

The NRCS logo is positioned at the top center of the slide, set against a blue background with white and green wavy lines. The text "NRCS" is in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

# Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

*NRCS administers and implements the following programs that may be available to assist farmers and ranchers in the recovery process after a flood and/or to address long-term flood risk management:*

- Conservation Technical Assistance Program (CTAP)
- Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP)
  - Recovery
  - Floodplain Easements
- Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)
- Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program (including SNOpack TElemetry aka SNOTEL)
- Soil Climate Analysis Network (SCAN)



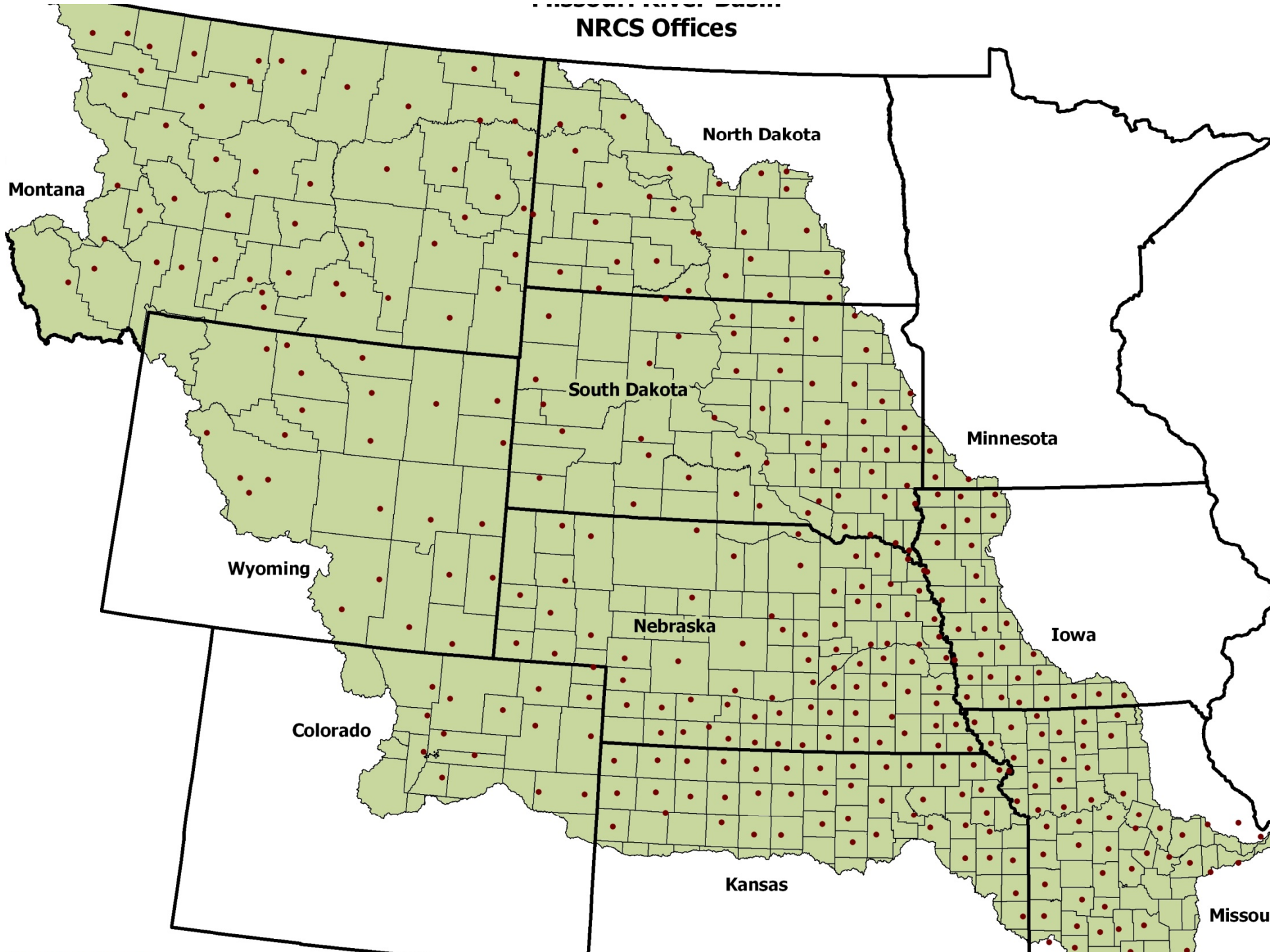
# Interests & Short-Term Activities

## *NRCS interests and activities:*

- Restoring agricultural infrastructure for 2012 season
- Restoring agricultural lands to productivity for cropping and grazing seasons
- Providing clear guidance to agricultural producers to streamline needs for addressing recovery efforts on potential “swampbuster” and “404” wetlands sites
- Clarifying lines between which entities will be addressing what recovery actions

MISSOURI RIVER BASIN

### NRCS Offices



# Challenges

*NRCS sees the following challenges:*

- Damage and needs assessments
- Technical and financial assistance capacity
- Coordination in a timely manner across levels of government to plan and implement repairs and conservation practices, for example addressing:
  - Clean Water Act section 404 permitting
  - Endangered Species Act
  - Farmland Protection Policy Act
  - National Historic Preservation Act

# BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

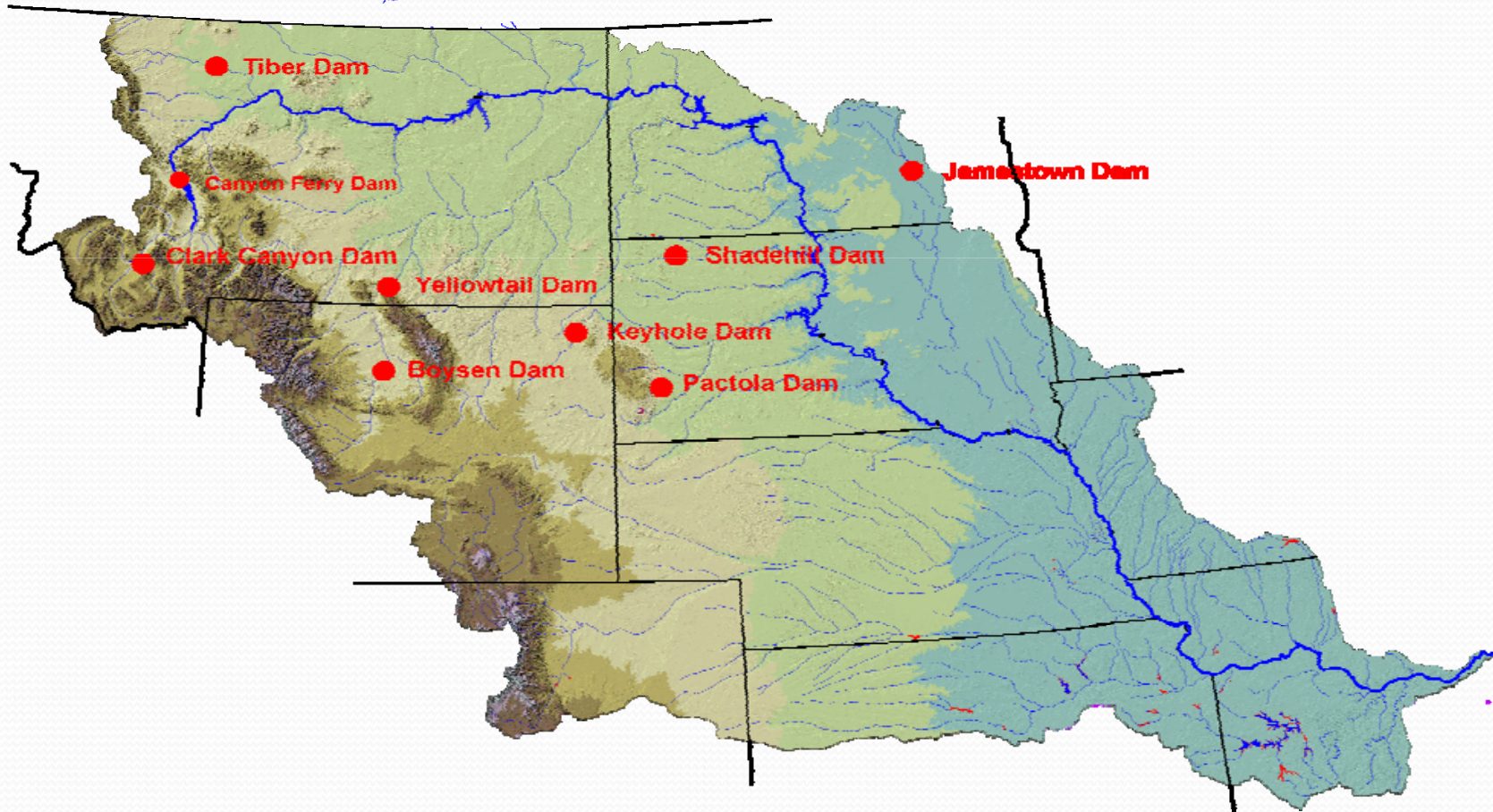
## Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

