

## 8. GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

### GLOSSARY

**Accretion**—Gradual buildup of land on a shore due to wave action, tides, currents, airborne materials, or alluvial deposits.

**Alluvium**—Sediments transported and deposited by streams and rivers.

**Annual Flood Control Zone**—The zone surrounding a body of water that is used to store the annual high spring and summer inflows to that body of water.

**Batture**—An elevation of the bed of a river under the surface of the water.

**Bed Material**—The unconsolidated material forming the bottom of a body of water.

**Bed**—An area at the bottom of a water body; the seabed or streambed.

**Channel**—A concave depression for drainage of surface runoff. The bed of a stream or river; the deeper part of a river.

**Current Water Control Plan**—This plan determines how water flowing down the Missouri River through the Mainstem Reservoir System is stored and released downstream to balance the needs of the system's many project purposes.

**Cut Bank**—A steep stream bank maintained by eroding action of streamwater flowing around the outside of a meander bend.

**Depletion Analysis**—The study of the use of resources, water, timber being depleted faster than they have been replenished.

**Deposition**—The process of laying down sediments after a transportation process (sedimentation).

**Downstream**—The direction of current flow that goes from a higher point of potential energy to a lower point of potential energy.

**Drawdown**—The distance that the water surface of a reservoir is lowered from a given elevation as water is released from the reservoir. Also refers to the act of lowering reservoir levels.

**Drought**—Extended periods of unusually low precipitation.

**Drought Conservation**—Reduction of releases from the Mainstem Reservoir System to conserve water in the lakes for authorized project purposes.

**Ecosystem**—A community of living organisms interacting with one another and with their physical environment, such as a rain forest, pond, or estuary.

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**Endangered**—A plant or animal species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range because its habitat is threatened with destruction, modification, or curtailment. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service designates endangered species.

**Environmental Justice**—The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income within the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws.

**Erosion**—The wearing away of a land surface or river channel by water, wind, ice, gravity, or other geological activities.

**Eutrophication**—The build-up of nutrients in a water body that promotes excessive algal growth.

**Fledgling**—An immature bird.

**Flood Control Zone**—The capacity of a reservoir to store annual spring flood runoff as well as infrequent extremely high flood events.

**Flood Frequency Curve**—Graphical analysis that plots the predicted size of a flood against its probable occurrence.

**Floodplain**—The area adjacent to channel built from sedimentation during present regimen of the river and that is covered with water when the river overflows its banks at flood stages.

**Fossiliferous**—Having or bearing biological fossil remains.

**Habitat**—The environment occupied by individuals of a particular species, population, or community.

**Headwater**—The water upstream from the powerhouse.

**Herbaceous**—Characteristic of soft plants that do not have woody stems.

**Hydrography**—The collection and analysis of hydrologic data. The science that deals with the physical aspects of water.

**Hydrologic Cycle**—The solar-driven cycle of water movement between atmosphere, oceans, aquatic, and terrestrial environments.

**Intrasystem Regulation**—Regulation for water release within a system of dams.

**Jeopardy**—Under the Endangered Species Act, jeopardy occurs when an action is reasonably expected to diminish a species' numbers, reproduction, or distribution so that the likelihood of survival and recovery in the wild is appreciably reduced.

**Lacustrine**—Pertaining to lakes.

**Landslide**—A wasting of earth materials through down slope movement.

**Levee**—A dike or embankment that protects land from flooding.

**Loess**—Fine-grained sediments deposited by wind, frequently in a proglacial environment.

**Lower River**—The segment of the Missouri River that extends from Gavins Point Dam to the mouth of the river near St. Louis.

**Mainstem Reservoir System**—A portion of the Missouri River from its headwaters to Gavins Point Dam that includes the six large dams and their reservoirs.

**Master Manual**—Describes the operation of the reservoir system including the Water Control Plan, which prescribes operation policy for the multiple project purposes of flood control, hydropower, water supply, water quality, irrigation, navigation, recreation, and fish and wildlife.

**Mesic**—Habitat or plants characterized by a moderate amount of water, transitional between wetland and upland.

**Model**—A mathematical function with parameters that can be adjusted so that the function closely describes a set of empirical data.

**Mode**—The value of a variable that occurs most frequently in a set of values (frequency distribution).

**Monotypic**—Pertaining to a stand of trees or plants comprised of a single species.

**Native Species**—Species that are indigenous to a specific area.

**Navigation Season**—Extensions of time that represent full and minimum navigation service. The length of a normal navigation season is 8 months (April 1 through December 1).

**Navigation Service Criteria**—Guidelines for reducing navigation services during droughts.

**Navigation Service**—The release of water from the Mainstem Reservoir System at Gavins Point Dam necessary to maintain 8 to 9 feet of water depth in the navigation channel between Sioux City and St. Louis.

**NED Economics**—National Economic Development economics evaluates economic efficiency and impact at a national level.

**Nonnavigation Service**—The release of water from the Mainstem Reservoir System necessary to ensure targets for all uses (agriculture, water supply, recreation, fish, and wildlife, etc.), except navigation, are satisfied.

**Permanent Pool Level**—Provides the minimal water level necessary to allow the hydropower plants to operate and provide reserved space for sediment storage.

