

14TH BIENNIAL GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE
ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ILLINOIS RIVER SYSTEM



OCTOBER 1-3, 2013
FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON
PEORIA, ILLINOIS



Michael Reuter

*Director of The Nature Conservancy's
Great Rivers Partnership and North
America Freshwater Program*





The Illinois River

It plays in Peoria...

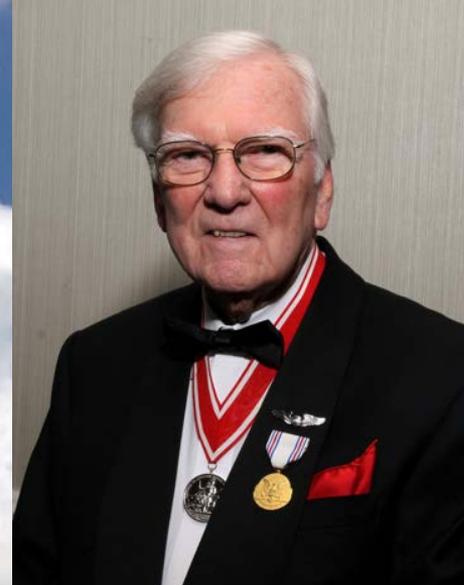
Shanghai, Bogota, Santarem, Libreville & Beyond





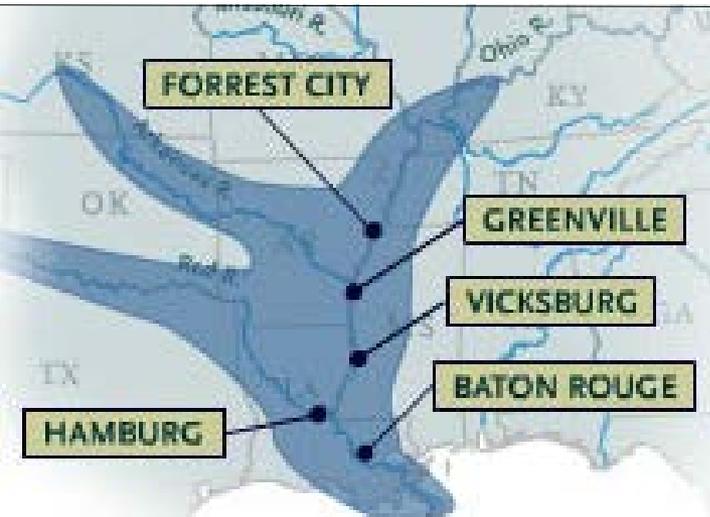
GEORGE C. GRUETT

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS





A Tale of Two Floods



1927 Flood

- Water overtops or breaches >100 levees
- 700,000 displaced
- At least 400 dead
- 27,000 sq. miles flooded
- \$400 million in damages
- Water 30 ft. deep & 60 miles wide at Memphis



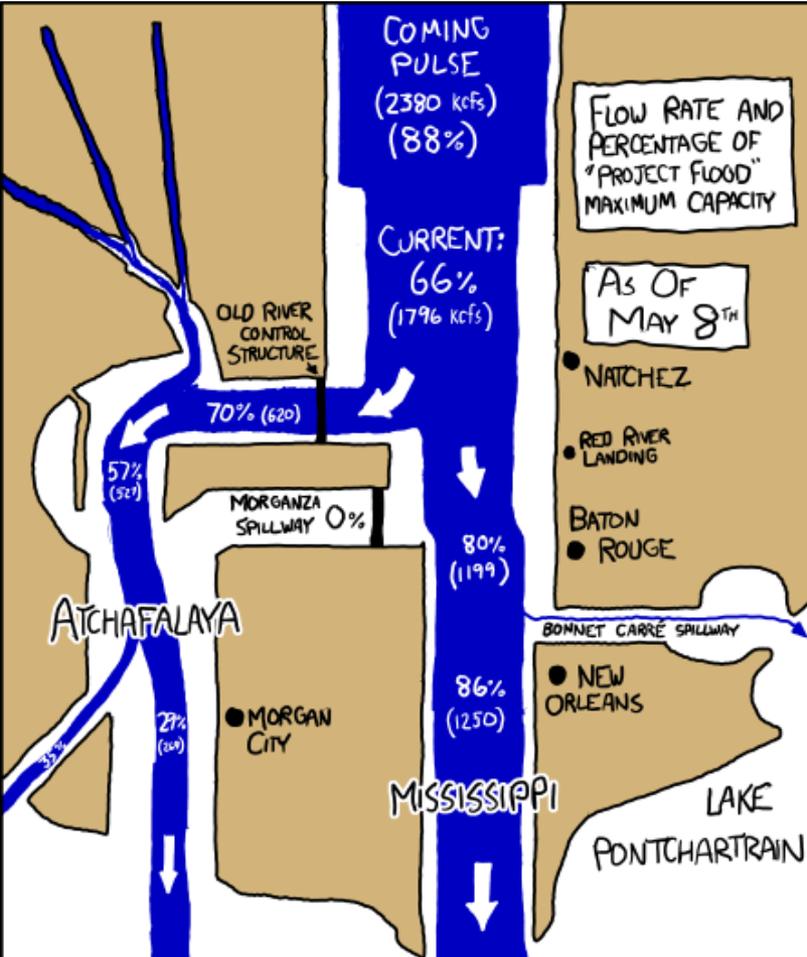
2011 Floods Test the Mississippi River & Tributaries Project