- Bureau of Reclamation:
  - Project-specific authority for Reclamation projects:
    - Pick-Sloan – irrigation, municipal, rural & industrial, power
    - Other irrigation projects
  - Reimbursability of Project costs by project beneficiaries
  - Rural Water Projects (tribal, non-tribal and Title I)
  - Public Law 111-11 loan guarantee for extraordinary/emergency O&M
  - Endangered Species Act
  - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
  - SECURE Water Act – West Wide Climate Risk Assessment

# Interests & Short-Term Activities

- Interests:
  - Authorized Reclamation Project Features & Facilities
- Short-term Activities:
  - Huntley Project Main Canal repairs
  - Fresno Dam spillway assessment & repairs
  - Rural water project intakes
  - Review of flood control operation and coordination, esp. Section 7 dams
  - Damage assessments of recreation facilities
  - Position reservoir levels for Spring 2011 runoff
  - Update Standard Operating Procedures

## Reclamation Dams with Pick-Sloan Flood Control





# Challenges

- Evacuating flood control space
- Funding
- Emergency Communications and Coordination
- Floodplain management
- Choke points, i.e. places where flows are constrained as a result of encroachment of development, sedimentation, vegetation and/or other factors
- Long-range weather forecasts
- Permanent & temporary stream gaging
- Climate change/variability





# USDA Farm Service Agency

## Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

- Public Law 95-334 - Agricultural Credit Act of 1978
  - Emergency **Conservation** Program (ECP)
- Public Law 110-246 – Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (Farm Bill)
  - Supplemental **Revenue** Assistance Payments Program (SURE)
  - Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) – for **crops not covered by crop insurance**
  - Average Crop **Revenue** Election Program (ACRE)
  - Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) – **Livestock Mortality**
  - Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, & Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) – **Other livestock losses**

# Interests & Short-Term Activities

- Interests:
  - Help farmers and ranchers recover from flood damage:
    - Assistance to restore productivity of damaged cropland and rangeland - ECP
    - Payments to support lost revenue - NAP, SURE, LIP, ELAP, ACRE
- Short-term activities:
  - For all programs - Accept and process applications for payment
  - Because ECP is the only one of these programs for which funding is appropriated -- Conduct ECP sign-up, maintain record of applicants, and allocate funds to affected states/counties once funding is approved
  - Make timely NAP, LIP, and ELAP payments\*.

\* Because SURE payments are based on whole-farm revenue losses, payments are calculated using season average prices -- which are not available until the year after the event.



## Nebraska 2010 Reported Corn Acres within County Inundation Areas

### Legend

- STATES
- CLU in Flood Area

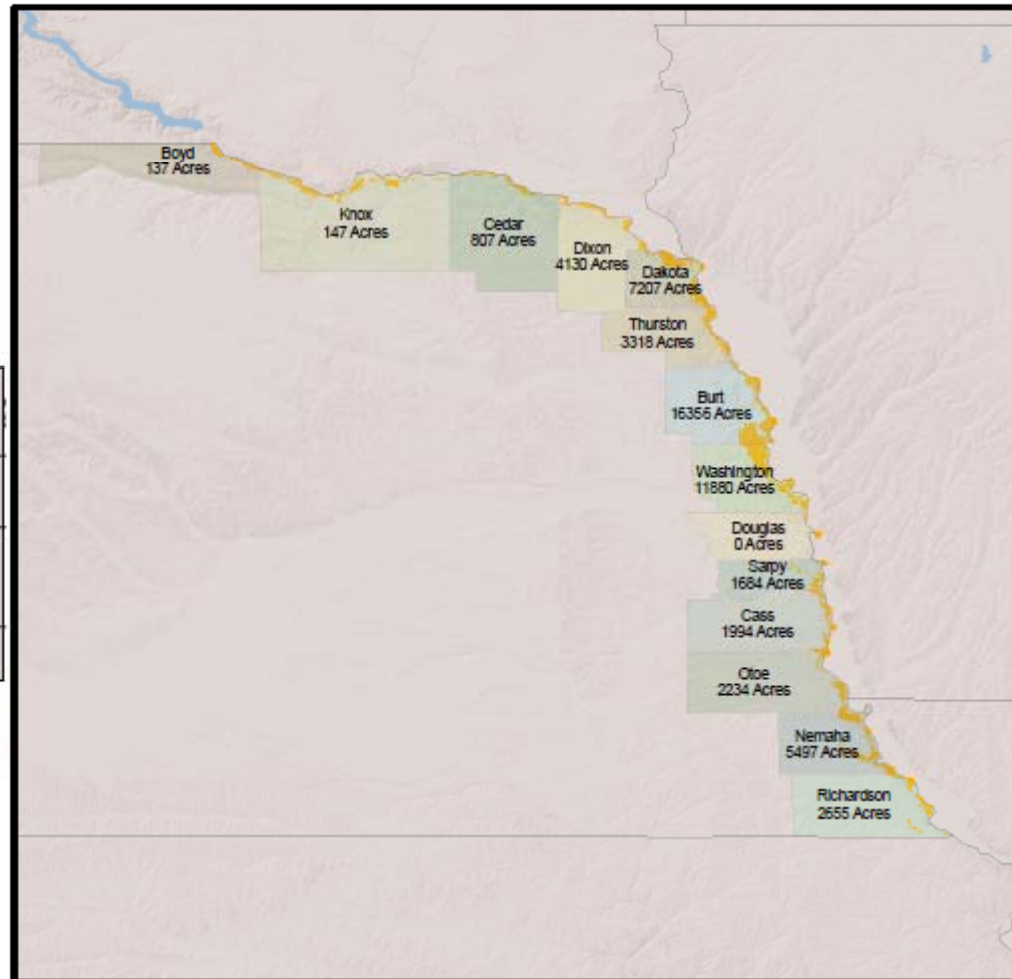
Total Acres = 58,047



This map has been compiled using a June 1, 2011 USACE Flood Model estimate and 2010 FSA-578 Crop Report data. Estimated crop acreage is summarized if the reported crop is in a CLU either wholly or partially contained within the USACE Flood Area.



Prepared by: FSA National Office Geo-Support Team  
June 7, 2011



0 30 60 120 Miles



# Challenges

- ECP Appropriations – there are currently over \$128 million in unfunded ECP needs
- SURE, LIP, and ELAP do not cover losses for adverse weather events occurring after September 30, 2011
- A new Farm Bill is currently being written – which creates uncertainty on how future agricultural disaster programs will work



