

I. BACKGROUND

The purpose of the MRRIC work plan is to provide an overview of the Committee’s work each year in fulfilling its duties as outlined in Section 5018 of the 2007 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA 2007). The work plan guides the more detailed work of MRRIC that is developed through work group charges that are updated and approved by MRRIC at its meetings. The work group charge documents provide more detailed information about the tasks of the work groups, the expected products and the timeline for completing the tasks. In addition, the work group charge documents provide a mechanism for the Committee to work on issues that emerge in the year that were not anticipated in the work plan. New tasks not listed in the work plan can be added to the work of MRRIC during the year using the work group charge documents. Topics in the work plan can, with MRRIC concurrence, be tabled. The work plan is created annually based on the calendar year and updated during the year as necessary. The MRRIC approved steps outlining the approach for creating the work plan can be found in Section 3 of the MRRIC Operating Procedures and Ground Rules.

The draft MRRIC 2014 Work Plan is being developed according to the approved process. The first two steps involving the work group POCs, lead agency staff, and MRRIC leadership and facilitation team (LFT) took place in December 2013. Step 3 calls for the LFT to draft this proposed plan based on the first two steps. Step 4 is to circulate the draft work plan to the work groups and the full MRRIC for review and comment. A final draft version will be included in the consent agenda for MRRIC approval at the February 2014 meeting.

II. PRIORITIES RECOMMENDED BY CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR

AREAS OF FOCUS	MAJOR ACTIVITIES	SCHEDULE/ DATES (2014 UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED)	ANTICIPATED IMPACT/OUTCOME
Ongoing Recovery Program (MRRP)			
1. 2015 MRRP Work Plan	1.1 Track efforts to implement the 2014 MRRP Work Plan 1.2 Annual Recovery/AM Forum—Biop analysis; review of USACE/USFWS work underway; President’s Budget; scientific/AM updates (agenda focused around some major themes with sufficient opportunity for Q/A) 1.3 Insights and recommendations on annual work plan and budget (including science expenditures)	<i>Feb.</i> – progress update will be provided in February <i>Mar.</i> – forum by webinar (video/audio) <i>Apr.</i> – follow-up at in-person SAM Work Group meeting <i>May</i> – possible tentative recommendation <i>Aug.</i> – possible final recommendation	Webinar provides MRRIC with results of recovery projects and scientific investigations, identification of gaps and budget realities for FY 2014. Recommendations inform agency decision-making related to recovery program priorities.

<p>2. Development of the MRRMP: Assist with implementing engagement approach around MRRIC's Proposed Actions</p>	<p>2.1 EA Deliverable 1 – CEM development 2.2 EA Deliverable 2 – Compilation/assessment of existing data and modeling resources 2.3 EA Deliverable 3 – development of predictive quantitative models 2.4 EA Deliverable 4 – predictive model assessments 2.5 EA Deliverable 5 – evidence-based assessment of hypotheses 2.6 Develop Alternatives Methodology 2.7 Develop Decision Analysis Approach 2.8 Establish species objectives targets informed by EA 2.9 Initial set of alternatives 2.10 Round 1 Tradeoffs/application of Decision Analysis Approach 2.11 Development of Metrics and triggers for monitoring and AM of actions 2.12 Develop AM actions for alternatives 2.13 AM Governance Structure</p>	<p><i>Feb.</i> – finish review of 2.1; begin review and discussion of 2.2, 2.3, 2.6, 2.7 <i>May</i> – finish discussion of 2.2 and 2.3; strive for initial consensus on 2.6 and 2.7; begin discussion of 2.11 <i>Aug.</i> – finish discussion of 2.4, 2.5, 2.8, 2.9, 2.13; strive for final consensus on 2.6 and 2.7; continue review and discussion of 2.11; begin review and discussion of 2.12 <i>Nov.</i> – begin and finish review and discussion of 2.10; finish review and discussion of 2.11; continue review and discussion of 2.12</p>	<p>Each step is essential to development of the MRRMP and adaptive management strategy which will be used by the MRRP in management of the recovery program in the future.</p>
<p>3. Development of the MRRMP: Assist with development of the Human Considerations component</p>	<p>3.1 HC objectives and metrics for evaluating alternatives 3.2 Develop models or expert elicitation to evaluate HC and other relevant policy requirements (will be used to develop consequences of alternatives)</p>	<p><i>Feb.</i> – continue discussion of 3.1 <i>May</i> – strive for initial consensus on 3.1; begin discussion of 3.2 <i>Aug</i> – strive for final consensus on 3.1</p>	<p>Essential to development of the MRRMP and adaptive management strategy which will be used by the MRRP in management of the recovery program in the future.</p>
<p>4. Review results of several studies this year (e.g., Meta Population Study and Reservoir Habitat Study)</p>	<p>4.1 Assess possible recommendations regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other tern and plover recruitment pilot projects not considered in the October 19, 2010 final consensus; • Recovery opportunities in and around the reservoirs; and • Other general tern and plover activities and/or actions 	<p>TBD</p>	<p>Informs certain policies for recovery program implementation and/or provides insights about new policies that may benefit the program and stakeholders in the basin.</p>

