

# WATER®

*Promoting Beneficial Use of Water & Land Related Resources*

**February 2018**

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**Points of Interest:**

- ASA-CW R.D. James
- MOARC-KCIC in D.C.
- MO River Navigation
- New MOARC Leadership
- Our Partners

## President's Message

The MOARC river basins are managed for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy. This year, we will carry this vision forward by listening to our membership, coordinating with local, state and federal agencies and informing our congressional delegation on projects and policies that are so important to our region.

We have lots to build on from recent successes we have been supporting. From the multiple projects authorized in the last WRDA, to projects funded and currently under construction, to helping shape the direction of policies and projects over the past few years, MOARC has been a great resource for our local, state and federal partners. Over the past couple of decades, MOARC has been supporting and helping to shape the Turkey Creek project phases. I am pleased to report that the project was fully funded by congress, the local share received from Kansas City, MO / Unified Government, and construction of the last phase is underway! Turkey Creek is a great example of MOARC's perseverance in supporting these critical projects that make such a difference to people and our local economy. MOARC has an exciting year ahead with several planned activities right here and in Washington DC. Just a few of the great things include:

- Increased communication through WATERdrops, newsletter and an active website at [moarc.org](http://moarc.org)
- Face to face discussions with our membership to hear what is important to you
- Hosting a MOARC policy workshop later this year to shape our legislative policy
- Our annual trips to Washington DC to advocate for the region's projects/policies

As an organization, MOARC has some exciting changes this year. We recently appointed a new executive director, Dave Combs. Dave is bringing new energy and building on existing relationships to the benefit of the organization. Read more about Dave in this edition of our newsletter. In addition, I would like to welcome our new directors and say thank you to our volunteers who continue to contribute to the organization. *You are what makes MOARC so great!*

I would also like to extend a big thank you to Karin Jacoby for her leadership throughout the past 16 years as executive director. She has made great contributions to water infrastructure by effectively shaping policies and projects for the region. Karin, we look forward to continue working with you as you stay engaged as our treasurer. Thank you for what you have done for the organization!

I am proud to continue as MOARC president and will work hard with our board to continue bringing value back to our region as we have for so many years. I look forward to working with you to meet the challenges ahead. Play an active role and join us in taking MOARC to new heights in 2018!



**Tom Poer**  
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# Upcoming Events

## National Waterways Conference 2018 Legislative Summit March 5th-8th, Washington DC



The National Waterways Conference is hosting the 2018 Legislative Summit March 5<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> in Washington DC. The Legislative Summit will be held at The Madison Hotel in Washington, 1177 NW 15th Street, near the Capital. National Waterway Conference Committee meetings are on Monday with informative general sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. The annual legislative summit will focus on the water resource infrastructure development to support the nation's waterways and the economic development through strong, secure, sustainable waterways across the nation. As Congress returns for the second session of the 115th Congress, high on the national agenda is the development of a Wa-

ter Resource Development Act (WRDA). A 2018 WRDA would authorize a variety of water resource projects across the nation supporting flood control and waterways infrastructure. Additionally Congress has pledged to move a comprehensive infrastructure package in 2018. The Legislative Summit provides a great venue for the water resource industry to hear from high-ranking Congressional and Executive branch officials and industry leaders about water resources policy developments and program expectations for the coming year. Registration is underway and can be found on the National Waterways Conference website [www.waterway.org](http://www.waterway.org). Hotel information can also be found on the website. MOARC members interested in attending the summit are encouraged to register soon, and coordinate with us on your plans.

## Spring 2018 DC Legislative Visit

### March 5th-8th, Washington DC

We know that making a difference involves informing and engaging with decision-makers on issues of importance to our membership.

MOARC and KCIC members will conduct the 2018 Spring Congressional Legislative visit to advocate for projects and programs affecting our region. Members will be in Washington, DC on March 5th thru 8th to meet with Congressional and Administrative offices to address recent area flood management successes, to remind our Congressional offices of current issues and future needs within the basin, and to work with the Administration's offices to show the level of local and regional support for water resource projects and programs that promote life safety and economic and social development in the basin.