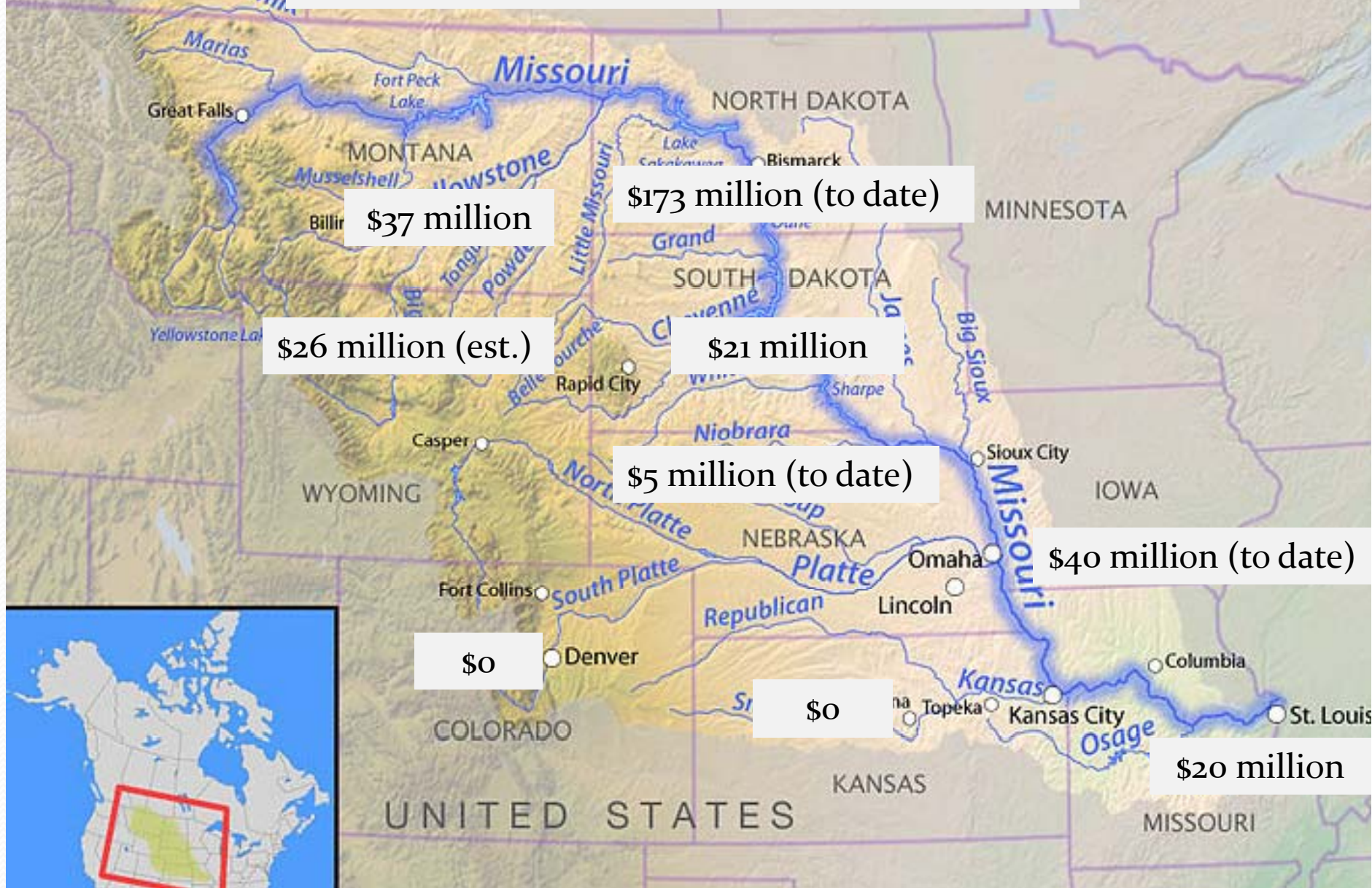
# FHWA Emergency Relief Program

- Respond to damage to **Federal-aid Highways** and **Federally-owned Roads** resulting from a natural disaster or catastrophic failure from an external cause
  - Federal-aid Highways (ER) – excludes local-type roads
  - Federally-owned roadways (ERFO) – federal lands
- Annual authorization of \$100 million
  - additional funding requires supplemental appropriations
- Authorities:
  - Title 23 U.S.C., Section 120(e) & Section 125
  - Title 23 CFR Part 668

# FHWA Interests & Short-Term Activities

- Interests:
  - Emergency Repairs
    - restore essential travel
    - minimize damage/protect the highway facility
    - within 180 days are 100% federally funded
  - Permanent Repairs
    - restore Federal-aid Highway infrastructure to pre-disaster conditions
    - require a non-federal match (same as the Federal-aid Highway Program - typically 20%)
- Division office short-term activities:
  - Assess damage (State-by-State)
  - Approve eligible ER Event
  - Request funding through HQ
  - Authorize projects

# ER Request for Federal-aid Highways 2011 Missouri River Basin Flooding \$322 million (plus) – excludes ERFO







# FHWA ER Program Challenges

- Annual authorization is only \$100 million
- Administered at the State level
  - (ERFO administered through FHWA)
  - Maximum per Event per State is \$100 million (including ERFO within the State)
  - \$700,000 minimum threshold per Event per State (separate \$700,000 threshold applies for EFRO)
- Determination of the Event start date
- Distinguishing between Emergency and Permanent Repairs
- Permanent Repairs require a non-federal match (ERFO is 100% federal)
- Does not cover damage to non-designated detours
- Permanent Repairs follow normal Federal-aid process & requirements
  - Environmental clearances, coordination, and permits
  - Competitive bidding and other procurement/contract requirements



# USGS Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

- Organic Act of 1897 (43 U.S.C. 31)
  - Cooperative Water Program
  - National Streamflow Information Program (NSIP)
  - Ecosystems
- Capabilities
  - Collection and interpretation of hydrologic, biologic, geologic and geospatial data



# USGS Short-Term Activity

- Retrospective analysis of the USGS Response to the 2011 Floods in the Mississippi, Missouri, Souris, and Red River Basins to include:
  - Data-collection activities and information sharing with partner agencies and the public,
  - Scientific analysis activities conducted during the flood and communication of those findings, and
  - Administrative and financial management activities associated with the flood event.
- The team has completed their collection of data from internal sources and is in the process of contacting and collecting data from external partners. Delivery of a draft report to USGS management summarizing the USGS activities and providing recommendations for an improved response to future floods is due on October 31.

The graphic at the top of the slide features a blue gradient background with several white and light blue wavy lines that create a sense of movement and depth, resembling a stylized landscape or water flow.

# USGS Long –Term Activity

- Central U.S. Flood Report Series to (potentially) include:
  - Flood peaks
  - Flood frequency assessments
  - Hydrology Assessments
    - Flood volumes
    - Trends
  - Hydraulic impacts of levee breaches
  - Water Quality Studies
  - Sediment
  - Biologic Impacts
- Approximate 2 year timeframe



# FEMA

## Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

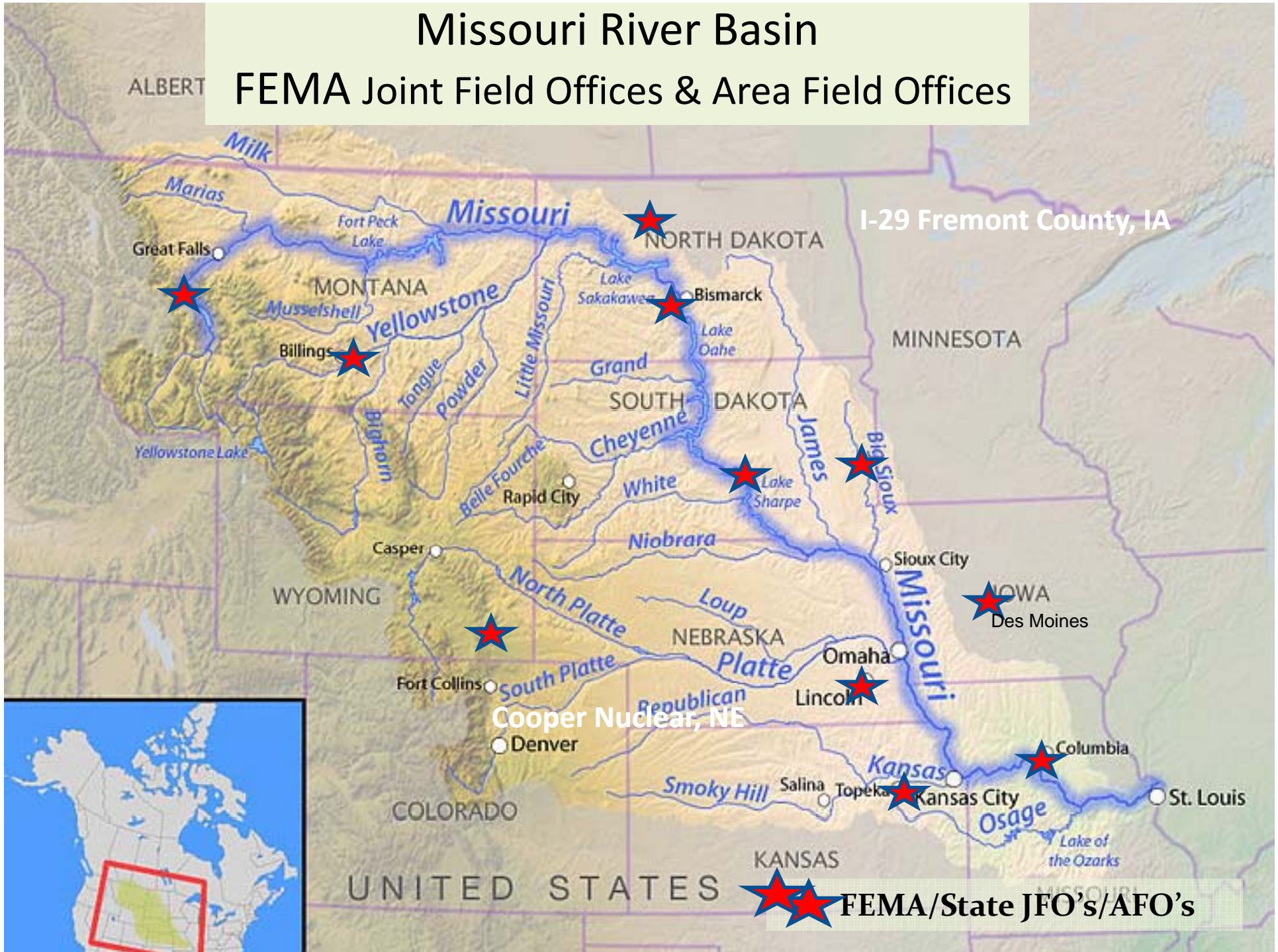
- Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act, P.L. 109-295 (PKEMRA)
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, P.L. 93-288, as amended
  - 44 CFR Emergency Management and Assistance
- National Flood Insurance Act, P.L. 90-448, as amended
- Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, as amended

