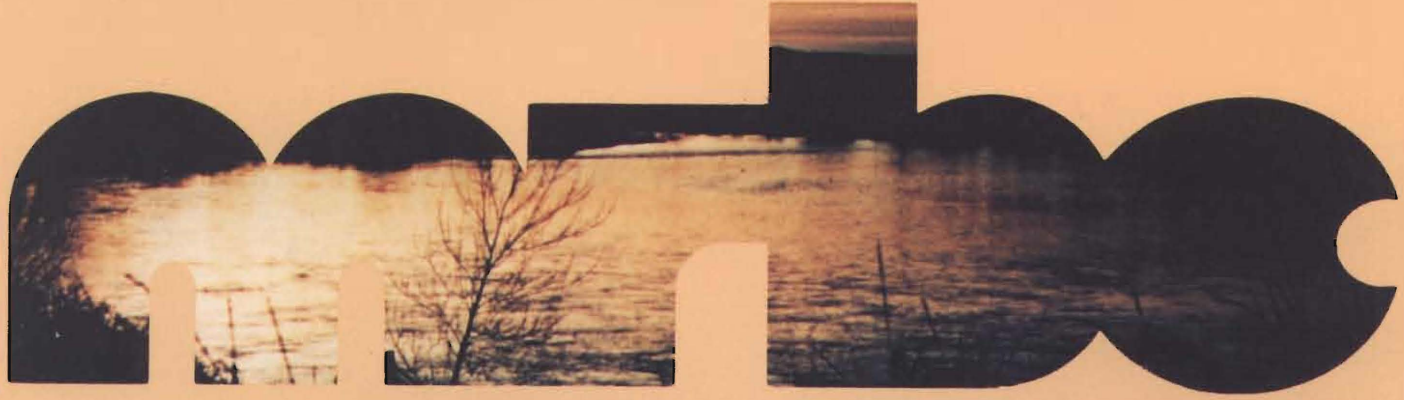


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NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

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1978 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSOURI RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

NORTH DAKOTA
STATE UNIVERSITY
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Millard W. Hall
Chairman
(Appointed October 1978)



John E. Acord
Vice Chairman



Missouri River Basin Commission

Suite 403 • 10050 Regency Circle • Omaha, Nebraska 68114

To the Governors of Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming and to the U.S. Water Resources Council for transmittal to the Congress through the President of the United States:

It is my pleasure to submit the 1978 fiscal year Annual Report of the Missouri River Basin Commission in accordance with title II, section 204(2) of the Water Resources Planning Act of 1965 (P.L. 89-80).

The past 100 years have seen great changes in the water resources concerns of the basin and the Nation. We have managed to solve, to a great extent, many of the water resources problems that plagued us in earlier times. We now have navigable rivers, effective flood control programs, large cities with adequate water supply and wastewater disposal, and large-scale irrigation for the production of food and fiber.

But, in solving these problems, we have encountered new problems and new values. And we are having to learn to adjust our thinking somewhat, so as to accommodate both the old and the new values in our approach to resource management. I believe that agencies such as the Missouri River Basin Commission are the necessary catalysts to assure that this accommodation takes place in a beneficial way.

Recently, national debate over water policy, economic concerns in our States and in our Nation, and environmental concerns have worked together to produce an increased commitment to the wise management of the Nation's water resources. This has been expressed, partly, as a recognition of the necessity for close coordination between local, State, and Federal interests in determining regional and national water resources needs and priorities, and in resolving the conflicts that often arise in the making of such determinations.

This seventh Annual Report of the Commission reflects the progress that has been made in achieving this coordination and cooperation in water and related land resources planning in the Missouri River Basin.

Fiscal year 1978 saw continued development of the Commission's comprehensive, coordinated, joint plan for the Missouri River Basin. That development included completion of the Yellowstone Basin and Adjacent Coal Area Level B Study, start of the Upper Missouri River Basin Level B Study, and start of the James River Basin Subregional Analysis. Eleven additional elements, originally proposed through the Commission's priorities program, were adopted into the plan during the year.

The importance of the Commission's regional water resources plan increased significantly during 1978 when the U.S. Water Resources Council adopted a policy that Federal water agency budget requests be consistent with approved regional plans. This policy has been long overdue and demands, for its successful implementation, strong State capability in water planning and an equally strong entity for creating a comprehensive regional plan out of the diversity of plans developed by the individual States.

The Governors of the Missouri River Basin States showed their continued interest in regional water resources planning in 1978 by holding the Third Annual Missouri River Basin Governors' Conference in conjunction with an MRBC quarterly meeting in Great Falls, Montana. A fourth Governors' Conference will be held in 1979 in Missouri. Increased participation in Commission affairs by the basin Governors will contribute greatly to providing appropriate direction for basinwide planning programs and to ensuring that the water related needs of the 9 million Missouri River Basin residents are met.

On a personal note, let me share with you my belief that the Missouri River Basin Commission has matured into a smoothly functioning organization capable of addressing and contributing to the resolution of difficult, complex problems wherein State, regional, and national interests all have to be considered and solutions reached through effective compromise. I am most pleased to have the opportunity to chair such an organization at this critical period in our Nation's deliberation over natural resources management.

Sincerely,



Millard W. Hall
Chairman

GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE ON WATER

The Missouri River Basin Governors' Conference on Water was established as an annual event by action taken at the initial Conference August 3-4, 1976, in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The purpose of an annual conference is to provide a forum for Missouri River Basin Governors to express their views regarding water and related land resources policy aimed at a regional understanding of problems and issues. The conference provides additional direction for activities of this Commission, which is the principal agency for the coordination of water resources planning in the Missouri River Basin.

Third Annual Conference

The Third Annual Missouri River Basin Governors' Conference was held May 23-24, 1978, in Great Falls, Montana, in conjunction with the 24th regular quarterly meeting of the Missouri River Basin Commission.

Governors who attended the third annual conference were Thomas Judge of Montana, host Governor and conference chairman; J. James Exon of Nebraska; Joseph Teasdale of Missouri; and Arthur Link of North Dakota. Governors of Wyoming, Colorado, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, and Kansas sent representatives to the conference.

The 1978 conference resolutions supported a Missouri River Basin hydrology study, review and update of the Nation's basic water resources planning and coordination programs, and full compensation to owners of State water rights which may later be reclaimed by the Federal Government.



