

America's Greatest River – Visions for the Future

Fast Paced – High Energy Music plays over river scenes – opening sequence is focused on a variety of nature scenes, wildlife, levees, locks, barges, dredges and people

America's Greatest River – the Mississippi – twists and turns through our Nation's heartland. The river also brings our Nation beauty and bounty.

Video - Show historical images – snag boats, steamboats, people and places.

Engineers have been working on the Mississippi and its tributaries for over 200 years, with each new generation of engineers learning new ways of managing the river for mankind's benefit.

Animation - show U.S. Topography and the many tributaries feeding into the Mississippi.

But only by working in harmony with the river's primal forces could mankind manage a river that generates vast flows by funneling runoff from 41 percent of the Nation's interior.

Video - Show Lake Itasca and the Falls of St. Anthony

Yet, the Mighty Mississippi begins as a mere stream twelve feet wide and two feet deep at Lake Itasca, Minnesota. Not until it reaches the Falls of St. Anthony at Minneapolis does it become a navigable river.

Animation - Show Geographic Features of Rivers Alluvial Valley

From St. Paul to St. Louis, the Mississippi has scoured and polished a 660-mile valley. Along its northern reaches, the river is hemmed in by bluffs and the valley is seldom more than two miles wide. Locks and dams are used to provide reliable navigation along the upper and middle river. South of Cairo, Illinois, after joining with the Ohio River, the Mississippi becomes a mile-wide tide that has carved a vast valley covering 35,000 square miles.

Animation – Show borders of entire Mississippi River Watershed on geomorphic map.

Taken as a whole, the Mississippi River watershed is the third largest in the world and encompasses 1.2 million square miles – that’s more than seven times the size of France.

Video – Show scenes of major mission work performed by Districts – synchronize images with narration.

Currently, the Corps’ major missions along the world’s third largest watershed include navigation, flood damage reduction, environmental stewardship, hurricane storm damage risk reduction, recreation, hydropower, and emergency management.

Video – Show geographic images of MR watershed.

A key aspect of current and future river engineering is to look at the entire watershed from a variety of viewpoints to develop a more holistic understanding of the river.

Video – Show images demonstrating collaboration, cooperation and interdependence (array of meeting on the CD provided)

In fact, the future of the World’s Third Largest Watershed depends on a collaborative Vision – grounded in cooperation and interdependence for all of the varied interests who deeply care about this true National Treasure. The vision will require an intergenerational commitment, so that our grandchildren’s grandchildren will benefit from the work we continue to adapt today.

Video – Show images of people and wildlife using water resources – show a series of stakeholder images (hydropower, navigation, flood protection, etc.)

The Vision for the Third Largest Watershed will include the delivery of enduring and essential water resource solutions through collaboration with partners and stakeholders. Our people will enjoy a quality of life unmatched in the world, secure, with safe travel, fresh air and drinkable clean water anyplace in the watershed. There will also be an abundance of affordable goods and essential supplies grown, manufactured and transported along the river.

Video – show images of infrastructure improvement work, people working on various projects, contractors (add a map of the Mississippi's watershed).

As our nation begins the massive task of reinforcing and rebuilding it's infrastructure for future generations, our Vision-work will help to stimulate our Nation's economy as we modernize, improve and sustain the great resources of the Mississippi's watershed. Because the world's third largest watershed impacts 38 states and 41 percent of the Nation's landmass, the Vision will include all of the watershed's interests and citizens to turn dreams into reality.

Video – show a fast moving montage of people practicing a variety of work disciplines

Our Nation will realize a collaborative vision for America's Greatest River by building and cultivating a competent and disciplined engineering workforce – equipped to deliver high quality solutions to future water resource challenges.

Video –Then display the final photos and credits.

Together – we are Building Strong!