# Interests & Short-Term Activities

- Interests:
  - Prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards within FEMA's legal authorities and authorized funding.
- Short-term activities:
  - Conduct temporary housing mission for all displaced flood survivors in Minot, ND (by end of October 2011);
  - Execute Recovery programs, infrastructure repair and project formulation in the Missouri River Basin (by January 2012);
  - Remove temporary flood fighting products and temporary levees;
  - Assist states & communities with cost-effective, mitigation projects.
  - Assist in long-term community recovery planning efforts.
  - Prepare to execute Response activities beginning early Spring 2012 throughout the Missouri River Basin in Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri;

# Missouri River Basin

## FEMA Joint Field Offices & Area Field Offices





# Challenges

- Continued inaccessibility to flooded areas
- Onset of winter
- Levee restoration
- Impact of new dam operating flows on NFIP flood studies
- Public perception and understanding of flood risk
- Over reliance on structural floodplain management strategies including temporary levees
- Limited purchase of flood insurance
- Limited funding for Hazard Mitigation
- Limited funding from Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for acquisition of flood damaged properties





# USACE

## Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

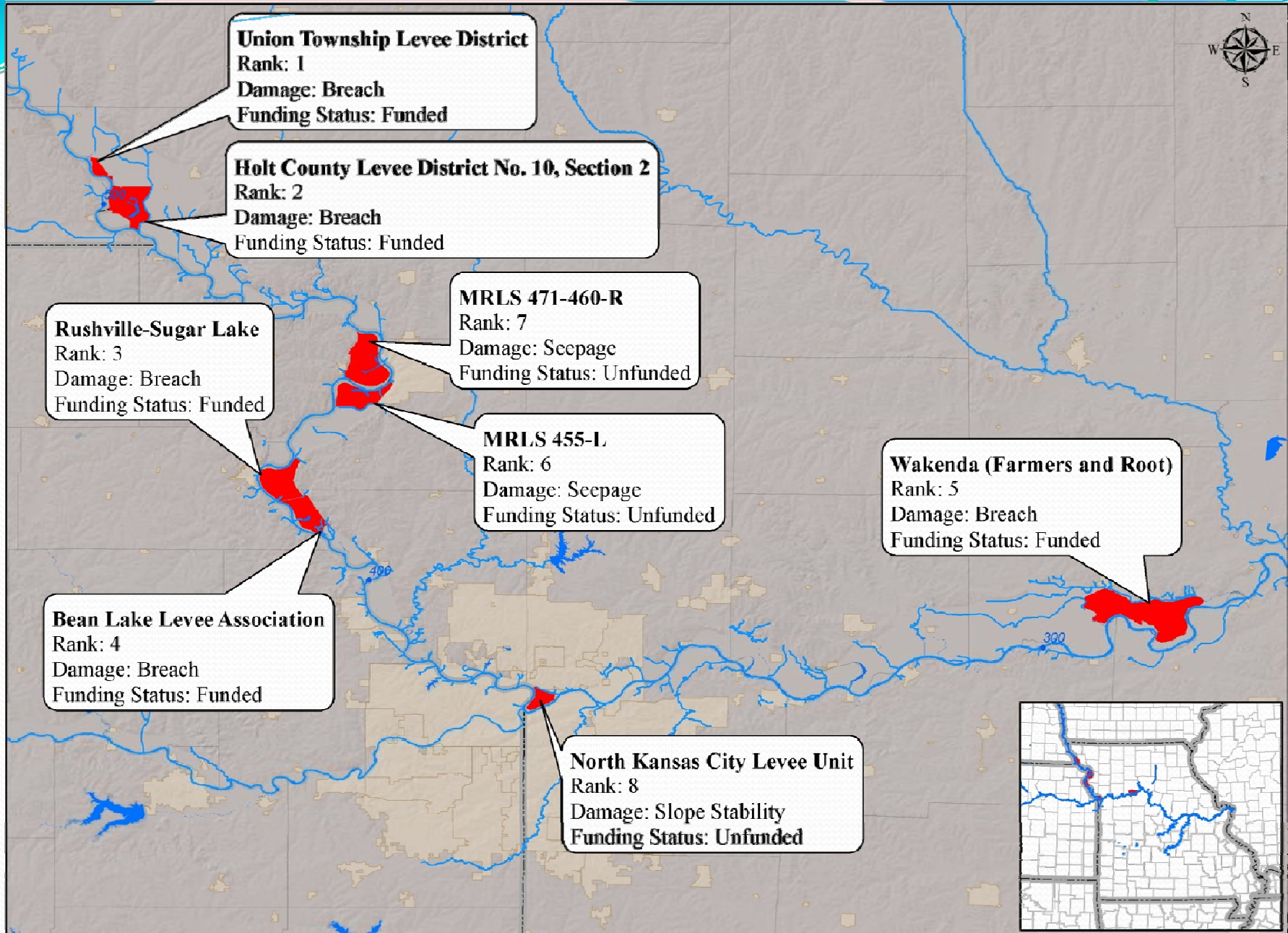
- Flood Control Act of 1944
- Bank Stabilization and Navigation Project (RHAs)
- Flood Control and Coastal Emergency Act (Public Law 84-99)
- Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan Study (Section 5018 of WRDA 2007)
- Missouri River Recovery Program (Section 601(a) WRDA 1986; Section 334 WRDA 1999; and Section 3176 WRDA 2007 )
- Civil Emergency Management Program (ER 500-1-1; Authorizes establishment of recovery Task Force)
- Missouri River studies (Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970)
- Tribal trust responsibilities including cultural resources



