

NACD MISSOURI RIVER TEAM

STATES AND PARTNERS (roster available)

Conservation Districts of Iowa Inc, Kansas Association of Conservation Districts, Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Montana Association of Conservation Districts, Nebraska Association of Resource Districts, North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts, South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts, Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Missouri Sedimentation Action Council

RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENGAGE AND SUPPORT CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN MISSOURI RIVER BASIN

Coordination and Communication

1. Create conservation districts group email list. Use to notify them about the MoRiver Team and activities, and to solicit feedback on issues as needed. Initial message will introduce Team, MRRIC reps, and ask what their primary issues are along the River. *(List created and initial message sent Jun07; follow ups since, including search for MRRIC nominees.)*
2. Describe MoRiver Team activities in NACD outreach calls to states. *(Did in 07 and 08)*
3. Encourage state associations to formalize districts' connection through committees or such. Provide short article for associations. *(Encouraged at MoRiver Team meetings and calls.)*

Education

Use email list, state meetings, website, and identify district/partner 'experts' to:

1. Increase conservation districts' awareness and understanding of natural resource issues, impacts, solutions, and benefits. *(States will include topic in 2008 area meetings where appropriate. Currently researching best MoRiver Ecosystem PPT for state meetings. A speakers' list will be developed for states.)*
2. Provide resources to conservation districts that will help educate and motivate landowners in resource management.
3. Provide resources to conservation districts that will help educate and build support within general public.
4. Help develop facilitation skills at district level.

Representation

1. Support district representatives on Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC) drafting team and review panel. *(Completed; Region nominees selected and accepted on MRRIC. Reminded states and districts about second position and alternate.)*
2. Identify how will work with MoRAST, Missouri River Basin Federal Roundtable, and others to be determined; encourage members' participation in their meetings.
3. Identify districts' projects to be showcased in NACD and other publications, conferences such as the Missouri River Natural Resources Conference, etc. Develop map of where members live along the River. *(submitted brief intro article for NACD News&Views Jul-Aug08)*
4. Identify additional agencies and organizations to participate in Team discussions as appropriate.

Mobilization

1. Identify areas to engage conservation districts on legislative issues eg technical assistance. *(Requested NRCS involvement in federal interagency teams. Developing strategy for funding MRRIC travel.)*
2. Work through state associations to focus on specific goals/actions when identified.