Thomas Judge
Montana
Host, Third Annual Conference

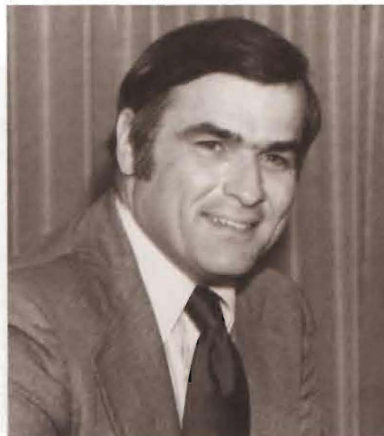
Hydrology Study

The purpose of the hydrology study recommended by the Governors is to develop a cooperative water accounting system adequate for assessing the current and future water uses within the 10-State Missouri River Basin. The study would establish a uniform hydrologic base for use by State and Federal water planning agencies. A computerized system would allow the States easy access to the data.

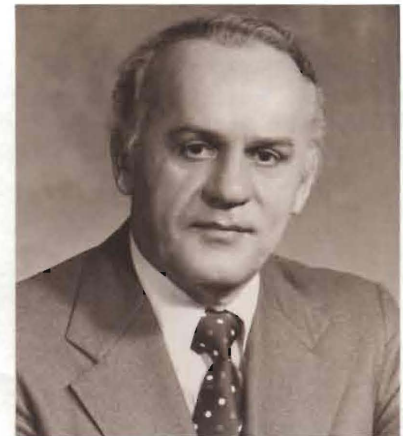
The study has been identified by the Missouri River Basin Commission as its No. 1 priority for fiscal year 1980. Funding for the study will be sought from Congress through the U.S. Water Resources Council and from the 10 Missouri River Basin States.



Albert Quie
Minnesota (Elected November 1978)



Joseph Teasdale
Missouri



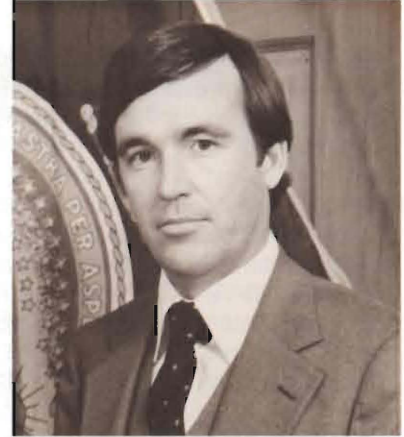
Charles Thone
Nebraska (Elected November 1978)



Richard Lamm
Colorado



Robert Ray
Iowa



John Carlin
Kansas (Elected November 1978)

National Water Resources Planning and Coordination Programs

The Governors' resolution on water programs supports passage of a comprehensive National Water Resources Management Act along the lines drafted by the Missouri River Basin Commission State Caucus.

The State-proposed National Water Resources Management Act would strengthen the U.S. Water Resources Council, would continue river basin commissions in those regions where desired by the States, and would provide dependable financial support for the States to integrate water and related land resources management activities.

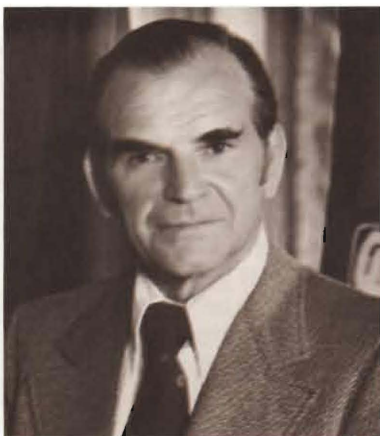
Water Rights

The Governors' resolution on water rights recognizes that the Federal Government has claim to an undetermined amount of water in the Missouri River Basin, including that claimed by Indian reservations in the basin. Exercise of those Federal reserved and Indian water rights would cause certain water supplies to be shifted from owners of water rights vested under State law.

This resolution asks that "Federal legislation be developed to provide for full compensation to the owners of water rights vested under State law if (1) those rights are later taken by the United States or Indian tribes, or (2) the exercise of those rights is precluded by actions of the United States."

4th Conference

A Fourth Annual Missouri River Basin Governors' Conference was scheduled to be held in Missouri in 1979.



Arthur Link
North Dakota



William Janklow
South Dakota (Elected November 1978)



Ed Herschler
Wyoming

FY 1978 PROGRAM REPORT

Continuation of the comprehensive, coordinated, joint planning process; more studies relating to water and energy; and anticipation of appointment of a new Commission Chairman briefly summarize fiscal year 1978 for the Missouri River Basin Commission.

Planning and coordination activities of the Commission progressed through fiscal year 1978 under the temporary leadership of John E. Acord, State-elected Vice Chairman from Montana. President Jimmy Carter named Millard W. Hall to become Federal Chairman of the Commission shortly into fiscal 1979.

Chairman Hall became the second person to head the Commission since it was created by President Nixon in 1972 at the request of the Governors of the 10 Missouri River Basin States. Authorization for creation of river basin commissions is found in the Water Resources Planning Act of 1965 (P.L. 89-80).

Congressional Mandate

The congressional mandate for river basin commission comprehensive planning and other activities is found in title II of the Water Resources Planning Act of 1965 as follows:

Each such commission for an area, river basin, or group of river basins shall, to the extent consistent with section 3 of this act —

(1) serve as the principal agency for the coordination of Federal, State, interstate, local, and nongovernmental plans for the development of water and related land resources in its area, river basin, or group of river basins;

(2) prepare and keep up to date, to the extent practicable, a comprehensive, coordinated, joint plan for Federal, State, interstate, local, and nongovernmental development of water and related resources: provided that the plan shall include an evaluation of all reasonable alternative means of achieving optimum development of water and related land resources of the basin or basins, and it may be prepared in stages, including recommendations with respect to individual projects;

(3) recommend long-range schedules of priorities for the collection and analysis of basic data and for investigation, planning, and construction of projects; and

(4) foster and undertake such studies of water and related land resources problems in its area, river basin, or group of river basins as are necessary in the preparation of the plan described in clause (2) of this subsection.

Members of the Missouri River Basin Commission are Colorado; Iowa; Kansas; Minnesota; Missouri; Montana; Nebraska; North Dakota; South Dakota; Wyoming; Department of Agriculture; Department of the Army; Department of Commerce; Department of Energy; Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Health, Education and Welfare; Department of Housing and Urban Development; Department of the Interior; Department of Transportation; Yellowstone River Compact Commission; and Big Blue River Compact Administration.

The Chairman of the Missouri River Basin Commission is appointed by the President to also serve as coordinating officer of the Federal members of the Commission and to represent the Federal Government in Federal-State relations on the Commission.

