

## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of River Resources Forum Meeting #113, April 23-24, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, Bloomington, MN.

*Introductions, Minutes, Next Meeting (All)*

- RRF 112 Minutes, amendment required, M/S/Approved as amended.
- Aug 13-14, Peterson Lake HREP modification / LD4 Embankment, Wabasha, MN
- Dec 3-4, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, Bloomington, MN

*Agency Activities- COE (Tapp)*

- Kevin Wilson replaced Judy DesHarnais as DPM
- Pat Chambers replaced Dennis Norris as MSC Operations Division Chief
- COL Calkins will be replaced by COL Jansen, change of command taking place on 7/10
- MG Keyser will be replaced by MG Toy in the near future
- First tow is in the District, the Aaron Barrett, arrived on 4/21 and is the lone vessel to traverse the District to date
- Disposition Study: October 2018 WRDA directed USAF disposition be completed separately from LSAF and LD1. Phase II of USAF disposition will resume this spring, draft expected summer of 2020. Phase II of LSAF and LD1 will resume sometime after the USAF study has been completed.
- Updating Mississippi River Master Plan: News release on 4/16 seeking public input. Current plan approved in 1988 with supplemental LUAP in 2011. Coordination is ongoing with agencies. Public meeting will be held soon but no date or venue selected.
  - FWS uses the LUAP on a daily basis for their efforts throughout the Mississippi River watershed
- MV Mississippi is not anticipated to travel through the District this year

*Agency Activities- MPCA (Schnick)*

- Laura Bishop is the new Commissioner for MPCA
- Beth Gawrys has moved on to a new position

*Agency Activities- LMRWD (Loomis)*

- Capital improvements have been made to the placement site. Conditional use permit requires material removal within 12 months. A no rise study will be completed to review impacts and they will try to keep material in the shadow of the railroad embankment.
- Wetland delineation and threatened and endangered species evaluation of site completed
- Will improve berms which hold material from private slips so that they are to industry standards, may be one year out
  - Received funds from the State of MN to assist with this project
- Gave themselves authority to levy taxes on users to pay for improvements if needed

- Just adopted new Watershed Management Plan and are imposing requirements for steep slopes along the river
  - All 18-30% slopes are now mapped and the LMRWD is requiring that landowners obtain a geo-technical survey to ensure that any activities near the slopes are safe
- MDNR proposing trail on north side of river
- MnDOT is completing work on highway 494, looking to mitigate floodplain impacts and need to create 12 acre feet of storage to offset plan

*Agency Activities- WDNR (Fischer)*

- WI has a new Governor, Tony Evers
- Secretary Cole is the new Secretary
- Elizabeth Kliesner is the Deputy Secretary
- Todd Ames is the Assistant Deputy Secretary
- Environmental Mgmt. Division – Darcy Foss replaced Pat Stevens as Administrator
- Scott Lumens replaced Sonjay Olson
- Dan Baumann remains west district's Secretary's Director
- WDNR hosted meeting for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee on 3/20-21

*Agency Activities- MDNR (Moore / Dieterman)*

- Lake City Office – new staff hire, Miss. River Asst Fisheries Manager, Neal Rude will start beginning of May
- Brad Parsons is now the Fisheries Chief, Brian Nerbonne replaced him as the Fish Manager for the Region III Office
- MDNR approached by Aggregate Industries about closing off the channel into Baldwin Lake in Pool 2
  - Barge fleeting terminal adjacent facility, channel opening into Baldwin Lake needs continued maintenance, 30% of main channel flow going into this channel
    - Friends of Pool 2 also supports closure of the channel into Baldwin Lake
      - Some pushback from recreational boaters, but hope would be to include features that would accommodate recreational traffic

*Agency Activities- FWS (Tim Yager)*

- David Bernhard confirmed as new Secretary of the Interior a couple weeks ago
  - Potential reorganization of the Department of Interior
- Regional 3 Director Tom Melius retired
- Most public use facilities are impacted due to high water, significant damage is expected
- Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge has been closed since 3/9 due to high water
- Refuge districts will do visitor use surveys over a two week period this summer
- Working with St. Paul and Rock Island Districts on Miss River Master Plan
- Headquarters

