

FINAL AGENDA

Missouri River Association of States and Tribes

March 24-25, 2009

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 27 North 27th Street, Billings, Montana
(406) 252-7400 (see logistics below)

Tuesday, March 24: Crowne Plaza Hotel

8:15 AM – MoRAST meeting convenes: Welcome, introductions and opening comments – Mary Sexton, MoRAST Chairwoman

8:30 AM – Initial business meeting

Review Agenda
Review and approve minutes
Review and approve Treasurer's report, review budget status
Executive Director's Report – David Pope
Other new business
Old Business – Status of MoRAST requested study of 1944 FCA.
Overview of revised draft "White Paper" – David Pope and others

9:40 AM – Break

10:00 AM – Presentation on Cultural Resources related to the 1944 FCA – Avis Little Eagle, Vice Chairperson, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and Chair of GPTCA Water Sub-Committee

10:50 AM – Presentation on the BSNP - Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Program and the relationship to the 1944 Flood Control Act – Mike George, USACE Program Manager, Missouri River Recovery, Omaha, NE

11:20 AM – Current conditions and Corps update – Larry Cieslik, USACE Chief of Missouri River Basin Water Management, Northwest Division, Omaha, NE.
Introduction of Jody Farhat, new Chief of Water Management, effective May 1, 2009

11:35 AM – MRRIC update – Mary Roth, USACE, MRRIC Program Manager, Omaha, NE

11:50 AM – MRERP update – USACE and/or Wayne Nelson-Stastny, USFWS, Yankton, SD

12:00 AM – Lunch

1:15 PM – How will stimulus funds be spent in the Missouri River Basin? Status and plans, USACE, USBR, WAPA and other Federal agencies, as well as State and Tribal comments/discussion.

2:00 PM – 2009 GAO Report on Missouri River Navigation – Jay Spaan, Senior Analyst for the project, GAO (by telephone)

2:20 PM – Resume business meeting

Discussion and potential action on revised draft “White Paper”, 1944 FCA

3:00 PM – Break

3:20 PM – Continue business meeting

Review and possible action on updated Congressional Action Plan and status of appointments and other matters related to the new Administration. Potential action on recommendations regarding stimulus projects

4:20 PM - Comments from Steve Guertin, Regional Director, USFWS, Region 6, Denver, CO

4:30 PM – Reports from Federal Agencies, Tribes, States and others

5:30 PM – Recess meeting for the day

6:00 PM – Missouri River Conference and BiOP Forum reception

Wednesday, March 25: Crowne Plaza Hotel

8:00 AM – MRNRC Missouri River Conference and BiOP forum begins - Plenary session

11:30 AM – Lunch

1:00 PM – Conference continues through March 27

Logistics: Sleeping Rooms are available for \$70 per night plus taxes in the “Missouri River Natural Resources”, group code “RIV”, starting with the night of March 23, 2009 for the MoRAST meeting. You may continue your reservation in the same block if you plan to stay for part or all of the Missouri River Conference, as noted below. Please call the hotel at (406) 252-7400 or make your reservation through the hotel website at: <http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/cwshome/DPRD-7LZSC4/BILCP>

The Annual MRNRC Missouri River Conference and BiOP Forum is March 25-27, 2009 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Billings, MT. Please see conference web site for registration information and agenda information: <http://www.mrnrc2009.com/>. Early conference registration for a reduced fee is due March 1, 2009. V6