

Missouri River

RECOVERY PROGRAM

2008-06

MRERP Hits the Road

The Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan (MRERP) team was busy in May, introducing the Plan to many different stakeholder groups, including:

- 13 of the 28 basin Tribes;
- Representatives from several basin states;
- Native American Fish and Wildlife Society at its 28th Annual Conference in Yakima, Wash., which included some Tribes within and outside of the basin;
- Missouri River Association of States and Tribes at its meeting in Great Falls, Mont.;
- Federal Working Group at a workshop hosted by MRERP in Denver, Colo. , where participants discussed possible relationships between future plan participants, such as MRRIC, FWG, States, Tribes and other stakeholders; and
- Missouri River Basin Interagency Roundtable at its meeting in Denver, which included many of the executive level federal agency officials.

Real Estate Update

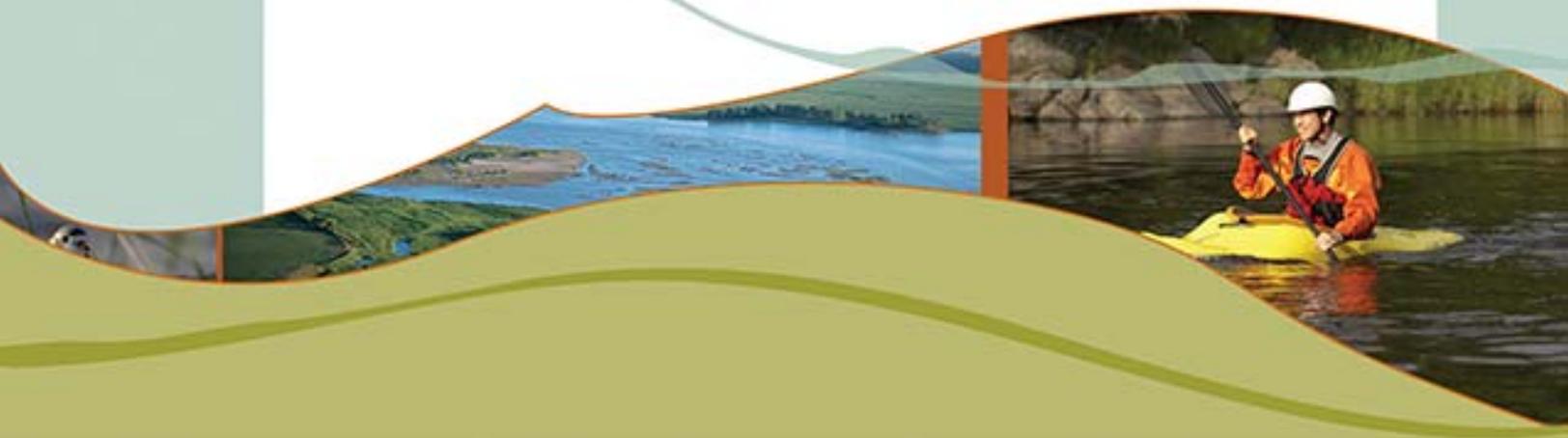
The MRRP Real Estate team has closed on three tracts of land at Copeland Bend in Iowa, adjacent to river miles 564-567. This acquisition provides over 160 acres of land for MRRP activities.

River Outreach

A few MRRP team members have participated in outreach activities lately. Greg Pavelka and Mark Drobish joined the National Park Service and Missouri River Relief in cleaning up Goat Island near Gavins Point.

Meanwhile, Gene Bormann represented the Corps at a Wonders of Wildlife event in Columbia, Missouri and at the Outdoor Education Workshop for Science Teachers at Niobrara State Park.

Finally, Gene Bormann and Galen Jons participated in the National River Clean Up near Yankton, S.D.



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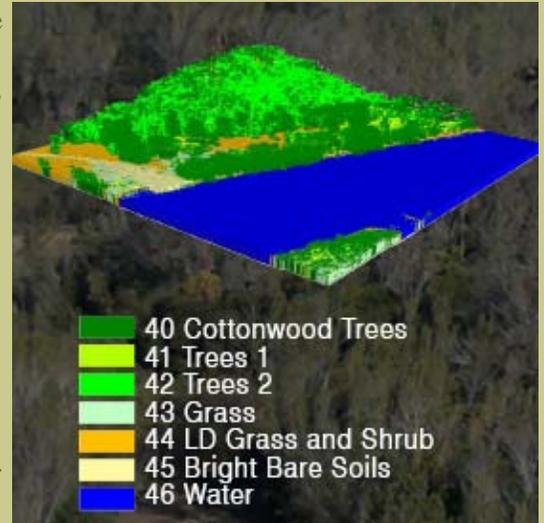
MRRP Presented Habitat Mapping Awards

A Corps project received a regional award for excellence from the American Consulting Engineering Companies (ACEC) in November 2007 and is now entered in the national competition!

During the summer of 2007, the Corps worked with Merrick and Company to collect visual data of a nearly 20-square mile study area centered on Deroin Bend, a Missouri River Recovery Program site in northwest Missouri. The team used three techniques to collect the data: aerial photography, LiDAR (light detection and ranging) and hyperspectral imagery.

This was a unique and cutting-edge project because it was the first time that hyperspectral imagery of this quality was collected along the Missouri River, and because all three types of data were collected in one photo mission. This study was performed to evaluate the feasibility of using these data collection techniques for the entire river in the future.

The fusion of these three data types gives the Corps a rich database of information to use in many types of habitat assessments. For example, the Corps can use these data in analyses to classify land cover and identify cottonwood tree species. These techniques can help the Corps better monitor the long-term results of habitat creation projects.



Contract Solicitation Moving Along

A pre-proposal conference for the Multiple Award Task Order Contracts was held in Omaha, Neb, on May 21. Corps representatives provided solicitation information to potential contractors and addressed their specific questions for the Tyson Bend Project and the Langdon Bend Wetland Restoration Project. Visits to these project sites were offered before and after the conference.



Fond Farewell

Bob Dimmitt retired from the Corps on May 2. Bob worked on Missouri River Mitigation and Recovery Program issues for a long time, and he will be greatly missed.

(Left: COL Roger Wilson and Bob Dimmitt)