By sharing the local and regional impacts of Federal decision-making we help inform decision-makers of the issues and help guide decisions on water and related land resources. If you are interested in learning more, providing input or in joining us on the trip let us know. Contact our president, Tom Poer [tpoer@hntb.com](mailto:tpoer@hntb.com) for more information.

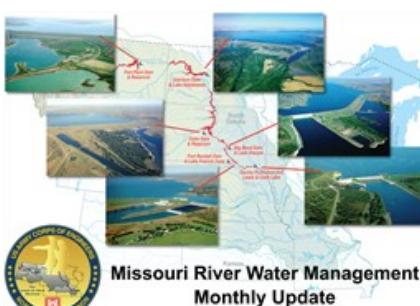


## Monthly Water Management Conference Calls Begin for 2018 February 6th and Monthly Calls Through 2018

The Corps hosted its second monthly conference call of 2018 on February 9, to inform basin stakeholders on current weather and runoff forecasts and the planned operation of the System. Presentation materials are posted on the MRBWM website at: <http://www.nwd-mr.usace.army.mil/rcc/> or <http://www.nwd.usace.army.mil/Media/News-Releases/Missouri-River-Water/Article/1433371/>

[reservoir-system-prepared-for-2018-runoff-season/](#)

The monthly calls are intended for Congressional delegations; Tribes; state, county and local government officials; and the media.



# Missouri River Matters

## Missouri River Management Plan (MRMP) Status

The Corps of Engineers reports that the MRMP continues on track for a completion of the Final EIS-Adaptive Management Plan in August 2018 with the Record of Decision (ROD) for the project in October 2018. The draft Biological Opinion (BiOp) prepared by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) was submitted to the Corps of Engineers on 8 February. The Corps is now reviewing and will provide the draft to the MRRIC Integrated Science Advisory Panel (ISAP) under MRRIC for its review.

Following the review the final BiOp will be completed and submitted by the Service on 17 April. The BiOp will present required actions for the Corps to comply under the MRMP to continue to meet a non-jeopardy opinion for the fish (Pallid sturgeon) and bird species (Interior Least tern, Piping plover) in the Missouri River. These actions will become part of the Adaptive Management Plan to address biological needs of these species while meeting the eight authorized purposes on the Missouri River.

Other activities related to development of

the EIS-Adaptive Management Plan supporting the MRMP include an Adaptive Management Workshop and upcoming MRRIC meetings. An Adaptive Management Workshop was held 6-8 February to review the draft Adaptive Management Plan and a proposed 5-year strategy with representatives of MRRIC and the bird and fish science teams. The

*MOARC will provide you updates following the upcoming MRRIC Meetings*

- 27-29 Mar (Omaha)
- 22-24 May (Sioux City)
- 27-29 August (virtual)

Adaptive Management Plan is to be finalized following the workshop based on recommendations and issues presented. Results of this workshop and the final strategy for the MRMP will be presented at the next MRRIC meeting 27-29 March in Omaha. Subsequent MRRIC meetings in May (Sioux City) and August (virtual) will address the status and

content of the EIS-Adaptive Management Plan and seek consensus on the MRMP. MOARC's representative on MRRIC (Frank Pogge) will provide updates to MOARC membership through emailed WATERdrops following these meetings.



## Potential Listing of Two Missouri River Fish Species under the ESA

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is considering listing the Sickle fin chub and the Sturgeon chub, two Missouri River fish species, under the Endangered Species Act (Act). The Service published its assessment of the petition to list in the Federal Register making it available for public review in the Federal Register. Through the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC) the Service reported the public could inspect the document (see box right). The proposed listing is the first step in assessing the species status to determine if the species warrant protection under the Act. This current finding does not mean the

Service will list a species under the Act, only that the species are now subject to further evaluation. The Service has established a work plan for conducting evaluations of numerous species for the next several years throughout the Missouri River basin. For those MOARC members and public interested in the process underway and the timeframe for the evaluation (normally 3-5 years), the Service will be prepared to discuss at the next MRRIC plenary meeting March 27-29, 2018 at The Doubletree Hotel in downtown Omaha. The MOARC representative on MRRIC, Frank Pogge, will provide information through WATERdrops to

MOARC members on the Service's process and any potential impacts to MOARC interests. Prior the MRRIC meeting the MOARC Board will discuss the Service's proposal at their upcoming meeting. MOARC works to represent the interests of its members through MRRIC involvement.

