



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Set To Kick Off Public Meetings on Massive Planning Effort for the Missouri River.

Omaha, NE - The Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan (MRERP) will help define the future of the Missouri River. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, wants the public's input on the purpose and need for the plan. As part of developing the plan, the agencies will host a series of open houses to share information about the project and offer opportunities for questions and comments by the public. These meetings will be held in August and September in multiple locations across the Missouri River basin.

This planning effort, authorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, will identify the actions necessary to mitigate, recover, and restore the Missouri River. The plan, with an integrated environmental impact statement, is a key part of the extensive effort to recover or prevent further declines of native fish and wildlife populations and their habitats, ultimately resulting in restoration of the Missouri River Ecosystem. The planning process will seek to balance restoration actions with diverse social, economic, and cultural values within the basin.

So that people can attend when it is most convenient for them, there will be two identical sessions each day. The first session will be held in late afternoon from 3-5 pm and an identical session will be held from 6-8 pm.

Meeting Dates, Times, and Locations

<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Facility</i>	<i>Times</i>
New Town, ND	8/17/09 - Mon	Northern Lights Building 710 East Avenue, New Town, ND	3-5pm and 6-8 pm
Bismarck, ND	8/18/09 - Tues	United Tribes Technical College, Wellness Center Multipurpose Room 3315 University Drive, Bismarck, ND	3-5 pm and 6-8 pm
Lower Brule, SD	8/19/09 - Wed	Golden Buffalo Casino Convention Center 321 Sitting Bull Street, Lower Brule, SD	3-5 pm and 6-8 pm

Location	Date	Facility	Times
Vermillion, SD	8/20/09 – Thurs	W.H. Over State Museum 1110 Ratingen St., Vermillion SD	3-5 pm and 6-8 pm

During the meetings, agency representatives will give short presentations about the planning process to inform the public about the project. The agencies want to know what the river means to those who live, work, and play on or near the Missouri. Information stations will be set up for attendees to visit during the sessions. Attendees can visit exhibits and learn more about the timeline, processes, goals, and the draft purpose, need, and scope of the plan. They will have the chance to share their vision of the river's future and provide feedback through comments.

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For more information on MRERP and the upcoming meetings, visit the project website at www.mrerp.org. Project fact sheets attached to this release are also available online.

Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan and
Environmental Impact Statement

Contacts

Please contact any of the MRERP Project Leads for more information.

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