Other Substantive Ad Hoc Work Groups and Subcommittees			
<p>5. Land Acquisition and Management</p>	<p>5.1 Continue to explore topics related to the Missouri River BSNP land acquisition and management mitigation program for potential inclusion in a recommendation</p> <p>5.2 Follow the annual MRRP Work Plan development process and advise the Science Adaptive Management (SAM) Work Group regarding land acquisition components of the Work Plan</p> <p>5.3 Once USACE responds to the 1) easement recommendation or 2) communications and outreach recommendation, consider developing a new “good neighbor” policy recommendation that could offer strategies for minimizing adverse impacts to adjacent landowners and local governments</p> <p>5.4 Learn about ways or ideas to expand and expedite land acquisition for the Missouri River Recovery Program (e.g., outreach program, working with public-private partnerships, NGOs)</p>	<p><i>Feb.</i> – possible tentative 5.1 recommendation; present on 5.4</p> <p><i>May</i> – finalize 5.1 recommendation; present other recommendations if appropriate; Ad Hoc Group sunsets</p>	<p>Informs certain policies for recovery program implementation and/or provides insights about new policies that may benefit the program and stakeholders in the basin.</p>
<p>6. Tribal Interests</p>	<p>6.1 Serve as a resource to MRRIC regarding tribal interests, engaging with work groups on tribal outreach activities as needed</p> <p>6.2 Contribute to MRRIC agenda to educate Committee on Tribal interests</p> <p>6.3 Develop a process for Tribes to introduce projects for Missouri River restoration and bring those ideas to MRRIC for inclusion in future Recovery work plans</p> <p>6.4 Implement outreach plan to Missouri River basin Tribes</p> <p>6.5 Implement the plan for addressing obstacles to Tribal participation in MRRIC</p>	<p><i>Aug.</i> – share update on 6.3</p> <p><i>Nov.</i> – share update on 6.3</p> <p><i>Ongoing</i> – 6.1, 6.2, 6.4, and 6.5 are ongoing throughout the year with updates at each MRRIC meeting as needed</p>	<p>Reach out to Missouri River basin tribes to educate them on the purpose and activities of MRRIC and encourage their participation in the Committee.</p> <p>Serve as a resource to MRRIC on tribal issues by providing advice as needed and educate the Committee on topics of importance to the basin tribes.</p>

7. Vision and Goals	7.1 Work with LFT and the AWG to integrate methods to enhance the collective capacity of members to collaborate with each other	Work group activities are suspended until May 2014 at which point MRRIC will decide if it is timely to revisit this effort	
Ongoing MRRIC Operational Items			
8. Meeting Agenda Development	8.1 Develop agenda for each MRRIC meeting 8.2 Engage in development of annual work plan	<i>Ongoing</i> – development of the agenda is in preparation for each meeting; work plan adjustments as appropriate. <i>Feb.</i> – draft annual work plan developed and shared for	Provides opportunity to set stage for each meeting and make process improvements (agenda) and address issues, including flexibility, around work of MRRIC (work plan).
9. MRRIC Annual Work Plan Development	9.1 Steps 3 and 4 for development of the 2014 work plan – for the LFT to draft a proposed plan based on the first two steps and circulate it to the work groups and the full MRRIC for review and comment – will be completed in January 2014. A final draft version will be included in the consent agenda for MRRIC approval at the February 2014 meeting. The first two steps involving the work group POCs, lead agency staff, and MRRIC leadership and facilitation team (LFT) for the 2015 MRRIC work plan will take place in November 2014.	<i>Feb.</i> – approval of the 2014 MRRIC work plan (process decision) <i>Nov.</i> – presentation of the draft 2015 MRRIC work plan	
10. Communications Plan Development and Implementation	10.1 Prepare and implement communications strategies for each plenary meeting 10.2 Update communications tools 10.3 Draft, submit, and finalize the MRRIC Annual Report 10.4 Prepare for Annual Self-Assessment and Evaluation Survey 10.5 Work with the Tribal Interests Work Group to assess virtual meeting options for MRRIC	Leading up to, during, and immediately following each meeting for 10.1 Ongoing as needed for 10.2 <i>Feb.</i> – second virtual meeting test <i>May</i> – planning for 10.4; third virtual meeting test; present possible process decision on 10.5 with Tribal Interests Work Group <i>August</i> – administer 10.4; begin planning for 10.3	Greater media coverage of MRRIC, broader basin awareness of the importance of MRRIC. Updated communications tools and trainings for MRRIC members. Assessment gauges member reflections about the Committee’s work to-date and allows for improvements in MRRIC. Annual report fulfills a condition of the charter and highlights the work of MRRIC during the year and the

		<i>Nov.</i> – approval of annual report, present key assessment findings for MRRIC discussion of improvements	importance of that work to those in the basin.
11. Membership, Process, and Procedures	11.1 Implement vice-chair selection processes in accordance with the MRRIC operating procedures	<i>Aug.</i> – call for nominations <i>Nov.</i> – make process decision on vice-chair	Implement Committee operating procedures and groundrules.
12. Other Activities	12.1 Participate in facilitator selection process as appropriate 12.2 Participate in chair selection process as appropriate 12.3 Implement POC rotation process (for each standing work group)	<i>Feb.</i> – provide feedback to USIECR (if appropriate) for 12.1 <i>Nov.</i> – provide feedback to USIECR (if appropriate) for 12.2; address 12.3 per operating procedures	

III. NOTES & ASSUMPTIONS

1. In the main program area of MRRIC (i.e., Recovery Program) efforts will continue to identify tribal issues and concerns and to provide opportunities for tribal perspectives to be expressed and incorporated. Additionally, emphasis will be given to increased tribal participation through government-to-government consultation and other outreach activities.
2. Many activities occur outside plenary sessions or work group calls and meetings. Other topics are not ready for MRRIC consideration. Examples of both categories are webinars and the process for updating MRRIC on other basin studies.
3. MRRIC has many operational responsibilities. These operational activities will continue as necessary throughout the year, and steps will be taken to minimize the plenary time needed for these tasks (e.g., consent agenda and other innovations).
4. The 2014 MRRIC Work Plan reflects the continuing resolution for FY 2014 federal appropriations that includes suspension of work related to the Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan (MRERP), thus no associated tasks are listed in this work plan.