- Lead Federal Wildlife Officer, Jeremy Lawrence, accepted a Zone Office position, left Region 3 at the end of October
- Hired two Term Wildlife Refuge Specialists – Meta Griffin and Stephanie Edeler; Meta will primarily work at the Winona District Office, Stephanie will primarily work at Trempealeau
- Winona District
  - Winona District Headquarters Office will be relocated in the near future, early 2020
  - Michelle Turton accepted a position in Washington, D.C. working on CITES permits, she left in November; Jennifer Froehly began backfilling Michelle’s position on 4/18/2019
  - Tim Connolly, Private Lands Biologist, will be retiring on 5/31/2019
  - Gayle Maule, Administrative Technician, will be retiring on 6/28/2019
  - Ed Lagace, Park Ranger, will be retiring on 11/28/2019
- Trempealeau
  - Vickie Hirschboeck, Refuge Manager, retired at the end of September; manager position remains vacant though Stephanie Edeler provides operational support
  - Steve Erickson, Maintenance Worker, retired mid-November; Mark Fugina has filled this position
  - Aaron Fox, Administrative Technician, accepted a position with USGS and left FWS in late October; Amy Mueller has filled this position
- La Crosse District
  - Kendra Pednault, Deputy Refuge Manager, accepted a Refuge Manager position at the Eastern Virginia Rivers NWR complex, she left in November; Cheryl Groom will be transferring to backfill that position in June
  - The vacant Federal Wildlife Officer position was filled in early March by Ali Goldman
  - Rebecca Bienek, Administrative Tech, has announced plans to retire the end of July
- Savanna District
  - The vacant Federal Wildlife Officer position was filled in late February by Josh Bauer

*Agency Activities – MnDOT (Phenow)*

- Received significant funding for port development for the second consecutive year
  - Projects in St. Paul at Barge Terminal 1 and a dock in Winona
- Margaret Anderson Kelliher is the new Commissioner for MnDOT
  - Her administration seems receptive to funding waterways projects

*Agency Activities – USCG (Mackillop)*

- Mary Morgan will be replacing Matt Mackillop in mid-July

*Agency Activities – NPS (Robbins-Fenger)*

- Park Rangers will be staffed at Upper St. Anthony Falls lock this summer
- Working on Forest Management Plan, adding another thousand data points
  - 53 Eagle nests within the park
  - Studying why Cottonwood trees aren't regenerating
  - Within 7-8 years anticipate losing 500,000 trees due to Emerald Ash Borer
  - Planning to utilize volunteers to plant 15,000-20,000 trees
  - Will be a webinar in March/April of 2020 to walk through the consultant's methodology for developing the Forest Management Plan, Alan will share with RRF
- Receiving questions from the public regarding lack of campsites along the river
- Dakota County is looking to establish a paddle station in the near future. Users can go online and rent a kayak and take it from station to station

*Agency Activities – UMWA (Genz)*

- 11 of last 16 years we've dealt with excessive high water, compliments to St. Paul District in being proactive in responding to high water
  - ~20 years ago, the St. Paul District has made it a priority to elevate equipment at locks to be able to respond to high water
  - Lock & Dam 20 was mentioned as a recurring problem area during high water
- Hearing that there isn't a lot of water in USAF Pool

*Agency Activities – Friends of Pool 2 (Genz)*

- Serious concern about additional sediment entering Pool 2, is it possible to utilize Pool 1 as a sediment trap

*Fish and Wildlife Work Group Activities (Stauffer)*

- Last met on 4/4
- Steve Clark provided update regarding ice bite which happened over the winter
  - Duck hunters had minor concerns late season, no other concerns
- Dave Potter provided review regarding site inspection tours which occurred over the summer, group agreed that the site inspections were very beneficial. Good transfer of institutional knowledge. Thanks to Corps staff for organizing the tour.
- Shahin K provided UMRR update
- Increasing number of complaints regarding night time shallow drive watercraft use
  - nighttime activity tied to bowfishing is generating additional complaints in the Weaver Bottoms area and from the Isaac Walton League; disrupting habitat, wildlife, and people; not much information to work with or a good way to tell if the impacts are significant; will discuss potential solutions to track, compile complaints, or study to determine impacts
- Next generation HREP, planning team continues working on revising the HREP process

