



**Notice of Annual Membership Meeting
Monday, March 19, 2012
Wagner Theater
Wagner, South Dakota**

Open House

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Wagner Theater, Wagner, SD

Regular Board of Director Meeting

3:30 p.m. Wagner Theater, Wagner, SD

General Membership Meeting

7:30 p.m. Wagner Theater, Wagner, SD

***The Wagner Theater is located at
218 South Main Avenue.***

The 11th annual meeting of the Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition (MSAC) will be conducted at 7:30 p.m., Monday, March 19, 2012, at the Wagner Theater in Wagner, South Dakota. An informal open house is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. and will conclude at 7:30 p.m. Information and photo displays will be posted and the public can visit with participants one-on-one. Following a brief business meeting at 7:30 p.m., Tim Cowman, director of the Missouri River Institute, will present "Anatomy of the Missouri River Flood 2011." All MSAC members, potential members, and interested parties are invited to attend.

The Board of Directors will meet at 3:30 p.m. at the Wagner Theater. The public also is invited.

On the annual meeting agenda will be the election of two individuals to the board of directors for three-year terms. The following two directors have terms which are expiring: Jason Glodt, representing Class I (Government) and Jeff Peters, representing Class II (Organizations.)

Membership will be updated on MSAC's activities and future goals. All members, potential members and all interested groups, businesses, individuals and government bodies are welcome, and are invited to attend the board meeting, open house and general membership meeting.

Please put this date on your calendars. If we are to address sedimentation problems in the Missouri River main stem reservoirs we need to act as a unified coalition and encourage cooperation among the people who can engage in sediment management.

We need your support. Thank you for your interest. We hope to see you in Wagner on March 19th.

For additional information contact:

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See back page for more info on: "Anatomy of the Missouri River Flood 2011"

www.msaconline.com



February 2012

The MSAC Mission is to pursue and promote the intelligent use of all available programs and funds to alleviate the sedimentation-caused problems of the Missouri River main-stem reservoirs.

www.msaonline.com



MSAC documents river landscape changes after months of flooding

From MSAC reports

Each dam experienced its record release during June or July of 2011. Five of the six dams more than doubled their previous record. Like Fort Randall Dam which released 160,000 cubic feet per second in late July. Previously, its highest cfs was 67,000 in 1997. In this newsletter, MSAC looks at the area near Fort Randall Dam and its Lake Francis Case.

The White River contributes at least 35% of the sediment delivered to Lake Francis Case on average each year according to information published in Phase II Sedimentation Assessment for the Upper Missouri River Basin. The remaining 65% or 11,950 acre feet comes from unidentified sources. This report can be viewed at MSAC's Web site: www.msaonline.com. How much sediment inflow occurred in 2011 is unknown at this time. (Photos by

Patrick M. Callahan for MSAC
Nov. 28, 2011)



Record runoff pushed and drew sediment to new places in 2011. One route sediment did not take was past the dams of the upper Missouri River. Floods did not flush sediment out of the system. The volume and duration of record water releases likely funneled more sediment into the reservoirs than the average 89,700 acre feet annually. How much more, we do not know. Powerful releases also moved existing sediment further into the reservoirs, making way for deeper channels in some places but only for a time. The floods of 2011 undisputedly, funneled more sediment-moving power in the Missouri River than has been experienced since the system's closure. This power was not only great, but long-lasting.

At MSAC's request on Nov. 28, 2011, Pierre photographer Patrick M. Callahan documented the river landscape from the vantage point of an airplane. He took several hundred photos from the vicinity of Pierre to Dakota Dunes. MSAC plans to incorporate the images into its educational message. On these two pages you will see photos above and near the Fort Randall Dam, by Pickstown, South Dakota.

Look for additional photos in upcoming newsletters.

Lake Francis Case Recreation - "Value to the Nation"

- 207,633 visits to the Lake in 2010 resulted in:
- \$6,502,457 in visitor spending within 30 miles
- \$3,467,867 in sales within 30 miles
- 74 jobs within 30 miles
- \$1,352,053 in labor income within 30 miles
- \$2,034,967 in value added within 30 miles

"The money spent by visitors to Corps lakes on trip expenses adds to the local and national economies by supporting jobs and generating income. Visitor spending represents a sizable component of the economy in many communities around Corps lakes."

