

## **Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee Meeting Accomplishments – July 21-23, 2009 Meeting**

### **Process Decisions:**

- Approved May meeting summary
- Added participants to Work Groups
- Approved press release for the meeting

### **Process Recommendations:**

- Reached final consensus on the MRRIC interaction strategy for selecting a third party neutral to manage the independent science review processes
- Reached final consensus on a recommendation to the USACE to work with the MRRP WG to involve them in development of the FY 2011 Initial Plan (USACE Prioritization of PWRs)

### **Substantive Recommendations:**

- Reached final consensus on the recommendation for the MRERP Purpose and Need statement
- Reached final consensus on the letter to USFWS regarding expediting release of SOA Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for public comment
- Reached tentative consensus on recommendation to give priority to the pallid sturgeon in the FY 2010 Recovery Program Work Plan (and the work group will engage the Corps to see how the impacts could play out and present results at the September meeting)

### **Learned About:**

- Yellowstone Intake Project and possible implications for the Recovery Program.
- Status of water management, Section 108 study, and the USFWS annual report outline
- Independent science review policies and practices
- Status of the 2010 Corps Work Plan
- Efforts of the Cooperative Agency Team
- The MRERP “Roadmap” and process for developing recommendations on an engagement strategy

### **Developed Specific Next Steps for each Work Group:**

- Communications:
  - Determine topic for and hold next Webinar
  - Assist with implementation of the self assessment survey
  - Assist with completion of the draft annual report
  - Summarize the Work Group’s activities for inclusion in the annual report
- Integrated Science Program:
  - Continue efforts necessary to implement the strategy for selecting a third party neutral to manage the independent science review processes
  - Further refine proposed interaction strategy for the MRRIC with ISRs

- Review and submit comments on the USFWS annual outline/report
- Consider other items for the September meeting (e.g., adaptive management)
- Take the lead on the compilation of Yellowstone Intake related questions to send to the USACE for independent science review
- Summarize the Work Group's activities for inclusion in the annual report
  
- MRERP:
  - Continue efforts to prepare recommendations on engagement strategy
  - Plan an information sharing session for task 3.2 of the MRERP study, in consultation with the Lead Agencies and the Social, Economic, Tribal and Cultural Study Group. Timeline: November 2009
  - Prepare a draft process recommendation defining a liaison role for MRRIC members to participate as observers on CAT teams discussing Target Ecological Resources (task 2.2 of MRERP study) Timeline: September 2009
  - Summarize the Work Group's activities for inclusion in the annual report
  
- Recovery Program:
  - Develop updated Initial Plan version of the 2010 Recovery Work Plan (formatting)
  - Review FY 2009 status updates and FY 2010 PWR forms (MRRIC specific) to better understand the work plan development process and continue development of a MRRIC interaction approach
  - Begin development of a glossary (e.g., ACT, CORE)
  - Work with the Corps to understand the effects of the 'tentative consensus' recommendation to prioritize pallid sturgeon in the FY 2010 Work Plan [urgency given the final consensus decision in September]
  - Assist the ISP Work Group with the compilation of Yellowstone Intake related questions to send to the USACE for independent science review
  - Summarize the Work Group's activities for inclusion in the annual report