- Topics addressing: overall roles and responsibilities, developing a science support team, trying to incorporate the Habitat Needs Assessment tool to HREP design and planning
- Revised fact sheet template will be derived from this process, along with periodic review of fact sheets once approved
- Guidance for developing and endorsing fact sheets will be derived from this process
- New framework will be released next month, expect up to five new HREP proposals for endorsement at the January UMRRC meeting
  - Will aim to have proposals ready for endorsement at the December RRF meeting as well
  - Fact Sheets from 2017 will be considered and updated as appropriate
- Webinars have been established to cover General UMRRC program, HREP, HNA II, and Hydraulic & Hydrology
  - Made available for all partners to call in and learn background information on each of the subjects

*Upper Mississippi River Restoration (Novak)*

- Presentation as attachment
- FY19 Work Plan : \$33.3mm total/ \$7.99mm MVP
- FY18 Allocation: \$33.3mm total/ \$7.39mm MVP
- FY17 Allocation: \$33mm total/ \$8.2mm MVP
- Conway Lake
  - Awarded 2019, contractor will not begin until 2020
- McGregor Lake and Bass Lake
  - Both reports were sent to MVD last week, awaiting MG Keyser's signature
  - Likely distribute within the next two months for RRF endorsement
- Bass Lake Ponds
  - EAW public review has been pushed back a week
- Lower Pool 10
  - Feasibility continues to move forward, quite a bit of overlap between HREP team and Lower Pool 10 Channel Management Study team
- Reno Bottoms
  - May Ask Shahin K. (COE, Project Management) or Tom Novak when kickoff is
- Pool 8 rock sill repair and Peterson Lake adaptive management
  - Rock contract was awarded last year, work will resume after road bans released and water recedes
- Possibility that Conway Lake, McGregor Lake, and Bass Lake Ponds are all under construction one year from now
- Cold Springs HREP
  - Project is located near Lynxville, WI in Pool 9; issue with sediment filling project in

- Boat landing adjacent project location has been filled with sediment as well
- Shooting for modification of project while maintaining overwintering objectives
- Harpers Slough project dedication likely in June 2019
- Lower Pool 10 HREP, may be four years before there is funding for the project
  - Discussion about completing the Lower Pool 10 HREP over the course of several years utilizing COE O&M funding to provide the material and UMRR providing funds to stabilize with rock and topsoil. Most seemed to agree with this approach, so it will be explored further, but the key will be getting the appropriate amount of stabilization completed.
- Jim Fischer recommended putting together UMRR display boards for FWS Visitor Center Offices
- Dan Dieterman identified a small channel from the Root River that brings a lot of sediment into the main channel during flooding. The MDNR is looking into a project to close it off and it might be a potential project for the RRF to endorse in the future.

*Pool 2 Projects – Channel Modification, DMMP, LD2 Embankment (Novak)*

- Presentation as attachment
- Channel Modification
  - Still working on location for material generated from Increased Channel Maintenance alternative
  - Received cease and desist order from MDNR
  - EAW needs to be updated for unloading locations
  - Phase I rock structure contract – Newt Marine
    - Moved 29K mussels and completed upstream rock structure in 2018
    - 5/1 – 7/15: mussel relocation for lower rock structure
    - 7/16 – 11/30: construct lower rock structure
    - Coordinate with Met Council sewer outfall work, likely won't begin their work until mid to late May
  - Phase II channel excavation – not awarded yet
    - Awaiting upland site selection
- DMMP
  - Report currently going through Division review
  - Once we receive Division endorsement, we will provide to MDNR
  - Aiming to release the report to the public this summer
  - Possibility for use of material at Pigs Eye Lake (~400K cy) and LD2 Embankment / O&M Island (~200-300K cy)
- LD2 Embankment
  - Dual purpose project – to accommodate dredged material and protect the embankment
  - Jon Hendrickson commented that the project won't negatively impact cross-flows to the approach to LD2, but won't impact it positively either