*Endangered and Threatened Species: 90-day batch for five species published in the Federal Register on December 20, 2017:*

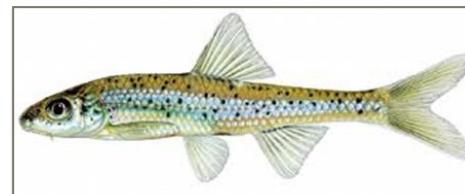
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/12/20/2017-27389/endangered-and-threatened-species-90-day-findings-for-five-species>

*Or see MOARC WATERdrops for link at [moarc.org](http://moarc.org)*

*90-day review ends March 20, 2018*



Sickle fin chub



Sturgeon chub

# Committee Corner

MOARC committees provide key contributions to our membership.

Subject Matter Committees inform and lead our efforts:

- Legislative Policy
- Flood Control & Risk Management
- Navigation, Shipping & Trade
- Water, Power & Permitting

Organization Support Committees bring value to our membership:

- Communications
- Membership
- Finance

## Legislative Policy - Update

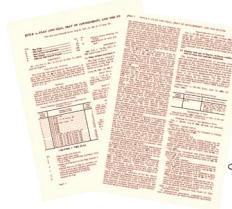
MOARC's "Working for Water" platform recognizes that reliable, well-maintained water resources infrastructure is vital to America's economic and environmental well-being, and essential to our nation's economic prosperity, public health and national security. With the Federal policy changes occurring in the arena of water resources management MOARC's Legislative Policy Committee has been busy. During the Fall

2017 trip to Washington, DC, local representatives were able to share MOARC priorities with Congressional offices/committees and Federal agencies. Below are some recent highlights from that trip and other related activities.

Legislative Policy Committee Chair  
Matt Bond, PE [matt.bond@kcmo.org](mailto:matt.bond@kcmo.org)

**NFIP Reauthorization** MOARC and KCIC delegates met with David Maurstad, FEMA Assistant Administrator for Federal Insurance, to learn more about the pending NFIP reauthorization and share ideas for program improvement, including: 1) Effectiveness of NFIP with adequate funding to accurately identify and map risk, and for support of non-Federal efforts to reduce flood risk; 2) Use of risk-based rates to reflect actual flood risk as determined using sound science and statistical methods that are transferable, repeatable and equitable; and, 3) More flood insurance policies in place through existing Mandatory Purchase Requirement (MPR) enforcement and expansion of products (voluntary community-based purchase option, catastrophic reinsurance, etc.).

**Clean Water Rule** MOARC shared its view of the June 2015 Clean Water Rule as expanding EPA's jurisdiction. The Clean Water Act (CWA) established Federal – State(s) cooperative program(s) for protection of the nation's water resources, both Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) and State(s). The new rule defined WOTUS such that it captured nearly all waters of the State(s), enabling an entirely federally regulated program. MOARC is supportive of the two-step process (initiated by the Corps and EPA in response to EO 13778, signed February 28, 2017) to review and revise WOTUS to conform with the intent of Congress and Supreme Court.



**Surplus Water** On November 16, 2017, MOARC submitted written comments on "Use of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Reservoir Projects for Domestic, Municipal and Industrial Water Supply" seeking an extension of the comment period and that there be robust outreach and meaningful consultation with states and local officials to address issues in the proposed rule. Specifically, MOARC expressed the following concerns:

- Corps built reservoirs allow for water storage, which improves continuity of access for multiple purposes, but storage therein does not convert water from a State to Federal asset;
- Identifying water as surplus should require concurrence from other ongoing users for which the resource is authorized (e.g., navigation, flood control, water supply, etc.);
- Water utilities depend on main-stem releases to operate intakes that provide water for municipal use, and previously identified flow targets were established to meet stakeholder needs, however, without flows adequate to reach those intakes those needs cannot be met, and
- Different handling of the Missouri River Basin as relates to pricing is arbitrary and this provision in the rule must be removed or modified to avoid inequitable treatment.