A Vice Chairman is elected by State members to serve as chairman of the State Caucus, coordinating officer of the State members of the Commission, and to represent the States in Federal-State relations on the Commission.

The Commission employs an independent staff, members of which are appointed by the Chairman with the concurrence of the Vice Chairman.

In the deliberations of the Commission, every reasonable endeavor is made to arrive at a consensus of members on substantive issues.

Comprehensive, Coordinated, Joint Plan

The Commission's comprehensive, coordinated, joint plan is a framework for Federal, State, regional, and nongovernmental development and management of the water and related land resources of the Missouri River Basin.

The plan is intended to provide the administration and the Congress with a regional input to the Federal authorization, budgeting, and funding process. Beginning with fiscal year 1981 budget requests, Federal agencies will be required to relate certain of their programs to the regional plans before receiving administration approval of their budgets.

Because of the size of the Missouri River Basin, the comprehensive plan for the region is developed in stages and integrates results from several other planning efforts. Among these are:

- State planning in the 10 Missouri River Basin States;
- MRBC river basin studies;
- MRBC special studies;
- the Missouri River Basin portion of the 1975 National Water Assessment, for which MRBC was the regional sponsor;
- Federal agency studies, including level C and other types; and
- other relevant studies, including those of private entities.

Detailed comprehensive planning has already been conducted in much of the Missouri River Basin through the Platte River Basin, Nebraska, and Yellowstone River Basin and Adjacent Coal Area Level B Studies. The completion of the ongoing Upper Missouri River Basin Level B Study and James River Basin Subregional Analysis will bring detailed comprehensive planning to about one-half of the land area of the Missouri Basin. This process calls for the biennial publication of a report on the basinwide comprehensive plan.

The Commission's first basinwide comprehensive planning report, entitled "Missouri River Basin Water Resources Plan," was published in August 1977. This report summarized the Commission's water resources management and development objectives and presented a compilation of nearly 500 specific recommendations for program and project implementation during the next decade. Since the publication of that first report, the Commission has expanded its listing of specific program recommendations on three occasions. These additions to the plan stemmed from the Commission's priorities program for 1978 and 1979, and the Yellowstone River Basin and Adjacent Coal Area Level B Study.

The Commission has scheduled a comprehensive update of the water resources plan for 1979. The focus of the update will be on the development of State planning objectives and on improved program information. When completed, the planning objectives and program information will be used by eight subbasin planning teams for updating a water and related land resources plan for the Missouri River Basin and its subbasins.

Level B Studies

Level B studies are comprehensive evaluations of water and related land resources for selected river basins. They examine complex, long-range problems identified through other Commission activities while considering needs in the area which may be met during the next 5 to 20 years.

Level B studies involve Federal, State, and local interests in plan formulation, and identify and recommend courses of action for them to follow. The studies consider national economic development and environmental quality objectives as well as address regional development and social well-being.

Two level B studies conducted by MRBC already have made significant contributions to the CCJP; a third level B study was initiated in fiscal year 1978.

The Yellowstone River Basin and Adjacent Coal Area Level B Study was completed in 1978, when the Commission adopted the study's final report. The Yellowstone study covered 123,000 square miles of Montana, Wyoming, and North Dakota.

The most significant finding of the Yellowstone study was that energy development in the study area would not be limited by the availability of water. At the level of development recommended by the study, new irrigation projects would use twice as much water as energy projects by the year 2000. New municipal, rural, and domestic water supplies would also use more water than the energy projects.

The plan recommended by the Yellowstone study contained projects and programs with estimated costs of more than \$1.2 billion. The recommendations include projects for water storage and conveyance as well as programs for land conservation, outdoor recreation and environmental protection.

A similar level B study was completed in 1976 for the Platte River Basin of Nebraska — a 40,000-square-mile area covering half of the State.

A level B study was initiated in 1978 in the Upper Missouri River Basin, an area of 82,750 square miles lying almost entirely in Montana.

The 2-year \$1.25 million study will cover the Missouri River and its tributaries in Montana except for the area drained by the Yellowstone River.

The three topics most often raised at public meetings held in conjunction with the study in 1978

were (1) streambank erosion, (2) lack of water for irrigation late in the season, and (3) sedimentation damage to irrigation pumps and land. Another frequently raised issue at the public meetings was the question of State, Federal, and Indian water rights; but a comprehensive assessment of that issue is beyond the scope of this study.



Photo Credit: Bureau of Reclamation

Subregional Analyses

Subregional analyses have been included in the comprehensive planning process as a supplement to the level B studies. Subregional analyses are similar in many aspects to level B studies, but the funding and timing requirements are substantially less. Consequently, they rely greatly on results from previous studies. The primary purpose of these scaled-down studies is to respond more quickly to areas which are in need of comprehensive study.

The Commission in 1978 initiated its first subregional analysis, covering the 22,000-square-mile James River Basin in eastern North Dakota and South Dakota. The study has identified six categories of major water and related land resources problems: (1) flooding; (2) fish and wildlife; (3) municipal, industrial, and rural domestic water supply; (4) water quality; (5) agriculture; and (6) recreation. Completion of the James River Basin Subregional analysis is scheduled for 1979.

The Commission plans to conduct a subregional analysis in the Missouri-Big Sioux subregion beginning in fiscal year 1980. This subregion encompasses a large part of southeastern South Dakota, including the city of Sioux Falls, and smaller parts of Minnesota, Iowa, and Nebraska.

The sequence for conducting subregional analyses and subsequent level B's will be determined by MRBC priorities, the setting of which will be discussed later in this report.

Special Studies

Special studies focus on one or a set of especially important and timely water resources problems or needs in the Missouri River Basin. Consequently, they are generally less comprehensive than level B studies or subregional analyses. Special studies may be funded by the U.S. Water Resources Council or through the Commission's CCJP budget.

One Commission-funded special study was underway in fiscal year 1978—the Middle and Lower Missouri Flood Plain Study. The flood plain study is directed at recommending compatible State legislation for management of the interstate Missouri River flood plain below Gavins Point Dam.

Development of a MRBC flood plain management policy statement was initiated by the Commission in late 1978 to facilitate regional flood plain management of the Missouri River below Gavins Point Dam. This study was to utilize information developed by previous MRBC, State, and Federal studies.

The 1979 MRBC Priorities Report identifies a need to conduct further flood plain management studies on the Missouri River in fiscal year 1981. These studies would assist the States to further develop and implement compatible policies and programs.

