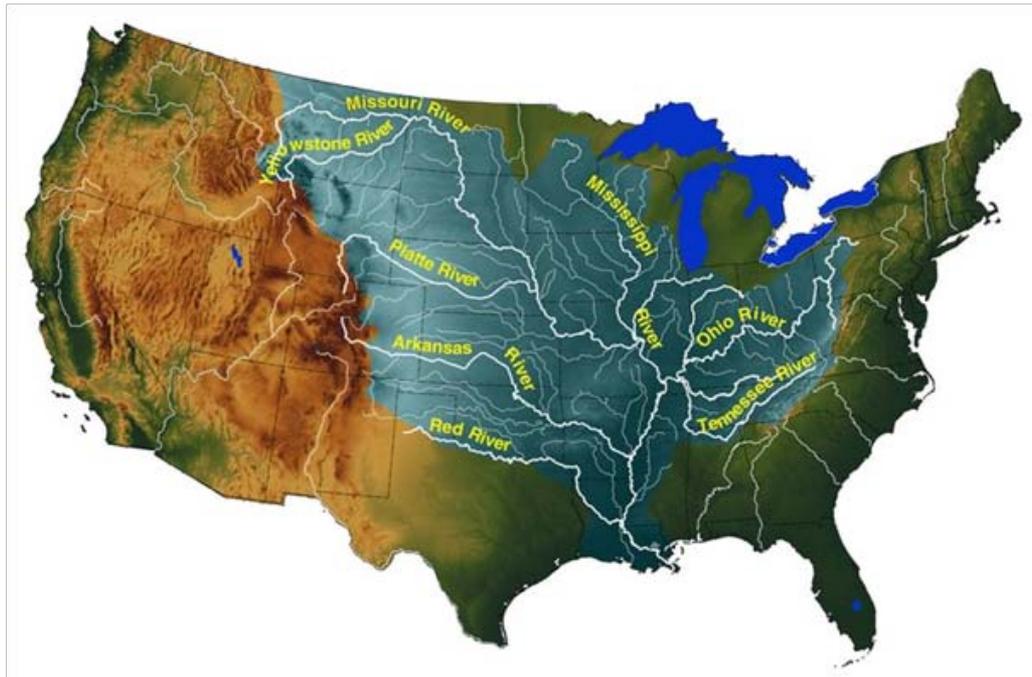


# Operation Watershed – Recovery

Responding to the Historic Mississippi River Flood of 2011

**Interagency Recovery Task Force**

June 22, 2011



# Interagency Recovery Task Force

## Welcome and Introductions

Major General Michael J. Walsh, Division Commander  
Mississippi Valley Division

&

Karen Durham-Aguilera, P.E., SES, Director,  
Contingency Operations and Homeland Security

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# Interagency Recovery Task Force

## State's Expectations and Priorities

1. Overview of your interest or authorities in flood recovery.
  - Long-term recovery strategies
  - Share lessons learned
  - Implementing and overseeing coastal protection and restoration
2. General expectations for Interagency Recovery Task.
  - Priorities are identified
  - Improved coordination between bordering states
  - Work together to secure funds for the watershed system
3. Your top 5 flood-related recovery priorities and challenges
  - Mitigation efforts to reduce flooding
  - Finish the Mainline levees and backwater levees
  - Acquire/elevate flood prone structures not protected by mainline levee
  - Repair damage from 2011 flood
  - Dredging to benefit wetlands and navigation

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# Interagency Recovery Task Force

## Federal Expectations and Priorities

1. Overview of your interest or authorities in flood recovery.
  - Data collection and scientific assessment of the MS River basin
  - Navigational safety and restoration of aids to navigation (aton)
  - Emergency Watershed Protection, Wetland Reserve Programs, and easements
2. General expectations for Interagency Recovery Task.
  - Increase coordination to reduce duplication of efforts towards recovery
  - Create a science and engineer based Recovery Plan
3. Your top 5 flood-related recovery priorities and challenges.
  - Document what occurred in the flood event
  - Safety of the waterway; replace buoys, critical navigation lights and shore aids
  - Data analysis and water quality monitoring for water management and operating plans
  - Assist sponsors and landowners in recovery of agricultural lands
  - Assessment of the MR&T system for prioritization and reset before spring floods

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# Interagency Recovery Task Force

## Way ahead for the IRTF

- Reduce duplication efforts (ie. Aerial photos, over flights, LIDAR, debris removal)
- Improve coordination between borders – regional, state, authorities
- Improve/restore system for future floods
- Share data/analysis for planning
- Constant coordination through rehabilitation process (lot of moving parts during recovery)
- WE NEED A RECOVERY PLAN

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