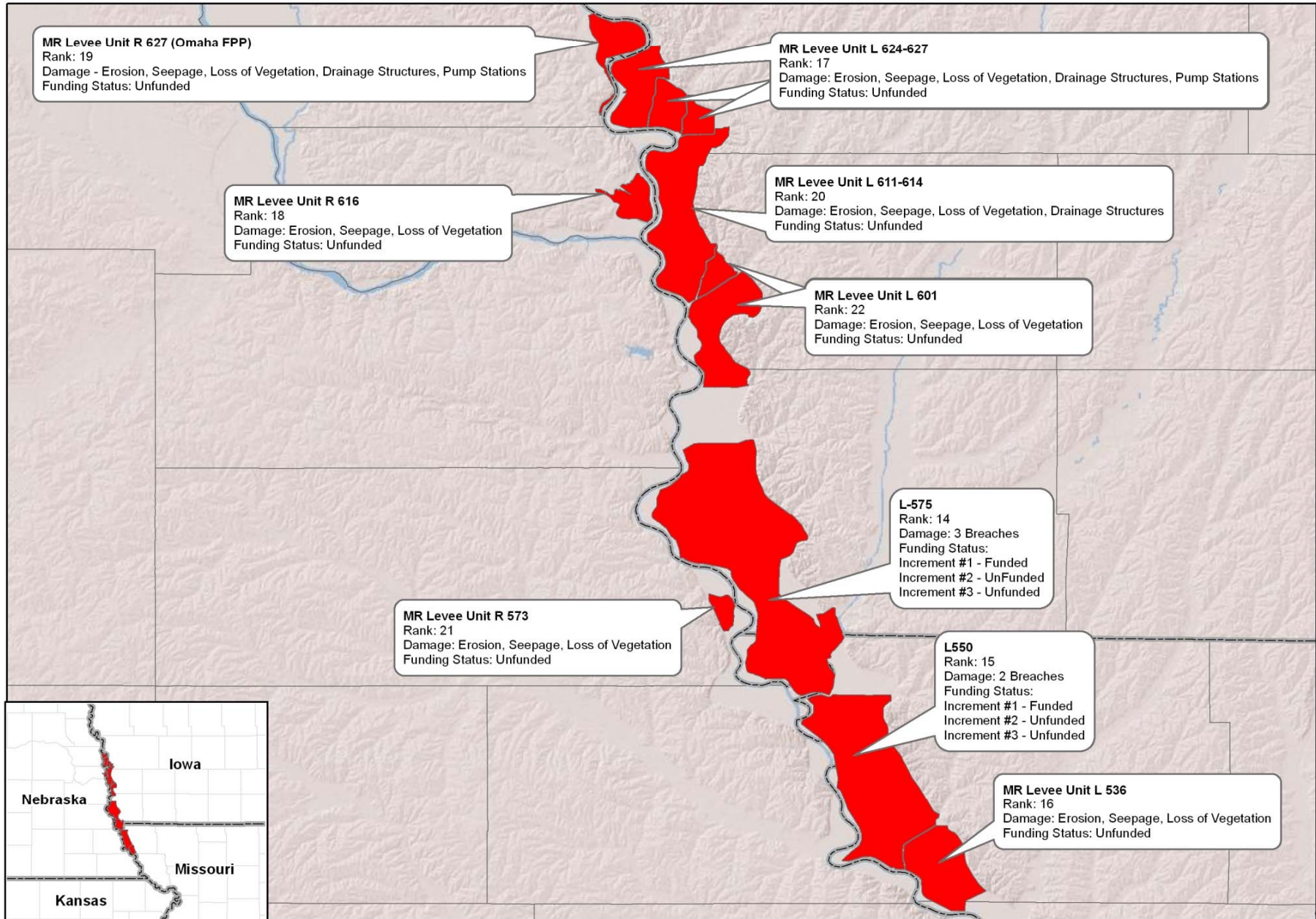
# Interests & Short-Term Activities

- Interests:
  - Recover flood risk management capabilities; public safety
  - Balance upstream and downstream interests
- Short-term activities:
  - Annual Operating Plan public meetings (Oct 24 – Nov 4)
  - Technical review of water management decision-making (by December)
  - Independent External Peer Review of Water Management operation and decision making (by December)
  - Technical review of flood fight response (by December)
  - Infrastructure damage assessments of federal and non-federal infrastructure (by December)
  - Initiate repair of levees under PL 84-99 (ongoing)

# Kansas City District Class I Critical Repairs



# Omaha District Class I Critical Repairs





# Challenges

- Prioritizing repairs to provide some level of protection prior to March 2012
- Funding of flood risk repairs and assessments
- Effectively communicating floodplain management opportunities
- Ensure that both potential Structural Alternatives and Non-Structural Alternatives that have regional merit receive consideration
- Balancing upstream and downstream interests
- Lack of master floodplain management plan for the basin

# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

- Relevant National Park Service Authorities/Guidance:
  - Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Section 7(a) - Public Law 90-542)
  - Clean Water Act (Section 404)
  - River and Harbors Act (Section 10)
  - National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106)
  - National Park Service Organic Act (1916)
  - Management Policies (2006)
  - National Environmental Policy Act (1969)
  - Outstandingly Remarkable Values Statements (2011)
  - Archeological Resource Protection EIS (2011)



# Interests & Short-Term Activities

- National Park Service:
  - Interests:
    - Leverage easements and purchase authorities of all stakeholders to minimize flood risk through targeted actions with willing landowners
    - Coordinate communication of the task force members to speak with one voice where possible and facilitate information sharing
    - Coordinate compliance and permitting and associated post-flood assessments to avoid duplication and streamline permit processing, where possible
  - Short-term activities:
    - Inventory of post-flood bankline condition within Wild and Scenic River reaches
    - Pursue mitigation of damaged sites through working with landowners
    - Process required permits for activities that occurred during the flood emergency
    - Plan for trash clean-up efforts
    - Stabilize archeological and historic sites using bio-stabilization techniques



Fort Union  
Trading Post

Knife River  
Indian Villages

Missouri  
National  
Recreational  
River





# Challenges

- National Park Service:
  - Funding sufficient to effectively implement floodplain management opportunities with willing river-side landowners
  - Communicating alternatives for addressing flood risk management
  - Coordinating permitting activities
  - Organizing clean-up of large debris from the river
  - Balancing archeological and historic site protection with maintaining the natural ebb and flow of a dynamic river system

# MARAD

## Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

**Authorities:** 46 U.S.C. 1101 et seq. - The Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, is the principal act governing the functions of the U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) and provides the statutory authority for MARAD's major programs.

**Note:** 18 Federal agencies, including MARAD share Federal oversight of the U.S. Marine Transportation System.

**Capabilities:** The Maritime Administration has approximately 815 full time employees, and an additional 375 contractors and vessel crew, some of which are funded on a reimbursable basis, primarily by the U.S. Navy. The majority of reimbursable employees work in field offices.

### Programs:

- ✓ **Operations and Training** – US Merchant Marine Academy & 6 state schools
- ✓ **Maritime Guaranteed Loan Program (Title XI)** – vessel constructions & shipyard modernization
- ✓ **Maritime Security Program** – retain 60 U.S.-flag, militarily-useful, and privately-owned vessels (actively operating) to meet national defense and other security requirements in a national emergency
- ✓ **Ready Reserve Force** – 51 vessels that are maintained in a ready and reliable condition to provide strategic sealift
- ✓ **Marine Highway Program** – Corridors, Projects, Grants, and Initiatives
- ✓ **TIGER Grant Program** – grants for road, rail, transit and port projects
- ✓ **Assistance to Small Shipyards Program** – capital and related infrastructure improvements

*Potential resource for commerce and infrastructure projects...*

*[Must compete for available funds]*

# Interests & Short-Term Activities

- **Interests:** *The United States shall have a merchant marine sufficient to carry its domestic water-borne commerce and a substantial portion of the waterborne export and import foreign commerce of the United States and capable of serving as a naval and military auxiliary in time of war or national emergency.*

[Intent of Congress]

✓ **Merchant Marine** – Ensuring an effective and efficient U.S. Merchant Marine with highly skilled mariners and sufficient U.S.-flag sealift capacity for national emergencies.

✓ **Security, Preparedness, and Response** – to include: Shipping Capacity & Strategic Port Readiness

✓ **Infrastructure** – Ensure that the United States maintains adequate shipbuilding and repair services, efficient ports, effective intermodal water and land transportation systems, and reserve shipping capacity for use in time of national emergency.

✓ **Reduced Congestion** – National strategy to reduce congestion on America's Transportation Network

✓ **Global Connectivity** – Open international transportation markets & improving essential, intermodal transportation linkages.

✓ **Environmental Stewardship** – Reduce pollution and other adverse effects from marine transportation to protect the environment.