Source: US Army Corps of Engineers "Value to the Nation" Web site www.corpsresults.us

Lake Francis Case Facilities & Resources

- 115, 861 Land Acres
- 77,411 Water Acres
- 263 Shoreline Miles
- 27 Rec Areas
- 328 Camping Sites
- 12 Boat Ramps
- 3 Marinas
- 225 Marina Slips

Source: USACE Web site www.corpsresults.us



Several views around Lake Francis Case near Fort Randall Dam.

Dam. On average, 18,400 acre feet of sediment enter this lake each year, according to information published in the Corps' Annual Operating Plan. Francis Case is not far behind Lake Oahe with its 19,800 acre feet. About 2,600 acre feet enter the System's smallest reservoir, Lewis and Clark Lake. An estimated 89,700 acre feet of sediment accumulate in the six Missouri River reservoirs annually. Lake Francis Case was completed in 1953. Sediment is expected to fill 25% of its design volume

by 2027 and 50% by 2100. Only Lewis and Clark Lake is projected to fill faster, with 50% by the year 2045. (Photos by Patrick M. Callahan for MSAC, Nov. 28, 2011)



Flooding topic of MSAC annual meeting

Tim Cowman will present "Anatomy of the Missouri River Flood of 2011" on Monday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wagner Theater in Wagner. The presentation will examine the hydrologic events that contributed to the historic flood of 2011. Impacts of the flood on river geomorphology, the riparian ecosystem, and floodplain infrastructure will be discussed. The presentation will illustrate impacts to the free-flowing segments of the Missouri River between Pickstown, SD and Ponca, NE, as well as impacts to the channelized river segment from Sioux City, IA to Omaha, NE.

Cowman is the director of the Missouri River Institute at the University of South Dakota. He has a Masters Degree in Natural Sciences from USD. His work includes research on the geology and history of the Missouri River, with a focus on current and historical river geomorphology.

USFWS and NPS to host meetings

Department of Interior News Release Feb. 6, 2012

To increase conservation efforts and recreational opportunities along the Missouri River, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and National Park Service (NPS) are proposing to work in partnership with willing landowners and local communities.

Efforts will be focused upon the Missouri River between Ft. Randall Dam to the Running Water Bridge and upstream the Niobrara River to the Spencer Dam. This area is referred to as the Niobrara Confluence. The other area, called the Ponca Bluffs, is centered on the Missouri River from Gavins Point Dam to Sioux City, Iowa.

The FWS and NPS will work with local communities and willing landowners to conserve stretches of the Missouri River that have significant natural resource, recreational or cultural value. The opportunity to preserve, and even improve, important natural river processes and habitats for fish and wildlife would benefit the visitors, neighbors, and lo-

cal communities of the Niobrara Confluence and Ponca Bluffs areas, now and into the future. Through a combination of actions along a spectrum from restoration efforts, conservation easements, or land acquisition, the unique nature of the Missouri River would be maintained and in some cases, restored to its former glory. These efforts would not result in increased regulations or alter dam operations; but provide for increased wildlife habitats, protection of culturally and historically important sites, and improved recreational access.

Individual or group representatives may visit the project website (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/niob-ponca>) to learn more or to provide comments. The FWS and NPS will gather public input as part of public scoping during the month of February. Public scoping comments will be accepted until March 12, 2012. Received public comments will be considered by the NPS and FWS during development of a Land Protection Plan. There will be another opportunity to comment on the draft Land Protection Plan in the fall of 2012.

Public meetings regarding the proposal will begin with an open house at 5:30 p.m. local time where individuals can meet one-on-one with FWS and NPS staff; followed by a short presentation at 6:30 p.m. with time for additional discussion afterwards. The meetings will be at the following dates and locations:

Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2012

5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
The Outdoor Campus
4500 S. Oxbow Ave.
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Friday, Feb. 24, 2012

5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
WFLA Hall
Spruce & Park Avenues
Niobrara, Nebraska

Thursday, Feb. 23, 2012

5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
W.H. Over Museum
1110 Ratingen Street
Vermillion, South Dakota

Contacts for more info:

Nick Kaczor (FWS)
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Look inside for info on Annual Meeting March 19 in Wagner.

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