



## Missouri Trustee Council

### **Southeast Missouri Lead Mining District: Public Comments requested on proposed Natural Resource Restoration Projects concerning Property Acquisitions, Non-native species control and West Fork Black River restoration**

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The State of Missouri, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, acting on behalf of the public as trustees for natural resources and their associated services, propose to fund several compensatory restoration projects in the Southeast Missouri Lead Mining District. This restoration proposal relates to the natural resource damage assessment and restoration process undertaken by the State of Missouri, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (collectively “Trustees”) in the Southeast Missouri Lead Mining District pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 9601-9675) and implementing regulations (43 C.F.R. Part 11).

In accordance with the Southeast Missouri Ozarks Regional Restoration Plan (SEMORRP), the Trustees are proposing to fund several projects, including (1) the acquisition and restoration of high quality habitat; (2) the treatment of non-native species and planting of native plants on the Mark Twain National Forest; and (3) restoration of springs, riparian area, and wetlands to restore the natural flow, restore wetlands, and hydrology of the West Fork Black River bottomland areas. These proposed restoration projects will serve to replace lost natural resources and the services the resources provide as a result of the releases of hazardous substances at mine and mill facilities formerly owned and/or operated by ASARCO, LLC, Freeport McMoRan, and Magmont Joint Venture in the Viburnum Trend.

More information on the natural resource damage assessment and restoration process, the SEMORRP, the amount of recovered funds to be used for natural resource restoration, and these proposed projects is available on the following websites:

<http://dnr.mo.gov/env/hwp/sfund/nrda.htm>

or

<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/es/ec/nrda/SEMONRDA/index.html>

## Soliciting Public Comments

The public is invited to submit comments on the proposed natural resource restoration projects for a thirty day time period, from September 4, 2015 through October 5, 2015. The proposed restoration projects currently available for public review and comments are described in the following documents:

- 1) DRAFT Natural Resource Restoration in the Southeast Missouri Lead Mining District: Proposal for Property Acquisitions and Supplemental Environmental Assessment
- 2) Proposed Native Plant Diversity Restoration: Non-Native Invasive Species treatments and planting on Mark Twain National Forest
- 3) Proposed West Fork Black River Bottomland Restoration Project

Please submit comments electronically (preferred) to:

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or

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or

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