

Mississippi River Recovery Task Force



Bob Hainly
Task Force Member
Representing:
USGS Water Mission Area

**2012 USACE Flood Risk Management
and Silver Jackets Workshop**
August 24, 2012

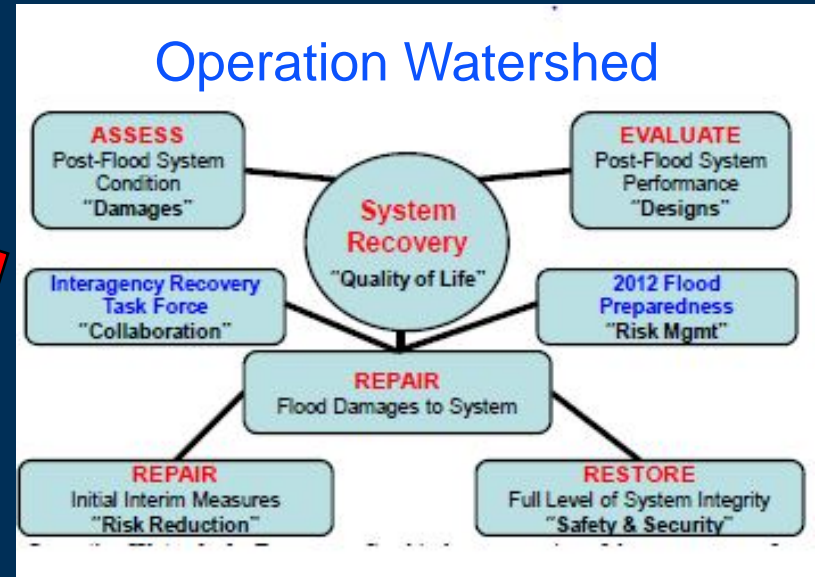
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey



Mission Statement

Create a basin-wide multi-agency forum

- Solve regional issues and challenges
- Support regional effort to inspect, review, reset, and restore
- Incorporate all available Federal and state resources
- Develop a collaborative prioritization of efforts
- Facilitate strategic mitigation actions



