

MISSISSIPPI INTERSTATE COOPERATIVE RESOURCE ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

July 8-9, 2014
Hart-Morris Conservation Center
Athens, TX

Decisions

1. The MICRA Winter Executive Board meeting was scheduled for January 21-22, 2015, in Minnesota.

Action Items

1. Executive Board members will provide comments/corrections on the January 2014 meeting notes and feedback on the new format of incorporating the meeting notes into the briefing book rather than providing the notes as a separate standalone document to Conover by July 22.
2. Conover will provide the revised January 2014 meeting notes to Executive Board members for a vote of approval following the review period.
3. Sub-basin representatives will review the example projects listed in the Aquatic Habitat Action Plan data templates for their respective sub-basins to 1) update with up to five example projects from each state in the sub-basin and 2) identify each example project by state similar to the format used for the ORFMT example projects by August 31
4. Conover will send the Aquatic Habitat Action Plan data template to Whiteman.
5. Conover will send the UMRCC, LMRCC, and Arkansas-Red River Aquatic Habitat Action Plan synopses to the Ohio River, Tennessee-Cumberland Rivers, and Missouri River sub-basin representatives.
6. Ohio River, Tennessee-Cumberland, and Missouri River sub-basin representatives will review the UMRCC, LMRCC, and Arkansas-Red River draft synopses and develop a draft 2-page synopsis for their respective sub-basins by the end of August.
7. Conover will compile the sub-basin synopsis and provide them to the Executive Board members to review prior to the January Executive Board meeting. The draft documents will be discussed at the January meeting.
8. Executive Board members will have a conference call in September or October to discuss which format the sub-basins prefer for the synopses and whether or not revisions are necessary. We will also discuss the main body of the Action Plan and next steps to finalize the document on the conference call.

9. Conover will obtain the notes from the communications stakeholder analysis from Katie Steiger-Meister and draft a matrix for fitting the identified audiences onto a continuum from informed to engaged in decision making (based on the presentation by Ange Corson at the MICRA Stakeholder Engagement and Congressional Outreach workshop in January 2014) and provide both the notes and the matrix to the Executive Board members.
10. Executive Board members will continue working on the 7 steps proposed by Katie Steiger-Meister to complete a Strategic Communications Plan for MICRA via email and conference calls.
11. Conover will contact John Goss to schedule a conference call with Larry Pugh to discuss the opportunity to stop Silver Carp from moving from the Tennessee River into the Tombigbee Waterway.
12. Shively will forward the email from Elizabeth Murphy announcing the USGS field demonstration to Conover for distribution to the MICRA Delegates and MRBP members.
13. Next steps to follow-up on the Asian Carp Commercial Harvest Workshop are 1) begin the standardized assessment discussion at the MRBP meeting tomorrow and 2) request the MRBP to update the panel's AIS Commercial Harvest Policy; and review the eight recommendations from the workshop and make recommendations back to MICRA.
14. Conover will send a reminder to the state Fish Chiefs to provide comments on the HDR draft grass carp report by July 25.
15. Conover and Wilson will prepare a survey to send to the fish chiefs regarding an all delegate meeting.
16. Conover will schedule a conference call to be held after the comment deadline for the draft HDR report to discuss comments received regarding the report's content.
17. Conover, Shults, and Finney will compile the comments received on the draft HDR report and send them to the Executive Board members prior to the scheduled conference call.
18. Shults and Finney will send the compiled comments received on the draft HDR report to HDR to address.
19. Conover, Shults and Finney will send the revised HDR report to the Executive Board for review and schedule a conference call for two weeks later to discuss the revised report, consider it for approval, and discuss the next steps for developing the MICRA Final Project report for the USFWS.

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Agenda

Tuesday, July 8

8:30 – 9:00

Call to Order

- 1) Call to Order (Bobby Wilson)
 - o Roll Call / Introductions
- 2) Chairman's Report (Wilson)
- 3) Review of January 2014 Action Items (Wilson)
- 4) Coordinator's Report (Greg Conover)

9:00 – 10:00

Basin Reports

- 5) Arkansas/Red River (Chris Racey)
- 6) LMRCC (Angie Rodgers)
- 7) MRNRC (Kasey Whiteman)
- 8) ORFMT (Brian Schoenung)
- 9) Tennessee River (Wilson)
- 10) UMRCC (Brad Parsons)

10:00 – 10:15

Break

10:15 – 11:15

Committee Updates

- 11) AIS Committee / MRBP (Steve Shults)
- 12) Native Mussel Committee (Don Hubbs)
- 13) Paddlefish & Sturgeon Committee (Jason Sorensen)
- 14) Habitat Committee (Scott Robinson)

11:15 – 12:00

Old Business

- 15) Mississippi River Basin Economic Value Report Update (Iris Ponsano)
- 16) Aquatic Habitat Action Plan (Sub-basin Representatives)

12:00 – 1:00

Lunch

1:00 – 3:00

New Business

- 17) MICRA Communications Plan – Webinar/Conference Call (Wilson)

3:00 – 3:15

Break

3:15 – 5:00

New Business

- 18) Asian Carp Regional Coordination Committee Coordination (John Goss)
- 19) National Asian Carp Management and Control Plan Update (Todd Turner)
- 20) Asian Carp Commercial Harvest Workshop – Next Steps (Wilson)
- 21) MICRA Delegate Outreach (Wilson)
- 22) National Analysis of Grass Carp – Prep for Wednesday (Conover)
- 23) Other New Business (Wilson)
- 24) Winter Executive Board Meeting (Wilson)

5:00

Adjourn (For the Day)

Wednesday, July 9

8:30 – 10:00

Joint Session with MRBP and TGCICP

- 25) HDR Grass Carp Project Report – Webinar (Wilson)
 - Introductions
 - Project Findings and Recommendations
 - Q&A with HDR

10:00 – 10:15

Break

10:15 – 11:00

Joint Session with Project Steering Committee

26) HDR Grass Carp Project Report Review (Shults)

11:00 – 12:00 ***Project Completion for USFWS Grant***

27) MICRA Grass Carp Project Completion - Next Steps (Wilson)

12:00 – 1:00 ***Lunch***

1:00 – 5:00 ***Joint Session with MRBP***

28) MRBP Focused Sessions on Grass Carp

29) MRBP Focused Session on Coordinated Asian Carp Population Assessment

5:00 ***Adjourn***

5:00 – 8:00 ***Dinner at Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center***

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Attendance

Voting Members

Arkansas/Red River	Chris Racey, AGFC	Present
LMRCC	Angie Rodgers, USFWS	Present
MRNRC	Kasey Whiteman, MDC	Present
ORFMT	Brian Schoenung, IN DNR	Present via phone
Tennessee River	Bobby Wilson, TWRA	Present
UMRCC	Brad Parsons, MN DNR	Present
USFWS	Todd Turner, USFWS	Present
USGS	Rip Shively, USGS	Present

A quorum of six voting members was present for the meeting.

Non-voting members

MICRA Chairperson	Bobby Wilson, TWRA	Present
MICRA Chairperson-Elect	Ron Brooks, KDFWR	Absent
MICRA Coordinator	Greg Conover, USFWS	Present

Committee Chairpersons

AIS Committee (MRBP)	Steve Shults, IL DNR	Present
Freshwater Mussel Committee	Don Hubbs, TWRA	Absent
Gamefish Committee	Vacant	
Paddlefish/Sturgeon Committee	Jason Sorensen, SDGFP	Absent

Introductions

Larry Pugh, Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks
Maureen Gallagher, USFWS
Mark Oliver, AGFC
Dennis Riecke, MDWFP
Iris Ponsano, USFWS via phone