



Flood Recovery Advisory Working Group

December 9, 2019

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Lewis and Clark State Office Building – LaCharrette Conference Room; Jefferson City, Missouri

- Chris Chinn, director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) welcomed the working group and audience members.

Reports/Briefings

- Lessons Learned from Flooding on the Missouri River Robert B. Jacobson, Ph.D. U.S. Geological Survey
 - Dr. Jacobson’s presentation explored what can be learned from previous floods on the Missouri River and how to apply that information in the future to increase resilient management
 - Main points of the presentation were that flood hazard has been altered by the history of river management, flood hazard varies geographically due to flood origins and channel adjustments to management, and effects of long-term climate change have become discernible and indicate that flood hazard will likely increase.
 - David Shorr asked a question regarding slide 10, “How has the analysis accommodated USACE change in benchmarks?” Dr. Jacobson responded that he understood it to be normalized for the presented analysis.
 - Mr. Shorr asked for clarification on slide 22 that a positive change in CRP equaled an increased chance of levee break, and Dr. Jacobson answered affirmatively.
 - On slide 36, Mr. Shorr asked if the analysis accounted for incision. Dr. Jacobson responded that the analysis was for one point in time and did not include geomorphic changes over time.
 - Questions:
 - Missouri Department of Natural Resources acting director Dru Buntin asked about implications of past implementation of the Big Muddy refuge.
 - Mr. Shorr asked about movement of the nick point (incision) upstream. David Combs added that it was important to remember that incision affects water withdrawal infrastructures on the river.
 - Mr. Combs asked for more information about the effect of lowering dikes on the river Waal in the Netherlands.
 - Lucy Fletcher asked about the effect on the river of the increased amount of structures shown on the project in the Netherlands.
 - Mr. Shorr reminded the group that sedimentation of upstream reservoirs must be considered in any systemic analysis.

Potential Draft Group Recommendations

- Ben Travlos presented recommended changes and additions from Missouri Corn Growers.

- Extension of date to determine crop insurance premiums for 2020.
- Addressing the effect of dike notching on private lands.
- Addressing the long-term effect of sedimentation in upper basin reservoirs.
- Mr. Shorr suggested to the group that FEMA could be playing a role in levee repair delays.
- Adam Jones asked for recommendation to address the need for balanced protection on the upper Mississippi River.
- Mr. Shorr suggested a recommendation that addresses how the vegetation on floodplain lands is managed.
- Randy Railsback suggested that the Governor appoint one person to lead recovery efforts in order to better coordinate the different federal and state funds and resources for maximum benefit.
- Mr. Buntin stated he plans to revise the recommendation regarding support of levee districts in order to more specifically voice support for the L-536 setback project.
- Mr. Combs asked how the group would review the report after revisions are incorporated from this meeting.

Public Comments:

- Maisah Khan, Missouri Coalition for the Environment
 - Several conservation groups provided recommendations for consideration.
 - Asked the group members not to lose sight of urban areas/development in the floodplain. Maryland heights looking at floodplain development December 18.
 - What will the public input process be?
 - How will people be able to make it to future meetings? Especially on the road?
- David Stokes, Great Rivers Habitat Alliance
 - Would like for the group to have the opportunity to hear Professor Bob Criss present
 - Would like the group members to address urban development and floodplain management
 - Tightening of floodplain development rules statewide and at local levels
 - Revise CSR 49.605 – prohibits counties from instating stricter floodplain rules.
- Olivia Dorothy, American Rivers Upper Mississippi River Program
 - Asked the group to keep scale in mind – the example of river management in the Netherlands may not be applicable since that basin is very small compared to the Missouri River basin.
 - If we shift toward systemic management, must also have a way to enforce.
- Caroline Pufalt, Sierra Club
 - Suggested that the group's report should include a recommendation for funding for mitigation and land acquisition efforts to support expanding the floodplain.

Future Meeting Dates

Jan. 17, 2020: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., 1101 Riverside Drive, Jefferson City, Lewis and Clark State Office Building, LaCharrette Conference Room

Feb. 10, 2020: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., 1730 East Elm Street, Jefferson City, Bennett Spring Conference Room

March 9, 2020: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., 1101 Riverside Drive, Jefferson City, Lewis and Clark State Office Building, LaCharrette Conference Room

April 13, 2020: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., 1101 Riverside Drive, Jefferson City, Lewis and Clark State Office Building, LaCharrette Conference Room