

**FIRST PLENARY MEETING
OF
THE INITIATIVE TO DEVELOP A PROPOSAL
FOR A
SPRING RISE ON THE MISSOURI RIVER**

**Missouri Western State University
Student Union
St. Joseph, Missouri
June 1-2, 2005**

Draft Agenda

Day I 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM

1:00 - 1:45 Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Review

- ◆ Welcome by General Grisoli, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution and funding agencies
- ◆ Introduction of meeting participants and observers – Chris Moore, CDR Associates Team
- ◆ Introduction and explanation of the facilitators' role
- ◆ Description of the convening and representative selection process – Joe McMahan, CDR Associates Team
- ◆ Agenda review and approval of the agenda for the meeting – Chris Moore

1:45 – 2:15 Overview of the Initiative to Develop a Proposal for the Spring Rise

- ◆ Goals and objectives of the Spring Rise initiative– Joe McMahan, CDR Associates
- ◆ Mandate of the Plenary Group – Chris Moore
- ◆ Commitment of the Corps of Engineers and Fish and Wildlife Service to the participatory process

2:15 – 2:45 Operating Protocol and Groundrules for the Stakeholder Process to Develop Agreement on a Spring Rise Proposal (Chris Moore and Joe McMahan)

- ◆ Purpose of the initiative
- ◆ Structure, composition and tasks of key groups
- ◆ Roles and responsibilities of individual members of the Plenary Group and Technical Working Groups, and the facilitators
- ◆ Representation of interest group views
- ◆ The decision making process
- ◆ Constituent responsibilities
- ◆ Technical support
- ◆ Observers

- ◆ Schedule
- ◆ Communications with the broader public and public input processes
- ◆ Communications with the media
- ◆ Attendance at meetings
- ◆ Discussion Guidelines

2:45 – 3:00 Special challenges for the Plenary Group and CDR suggestions

- ◆ The challenge of time and scope of mandate
- ◆ Difficulties of incomplete data
- ◆ The Spring Rise as a first step and follow-up MRRIC activities

3:00 - 3:15 Break

3:15 – 4:15 Plenary Group Identification of Principles and Interests to Guide Discussions on a Spring Rise

- ◆ Information exchange meetings in small mixed-interest stakeholder groups
- ◆ Recording and listing of principles and interests

4:15 – 5:30 COE and FWS overview of Spring Rise, Background to Pallid Sturgeon Issues, the Biological Opinion and Adaptive Management (Charlie Scott, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Rose Hargrave, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
[Discussion to be continued on Day II]

- ◆ Introduction of presenters and support staff members.
- ◆ Rationale for and outline of the presentation and identification of other topics that need to be addressed
- ◆ Background on the Endangered Species Act and Section 7 Consultation
- ◆ History of Spring Rise issues
- ◆ The decision by the court regarding the Spring Rise, and legal parameters for actions that have been established
- ◆ Recovery approaches to address needs of endangered species and assessment of various approaches
- ◆ The perceived advantages of a Spring Rise
- ◆ Principles and references that drive the Spring Rise process (Legal, factual/scientific, adaptive management, administrative, etc.)
- ◆ Core elements of a Spring Rise
- ◆ Analysis of hydrograph and hydrologic cycles, and identifying what each part accomplishes
- ◆ Ways the hydrograph can be changed (Amount of water in storage, downstream rains and runoff, etc.)
- ◆ Which components of the Spring Rise are set and which are variable

- ◆ Open session for questions on the above material
- ◆ Identification of possible adjustments of variables that might be made, and how they could be determined
- ◆ Discussion of impacts of potential adjustments of on the basin during normal, wet and dry years
- ◆ Identification of questions related to each adjustment or variable that need to be explored
- ◆ The product of the Spring Rise: What removes jeopardy? What is success?
- ◆ The fit of various approaches to the development of a Spring Rise and Adaptive Management, and developing assurance that the Spring Rise is having desired impact on species
- ◆ Questions and answers

5:45 – 7:00 Tour and Visit to Levee District (Dinner will be provided at 7:00pm)

Day II 8:00 AM – 3:15 PM

8:00 – 8:15 Insights and/or Questions from Day I and Agenda Review for Day II

8:15 – 9:15 Continuation of Discussions from Day I (Moore and McMahon)

9:15 – 9:45 Opportunity for Public Input/Comments (Moore and McMahon)

9:45 – 10:00 Break

10:00 – 11:00 Initial Assessment: Looking at the elements of the Spring Rise in comparison with the various Missouri River interest Groups.

- ◆ Presentation and utilization of a matrix to cross reference the three elements of Spring Rise and possible effects/impacts on each interest group
- ◆ Identification of significance of impacts
- ◆ Identification of where technical proposals are needed

11:00 – 12:30 Targeting Key Questions to be Addressed by the Plenary Group and Technical Working Groups.

- ◆ What data or scientific advice would assist the Plenary Group in its deliberations to make a concrete proposal on the Spring Rise?
- ◆ What focus areas for technical issues, and specific working groups are needed?
 - *Hydrology Water Technical Working Group* – Focus on hydrological, inflows, outflows, flooding, erosion, review of the variable elements and how each variation would affect basin residents, etc.

- Monitoring Fish and Wildlife Issues – *Fish and Wildlife Technical Working Group* – Focus on monitoring and evaluation of species and impacts of the Spring Rise on species
- Monitoring the Socio-Economic impact of the Spring Rise – *Socio-Economic Working Group* – Focus on measuring the effect of a Spring Rise on socio-economic, recreational and cultural aspects of the basin
- ◆ What other Technical Working Groups, if any, are needed?
- ◆ How is the work of the Technical Working Groups best coordinated and reported back to the Plenary Group?
- ◆ How does each Technical Working Group consider the need for adaptive management?

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch (Working lunch on the topics above)

Lunch will be provided at the meeting site for the plenary members and alternates only. Unfortunately we are unable to provide lunches for the observers.

1:30 – 1:45 Post working lunch break

1:45 – 2:15 Formation of Technical Work Groups, Designation of Members and Clarification of Mandates

- ◆ Identification of the kinds and number of Technical Working Groups that are needed
- ◆ Clarification of mandates
- ◆ Identification and approval of members
- ◆ Clarification of Technical Work Group dates

2:15 – 2:30 Formation of the Plenary Group Coordinating Committee and Designation of Members

- ◆ Roles, function and mandate
- ◆ Criteria for membership
- ◆ Selection of members

2:30 – 2:45 Discussion of Ongoing Communication between Plenary Group Members, Technical Group Members and the Facilitators and the Initiative’s Web Site

- ◆ Needs and suggestions of Plenary Group members
- ◆ Timelines

2:45 – 2:50 Review Tasks and Meeting Wrap-up

2:50 – 3:15 Final Comments from the Public/Observers

3:15 Adjourn