✓ **Ship Disposal** - The sale, donation, custody transfer, or disposal (by recycling, dismantling, artificial reefing, or otherwise) of any non-retention vessels within the National Defense Reserve Fleet

- **Short-term activities:**

✓ **Supplemental Missouri River Study (SMRS)** – study to supplement USACE MRAP effort. SMRS focuses on estimating value and impacts on water transportation, energy generation and cooling, and water users. [Solicitation issued Oct 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – Proposals due Oct 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011]

# MARAD Activities of Interest



**Gateway Offices**

The Inland Waterways Gateway Office area of responsibility includes portions of fifteen States adjacent to the navigable rivers, to include:

- the Headwaters of the Upper Mississippi River in Minnesota to Memphis TN
- **the Missouri River** from North Dakota to its' Mouth near St. Louis, MO
- the Illinois Waterway from Chicago, IL to its' Mouth just North of St. Louis, MO
- the Ohio River from its headwaters in Pennsylvania to its Mouth at Cairo, IL.

**MARAD MISSION:** Improve and strengthen the U.S. Marine Transportation System - including infrastructure, industry and labor - to meet the economic, environmental, and security needs of the Nation.

**THE M-70 CORRIDOR** includes the Ohio, Mississippi, and **Missouri River(s)**, and connecting commercial navigation channels, ports, and harbors, from Pittsburgh to Kansas City.



# MARAD Inland Waterway Challenges

## Funding

**Inland Waterway Infrastructure** – Remediate, Repair, & Improve

**Dredging** – Inland harbors and channels

**Policies and Programs** - Improve maritime policies and programs to enrich and secure the Nation

**Investment** - Expand reliable private and public investment funding mechanism to support the growth of the Marine Transportation System

**Outreach & Collaboration** - Revitalize the partnerships between the Maritime Administration and the Marine Transportation System's private and public stakeholders

**Leadership** - Enhance the U.S. Intermodal Transportation System  
[*Governance Architecture*]

The logo for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is centered at the top of the slide. It consists of the letters "USFWS" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The logo is set against a decorative background of overlapping, wavy lines in various shades of blue and teal, creating a sense of movement and depth.

# Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

- The following are the authorities and laws which U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service either administers or where we have responsibilities:
  - National Wildlife Refuge System
  - Endangered Species 1973 as amended (ESA)
  - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act 1934 as amended
  - Bald Eagle Protection Act
  - Migratory Bird Treaty Act 1918 as amended (MBTA)
  - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
  - Clean Water Act section 404



# Interests & Short-Term Activities

- Interests:
  - Support use of floodplain to reduce flood risk and restore ecological function
  - Improve partnerships and relationships within the basin
- Short-term activities:
  - Prioritize and streamline environmental reviews when needed
  - Work closely with state fish and wildlife agencies
  - Coordinate with and advise our Ecological Services Offices
  - Coordinate USFWS activities between Regions 3 & 6 to ensure consistency
  - Utilize our Landscape Conservation Cooperatives science capabilities where needed - PPP LCC and Eastern Tallgrass LCC
  - Just initiated damage assessments of refuges along river. Will use the Refuge Systems Comprehensive Conservation Planning (CCP) process to determine what and how refuge buildings, levees, roads, trails, etc. will be repaired, restored, or abandoned. This process will take a year or more.







# Challenges

- The following are potential challenges for the USFWS:
  - Funding and staffing for environmental reviews
  - Coordination between offices and regions
  - Minimizing impacts to listed species and other trust resources
- NOTE: The FWS recognizes the devastation caused by the 2011 flooding and will do everything within our authorities to facilitate reconstruction of levees and other features that will provide flood protection before next spring.

# EPA Roles in MRFTF

## EPA's Mission

(Interests)

Is to protect human health and the environment.

To accomplish this mission, we:

Develop and Enforce\* Regulations

Give Grants

Study Environmental Issues

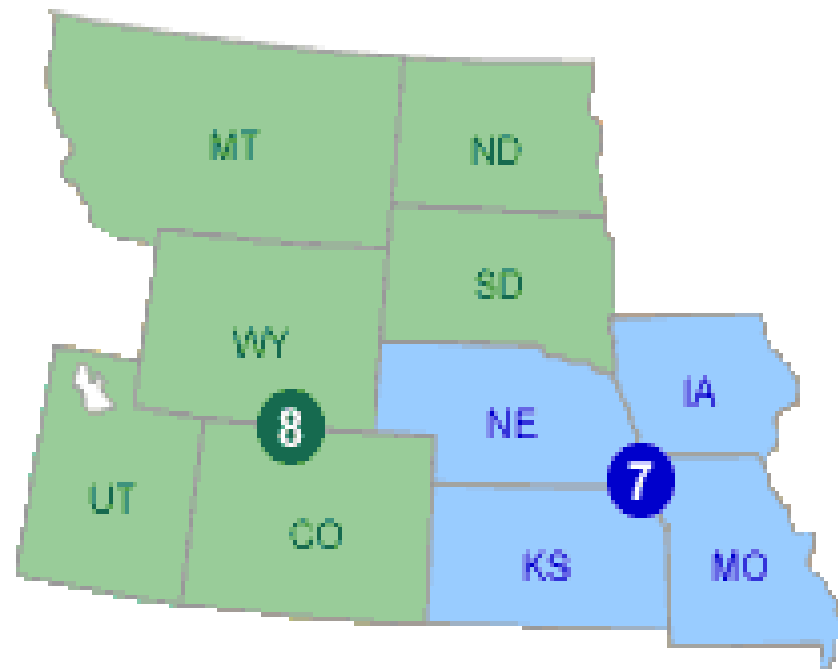
Sponsor Partnerships

Teach People About the Environment

Publish Information

\*Delegated to States - with exception of RCRA – EPA administers within Iowa

# EPA Regions in the Missouri River Basin



## Primary Post-Flood Activities and Authorities/Trigger

Activity	Authority/Trigger
Respond to releases of hazardous substances	CERCLA (Superfund) / Spill hotline or direct notification
Rapid need assessment for water treatment facilities, hazmat activities, collection of household hazardous wastes, white goods and e-goods, long term recovery efforts (examples – next 3 slides)	Stafford Act / Mission Assignment to EPA from FEMA
Address water system impacts	Clean Water Act/upon request
Address drinking water system impacts	Safe Drinking Water Act/upon request
Issue CWA § 401 water quality certifications for projects on Tribal lands	Clean Water Act / pre-construction coordination
Review NEPA documentation for regulatory compliance, participate as official Cooperating Agency where EPA has technical expertise or jurisdiction in law	National Environmental Policy Act and Clean Air Act § 309 / Upon document filing and per lead federal agency request
Monitor asbestos removal and disposal activities	Clean Air Act – National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPS) / pre-abatement notification

## Challenges



Locating flood displaced/buried hazmat



Equipment access to remote sites



Funding for disposal  
(example -- 9/27/11 FEMA funded response in Pottawattamie County, Iowa)



# EPA Contacts

- Ron Hammerschmidt, PhD, Director, Environmental Services Division, Region 7
- Joe Cothorn, NEPA Team Leader, Region 7
- Jim Berkley, PhD, Missouri River Coordinator, Region 8



