Missouri River Recovery Program

Governance Structure

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Presentation Topics

- Authority and Mandates for MRRP
- MRRP Program Components
- MRRP Internal Organization
- USACE and USFWS Collaboration
- Programmatic Decision-making
- Stakeholder Engagement
Geographic Scope

Program Scope

- 2,300 miles of river
- Missouri River from Three Forks, Montana to St. Louis, Missouri
- Wyoming, Montana, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, and Kansas
- Local, state and federal agencies
- 28 Indian Tribes
## Authority and Mandates

### Authorities
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958
- Missouri River Mainstem Master Water Control Manual
- Section 216 - Flood Control Act of 1970
- Missouri National Recreational River
- WRDA 2007

### Mandates
- Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act
  - Biological Opinion (BiOp)
- Threatened & Endangered Species
  - Piping plover
  - Least tern
  - Pallid sturgeon
MRRP Mission Statement

- **MRRP Mission Statement**
  
  Implement actions to accomplish Missouri River ecosystem recovery goals in coordination and collaboration with agency partners and stakeholders

- **MRRP Program Scope**
  
  - Implement the BiOp
  - Implement the Mitigation Program
  - Conduct a study to required to mitigate, recover and restore
  - Collaborate and coordinate with stakeholders and agency partners including MRRIC
  - Implement other congressionally and WRDA directed projects
MRRP Governance Structure

MRRP Leadership

- Missouri River Regional Review Panel (RRP)
- Executive Steering Committee (ESC)
- MRRP Senior Program Manager (SPgM)
Senior Product Delivery Team

Members

• MRERP – Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan
• MRRIC – Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee
• Implementation – Habitat Creation
• Integrated Science Program
• Water Management
• Adaptive Management
• Ad-hoc members – topic specific
  • Communications, Program Controls, Information Data Management, Office of Counsel

Responsibilities

• Coordinate the activities within the MRRP
MRRP Internal Organization

• Two USACE Districts
  – Kansas City (NWK)
  – Omaha (NWO)

• Northwestern Division

• Matrixed program in each District

• Responsibility for implementation is spread across Districts
  – MRERP funded by NWK
  – ISP funded by NWO
  – Some programs have dual PMs (MRERP, Habitat Creation) while others only have one (ISP, MRRIC)
Corps-USFWS Collaboration

• Partnership with separate but distinct roles
• Partnership provides leadership to other public agencies and stakeholders
• USFWS enforces the BiOp
• USACE responsible for BiOp compliance
• Working as effective team to meet MRRP goals and objectives
• Advantage of staff co-location - ISP in Yankton, SD
MRRP Decision-making

- MRRP day-to-day implementation is executed by the MRRP Senior PgM and SPDT
- SPDT meets monthly to establish work priorities and discuss schedule and budget
- Unresolved issues elevated to ESC
- Decision-making is not shared
  - Single federal agency involvement (Corps)
- USFWS is consulted regarding major programmatic issues
  - *Example*: clarified definition of shallow water habitat (SWH)
Role of AM in Decision-making

- AM is a guiding tenet of MRRP implementation
- Used to gage whether management actions are meeting anticipated performance objectives
  - Guides needed adjustments to the MRRP as needed
- Provides independent technical review of scientific information
- Provides new opportunities for “learning” which allows for better decision-making in the future
Stakeholder Engagement and Collaboration

- MRRP is FACA exempt (WRDA 2007)
- WRDA 2007 required the formation of stakeholder group - MRRIC
  - 78 members including 28 Indian Tribes
- In 2008, a MRRIC Charter was developed
  - Governs the operation of group
  - Addresses issues of importance to the Missouri River Basin stakeholders
  - Requires consensus in decision-making
- Recommendations from MRRIC are an input into decision-making
Questions?

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