Priorities

The setting of priorities for water and related land resources activities provides important direction for related planning programs in the Missouri River Basin.

The annual process establishes priorities for studies, research, data collection, and implementation of projects and programs of regional significance. MRBC policy ensures that only components of the Commission's comprehensive plan are included.

The Commission evaluates State viewpoints using an established set of criteria in order to identify regional priorities.

During the 1978 priorities process, the Commission rated collection of additional ground water data by the Interior Department's Geological Survey and expansion of the soil survey program of Agriculture Department's Soil Conservation Service as the top priorities among data collection activities for 1981.

Research efforts should focus upon instream flows, nonpoint-source pollution, and remote sensing, all funded by the Interior Department's Office of Water Research and Technology.

The top priority for special studies was assigned to conducting additional phases of the Commission's Missouri River flood plain management study.

A Department of Agriculture cooperative study in Colorado's South Platte and Republican River Basins was assigned top priority for regional planning.

In the category of implementation studies, the Commission assigned first priority to a study of the Missouri River loess bluffs by the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior.

Finally, two Army Corps of Engineers bank stabilization projects, one along the lower Yellowstone River and another along portions of the Missouri River, received top priority for implementation.

A report presenting these fiscal year 1981 recommendations as well as the Commission's fiscal year 1980 recommendations will be sent to the U.S. Water Resources Council, the Congress, basin Governors and legislators, and Federal and State agencies with an interest in the basin's waters and related land resources. The Commission will support these programs and seek their funding and implementation.

Coordination

Underlying all Commission programs and activities is coordination of State, Federal, and, in some cases, local and private interests in water and related land resources planning and management. Coordination often is the catalyst that keeps planning and priorities activities moving.

The credit for Commission success in coordination in the Missouri River Basin must go to the State and Federal agencies who are willing to participate in mutually beneficial joint endeavors.

In some cases, there are formal programs to foster coordination, such as State and Federal agency program reviews and structured coordination meetings for the exchange of information.

Program Review

A primary MRBC coordination activity in fiscal year 1978 was the Federal and State Program Review. The report of this activity contains a comprehensive display of the water and related land resources studies, research, data collection, and implementation of projects and programs — ongoing and scheduled — within the Missouri River Basin.

The program review was expanded this year to provide information to be utilized in other Commission activities. The objective of the review is to assist the Commission members and others in coordinating ongoing and programmed new starts or resummptions of State, Federal, or other principal water and related land resources projects and programs in the Missouri River Basin; to provide inputs to the CCJP process; and to help monitor the progress of projects and programs toward and through implementation in the CCJP and priorities processes.

The review lists more than 1,000 State and Federal water and related land resources planned, ongoing, or scheduled activities with a total reported fiscal year 1979 budget of \$1.4 billion. Projects and programs of the MRBC, 25 Federal agencies, and 76 State and local entities in the 10 basin States are listed in the report for the fiscal period 1979-1983.

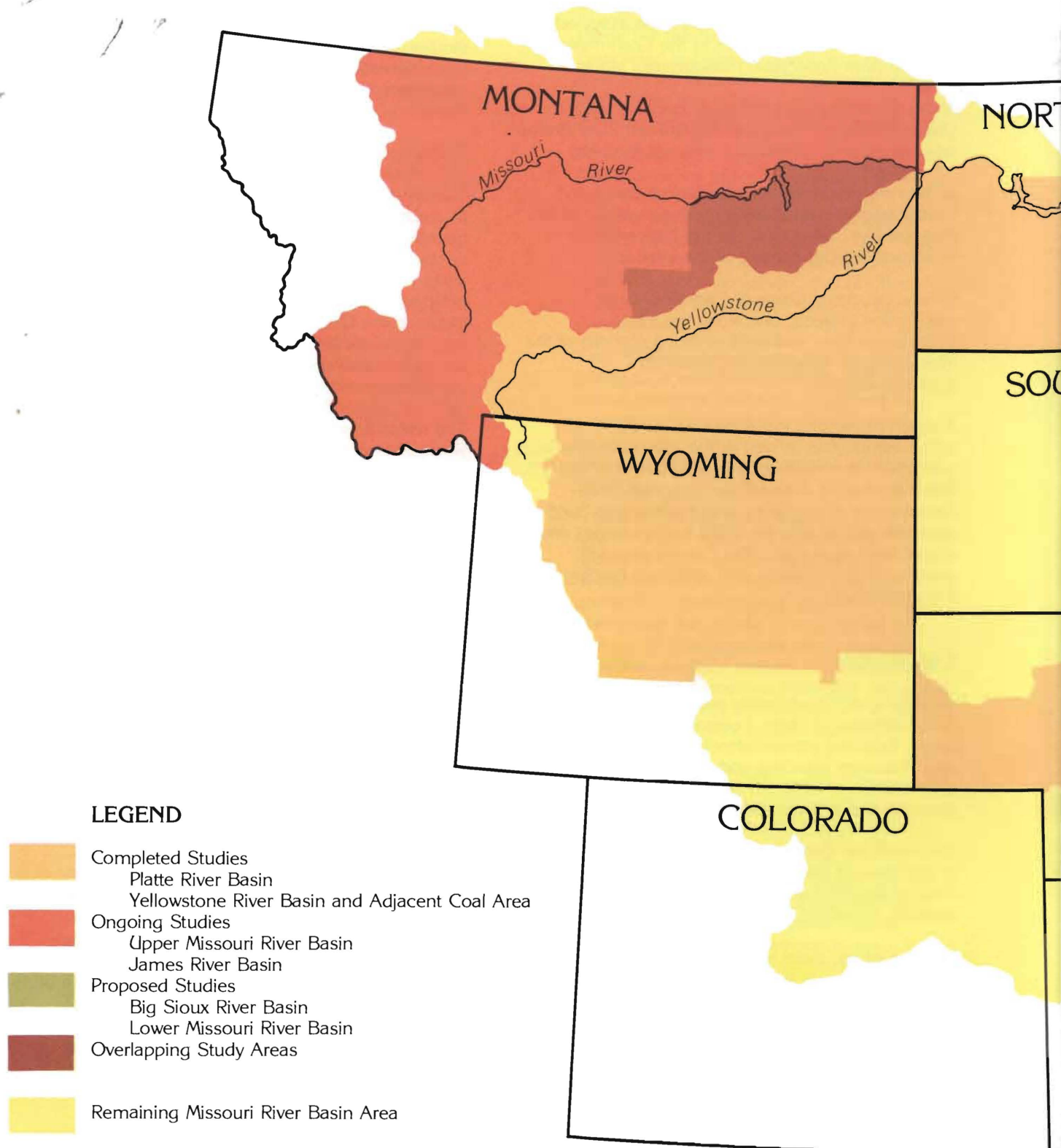
Status of Electric Power

A coordination activity that yields a biennial report is the review of the status of electric power in the Missouri River Basin. The report, entitled "Status of Electric Power in the Missouri River Basin," provides information of electric power generation, future needs, and potentials for meeting those needs. It highlights some of the research and development being conducted to help solve present and future problems and discusses environmental studies related to power production and energy development.

