report
DQC	District Quality Control/Quality Assurance
DSS	Decision Support System
EA	Environmental Assessment
ECC	Economics Coordinating Committee
EEC	Essential Ecosystem Characteristic
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMAP	Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program
EMAP-GRE	Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program-Great Rivers Ecosystem
EMP	Environmental Management Program [Note: Former name of Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program.]
EMP-CC	Environmental Management Program Coordinating Committee
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPM	Environmental Pool Management
EPR	External Peer Review
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
ER	Engineering Regulation
ERDC	Engineering Research & Development Center
ESA	Endangered Species Act
EWMN	Early Warning Monitoring Network
EWP	Emergency Watershed Protection Program
FACA	Federal Advisory Committee Act
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FDR	Flood Damage Reduction
FFS	Flow Frequency Study
FMG	Forest Management Geodatabase
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FRM	Flood Risk Management

FRST	Floodplain Restoration System Team
FSA	Farm Services Agency
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
FWCA	Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act
FWIC	Fish and Wildlife Interagency Committee
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service
FWWG	Fish and Wildlife Work Group
FY	Fiscal Year
GAO	Government Accountability Office
GEIS	Generic Environmental Impact Statement
GI	General Investigations
GIS	Geographic Information System
GLC	Governors Liaison Committee
GLC	Great Lakes Commission
GLMRIS	Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study
GPS	Global Positioning System
GREAT	Great River Environmental Action Team
GRP	Geographic Response Plan
H&H	Hydrology and Hydraulics
HAB	Harmful Algal Bloom
HEC-EFM	Hydrologic Engineering Center Ecosystems Function Model
HEC-RAS	Hydrologic Engineering Center River Analysis System
HEL	Highly Erodible Land
HEP	Habitat Evaluation Procedure
HNA	Habitat Needs Assessment
HPSF	HREP Planning and Sequencing Framework
HQUSACE	Headquarters, USACE
H.R.	House of Representatives
HREP	Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Project
HSI	Habitat Suitability Index
HU	Habitat Unit
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
IBA	Important Bird Area
IBI	Index of Biological (Biotic) Integrity
IC	Incident Commander
ICS	Incident Command System
ICWP	Interstate Council on Water Policy
IDIQ	Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity
IEPR	Independent External Peer Review
IGE	Independent Government Estimate
IIA	Implementation Issues Assessment
IIFO	Illinois-Iowa Field Office (formerly RIFO - Rock Island Field Office)
ILP	Integrated License Process
IMTS	Inland Marine Transportation System
IPR	In-Progress Review
IRCC	Illinois River Coordinating Council

IRPT	Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals
IRTC	Implementation Report to Congress
IRWG	Illinois River Work Group
ISA	Inland Sensitivity Atlas
IWR	Institute for Water Resources
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
IWS	Integrated Water Science
IWTF	Inland Waterways Trust Fund
IWUB	Inland Waterways Users Board
IWW	Illinois Waterway
L&D	Lock(s) and Dam
LC/LU	Land Cover/Land Use
LDB	Left Descending Bank
LERRD	Lands, Easements, Rights-of-Way, Relocation of Utilities or Other Existing Structures, and Disposal Areas
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
LMR	Lower Mississippi River
LMRCC	Lower Mississippi River Conservation Committee
LOI	Letter of Intent
LTRM	Long Term Resource Monitoring
M-35	Marine Highway 35
MAFC	Mid-America Freight Coalition
MARAD	U.S. Maritime Administration
MARC 2000	Midwest Area River Coalition 2000
MCAT	Mussel Community Assessment Tool
MICRA	Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association
MDM	Major subordinate command Decision Milestone
MIPR	Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request
MMR	Middle Mississippi River
MMRP	Middle Mississippi River Partnership
MNRG	Midwest Natural Resources Group
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MoRAST	Missouri River Association of States and Tribes
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRAPS	Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study
MRBI	Mississippi River Basin (Healthy Watersheds) Initiative
MRC	Mississippi River Commission
MRCC	Mississippi River Connections Collaborative
MRCTI	Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative
MRRC	Mississippi River Research Consortium
MR&T	Mississippi River and Tributaries (project)
MSP	Minimum Sustainable Program
MVD	Mississippi Valley Division
MVP	St. Paul District
MVR	Rock Island District
MVS	St. Louis District