**Missouri River 8 Purposes** Since 1951, MOARC has advocated for flood control and water conservation in the Missouri River basin. The Missouri River is perhaps the most vital resource in our region; without it our strong agribusiness economy would not have grown up, nor would have the many river communities which still thrive in the Midwest. We concur with the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals decision on the primary purposes of which the Missouri River is to be managed as navigation and flood control. Uncertainties brought about during the 14-year process to review the Master Manual led to a loss in much of the existing Missouri River navigation infrastructure, both facilities and operators. In the decade or so since that process concluded we have sought and supported reestablishment of a healthy navigation industry throughout our region.

**Missouri River Management Plan** MOARC continues to call for management of the Missouri River to be reasonable and based on sound science, supporting all of the eight authorized purposes. MOARC submitted comments on the Missouri River Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) endorsing the No Action Alternative, meaning continued use of the most recently revised Master Manual, but without the problematical bimodal spring pulse. With regard to the Action Alternatives in the DEIS, our review leads us to determine that Alternative 3 will have the least effects on the authorized purposes and our members interests, despite concern with a possible out year spawning cue flow regime. Alternatives 2, 4, 5 and 6 all have unacceptable significant adverse impacts on the river's primary purposes and critical water supply function.



# Navigation, Shipping & Trade

## Missouri River Waterway Transport Update

2017 was a banner year for waterway transport on the Missouri River. Kansas City and the immediate region saw increased traffic on the river. Inbound barge loads numbered 46 barges while out bound numbered 160, an increase of 62% compared with 2016 totals. The total river tonnage for the Kansas City region was 285,000 tons (this relates to the equivalent of 13,000 truckloads or about 2,500 railcars). The region saw freight move outbound from Nebraska City NE, Wolcott KS and Lexington MO, with inbound cargoes moving to Kansas City MO and Omaha NE. Commodities transported included:

- Fertilizer
- Mill Scale
- Asphalt
- Grain
- Cement
- Structural steel

The upstream Missouri River reservoirs had adequate runoff for the last decade with long-range projections indicating the Missouri River basin will receive above average runoff for 2018. The river continues

to provide a nine foot deep by three hundred foot wide minimum channel supporting navigation. In 2016 and 2017 navigation was able to enjoy an above minimum channel allowing deeper drafts and increased tonnage per barge. Due to the additional runoff and storage, the Missouri River system allowed for an early 2017 start (60 days before the Corps of Engineers began releases supporting navigation) and for 10 additional navigation days at the end.



For more information or to get involved, contact Navigation, Shipping & Trade Committee Chair Richard Grenville [rgrenville@portkc.com](mailto:rgrenville@portkc.com).

Port KC contributed to increases in waterway transport for 2017.

# Flood Control & Risk Management

## Flood Control Project Updates

The region has seen successes in moving forward in regional flood risk management. Projects completed, being completed in the near future, or funded to complete construction include Blue River Basin (Dodson Industrial District), Turkey Creek Basin, St. Joseph Levees (MRLS L455 and R471-460), and Topeka Levee. Completion of these projects completes decades of regional efforts in providing flood risk management to the region.

Although we have seen many successes in moving forward on regional flood control projects, there are actions that need to be completed. MOARC and KCIC working with the congressional offices and water resource agencies are fighting to finish the projects and improve flood risk regionally. Among those key projects that are fighting to finish is the Kansas Citys Levees where additional design work is needed on the Argentine levees for two pump stations to control under seepage issues. A modification of the design agreement and funding for design of the pump stations is needed

*MOARC's advocacy of important flood control projects has resulted in the recent completion or full funding of the following flood control projects:*

- Blue River Basin (Dodson Industrial District)
- Turkey Creek Basin
- St. Joseph Levees (MRLS L455 and R471-460)
- Topeka Levee

to move forward in Phase I of the Kansas Cities Levees project. Additionally design work is needed to address continued risks within the CID and Armourdale levee units under Phase II. These levee units are fully funded in 2018 to complete design to address under seepage, levee elevation, and flood wall risk issues.