# *Bureau of Indian Affairs*

## Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

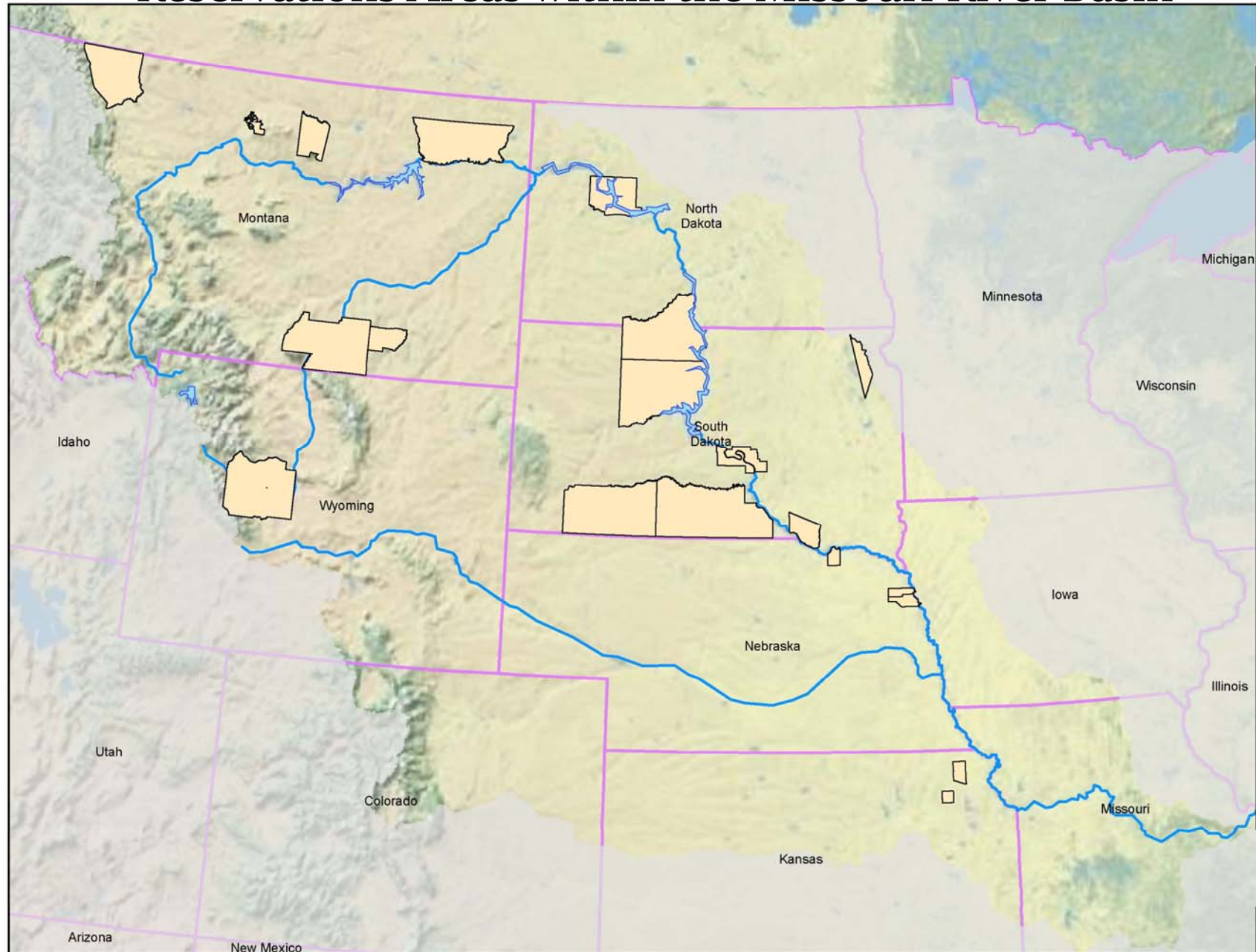
- Authorities: Indian Reorganization Act, Indian Self-determination and Education Assistance Act, and various Indian Land management acts.
- Programs : Social Services, Transportation, Natural Resources, Safety of Dams, Irrigation, Agricultural land and Rangeland Management, Housing, Environmental Protection, and Cultural Resource Management
- Capabilities: Contracting with Tribes through Public Law 93-638, internal priority assessment for programs.



# Interests & Short-Term Activities

- Interests:
  - Recovery of trust land – agricultural, rangeland, and flood plain forest
  - Impact assessment of flooding
  - Flood plain forest recovery post flooding
- Short-term activities:
  - Damage assessment of federal and tribal properties (by December)
  - Sampling of sediment deposition on Winnebago and Omaha trust land in Nebraska

# Reservations Areas within the Missouri River Basin



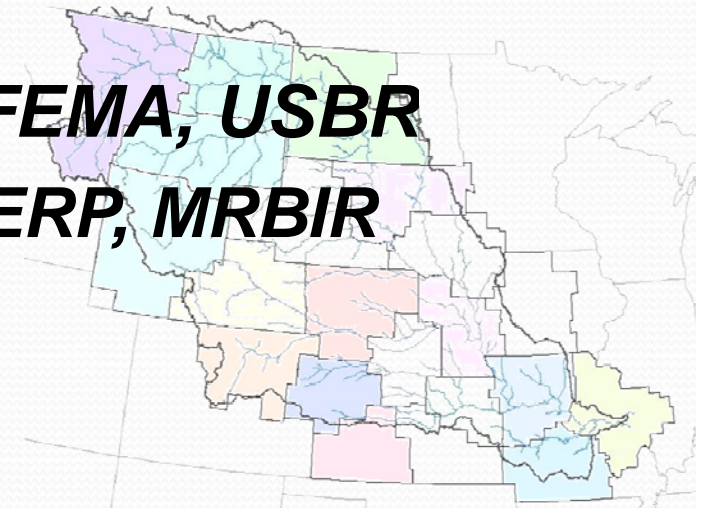


# Bureau of Indian Affairs Challenges

- Funding
- Coordination across Three Bureau Regions with 28 Tribes

# NOAA Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

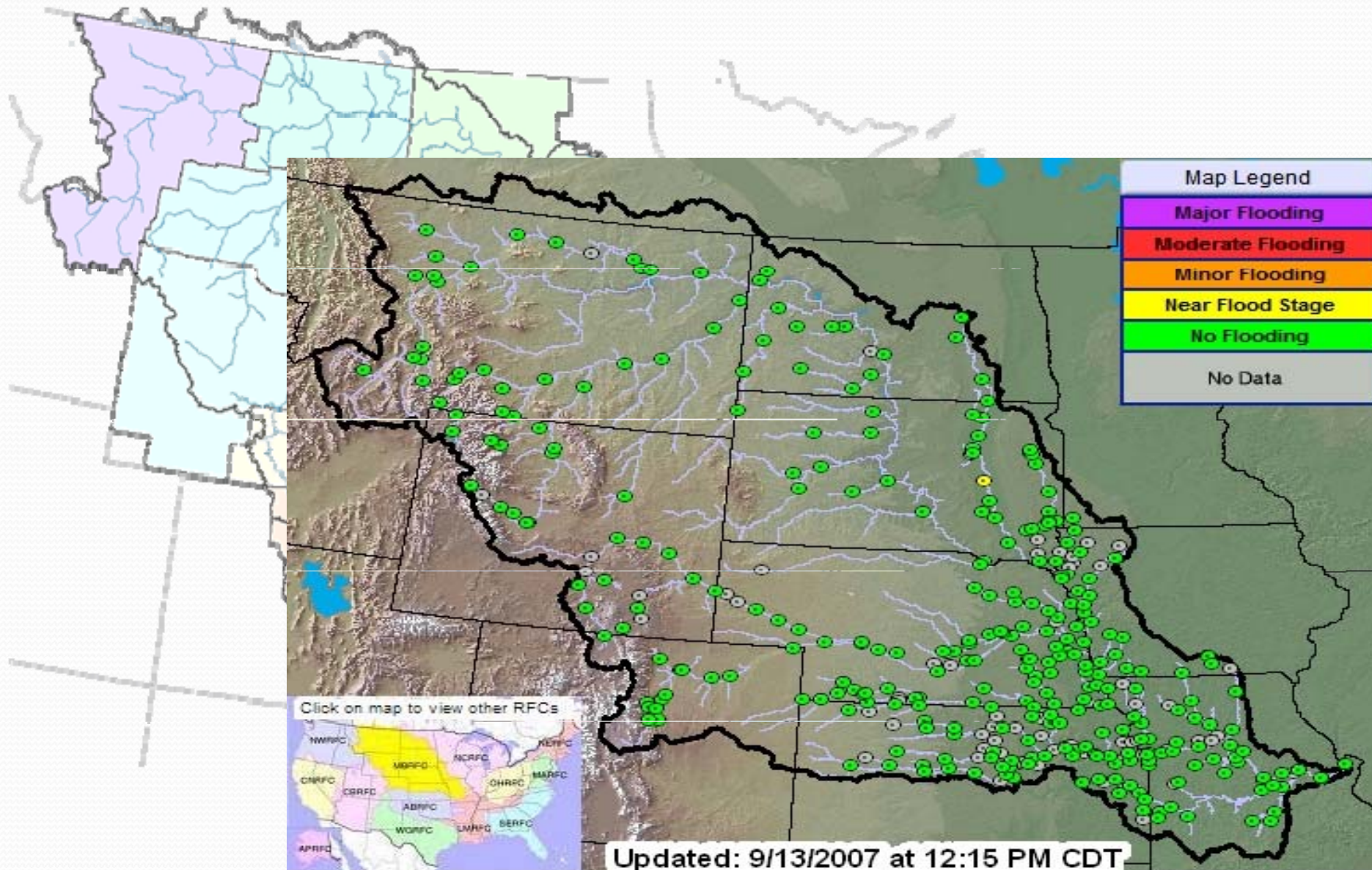
- ***Missouri Basin River Forecast Center***
- ***Weather Forecast Offices***
- ***High Plains Regional Climate Center***
- ***Boulder/National Labs***
- ***Missouri Basin Climate Collaboration***
- ***Climate Change and Water Working Group (CCAWWG)***
  - ***USACE, USGS, NOAA, NASA, FEMA, USBR***
- ***NOAA Participation in MRRIC, MRERP, MRBIR***



