

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Upper Mississippi River Comprehensive Plan (UMRCP) Collaboration Team (CT) Meeting #2

1. The subject meeting was held on 11 October 2002 at the Hilton St. Louis Airport Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri. See Enclosure 1 for a list of attendees. Enclosure 2 is a list of action items to be accomplished subsequent to the meeting. **Note:** This Memorandum For Record was reviewed by Corps of Engineers (Corps) meeting attendees prior to this distribution.

2. Jerry Skalak opened the meeting with brief introductory comments and a request for corrections to the previous meeting's minutes. Bill Franz asked that the minutes be corrected to show that he participated in the conference call.

3. Dave Leake, acting as the overall meeting facilitator, explained how the meeting would be run. He subsequently asked the participants to introduce themselves and provide statements as to study expectations and/or concerns. In response, the following statements were made:

- Bob Goodwin: Study needs to be fully coordinated with other major studies underway.
- Jennifer Frazier: Need to use a methodical process. End product needs to represent a marriage of all expectations and should provide a billboard for future collaborative efforts.
- Karen Westphall: Study needs to address environmental health and fish and wildlife floodplain habitat needs.
- Bill Franz: Water quality, quantity, and environmental health all need to be addressed.
- Gary Clark: The best H&H efforts need to be applied to identify cost-effective alternatives. An emergency flood fighting response plan is needed.
- Holly Stoerker: Maintain study focus on flood damage reduction.
- Mike Klingner: The Upper Mississippi, Illinois & Missouri Rivers Association (UMIMRA) was the sponsor of the authorizing legislation. Need to take a more regional approach. Development of a systemic flood protection and flood routing plan for large magnitude events is the focus. Need to develop a real plan not just do another study.
- George Riedel: Need a better overall floodplain management plan that respects other interests.
- Jeff DeZellar: Need to make maximum use of Navigation Study data and information.

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- Jean O’Neil: Habitat assessment will be important.

- Jerry Skalak: Must remain vigilant with respect to time and cost. Will emphasize the 3 Cs (collaboration, coordination, communication). Need to recognize long-term planning aspects while focusing on flood damage reduction. Plan needs to consider both environmental and economic sustainability.

- Mark Beorkrem: Who were the recipients of the UMIMRA-developed questionnaire? (Per Mike Klingner, the UMIMRA mailing list was used for that distribution).

4. Jerry Skalak addressed the next agenda item which was public comments and input received to date.

- It was requested that a copy of a more detailed summary and analysis of the input received to date be distributed with the meeting minutes.

- Mark Beorkrem asked about the potential of posting the raw comments. Jerry Skalak stated that he would explore this further.

- Holly Stoerker asked about how the public input will be used. In response Dave Leake stated that it is part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and provides another opportunity to identify/confirm problems, needs, and opportunities. Jerry Skalak stated that it will be fully considered in the screening of measures and development of alternatives.

5. Discussion of read ahead #4a (resource problems):

- It was acknowledged that this document has not been cross checked with the public input.

- Dave Leake noted that it is primarily the results of a limited literature search accomplished by Dave Gates of St. Louis District (CEMVS).

- Bob Goodwin: How will problems be prioritized?

- Dave Leake: Flood damage reduction will be the priority.

- Mark Beorkrem: Water quality issues in general need to be considered.

- Mike Klinger: A broader review of existing literature for resource problems needs to be accomplished.

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- Dave Leake: Concurred that a more extensive review of the existing literature for problems, needs, and opportunities should be accomplished.
- Owen Dutt: The opportunities list needs significant work, including making it more explicit.
- Holly Stoerker: How will problems be addressed in the planning process?
- Rich Astrack: Need to make sure the most critical problems are first addressed. Need solid study goals and objectives. Opportunities go beyond just problem solving.
- Mike Klingner: Should categorize problems (e.g., economic, environmental, other social effects).
- Jerry Skalak: Problems need to be flooding specific.
- General concurrence that problems list document needs to be expanded by review of additional existing documents.
- Owen Dutt: Title of the project effort implies tremendous expectations. Need to document and make sure that the scoping down process is clearly understood.
- Dave Leake: Meeting minutes should include a list of additional sources to be searched for the purpose of making resource problems list more complete.
- Mark Beorkrem: Retain reference information in resource problems list.
- Dave Leake: Corps will re-work opportunities column and add a needs column. An iterative review process with the CT will be subsequently initiated.
- Holly Stoerker: What will be done with this “laundry list” of problems, needs, and opportunities?
- Bob Goodwin: CT members need a more detailed chart showing study flow and work items.
- Rich Astrack: Goal of the effort to develop the problems, needs, and opportunities list is to make sure we aren’t missing something.
- Holly Stoerker: A category for recreation problems needs to be added.