NAS	National Academies of Science
NAWQA	National Water Quality Assessment
NCP	National Contingency Plan
NIDIS	National Integrated Drought Information System (NOAA)
NEBA	Net Environmental Benefit Analysis
NECC	Navigation Environmental Coordination Committee
NED	National Economic Development
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NESP	Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program
NETS	Navigation Economic Technologies Program
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NGRREC	National Great Rivers Research and Education Center
NGWOS	Next Generation Water Observing System
NICC	Navigation Interests Coordinating Committee
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NPS	Non-Point Source
NPS	National Park Service
NRC	National Research Council
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRDAR	Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration
NRT	National Response Team
NSIP	National Streamflow Information Program
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OHWM	Ordinary High Water Mark
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OMRR&R	Operation, Maintenance, Repair, Rehabilitation, and Replacement
OPA	Oil Pollution Act of 1990
ORSANCO	Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator
OSE	Other Social Effects
OSIT	On Site Inspection Team
P3	Public-Private Partnerships
PA	Programmatic Agreement
PAS	Planning Assistance to States
P&G	Principles and Guidelines
P&R	Principles and Requirements
P&S	Plans and Specifications
P&S	Principles and Standards
PCA	Pollution Control Agency
PCA	Project Cooperation Agreement
PCX	Planning Center of Expertise
PDT	Project Delivery Team
PED	Preconstruction Engineering and Design
PgMP	Program Management Plan

PILT	Payments In Lieu of Taxes
PIR	Project Implementation Report
PL	Public Law
PMP	Project Management Plan
PORT	Public Outreach Team
PPA	Project Partnership Agreement
PPT	Program Planning Team
QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RCP	Regional Contingency Plan
RCPP	Regional Conservation Partnership Program
RDB	Right Descending Bank
RED	Regional Economic Development
RIFO	Rock Island Field Office (now IIFO - Illinois-Iowa Field Office)
RM	River Mile
RP	Responsible Party
RPEDN	Regional Planning and Environment Division North
RPT	Reach Planning Team
RRAT	River Resources Action Team
RRCT	River Resources Coordinating Team
RRF	River Resources Forum
RRT	Regional Response Team
RST	Regional Support Team
RTC	Report to Congress
S.	Senate
SAV	Submersed Aquatic Vegetation
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
SEMA	State Emergency Management Agency
SET	System Ecological Team
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Risk Informed, Timely
SONS	Spill of National Significance
SOW	Scope of Work
SRF	State Revolving Fund
SWCD	Soil and Water Conservation District
T&E	Threatened and Endangered
TEUs	twenty-foot equivalent units
TIGER	Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery
TLP	Traditional License Process
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TSP	Tentatively selected plan
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
TVA	Tennessee Valley Authority
TWG	Technical Work Group
UMESC	Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center

UMIMRA	Upper Mississippi, Illinois, and Missouri Rivers Association
UMR	Upper Mississippi River
UMRBA	Upper Mississippi River Basin Association
UMRBC	Upper Mississippi River Basin Commission
UMRCC	Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee
UMRCP	Upper Mississippi River Comprehensive Plan
UMR-IWW	Upper Mississippi River-Illinois Waterway
UMRNWFR	Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge
UMRR	Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program [Note: Formerly known as Environmental Management Program.]
UMRR CC	Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program Coordinating Committee
UMRS	Upper Mississippi River System
UMWA	Upper Mississippi Waterway Association
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USCG	U.S. Coast Guard
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VTC	Video Teleconference
WCI	Waterways Council, Inc.
WES	Waterways Experiment Station (replaced by ERDC)
WHAG	Wildlife Habitat Appraisal Guide
WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program
WIIN	Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act
WLM	Water Level Management
WLMTF	Water Level Management Task Force
WQ	Water Quality
WQEC	Water Quality Executive Committee
WQTF	Water Quality Task Force
WQS	Water Quality Standard
WRDA	Water Resources Development Act
WRP	Wetlands Reserve Program
WRRDA	Water Resources Reform and Development Act