

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association (UMRBA)
Flood, Drought, and Sediment Management Summit
Communication Team Meeting Notes
September 30 – October 1, 2019

Team Member	Attendees
Dru Buntin (co-lead)	X
Shawn Sullivan (co-lead)	X
Meg Galloway, WIDNR	
Sara Schmueker, USFWS	
Rich Feibelman, Mississippi River Commission	
Paul Rohde, Waterways Council	X
Gretchen Benjamin, TNC	
Olivia Dorothy, American Rivers	X
Al Muhlenbrack, landowner	
Mark Harvey, school district	
Kathy Wine, River Action	
Steve Jurgens, Kaskaskia Watershed Association	X
Karin Jacoby, Husch Blackwell	X

Meeting Summary September 30, 2019 (3:45 to 5:00 PM)

Explained Systematic Development of Informed Consent Process.

Identified step 1 which involved open space meetings, locations and attendance.

Informed step 2 and purpose of the 2019 UMRBA Summit involving Chapter Team Discussions to work on report.

Explained that Chapter Teams' objectives include:

- Identifying what are the short term actions that can be addressed under this current Planning Assistance to States (PAS) effort provided by the Corps in partnership with UMRBA and the five States.
- Identifying the problems that require more analysis and will need to be addressed in further more detailed study.

Ongoing Communication Required to:

- Explain PAS report to be entitled "Keys to the River 2020: Key Actions and Key Questions on the Upper Mississippi River" and communicate what this effort is and what it is not.
- Keep Potentially Affected Interests (PAIs) engaged and informed on this project.

Observation by the Communications Team Summit Attendees:

Open space meetings and summits are under represented by City and County Officials as well as USDA and FEMA.

Recommendation that UMRBA invite list must be expanded to include Upper Mississippi River Mayors and Floodplain Administrators.

Discussion of how do we get FEMA engaged such as Risk Analysis Branch officials such as Rick Nusz FEMA Region VII (MO and IA),

Ken Hinterlong FEMA Region V (IL) and

Sarah Hayman FEMA Region V (MN and WI).

Who is engaged from USDA. USDA can provide recommendations on compensation framework for voluntary flood water storage within leveed areas.

It was recommended by team member that we should communicate this effort with the Illinois Association of Drainage Districts (IADD). Potential for briefing and breakout session at the January 16 – 17, 2020 IADD conference in Bloomington, IL.

Discussed the challenge of knowing who special interest groups represent and how broad their membership is and how is the joint Corps and UMRBA message being pushed out to special interest groups such as Neighbors of the Mississippi and the Upper Mississippi Illinois Missouri River Association.

Summary statement that if we want to embody informed consent we need keep this process transparent so PAIs can be as informed as they choose to be.

Meeting Summary October 1, 2019 (8:30 to 10:45 AM)

Communications team met on day 2 and the following captures meeting discussion and due outs.

How do we be inclusive in this Systematic Development of Informed Consent Process so all are welcome to know, participate and attend by webinar or in-person meetings:

- Stagger Chapter Team Meetings to accommodate those who may be on more than one Chapter Team.
- Chapter Team Leads provide transparency by hosting information exchange session involving UMRBAs PAI list so individuals can self-select.
- Web page to incorporate all information (open space meeting notes, universe of recommendations being carried forward in the report to include identification of short and long-term actions and why a particular problem or recommendation is not being carried forward in the PAS Report or recommended in a future study such as Section 729).
- Schedule for report completion.

Detailed discussion and recommendations for PAI involvement:

Chapter Team Composition will consist of list created by UMRBA and will include any additional attendees that participated in the 2019 Summit.

Chapter Team list will be finalized through survey sent by UMRBA or non-Corps Team Lead for determination of whether they wish to continue participation on the team and to gain an understanding of who they lean on for information, to include people and information resources. This information will be used to ensure we have a complete PAI list for complete transparency of this multi-state effort.

Chapter Team Leads will develop draft content and coordinate with the Chapter Team. Chapter team make up may change as a result of survey results and will be based upon those that choose to participate in report development.

After coordinating draft content with the Chapter Team, the Chapter Team Leads will host information exchange sessions with the total UMRBA distribution and attendee list used from the 2017 and 2019 Summits, Open Space Sessions, survey results and agency recommendations from FEMA, USDA, and local jurisdictions.

Individuals will self-select into where their area of interest is and what meeting they want to attend to receive information and to ask specific questions associated with the chapter.

Communications Team Due Outs

Develop Chapter Team Survey for each Chapter Team to send to team members – Lead Shawn Sullivan

Draft Problem Statement – Lead Shawn Sullivan

Initiate write-up of Chapter 6 – see page 4. Co-Leads Dru Buntin and Shawn Sullivan

UMRS Flood, Sediment/Channel Management, Drought PAS Report

Strategic Communications

Chapter 6

[Two to three sentence blurb on importance of strategic communications – e.g., why it’s important for PAIs to *know* the plan, be *engaged* in its development, and *understand* the final outcomes.]

The Process

The expectations and planned process

[Note: This section will include 3-4 paragraphs describing the goals of the communications process (SDIC approach) and how it will be implemented during the PAS report stage and Section 729 planning phase.]

The Messages

The reason for the effort and roles and responsibilities

[Note: This section will include communications messages of the problems experienced today and in the foreseeable future, goals and objectives for the planning process and outcomes, solutions as they are being deliberated and the resulting impacts, the key players and why they are the right entities to advance the solutions.]

The PAIs

Who will be targeted, why, and how

[Note: This section will include an overview of who are directly and indirectly affected, who want to be involved, and who need to be made aware (i.e., decision makers outside of the basin) as well as what we believe is their interest in doing so.]