- In order to actually make improvements to the cross-flows as part of this project, the project would be delayed and stage impacts would be incurred; current proposal doesn't impact flood stage
- Estimated that the project will accommodate four-five years of material based on the current rate, or two years based on the projected rate (DMMP volumes)

*Channel Maintenance Program Activities (Tapp, Cottrell, Kimmel, Hendrickson, Machajewski)*

- Presentation as attachment
- Steve
  - FY18 O&M funding received was relatively high, experiencing reduction of funding in FY19 and anticipate further reduction of funding in FY20
    - Channel maintenance expenditures peaked in FY17
  - ~962K cy of material dredged last year (51% Government, 49% Contract)
    - Dredging season 5/23 – 11/20
    - 20-year average 930.7K cy
  - 2018 Channel Activities
    - Later start than in the recent past, began 5/23 with the Dredge Goetz at Reads Landing
    - Pool 10 – had issues at the Upper Approach to LD10
    - Pool 7 – completed a 2D model to determine how to address outdraft conditions at the Upper Approach to LD7
    - 25 reports of channel problems in 2018, 10 of which were critical
  - 2019 Planned Channel Activities
    - Lower Pool 2 – Channel Management Project will continue
    - Pool 5A – Betsy Slough wing dam review
    - Pool 9 – potential new dredging location near Capoli Slough
    - Pool 10 – Lower Pool 10 CMS kicked off in 10/2017
      - OSIT webinar held on 4/15
    - A question was asked about expected dredging requirements in 2019. The Corps expects significant dredging to start the season due to very high extended flows on the MN, Chippewa, and Miss Rivers.
- Zach
  - Reviewed 2018 Placement Activities
  - 2019 Planned Placement Activities
    - Dan Dieterman recommended looking into O&M island in North / Sturgeon Lake area
      - Steve Clark mentioned that a lot of the work has already been done, Bill Huber said that he could provide permit within 30 days
      - It was recommended that this also be investigated as part of the future Pool 3 DMMP.



- Future unloads: Reads Landing, McMillan Island
- Lower Pool 4 DMMP
  - Goal is to reach collaborative management of dredged material throughout Lower Pool 4
  - WRDA Section 217 partnership agreement is likely the way forward
  - Plan expresses that Chippewa Delta material and Reads Landing dredge cut material will only be handled once. Management of Crats Is, Teepeeota Point, and Grand Encampment transfer sites TBD.
  - Next draft to stakeholders late spring/early summer
  - Aiming to release the next draft of the report to the public sometime this summer
  - Bill Huber mentioned that a permit will be needed for the permanent pipeline, if a structure is needed along the Mississippi River and if the pipeline crosses Brewery Creek
- Pool 5 DMMP
  - In the process of purchasing ~1,000 acres in the Kellogg area from a willing seller
    - Will satisfy the need for the Pool 5 DMMP for ~100 years
    - This may provide a partial solution for the Lower Pool 4 DMMP
  - Draft report currently in internal review
  - Agency and partner review anticipated late spring/summer 2019
- Pool 6 DMMP
  - Hoping that beneficial use will continue to restore capacity, that is factored into the plan
  - Portion of the Homer placement site has already been acquired, need additional storage capacity for high volume dredging years
  - Draft report to begin internal review spring 2019
  - Agency and partner review anticipated summer 2019
- Future DMMP's: Pool 3, Upper Pool 4, Pool 9

*Recreation Work Group (Strassman)*

- Presentation(s) as attachment(s)
- Work group last met 9/13/2018 and 11/15/2018, haven't met since then
- Recreation Work Group draft charter was distributed to the RRF prior to this meeting
  - Charter will be finalized at the next RWG meeting
  - Group agreed to have two-year chair rotation
- Trying to broaden participation, please encourage recreation enthusiasts to participate in the work group
- Haven't had additional public outreach for Pool 7 & 8 beach plans now that they're near finalized, group is trying to determine the appropriate level of outreach. Will finalize Pool 7 & 8 beach plans and request RRF endorsement.