Participation

World's 3rd Largest Watershed

Drainage basin for 41% of the United States



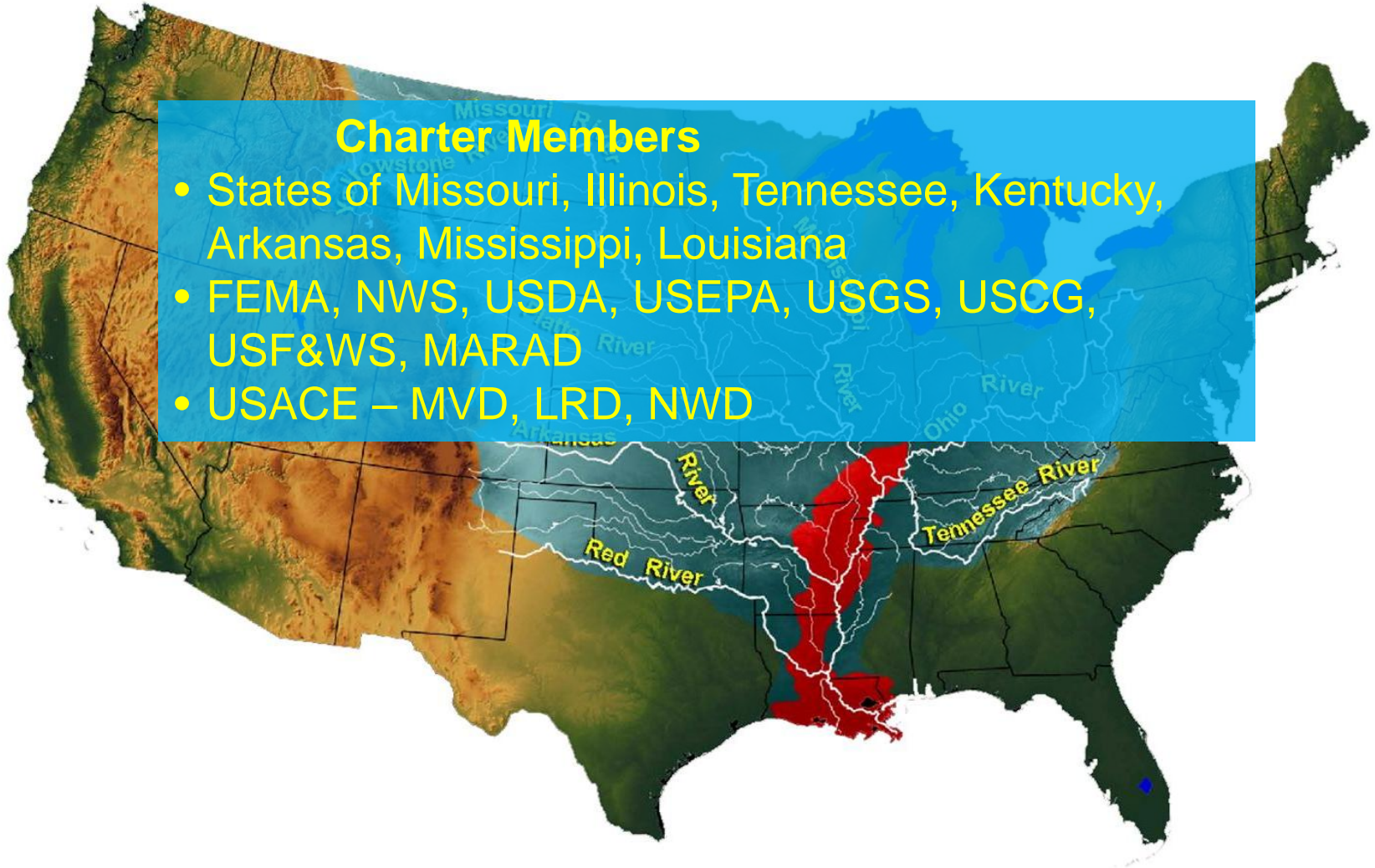
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Worlds 3rd Largest Watershed

Drainage basin for 41% of the United States

Charter Members

- States of Missouri, Illinois, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana
- FEMA, NWS, USDA, USEPA, USGS, USCG, USF&WS, MARAD
- USACE – MVD, LRD, NWD



Charter and Vision Statement



The Interagency Recovery Task Force (IRTF) will establish and strengthen a mutual and holistic method of rehabilitating the flood risk management systems damaged by recent flood events, by collaborating and combining solutions for short and long-term restoration efforts.



Meetings

A combination of three webinars and five face-to-face meetings were conducted from May 2011 to June 2012

Meeting topics were informational and progressed as the extent of damage and means of recovery became available

Topics of discussion:

- Purpose of the IRTF, extent of flood fight efforts
- Collaborative priorities and plan for restoration
- MR&T status, damage assessment & priorities
- Restoration costs & funding, repair “hotspots”
- Restoration planning and communication
- System performance, flood season preparation
- Increased vulnerability & risk communication



Results and Lessons Learned

- Need for regional communication plan
 - Newsletters and videos
 - Regional Flood Risk Management website
 - CorpsMap – ongoing project information
- Identify and leverage resources and expertise
- Identify common risks and uncertainties
- Establish working groups for focused discussions
- Top challenge – communication of flood risk





Next Steps

- *IRTF will remain intact*
- *Explore other collaborative issues*
- *Establish annual regional FRM workshop*



Benefits of Collaboration

1. Allowed a higher level perspective on key regional issues and challenges
2. Provided a voice to the states
3. Cross-agency education concerning roles in flood fighting and recovery
4. Customize products and response plans to meet other agency needs
5. Opportunity for USACE to hear other perspectives and identify local issues

Our Mississippi

PARTNERING TO KEEP
AMERICA'S RIVER GREAT

FALL '11

Mississippi River Interagency Recovery Task Force

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U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

Laying the Groundwork