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- Owen Dutt: Some of the problems are very specific while others are quite general. Secondary and cumulative impacts need to be considered.
- Bill Franz: Some of the problems identified seem to be symptoms of more fundamental problems.
- Al Schulz: Review past solutions and consider how they have or have not worked. Need to take a hard look at the history of flood damage reduction.
- Mike Klingner: Need to maintain focus on systemic flood protection. In organizing and prioritizing resource problems, go back to the authorizing legislation language.
- Bill Franz: Will need to take into account losses of wetlands, grasslands, etc. and how other programs have helped to reduce flood peaks.
- Jennifer Frazier: Need to learn from the past and consider smarter ways to address flooding problems.
- Al Schulz: Look at how past actions have influenced today's conditions.
- Jerry Skalak: Corps team will re-work resource problems document to include systemic issues raised. A more complete list of physical and policy-related problems will be developed.

6. Goals and objectives:

- Al Schulz suggested the study product be referred to as a floodplain management plan.
- Mike Klingner: Plan needs to be implementable.
- Bob Goodwin: Need an objective specific to ports and marinas.
- Al Schulz: An objective specific to E.O. 11988 is needed.
- With some minor tweaking, the revised objectives, as presented, are, in general, consistent with the CT thinking.
- Jerry Skalak: Need to consider that the objectives are the future basis for evaluation of plan performance.
- Al Schulz: Flood insurance program is not a floodplain management program.

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- George Riedel: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Corps modeling and mapping methodologies need to consider future conditions. Future H&H analysis work needs to consider watershed influences.
- Bill Franz: Consider the effects of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), and other programs.
- Al Schulz: See study done by FEMA regarding port development and floodplain Compatibility.
- Bill Franz: Stormwater management plans and stormwater retention policies need to be considered.
- Holly Stoerker: Consider temporary structural measures (e.g., flood fighting).
- George Riedel: Need to make sure that there is interagency integration coordination of programs.
- Al Schulz: Need to acquire easements in conjunction with flood control projects.
- Jerry Skalak: Zoning is a flood damage reduction measure.
- Mike Klingner: Dredged material placement on inside of levees is an important consideration.
- Mark Beorkrem: Removal of navigation channel modification structures needs to be considered.
- Bill Franz: Pool draw down as a tool.
- Jerry Skalak: Maintaining a higher pool may be a means for managing vegetation in areas where levee setbacks might be recommended.
- Bill Franz: Section 401 permitting should be added to list of potential measures (Screening Measures).
- Holly Stoerker: Need to screen measures down to a list that is manageable for alternative formulation. Also need to figure out how best to package measures. A conceptual framework needs to be developed.

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- Mark Beorkrem: Need ways to model nonstructural measures. A matrix of the measures vs. objectives needs to be developed. The robustness of the measures, particularly the non-quantitative ones, needs to be captured.
- Holly Stoerker: Use criteria for screening alternatives not individual measures.
- Dave Leake: The development of a matrix showing measures vs. planning objective would be very helpful.
- Mark Beorkrem: Small vs. large scale measures. Need the right data to define the problems.
- Dave Leake: Need to better quantify the economics but may not have sufficient time and resources to do so.
- Holly Stoerker: Some measures are beyond the scope and should be screened
- Dave Leake: Schedule is short, so screening of measures needs to occur soon.
- Holly Stoerker: Need framework for alternatives (Regional Focus Groups).
- Dave Leake: Tough getting commitments. Need Fish and Wildlife Service representation.

Next Meeting:

Jerry Skalak suggested the meeting location be rotated among various sites within the study region. Members generally concurred that St. Louis was a good meeting location. Next face-to-face meeting was set for 3 December 2002 in St. Louis, Missouri.

2 Encls

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CF (all w/encls):
Collaboration Team Members
Corps Product Delivery Team Members

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