- There are some beaches that aren't covered under the CMMP EIS that could be included within a programmatic document
  - RWG tasked to develop a recommendation to the RRF regarding the need for a programmatic NEPA document to cover beach nourishment and other actions at sites identified in beach management plans. They will flesh out what it may look like and who would take action.
    - Likely that 404 will not be covered through a programmatic document and will be dealt with case-by-case
  - Finish Pools 7 & 8 and move on to Pools 9 & 10. Those are in draft form from years ago and need to be finalized.
- Sara asked whether we're missing anything with user surveys – Megan Moore recommended including questions as to what type of boats are being used
- Question arose again regarding housing of boater survey data from the past, remains at St. Mary's University
  - RWG tasked to determine whether the data is worth pursuing and what data is needed to make informed decisions
  - The Corps will check on the status and location of the St. Mary's data

*Section 204 Projects & 1122 Pilot Projects Update (Novak)*

- Presentation as attachment
- Sec 204/1122, Head of Lake Pepin (Pool 4)
  - Very wide range of project cost depending on the amount of material utilized and whether or not Section 1122 funding is allocated. Cadillac plan was shown, but need to pare down due to cost.
  - Potential to construct islands that were unable to be included in the TSP under the O&M authority
  - Under Section 1122, there's no O&M base plan, O&M will not contribute funding to the project – only provide the sand
  - Katherine's Pass is the first priority, Wacouta Bay is the second priority from a features perspective
  - There isn't any Section 1122 funding appropriated for FY19. FY19 funding for Section 1122 pilot projects will come from the Section 204 pot and may be limited to components under the Section 204 authority
  - Still need to answer questions as to whether or not the project will be limited if the funding comes from the Section 204 pot
  - WDNR expressed that the Secretary's letter stated that they prefer as much material as possible come from Upper Pool 4 and that there is public coordination regarding the placement of additional material at the Head of Lake Pepin.
  - LPLA expressed that they received \$117,000 from local municipalities, even those downstream of the project area have contributed funding
  - Hope to finalize the feasibility report by Fall 2019

- Goal is to award contract fall/winter 2020 and begin construction in the spring of 2021
- Sec 204, Pigs Eye Lake (Pool 2)
  - ~400K cy of material to come primarily from Pine Bend placement site
  - PPA set to be executed in late May 2019
  - Ramsey County Parks & Recreation Department (Sponsor) will receive their full estimated cost share (\$4.3mm) via the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council fund on 7/1/2019
  - Estimated construction spring 2020

*Navigation Work Group Activities (Cottrell)*

- Unpermitted dock at RM 699.6 along the right descending bank just south of the La Crosse Railroad Bridge
  - Towing Industry expressed concern that the unpermitted dock is a hazard to navigation
  - COE Regulatory Office reported yesterday that the dock has been removed, the pilings will be removed in the near future
  - The landowner will then utilize the formal permitting process to apply through the COE and have a review
    - Dan Cottrell expressed concern that the location is poor to permit a dock which extends that far toward the navigation channel
  - Matt Mackillop expressed that the biggest concern here was safety and potential loss of life

*Water Level Management Task Force (Stefanski)*

- Presentation as attachment
- WLMTF met in September, December, and March since the last RRF meeting
- UMRBA has been regularly attending the WLMTF meetings
- Pool 5 field trip action items: identifying landings available to the public during a drawdown, making contact with marinas within the pool (Mike Kennedy and Dan Dieterman visited business owners in February to begin coordination), explore ideas to use dredged material to enhance the islands forming along the right descending bank at RM 740, review and solicit input from the WLMTF regarding the Pool 5/Weaver Bottoms UMRR fact sheet, keep informed about pool wide mussel surveys (particularly Pool 8)
- Updated WLMTF email distribution list
- Discussions continue as to whether or not the WLMTF needs a charter
- Next meeting scheduled for June 2019
- Water control manual deviations
  - Generally, COE St. Paul District requests deviation from Division to make any changes outside the operating plan