Design agreements under the PED phase need

to be signed between the sponsors and the Corps of Engineers; the agreements are currently being reviewed. Completion of all design work will lead to future construction and provide system wide reduction in flood risks. Swope Park Industrial Park is another critical project that has been waiting resolution for decades. The project continues to move for-



August 2017 rescue at Swope Park from Blue River flooding at Swope Park Industrial Park

ward through the PED phase and received construction authorization under the VIIN of 2016. At this time the Swope Park project requires funding for completion of the levee system. Funding of \$16M is needed in the 2019 budget to complete the project and provide a greater level of protection to the industries within the industrial park and a significant reduction in risk to loss of life within the area.

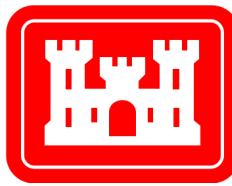


Kansas Cities Levees project continues to be a top project priority for MOARC and the region.

# In the News

## Turkey Creek Flood Control Project Ribbon Cutting

The final phase of the Turkey Creek Flood Damage Reduction project was kicked off formally on 15 December with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The construction of the Turkey Creek Flood project began in 2004 and has continued in phases over the last 14 years. Earlier phases of tunnel and channel construction have provided significant benefits preventing flood damage to businesses along Turkey Creek.



The ribbon cutting represented the initiation of the final phase of the construction project. The Turkey Creek Missouri interceptor project phase will construct a storm water interceptor from the vicinity of 31st and Roanoke crossing near Southwest Boulevard to Turkey Creek. This project will provide storm drainage for the 15-year storm (about 3.6" of rainfall in 3 hours). The bulk of construction will be in Kansas, but the majority of benefits will be in Missouri. The final phase construction cost is \$26.6M with a scheduled completion of three years (2020-2021). Upon completion the Turkey Creek project will provide over \$5M in annual benefits to the area. The ceremony delegation included the mayors of Kansas City, MO and Kansas City, KS, Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, and representatives of the Corps of Engineers and the City of Kansas City (City Manager and Water Services).

Participants at the ribbon cutting included a host of representatives from various congressional offices, MOARC, KCIC, local businesses, and the public. The speakers spoke of the success of the Bi-State partnership between the two cities, as well as, partnerships with the Corps of Engineers and the Congressional offices of Kansas and Missouri.



Preparing for the boot toss to celebrate the start of the final phase of Turkey Creek are, from left: Water Services Director Terry Leeds (KC Water); Deputy District Engineer Rex Ostrander (USACE Kansas City); Congressman Emmanuel Cleaver (US House of Representatives, Missouri); Mayor Sly James (KCMO); Mayor Mark Holland (Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS); City Manager Troy Schulte (KCMO)

## R.D. James Confirmed as Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works



Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, R.D James

The United States Senate confirmed, and Missouri native R.D. James, of New Madrid, has been sworn in to serve as the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA-CW). He was confirmed by a vote of 89 to 1 within the Senate following months of waiting for this important position to be filled. In this role, James will be the civilian in charge of the US Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. James has a long history with flood protection interests on the Mississippi River and its tributaries. James earned his degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Kentucky and has served for over 36 years as one of the three civilian Presidential appointees to the Mississippi River Commission, first being appointed by President Reagan in 1981.

As a result of his history of family farming within the Missouri bootheel and serving as in one of the required engineer positions on the Commission,

he is familiar with rivers and what they mean to regional economies and the social fabric of communities located along those rivers. As the ASA-CW he will establish the policy direction and provide supervision of the Department of the Army functions relating to all aspects of the Civil Works program of the Army Corps of Engineers. Having an ASA-CW in place will help in moving projects and policies through the US Army Corps of Engineers. R.D. James will be the 12th person to serve in this role, which was created in the 1970 Flood Control Act, and follows Ms Jo-Ellen Darcy in this important position.

*Join us in congratulating Mr. R.D. James on his confirmation and now appointment in his new role as the ASA-CW.*

# MOARC Leadership Changes

Volume 2018  
Issue 1st Quarter

## MOARC Welcomes New Executive Director

David Combs has recently accepted the role as Executive Director of MOARC. Bringing Dave in as a more full time Director was to provide a greater focus by leadership to continue the successes of MOARC, develop relationships with regional partners, and strengthen the organization's membership. Dave has worked with MOARC members many times in his career and has been interested in working with MOARC because of the assistance the organization provided his former organization.