**Pike**—Any of a body of species of predatory fish in the family of Esocidae.

**Pool**—A body of impounded water.

**Reach**—A segment of a river defined by major features of the river. For the Missouri River, a reach has been defined as that portion of the river downstream of a dam and including the next lower reservoir or lake.

**Release of Water**—The controlled flow of lake water allowed to pass downstream of the reservoir dams to allow dams to vary to meet power demands.

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**Reservoir**—An artificial body of surface water retained by a dam.

**Retention Pond**—A small body of water created to allow solids to settle out of water.

**Retention Time**—The amount of time a chemical is held on the surface of the adsorbing medium during the process of chromatography.

**Revetment**—Stone walls or embankments used to fortify shorelines from erosion.

**Riparian Habitat**—The area including a stream channel, a lake, or wetland, and the adjacent land where the vegetation and microclimate conditions are influenced by perennial and/or intermittent surface water, associated high groundwater, and soils exhibiting wetness characteristics.

**Riverine Environment**—Land next to a river.

**Runoff**—Precipitation that flows freely away from soil into streams.

**Sediment Deposition**—The settling of sediments being transported by water that occurs when the flow of water carrying the sediments slows. Areas of sediment deposition are often found at the point where a river enters a lake, or some other pool of water.

**Sedimentation**—The process of deposition of sediment.

**Stream Degradation**—The wearing down of a streambed from erosion.

**Sumping**—Temporarily storing drainage at the lowest point of a circulatory or drainage system.

**Super Saturation**—The buildup of gases in water above the normal fully saturated level. Water quality standards for streams and rivers normally limit this to 110 percent of normal saturation.

**Suspended Load**—The portion of stream load that is carried in suspension by flowing water.

**System Storage Zones**—Areas that divide the total volume of reservoir storage. The zones are prescribed for flood control, multiple uses, and the permanent pool.

**Tailwater**—The water released downstream from a powerhouse after it has flowed through the turbines.

**Threatened**—Legal status afforded to plant or animal species likely to become endangered with the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of their range, as determined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service.

**Treaty**—An agreement or contract between two or more nations or sovereigns. A treaty is not only a law, but a contract between two nations.

**Tribe**—An American Indian Tribe, Band, Nation, Village, or Community that the U.S. Secretary of the Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian Tribe pursuant to the Federally Recognized Tribe List Act of 1994, 25 U.S.C.479a.

**Turbidity**—Measure of suspended matter.

**Upper Lakes**—The three most upstream Missouri River lakes formed by Fort Peck Dam, Garrison Dam, and Oahe Dam.

**Water Control Plan**—The details of the plan for operating the reservoir system is described in the Master Manual.

**Water Evacuation**—The practice of releasing water from a lake, impoundment, or other body of water so that water does not occur in annual flood control zones. This is usually done at the beginning of each year’s flood season to reduce the chances of flooding.

**Wetlands Habitat**—Area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support vegetation adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

**ACRONYMS**

ACT	Agency Coordination Team
AOP	Annual Operating Plan
As	arsenic
BEA	Bureau of Economic Analysis
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BiOp	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation
BPU	Board of Public Utilities
BSNP	Bank Stabilization and Navigation Project
CACFDAS	Computerized Agricultural Crop Flood Damage Assessment System
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	cubic feet per second
cm/s	centimeters per second
Corps	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWCP	current Water Control Plan
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DoD	Department of Defense
DRM	Daily Routing Model
EIM	Economic Impacts Model
EIS	environmental impact statement

EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
fmsl	feet mean sea level
FWS	U.W. Fish and Wildlife Service
GIS	geographic information system
GP	Gavins Point
GWh	gigawatt-hours
Hg	mercury
KAF	thousand acre feet
kcfs	thousand cubic feet per second
kWh	kilowattws per hour
LRS	Long Range Study
LWRP	low water reference plane
MAF	million acre-feet
Mainstem Reservoir System	Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System
MAPP	Mid-continent Area Power Pool
Master Manual	Missouri River Master Water Control Manual
MCP	modified conservation plan
mg/l	milligrams per liter
MLDDA	Missouri Levee and Drainage District Association
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MoREAP	Missouri River Environmental Assessment Program
MRBA	Missouri River Basin Association
MRNRC	Missouri River Natural Resources Committee
msl	mean sea level
MW	megawatts
MWh	megawatts-hours
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
NAS	National Academy of Sciences

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NDIRC	North Dakota Intertribal Reinternment Committee
NED	National Economic Development
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFH	National Fish Hatchery
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPS	National Park Service
NRMS	Natural Resource Management System
NWD	Northwestern Division, Corps of Engineers
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
O&M	operation and maintenance
PA	preferred alternative
PCB	polychlorinated biphenyl
POTW	publicly owned
ppm	parts per million
PRDEIS	Preliminary Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement
RDEIS	Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement
RM	river mile
ROD	Record of Decision
ROR	run of river
RPA	reasonable and prudent alternative
Se	selenium
Study	Missouri River Master Water Control Manual Review and Update
TBD	to be determined
T&E	Threatened and Endangered
TMDL	total maximum daily loading
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

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VERS	Visitor Estimation and Reporting System
WAPA	Western Area Power Administration
WMA	Wildlife Management Area
WSCC	Western Systems Coordinating Council
WSRA	Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
WSRS	Wild and Scenic Rivers System