- Division has a very conservative stance at the present, that the only approved deviations will be for the benefit of navigation only
      - Unless that changes, there aren't going to be any drawdowns on the Upper Mississippi River
  - Need to overcome the policy issues here before we talk much more about the Biological benefits of drawdowns
  - There is potential to rewrite the water control manual and then seek approval of that from Division, which may enable drawdowns
    - Corps' Environmental Compliance Branch may take the lead
  - There isn't any Environmental Stewardship purpose listed for the locks & dams, Congress could add a purpose for ES to the 9' Navigation Project, which may enable drawdowns

*Hi-Crush Detention Pond Water / Sediment Release (Devlin)*

- Presentation as attachment
- Sediment released from FRAC sand mine operations
- There were elevated levels of Arsenic, Copper, and Lead, though the results were very close to the residual contaminant levels
- Total estimated discharge 21,421 cy
- Total removed and hauled back into the mine 8,820 cy
- Total latest proposal to be removed 5,029 cy, currently held up due to attorney involvement
- Total proposed to be left in place to "natural recovery" 7,572 cy
- WDNR still working with the mining company to have all of the over the bank material removed and all in-stream sediment removed
- Didn't receive any reports of dead fish or animals associated with the project
- Megan Moore mentioned that adjusting the frequency of COE sediment sampling in this area may be appropriate
  - RRF discussed and overall determined that it is very likely the sediment remained suspended for a long time and testing that was completed revealed that there weren't any major concerns
  - WDNR expressed that they don't have any concern with the need to test main channel material, but it may be beneficial to complete any backwater testing if a project arises that requires backwater dredging
  - Megan also mentioned that though it is unlikely that material settled in the main channel, it may behoove the COE to complete sediment testing to protect itself
  - Steve Tapp agreed to speak with Dan Cottrell to discuss re-prioritizing sediment testing of channel cuts to include the Lower Approach to LD6 and possibly other areas in Pool 7
- Emily Schnick asked if there is an estimate of the amount of material that reached the Mississippi River, Jim Devlin responded that he is not aware of any such estimate

*USCG AtoNs Study/Communication (Mackillop)*

- Study still at HQ regarding use of different buoy sizes.

- Dan Cottrell will obtain information from Matt Mackillop regarding the AtoNs study and provide a report to the RRF at the next meeting
- Lack of communication during the spill at Pigs Eye Bridge (Pool 2). EPA had the lead, so USCG was left out of some communication. USCG Captain of the Port has responsibility for the river, so they will be more involved in the future.

#### *LD7 Outdraft Reduction Project (Wolkerstorfer)*

- Project established because of the outdraft along the Upper Approach to LD7
  - This caused undesirable navigation conditions and equipment damage (tow haulage system)
- Dredging alternative was analyzed, determined that it didn't resolve the outdraft problem
- Structural alternative was analyzed, determined that there was a way to resolve the outdraft problem utilizing rock weirs
  - Alternative chosen was for a rock weir at seven feet below LCP, which reduces velocity by 20-50% near the upper approach
    - Weir has a 22' top width and is 520' long, so the rock weir can be elevated to further reduce outdraft if needed, potentially to five feet below LCP
- Encountered high flows during construction which made things challenging
- Construction was completed in November 2018
- Will continue to monitor conditions in the area and solicit feedback from the navigation industry to determine how effective the project has been

#### *Winter Lock Operations (Peterson)*

- Looked at Lock and Dam staffing levels, productivity, and safety. New schedule allows for day shifts 7 days per week and more frequent gate changes. Still have the ability to move gates outside of the schedule if necessary.
- Resource agencies didn't receive any concerns or challenges pertaining to water level with differing winter lock operations
- Plan is to continue scheduled winter lock operations winter of 2020

