

# MISSOURI RIVER



US Army Corps  
of Engineers



R E C O V E R Y P R O G R A M

MISSOURI RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PLAN (MRERP)

The Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan (MRERP) and Missouri River Recovery Program (MRRP) are complementary efforts led by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect, recover and restore the Missouri River ecosystem and its native species. The MRERP will provide a long-term, focused analysis of basin-wide restoration, mitigation and recovery needs of the Missouri River for the next 30 years. It will provide a comprehensive perspective to accomplish restoration objectives and reduce conflict over scarce resources while balancing the river's social, economic and cultural values.

MRERP will identify actions required to:

- Mitigate losses of Missouri River habitats
- Recover threatened and endangered species
- Restore the Missouri River ecosystem to prevent further declines of other native species

The final product of the planning process will be a document that outlines a future vision for the river and the tools needed for implementation. As part of the process, the Corps will produce an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to ensure that the environmental effects of restoration activities recommended in the plan are analyzed and considered before implementation begins. The EIS process will also ensure that decision makers are fully aware of the trade-offs, impacts and benefits of a range of reasonable alternatives.

The Missouri River Recovery Program is currently working to meet near-term, legally-mandated requirements to address threatened and endangered species concerns through habitat creation, flow modifications, and monitoring and research. The MRRP targets specific species populations and habitats, such as the pallid sturgeon, least tern and piping plover, along certain portions of the Missouri River. These recovery activities will continue during the MRERP process. Once completed, the MRERP will ultimately establish the long-range objectives for overall recovery and restoration activities.

**M** the  
Missouri  
River  
ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION  
PLAN  
is an  
opportunity  
for *you*  
to help  
shape the future  
VISION  
for  
the  
Missouri River.

# BENEFITS of MRERP

Working collaboratively to develop a plan will give federal, tribal and state agencies as well as stakeholders an opportunity to:

- Identify criteria and opportunities for future restoration projects
- Participate in a process that prioritizes restoration efforts
- Encourage partnerships to develop and implement restoration efforts
- Align restoration and recovery projects, programs and policies across government and tribal agencies
- Actively engage in the design of a basin-wide plan for restoring the Missouri River
- Develop more sustainable and system-wide approaches to restoration

## WORKING TOGETHER FOR RESTORATION

The Corps and Fish and Wildlife Service will prepare the plan in consultation with other federal and state agencies, basin Tribes and many other basin stakeholders, including the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC).

The Corps and the Fish and Wildlife Service believe collaboration through the MRERP process can help resolve current disputes and avoid future uncertainties over river restoration efforts. The collaborative process is expected to result in the most effective and feasible alternatives for river restoration, mitigation and recovery goals.

For more information on the Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan, please contact:

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*The mission of the Missouri River Recovery Program is to implement actions to accomplish Missouri River ecosystem recovery goals in coordination and collaboration with agency partners and stakeholders. The vision of the program is to create a sustainable ecosystem supporting thriving populations of native species while providing for current social and economic values.*

*For more information on the Missouri River Recovery Program, please visit [www.moriverrecovery.org](http://www.moriverrecovery.org).*