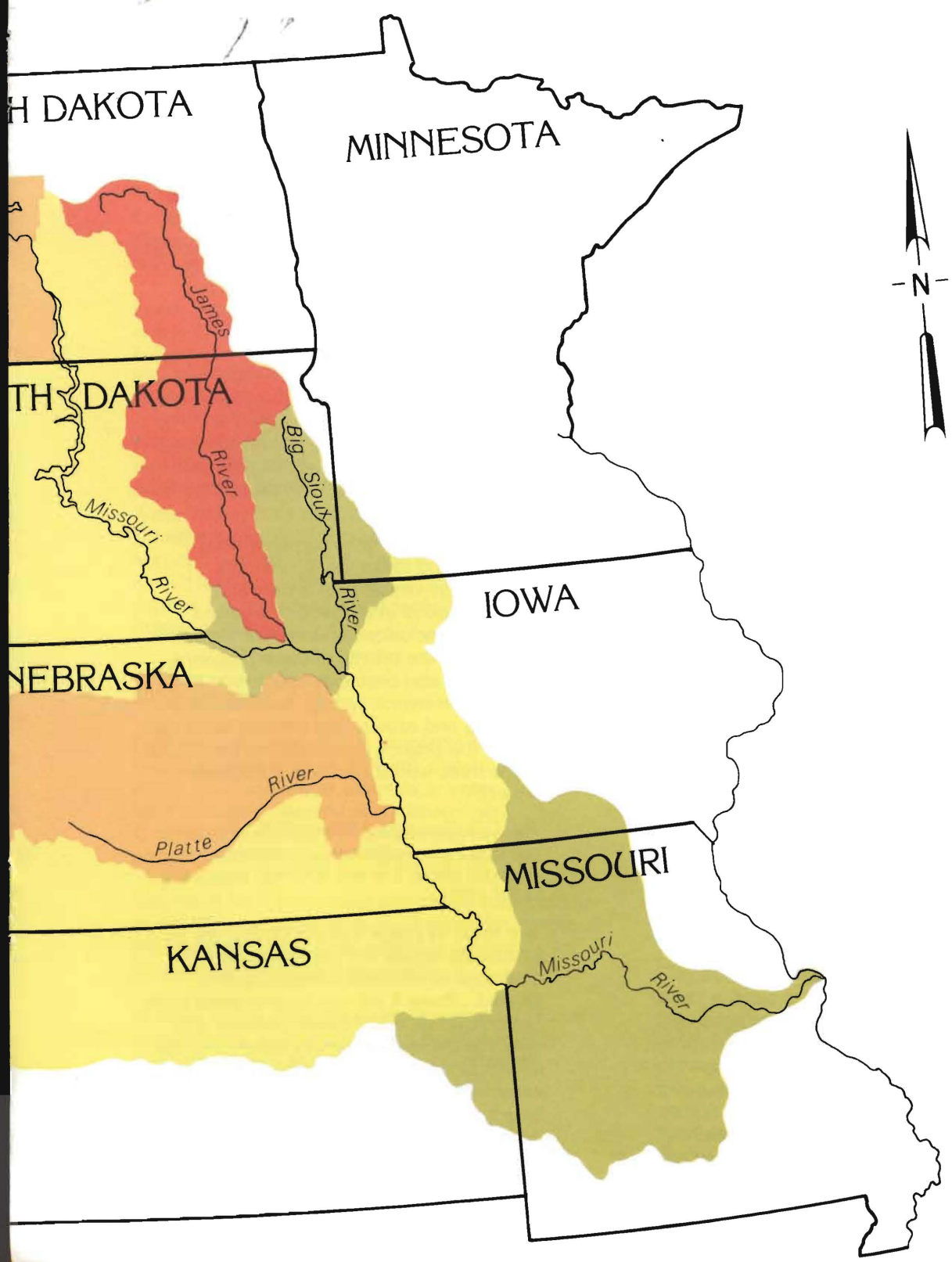
The report was expanded in fiscal year 1977 to cover existing and prospective Federal and State laws, regulations, and policies that govern the production of electric power. Also, the coverage of previously included chapters was broadened to incorporate and review the results of recently completed and ongoing regional energy studies, such as the Bureau of Reclamation's Western Energy Expansion Study.

River Basin Studies

This map shows those areas of the Missouri River Basin which have been areas planned or proposed for MRBC-led study. When all these studies are completed, approximately two-thirds of the Missouri River Basin, including areas enclosed by the ten Missouri Basin States.



are currently the subject of Commission-led comprehensive studies and complete, comprehensive river basin studies will have been conducted for passing or touching six of the eight Missouri River subbasins and nine of



Meetings

Face-to-face discussion is often the best means of resolving differences and arriving at consensus on issues.

MRBC offers a forum for States to meet with Federal agencies on an equal basis. Regularly scheduled Commission meetings are held quarterly throughout the basin.

Committee meetings and State and Federal Caucuses supplement the regular Commission meetings, and much of the real work of the Commission is carried out as the committees and caucuses arrive at recommendations for Commission action.

The Commission Chairman, who serves also as coordinating officer of the Federal members, is sometimes called upon to work out differences between Federal agencies or between States and Federal agencies. The resulting compromises go a long way toward fostering better relations among the participants in water and related land resources activities in the Missouri River Basin.

Special Activities

In addition to CCJP, priorities, and coordination activities, river basin commissions have responsibility to "engage in such activities . . . as are necessary and desirable . . . to encourage the conservation, development, and utilization of water and related land resources . . . on a comprehensive and coordinated basis."

MRBC special activities in FY 1978 included:

- **Western Coal Planning Assistance Project**
— The Commission entered into an agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey/Resource and Land Investigations (RALI) Program to conduct phase I of the Western Coal Planning Assistance Project (WCPAP).