#### *UMRBA Flood Risk and Sediment Management PAS (Wallace)*

- Also considering extended drought
- Changing name of the plan to "Upper Mississippi River Floodplain Resilience Plan"
- Systematic development of informed consent being utilized to coordinate planning effort
- Seeking regional buy-in to bring forward to Congress and the Administration
- Scheduled six workshops this summer, seeking to have participants and members of the public lead discussions
  - Will begin in Cape Gerardo on 6/8 and then visit Alton (6/15), Quincy (7/13), Muscatine (7/20), Dubuque (7/27), and Winona (8/3, Winona State University)
  - Jim Fischer asked if there was discussion as to which Federal and State agencies should be participating, Kirsten Wallace responded that it will largely be up to the agencies, but it would be good for team leaders and those with a vested interest in local issues to participate
    - Kirsten will be attending all of the meetings and will schedule a conference call within the next two weeks to iron out attendance expectations

- Megan Moore recommended providing direct outreach to local governments that aren't represented on the Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative (MRCTI) to encourage participation at the workshops

*Other Topics/Issues, Due-Outs, Future Agenda Topics (All)*

- Lock & Dam 3 Modification
  - Steve Tapp presented slides of surveys upstream from Lock & Dam 3 showing before, during, and after project construction.
  - Dredging and placement areas capped with rock are holding steady as constructed. The channel is scouring more in the middle of the channel as predicted.
  - A suggestion was made to have a field trip with the RRF to see the embankment work completed as part of the modification.
- Due-Outs: Carried forward from previous RRF meetings
  - COE to forward 2014 Dredging Season AAR to the RRF upon completion (Tapp)
  - MnDOT to reengage in discussions pertaining to modifying fill specifications for construction projects (Phenow)
  - COE to provide one page write-up for RRF endorsement of Prairie Sand & Gravel (Kimmel)
  - Corps will work with Law Enforcement from partner states to define a better way to create safety zones around dredges, specifically the dredge Goetz. (Cottrell)
  - ~~Corps to provide a proposal for winter WLM to the FWWG for discussion (Rand)~~  
Completed: Bryan Peterson provided briefing at RRF meeting #113.
  - Agencies discuss need for adding a Forest Management Work Group to the RRF and come up with ideas on how it would work. Reference "Resolution for Establishment of RRF Technical Work Groups" document in the CMMP. (All)
  - WDNR to schedule OSIT meeting in Pool 5 to inspect erosion areas (Strassman)
  - COE to reengage Federal Railroad Administration with NWG/RRF (Cottrell)
  - ~~RWG will prepare a list of beach plans completed along with dates completed.~~  
Completed: List provided at RRF meeting #113.
- Due-Outs: Generated from RRF 113
  - Follow up with IDNR regarding the potential of having a one day meeting in December
  - RWG will develop a recommendation to the RRF regarding the need for a programmatic NEPA document to cover beach nourishment and other actions at sites identified in beach management plans
  - RWG to determine if it's worth recovering the St. Mary's user data, also need to determine the data needed to make recreation decisions on the river
  - Tom Novak will provide endorsement proposal to Steve Tapp and Jim Fischer regarding McGregor and Bass Lake
  - COE will look into the feasibility of an O&M island in Sturgeon Lake
  - Zach Kimmel will put endorsement proposal together for Prairie Sand & Gravel

- Jim Devlin will provide sediment sampling report from TRC to Jim Fischer to distribute to the RRF
- Steve Tapp will speak with Dan Cottrell to discuss re-prioritizing sediment testing of channel cuts to potentially include the Lower Approach to LD6 and other areas in Pool 7
- Dan Cottrell will obtain information from Matt Mackillop regarding the AtoNs study and provide a report to the RRF at the next meeting
- Zach Kimmel to reach out to Burton Suedel to see if he is willing to potentially speak again at the RRF and if there have been more recent projects that may be applicable to the group
- Agenda Topics
  - Upper Mississippi River Floodplain Resilience Plan (UMRBA)
  - Engineering With Nature
  - Minnesota River Basin Interagency Study (Nate Campbell)
  - Corps Budgetary Process – O&M 20/20 (MN River HMTF)
  - Potential of establishing a Beneficial Use Work Group
- AAR
  - Meeting facility worked well, it was hard for some folks that called in to hear things clearly through the speaker used
    - Speaker clarity likely more an issue of presenters speaking clearly and toward the audio equipment rather than an audio equipment problem

Steve Tapp  
Co-Chairman, RRF