# Interests & Short-Term Activities

- **Interests:**
  - *Help manage climate risks to Federal, State and Tribal services, operations & assets*
  - *Protection of lives and property*
  - *To inform planning, mitigation and adaptation response at all time scales*
- **Short-term activities:**
  - **National Weather Service – Service Assessment (review of effectiveness – due early 2012)**
  - **Climate Change and Water Working Group (CCAWWG)**
    - ***Interagency Website providing access to pertinent operational and experimental climate monitoring, relationships, and forecasts (prototype at: <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/csi/monitor/mobasin/index.html>)***
    - ***Collaboratively explore the appropriate use information from operational and experimental climate monitoring and forecast products in operational decision making***
  - **NOAA Experimental Rapid Response Regional Climate Services**
    - ***Bi-weekly interpretive climate outlook Webinar for the Missouri Basin***
      - ***Include assessment of need for information on specific projects and by event***
  - **Continued Operational Short Term Weather and River Forecasting**

# Weather Offices and Forecast Points



# Challenges

- Resources for continuous internet updates and Webinars
- Effectively addressing federal, tribal, states, local govt needs
  - Adequately addressing uncertainty within agencies, communities and organizations
- The Real Climate
  - Nature's Surprises
  - Short Term Outlooks vs Long Term Projections
- Delivering useful information at all time scales
  - Using an adaptive approach
- Appropriate use of climate research and experimental monitoring and forecast products in operational decision making.





# USDA Risk Management Agency

## Authorities, Capabilities, & Programs

- **Risk Management Agency:**

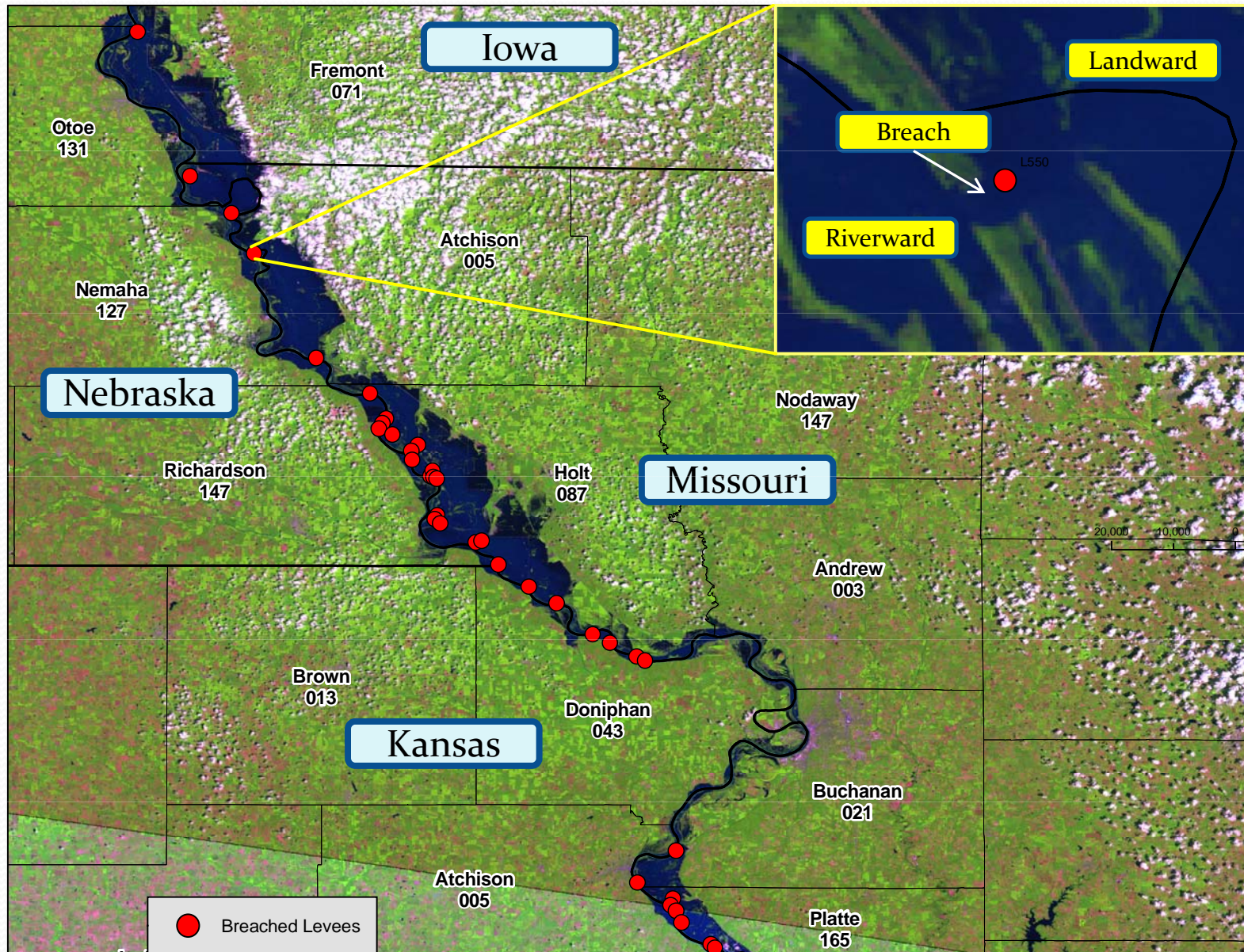
- USDA agency that provides crop insurance, via the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, to American producers.
- Partners with 15 companies and their agents to sell and service insurance policies, manage loss adjusters, and pay claims.
- Responsible for developing actuarially sound crop insurance rates based on natural risks associated with growing crops
- The Topeka Regional Office manages the program in Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska.
- The St. Paul Regional Office manages the program in Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.
- The 2011 flood impacted 600,000 acres in 51 counties across 4 states
- Over 40 identified levee breaches will result in higher crop insurance premiums for producers.

# Interests & Short-Term Activities

- **RMA Interests and Short-term Activities**
  - Interest: Info on Breached Levees to Assess Flood Risks to Crops
    - Location of all known breaches on PL 84-99 and private levees
    - Interim and long-term plans to repair breaches, including timeframes and protection levels; status of repairs (e.g. weekly updates);
      - Confirmation (in writing) of when breaches are repaired
    - Historic river flow/gage height data (for gage's maintained by USACE)
    - Continued effective communication with USACE Omaha and Kansas City Districts
  - Short-term activities: Establish Actuarially Sound 2012 Rates
    - Attach 'Breach Levee' statement in counties impacted by breaches;
      - landward side of breach will receive the highest rates for the county unless repairs are completed by spring;
    - Evaluate USACE interim repairs to flood risks on landward side of levee;
    - Hold public meetings/issue guidance on crop insurance policy and rates for producers, agents and companies;
    - Respond to inquires (e.g. Congressional) on RMA crop insurance rates and policy

# Hardest Hit Cropland in Topeka & St Paul Regions

250,000 acres impacted by 30+ breached levees in 8 counties





# Challenges

- Ensuring crop insurance rates are actuarially sound in areas impacted by breached levees:
  - Delineating land impacted by specific breached levees so agents/companies can charge policy holders the proper rate;
  - Tracking progress of repairs to levees;
    - Especially difficult with private levee repairs
  - Getting official confirmation that repairs have been completed and that the repaired levee will provide the same risk protection as it did prior to the breach
  - Effectively communicating the rationale and justification of crop insurance rates with all producers/agents/companies.