This phase of the project was designed to assist local and State citizens develop technical methods and information needed to cope with problems associated with coal/energy development or nondevelopment in the States of Montana, Wyoming, and North Dakota by (1) preparing a planning reference system for planners and decisionmakers, and (2) providing a detailed

assessment of planning problems and needs in the three States. The project was also intended to provide useful information transferable to resource planners and others throughout the Nation.

Phase I of the project, scheduled to be completed in February 1979, focused on the coal and lignite areas of the Yellowstone River Basin and adjacent coal areas of Montana, Wyoming, and North Dakota.

Four documents have been prepared as part of the planning reference system: (1) The Fact Book for Western Coal/Energy Development, (2) A Guide to Methods for Impact Assessment of Western Coal/Energy Development, (3) Forecasts for Western Coal/Energy Development, and (4) The Source Book for Western Coal/Energy Development.

Each of these documents provides basic information associated with the coal resource and its utilization. Together, they provide a complementary system which can be used by planners and decisionmakers to assess and plan for coal mining and related impacts.

A final report has been prepared which describes and ranks the high-priority problems as viewed by planners and decisionmakers in the project area and presents conclusions and recommendations concerning the priority of these problems. The report also describes how to use the planning reference system, summarizes the planning and assessment process developed during the project, and describes the results of the three workshops held during the project.

The U.S. Geological Survey/RALI Program has contracted with the Commission to conduct phase II of the WCPAP, beginning in FY 1979.

The focus of phase II of the project will be to address results and recommendations contained in products prepared during phase I. Phase II will continue to assist local, State, regional, and Federal planners and resource decisionmakers by developing the analytical and technical methods and capabilities to address the problems and issues associated with coal/energy development or nondevelopment opportunities.

- **Section 13(a) Water for Energy Assessment** — The U.S. Water Resources Council contracted with the Commission to conduct an assessment of water availability for emerging coal technologies under section 13(a) of the Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974.

It was concluded from the assessment that from the standpoint of coal and water availability it appears that projected levels of energy development could be accommodated within the assessment area. Distribution of water quantity would be the primary problem.

New storage, interbasin transfers, changes in present water use, or ground water development would probably be required to assure a water supply at desired locations.

Environmental and socioeconomic impacts of coal technology development were also assessed. Effects upon surface water quality due to runoff from coal mines or coal stockpiles would generally amount to increases in total dissolved solids concentration of less than 1.0 milligram/liter (mg/l) except in some northeast Wyoming and North Dakota streams where increases of up to 41.0mg/l were projected by the year 2000. Conversion process wastewater would not be discharged into streams.

Water supply alternatives analyzed in Montana and Wyoming included: 1) water from the nearest suitable source, 2) water from the Bighorn River, and 3) water from the Yellowstone River. Of the three, alternative 1 appears to be the least costly, but it would have the greatest adverse impact on fish habitat as well as requiring changes in existing use. Appreciable fishery resource impacts from alternatives 2 or 3 would be confined to the Bighorn River.

In North Dakota, the use of water from Lake Sakakawea was analyzed. The primary water availability problem there is related to distribution rather than quantity.

Socioeconomic impacts of energy technology development would be greatest in North Dakota. Projected tax revenues from mining and processing appear to be adequate for dealing with additional social costs once the plants are operating, although some difficulty might be encountered during the construction phase before most tax revenue would be generated.

- **Update of Framework Volume 3, Laws, Policies, and Administration** — The Commission published a revised Volume 3, Laws, Policies, and Administration as an appendix to the 1971 Missouri River Basin Comprehensive Framework Study. The original appendix was published by the Missouri Basin Inter-Agency Committee.

The purpose of the document is to convey a general understanding of water laws, policies, and administration in each of the 10 States in the Missouri River Basin and of applicable laws and policies of the Federal Government. The revised publication includes all important changes that occurred through 1975 and some which occurred through early 1978.

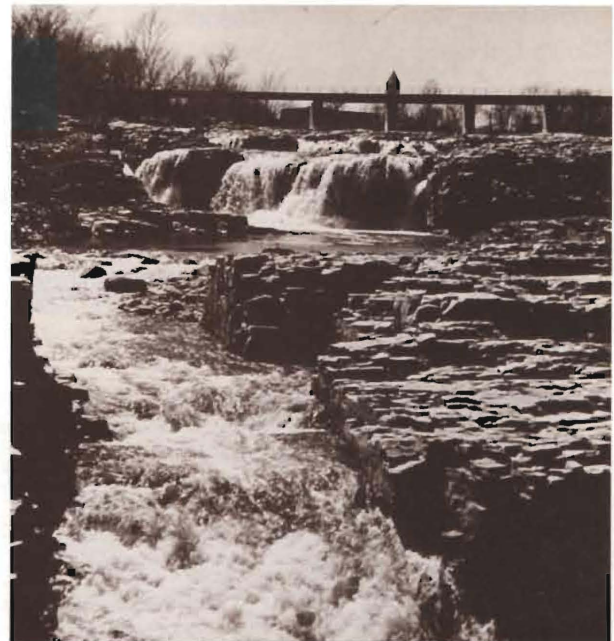


Photo Credit: Corps of Engineers

Looking Ahead

Much has already been said about future activities of the Missouri River Basin Commission in discussing preparation of its comprehensive, coordinated, joint plan (CCJP); in setting annual priorities; in coordination; and in special activities.

The CCJP is expected to become more and more the focal point of MRBC activities, particularly with the publication of CCJP reports for the Missouri River Basin every two years. This should make Commission planning even more responsive to the needs of the residents of the Missouri River Basin.

MEMBERS

State Members and Alternates

Colorado	Fred E. Daubert <i>Felix L. Sparks</i>
Iowa	William C. Brabham <i>Fred A. Prieuert</i>
Kansas	James A. Power, Jr. <i>John M. Dewey</i>
Minnesota	Thomas Kalitowski <i>Joseph Gibson</i> <i>Joseph Sizer</i>
Missouri	Fred A. Lafser <i>Robert L. Dunkeson</i>
Montana	John E. Acord <i>Gary Fritz</i>
Nebraska	Thomas K. Eason <i>Dayle Williamson</i>
North Dakota	Vernon Fahy Gordon Gray
South Dakota	Vern W. Butler <i>Keith Harner</i>
Wyoming	George L. Christopulos <i>Clement R. Lord</i>

Interstate Compacts

Yellowstone River Compact Commission	George L. Christopulos
Big Blue River Compact Administration	Guy E. Gibson <i>John W. Neuberger</i>