Dave recently retired from the US Army Corps of Engineers serving nearly 33 years in multiple roles ranging from environmental biologist to a senior leader/manager overseeing and reviewing water resource planning studies across the Northwestern Division. A native of Kentucky, Dave has served in water resources positions in Chicago (1984-1986), Tulsa (1986-2003) and Kansas City (2003-2012) Districts before becoming the Chief of Planning, Environmental Resources, and Fish Policy Division in Portland, Oregon with the Northwestern Division of the Army Corps of Engineers (2012-2016).

Dave began his career with the Corps as a NEPA biologist with Chicago District working on contaminated sediments in the Chicago Harbors and Great Lakes, in Tulsa District he was an Environmental Section Chief and

Environmental Branch Chief providing support to the Civil Works and Military mission areas prior to accepting the Chief of Planning position with Kansas City District in 2003. In Kansas City, Dave helped move the water resource projects forward in the completion of 4 feasibility studies through the Corps review process, Civil Works Review Board, and Chiefs Report for authorization. In 2012 he transferred to the Northwestern Division as the Chief of Planning, Environmental Resources, and Fish Policy where he oversaw the development and review of water resource projects across the five districts within the Northwestern Division. In addition he oversaw the fish program in the Pacific Northwest to provide fish passage and recovery of salmon species in the Columbia River and Puget Sound basins. He retired as Planning Chief and the Corps of Engineers in December 2016, decided to return to Kansas City because of its vitality and the quality of life, and is a current member of MOARC.

Prior to his career with the Corps of Engineers, Dave was a fisheries research biologist for the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Dave holds a BS and MS in fisheries from Eastern Kentucky University and post-graduate work in a doctoral program in Environmental Engineering at Oklahoma State University. He



Welcome to David Combs,  
MOARC Executive Director!

is a graduate of the Army Staff College Leadership Program, a certified Fisheries Scientist from the American Fisheries Society, and Certified Project Management Professional from the Project Management Institute. Over his career he has played multiple roles in environmental, military construction, hazardous waste remediation, and water resource planning programs. He was a prominent player in the Corps' National Planning Community of Practice and as a member of the Corps of Engineers Headquarters Planning Advisory Board.

## Your New Board

The MOARC Board membership and leadership has changed as we move into 2018. Changes in the Board were approved at the 29 November Membership business meeting. Karin Jacoby announced her resignation as Executive Director and the appointment of David Combs as the new Secretary and Executive Director. Karin served as the Executive Director for the previous 16 years and provided outstanding leadership of the organization. MOARC members celebrated Karin's leadership and she was presented an award for her service from the Tom Poer, President. Karin continues to serve on the MOARC Board and help guide the organization. David is a recent retiree from the US Army Corps of Engineers with extensive experience in water resource planning and comes with a strong Corps of Engineers and other agency network. David appreciated working with MOARC as a partner when he served as the Kansas City District's Chief of Planning (2003 to 2012) and looks forward to working with MOARC as the new Executive Director.



The 2018 Board consists of:

<b>Tom Poer</b>	President
<b>Steve Dailey</b>	Vice President
<b>Karin Jacoby</b>	Treasurer
<b>David Combs</b>	Secretary/Executive Director
<b>Lynda Hoffman</b>	Past President
<b>Frank Pogge</b>	At-Large
<b>Dan Fuhrman</b>	At-Large
<b>Kevin Caveny</b>	At-Large
<b>Matt Bond</b>	Legislative & Policy Committee Chair
<b>Richard Grenville</b>	Navigation, Shipping & Trade Committee Chair
<b>Tom Kimes</b>	Flood Control & Risk Management Committee Chair
<b>Dong Quach</b>	Water, Power, & Permitting Committee Chair
<b>Glenda Johnson</b>	Communications Chair
<b>Richard Livers</b>	Membership Committee Chair
<b>John Patrick</b>	Finance Committee Chair



WATER®, a MOARC publication and a registered trademark, is the newsletter of the Missouri and Associated Rivers Coalition (MOARC). WATER® provides timely updates on matters of importance to the MOARC membership and stakeholders.