Federal Members and Alternates

Department of Agriculture	Benny Martin <i>William B. Patterson</i>
Department of the Army	Col. Clyde A. Selleck <i>Gus J. Karabatsos</i> <i>Col. Paul C. Driscoll</i>
Department of Commerce	Stephen L. R. McNichols <i>Russell G. Mann</i>
Department of Energy	Bernard D. Murphy <i>Randolph Newton</i>
Department of Health, Education and Welfare	James R. Bergfalk <i>John P. Bailey</i>
Department of Housing & Urban Development	William O. Anderson <i>Gary Ultican</i> <i>Myron G. Eckberg</i>
Department of the Interior	Robert S. Sanchez, Jr. <i>Terry Lynott</i>
Department of Transportation	Cmdr. James G. Glasgow <i>Raymond H. Hogrefe</i>
Environmental Protection Agency	Kathleen Q. Camin, Ph.D. <i>Alan Merson</i> <i>Dale Parke</i>

Canadian Observer

Environment Canada	Dennis A. Davis
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STAFF

Carroll M. Hamon Staff Director	Donald A. Becker Senior River Basin Planner	Vicki Contreras Secretary to the Chairman
Donald L. Ohnstad Hydrologic Studies Director	Alan S. Hersch Senior River Basin Planner	Carole J. Hoover Secretary to the Staff Director
William B. Hutchinson Comprehensive Planning Director	Thomas W. Lowe Associate River Basin Planner	Barbara G. Schulz Word Processor
Gerald R. Zimmerman Special Studies Director	Gregory R. Clites Associate River Basin Planner	Doris Waddell Copy Center Operator
William C. Ramige Administration & Public Affairs Director	Lois Thomas Graphic Artist	Pattie K. Schnier Secretary
John M. Crane Senior River Basin Planner	Rosemarie M. Schweigart Administrative Assistant	Jackie Ossian Librarian
R. F. (Bud) Jass Senior River Basin Planner	Janet K. Banker Bookkeeper	

COMMITTEES

The following Missouri River Basin Commission committees were active in fiscal year 1978:

Comprehensive, Coordinated, Joint Plan (CCJP) Committee

Chairman — John M. Dewey, Kansas

This standing committee has the broad responsibility of preparing and keeping current a comprehensive, coordinated, joint plan (CCJP) for the Missouri River Basin.

The committee provides guidelines for conducting subregional analyses; reviews reports and recommendations prepared by plan formulation task forces; reviews MRBC-sponsored plans of study; reviews plans, reports, and recommendations relevant to the CCJP, including those prepared by agencies and organizations other than MRBC; and, as a result, makes recommendations for action by the Commission.

A special task of this committee is to review and make recommendations on the biennial CCJP report, including comments received during the official 90-day review prior to transmittal to Congress through the U.S. Water Resource Council and Office of Management and Budget.

Policy Committee

Chairman — John E. Acord, MRBC Vice Chairman, Montana

The oldest MRBC committee, the Policy Committee, began as an ad hoc committee to develop MRBC bylaws. It gradually evolved into a standing committee that recommends overall policy direction for the Commission.

Priorities Committee

Chairman — William B. Patterson, Department of Agriculture

The Priorities Committee annually reviews and evaluates State proposals for water and related land priorities and recommends basinwide priorities using an established set of criteria. The priorities are for studies, research, data collection, and implementation of projects and programs.

Flood Plain Committee

Chairman — William C. Brabham, Iowa

The Middle and Lower Missouri River Flood Plain Committee is conducting two studies to provide South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri with the necessary background and policy information to improve coordination and joint management of the interstate flood plain of the Missouri River.

The studies are designed to work within the framework of State and Federal goals and initiatives in order to develop wise management practices which will be responsive to individual State needs and desires.

Ad Hoc Committee on Water and Energy

Chairman — Vacant

This committee had the responsibility of providing overview for a technical assessment of water needs for emerging coal technologies. The assessment was conducted by MRBC at the request of the U.S. Water Resources Council. The committee also reviews the Commission's Status of Electric Power Report.

PUBLICATIONS

Communication and information are vital aspects of the overall program of the Missouri River Basin Commission. Nearly every Commission activity leads to a report that informs the public of the results of that activity.

All Commission publications to date have been published and distributed at no charge to persons who request them.

The following publications in three categories are available from the Commission office at Suite 403, 10050 Regency Circle, Omaha, NE 68114.

Administrative

Annual Report (1972 through 1978)

Basin Bulletin, Vols. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

1978 MRBC Coordination Directory

Missouri River Basin Commission
(Information Brochure)

Minutes of Quarterly Meeting

MRBC Bylaws and Policy Statements — February 1978

Planning — Coordination

Missouri River Basin Water Resources Plan (CCJP)
— August 1977

1979 Priorities Report — January 1979

Missouri River Basin State and Federal Water and Related Land Resource Programs Fiscal Years 1979-1985 — December 1978

Proceedings of the Second Annual Missouri River Basin Governors' Conference on Water — May 1978

Status of Electric Power in the Missouri River Basin
— November 1977

Comprehensive, Coordinated, Joint Plan Process & Administrative Procedures — May 1977

Report — Platte River Basin, Nebraska, Level B Study — June 1976

Summary of Plan and Recommendations — Platte River Basin, Nebraska, Level B Study (Brochure) — July 1976

Missouri River Flood Plain Pilot Study — St. Joseph to Kansas City — November 1977

Revised Vol. 3, Laws, Policies, and Administration, Appendix, Missouri River Basin Comprehensive Framework Study, June 1978 (Original 1969 Comprehensive Framework Study available (U.S. Government Printing Office))

Yellowstone River Basin and Adjacent Coal Area
Level B Study

Vol. 1 — Report and Environmental Assessment, November 1978

Vol. 2 — Upper Yellowstone, Montana, Report, May 1978

Vol. 3 — Clarks Fork-Bighorn, Montana, Report, May 1978

Vol. 4 — Tongue and Powder, Montana, Report, May 1978

Vol. 5 — Lower Yellowstone, Montana, Report, May 1978

Vol. 6 — North Dakota Tributaries Report, February 1978

Vol. 7 — Wind-Big Horn-Clarks Fork, Wyoming, Report, April 1978

Vol. 8 — Northeast Wyoming Report, March 1978

Analysis of Energy Projections and Implications for Resource Requirements, Harza Engineering Company, December 1976

Yellowstone Basin and Adjacent Coal Field Area
Level B Study (Information Brochure)

National Water Assessment

Water and Related Land Resources Problems in the Missouri River Basin — (Technical Memorandum No. 1) — August 1975

Water and Related Land Resources in the Missouri River Basin — Present and Future Uses and Associated Problems and Issues (Technical Memorandum No. 2) — August 1976

Potential Study Areas in the Missouri River Basin (Technical Memorandum No. 3) — December 1976

Specific Problem Analysis Summary Report (Technical Memorandum No. 4) — August 1977

Abridged Report, Specific Problem Analysis, 1975 National Assessment of Water and Related Land Resources, Missouri Region — August 1977

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THE ANNUAL AUDIT

ARTHUR YOUNG & COMPANY

1850 ONE FIRST NATIONAL CENTER
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OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68102
TELEPHONE 346-9494

To the Chairman
Missouri River Basin Commission

We have examined the accompanying schedule of cash receipts and expenditures and unobligated cash balances of Missouri River Basin Commission at and for the years ended September 30, 1978 and 1977. Our examinations were made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, accordingly, included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the schedule mentioned above presents fairly the unobligated cash balances of Missouri River Basin Commission at September 30, 1978 and 1977, and its cash receipts and expenditures for the years then ended, on the basis described in Note 1 consistently applied during the period.

Arthur Young + Company

November 27, 1978

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MISSOURI RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
SCHEDULE OF CASH RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
AND UNOBLIGATED CASH BALANCES
Years Ended September 30, 1978 and 1977

	Comprehensive, Coordinated, Joint Plan	National Assessment	Yellowstone	Section 13(a) (Water for Energy Assessment)	Special Assignments and Study Proposals	Water and Energy	Upper Missouri	Western Coal Planning Assistance Project	Year Ended September 30, 1978 Total	Year Ended September 30, 1977 Total
Cash balance at beginning of year	\$277,933	\$19,039	\$115,101	\$ —	\$2,695	\$27,258	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 442,026	\$ 347,804
Receipts (Note 2):										
United States										
Government share	435,000	—	4,000	265,000	—	—	350,000	358,000	1,412,000	1,008,800
United States Government other	1,913	1,268	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,181	2,000
Colorado	21,259	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21,259	20,188
Iowa	16,546	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16,546	13,254
Kansas	20,167	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20,167	19,208
Minnesota ...	32,923	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32,923	14,601
Missouri	48,240	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	48,240	21,420
Montana	22,344	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22,344	20,429
Nebraska	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24,108
North Dakota	19,920	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19,920	19,012
South Dakota	20,744	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20,744	19,796
Wyoming	18,200	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18,200	17,248
Other	993	—	195	—	—	—	—	345	1,533	3,375
	<u>658,249</u>	<u>1,268</u>	<u>4,195</u>	<u>265,000</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>350,000</u>	<u>358,345</u>	<u>1,637,057</u>	<u>1,203,439</u>
Expenditures:										
Salaries and benefits (Note 3) ...	373,519	6,186	27,931	41,719	855	1,202	42,153	50,117	543,682	511,380
Travel and transporta- tion	24,327	130	3,416	5,319	1,276	2,749	6,405	11,557	55,179	54,097
Rent, commun- ications, and utilities	49,855	2,105	3,312	3,785	—	—	7,719	7,136	73,912	74,188
Printing and reproduc- tions	9,992	2,149	39,682	2,495	183	25	1,888	3,232	59,646	26,653
Other services	52,325	4,508	9,235	106,501	301	32	314	97,931	271,147	391,393
Supplies and materials ..	19,957	416	522	5	—	—	2,110	1,171	24,181	23,527
Equipment ..	26,775	1,777	2,164	215	—	—	2,025	2,461	35,417	27,979
	<u>556,750</u>	<u>17,271</u>	<u>86,262</u>	<u>160,039</u>	<u>2,615</u>	<u>4,008</u>	<u>62,614</u>	<u>173,605</u>	<u>1,063,164</u>	<u>1,109,217</u>
Cash balance at end of period ..	379,432	3,036	33,034	104,961	80	23,250	287,386	184,740	1,015,919	442,026
Less:										
Unpaid obligations at end of period	(70,967)	—	1,744	(99,933)	(80)	—	(252,088)	(39,460)	(460,784)	(51,251)
Unobligated cash balance at end of period (Notes 2 and 5)	<u>\$308,465</u>	<u>\$ 3,036</u>	<u>\$ 34,778</u>	<u>\$ 5,028</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$23,250</u>	<u>\$ 35,298</u>	<u>\$145,280</u>	<u>\$ 555,135</u>	<u>\$ 390,775</u>

See accompanying notes.

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Missouri River Basin Commission
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
September 30, 1978 and 1977

1. Accounting policies

Revenue and disbursements recognition — The records of the Missouri River Basin Commission are maintained on the cash accounting basis. Cash balances are modified by unpaid obligations to arrive at the unobligated cash balance at the end of the year.

Equipment — Property and equipment acquired or leased are expensed currently and no depreciation is recorded. Certain items of furniture are provided at no cost by the General Services Administration.

Income taxes — The Commission is exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Chairman's expenses — The salary and related fringe benefits of the Commission chairman are provided by the U.S. Water Resources Council and these costs are not included in the accompanying schedule.

2. State receipts

The Commission had not received \$48,843 and \$63,186 from certain States at September 30, 1978 and 1977, respectively, covering respective funding shares for their fiscal years ending June 30, 1979 and 1978.

3. Leases

The Commission leases office space in Omaha under a long-term noncancellable lease requiring monthly payments of \$3,779 through July 1981. Rental expense amounted to \$49,306 and \$41,143 for the years ended September 30, 1978 and 1977, respectively, and includes rentals paid on a short-term basis for offices located in Billings and Helena, Montana.

Certain reproduction and printing equipment is leased through a five-year lease requiring annual payments of \$3,376 due in November of each year through 1979.

4. Employee benefits

The Commission has a pension plan covering most of its employees. The Commission and the employee must contribute specified amounts to the plan as defined in the pension trust agreement. Cash expenditures by the Commission for the years ended September 30, 1978 and 1977 totaled \$18,128 and \$14,435, respectively. There are no funded past service costs at September 30, 1978.

The Internal Revenue Service has determined that the Commission plan is a governmental plan. However, the Department of Labor will not rule on the status of the plan until they issue final regulations. Therefore, the effect, if any, that ERISA will have on pension expense has not yet been determined.

5. Unobligated cash restrictions

The unobligated cash of the National Assessment and Water and Energy studies is restricted to uses designated by the State of Kansas and the Water Resources Council, respectively.

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