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For more information on  
MOARC, find us at  
[moarc.org](http://moarc.org)

# Agency Updates

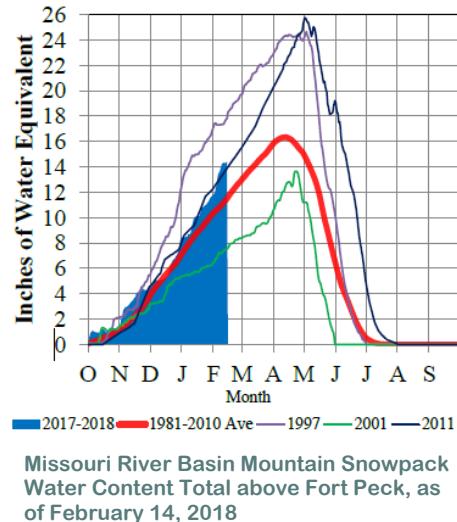
## Winter Missouri River Water Management Releases

The Corps of Engineers Water Management Office reports that runoff in the upper basin is about 115% of average in 2017; the average is 25.3 million acre-feet (MAF). As of 1 December 10% flood control storage was reported occupied in the upstream reservoirs with continued evacuation during the winter to ensure total flood storage available for the 2018 runoff season. Releases from Gavins Point Dam planned at 17,000 cfs over the winter was increased to 22,500 cfs in December by the Corps due to unusually warm weather in November and early December resulting in higher-than-normal inflows in the upper basin that continues to date. These winter releases also benefit municipal and industrial water intakes below Gavins Point Dam, which can be impacted by low water levels during periods of ice formation. The Corps of Engineers reports that once evacuation of water stored in the annual flood control pool is complete, releases will be reduced to near normal levels; approximately 18,000 bps (winter releases normally range between 12,000 and 17,000 cfs).

## Missouri River System

**Storage Check** The total volume of water stored in the System is currently 56.3 million acre-feet (MAF), occupying 0.2 MAF of the 16.3 MAF combined flood control storage zones. Based on current soil moisture conditions, plains and mountain snowpack through January, the 2018 calendar year runoff forecast is 26.6 MAF above Sioux City, IA, 105 percent of average. Average annual runoff is 25.3 MAF.

**System Forecast** Flow support for Missouri River navigation is reported to likely be at full service levels for the first half of the 2018 season, which begins on April 1 at the mouth. The actual service level will be based on the system storage check-in on March 15 in accordance with guidelines in the Master Manual. Flow support for the second half of the navigation season, as well as navigation season length, will be based on the actual 1 July system storage.



## Partner Perspective

### KCIC Partners with MOARC on Water Infrastructure

The Kansas City Industrial Council (KCIC) is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The organization was founded to collectively address the issues common to our city's industrial areas, namely infrastructure, blight and flooding. Our work with MoARC through the years has helped us secure funding and resolve many of the flooding and water issues our members experience.

We appreciate MOARC's organization and leadership on our twice annual lobbying trips to Washington, D.C. Thanks in large part to these

trips, more than \$25 million has been spent in our industrial areas on waterway and levee improvements. We have seen great success in flood remediation in Blue Valley and Turkey Creek. Currently, Swope Park Industrial is receiving much needed waterway improvements to abate regular flooding. Our current waterway focus is the Kansas City Seven Levees project.



## Future Newsletter Focus Areas

Quarterly Newsletters are to be a venue to report on specific project changes, information of interest to the membership and specific areas of interest or action items important to membership. In addition to project updates and what's in the news over the quarter, the spring Quarterly Newsletter will provide a report to the membership on the results of the MOARC/KCIC Spring DC Visit, legislative items coming

out of the National Waterways Conference, the opportunities for membership development, and Partnership opportunities within the Missouri River basin. Please look forward to the Spring Newsletter and send items you think would be of interest to the membership to MOARC at [info@moarc.org](mailto:info@moarc.org).