Setback levees in Memphis



Old River Control Structure



Flood Extent

1927 = 16.8 million acres

2011 = 6.35 million acres

- \$13.9 billion invested since 1928
- \$478.3 billion in flood damages prevented (34-1 return on investment)
- \$108 billion in damages prevented
- Some 4 million people protected



Morganza Spillway

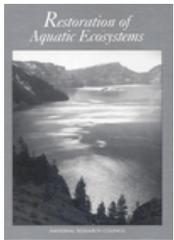


Bonnet Carre Spillway

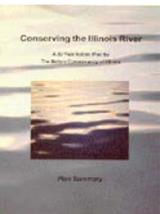


Finding Balance

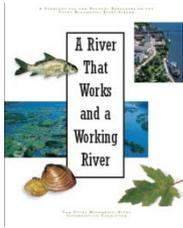




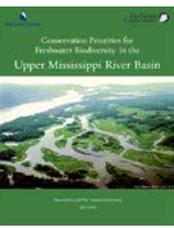
Restoration of Aquatic Ecosystems: Science, Technology, and Public Policy.
 National Research Council, National Academic Press. Washington, D.C. 1992. 662 pp.



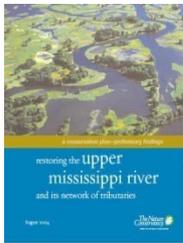
Illinois River Site Conservation Plan. The Nature Conservancy. 1998. 73 pp.



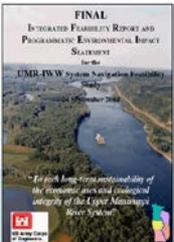
A River That Works and a Working River. Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee. 2000. 40 pp.



Conservation Priorities for Preserving Biodiversity in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. Weitzell et al. NatureServe and The Nature Conservancy. 2003. 90 pp.



Restoring the Upper Mississippi River and its network of tributaries. The Nature Conservancy. 2004. 22 pp.



Integrated Feasibility and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the UMR-IWW Navigation Feasibility Study. US Army Corps of Engineers. 2004. 606 pp.

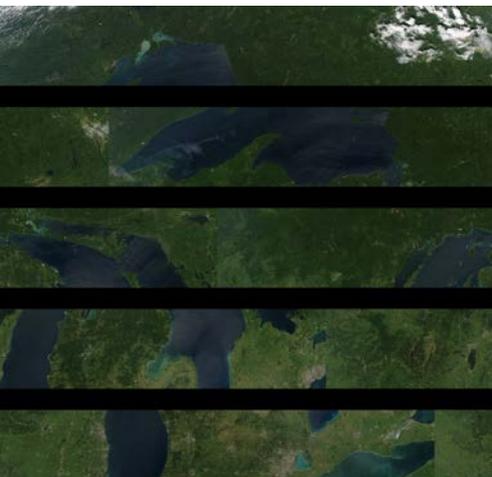


Illinois River Basin Restoration Comprehensive Plan with Integrated Environmental Assessment. Main Report, Public Review Draft. US Army Corps of Engineers. February 2006. 452 pp.

The Illinois River: A River that Works



Key Issues Remain



Stay on Course on Systems Approach | IR2020 & Comprehensive Management Plan



“... the America’s Great Watershed Initiative was the best, most thought-provoking conference I have ever been to. An enormous amount of high quality information.”

-- MG John W. Peabody

America’s Watershed Initiative

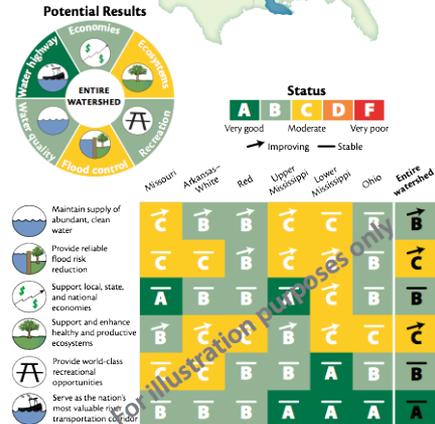


A vision for
America's Watershed Report Card



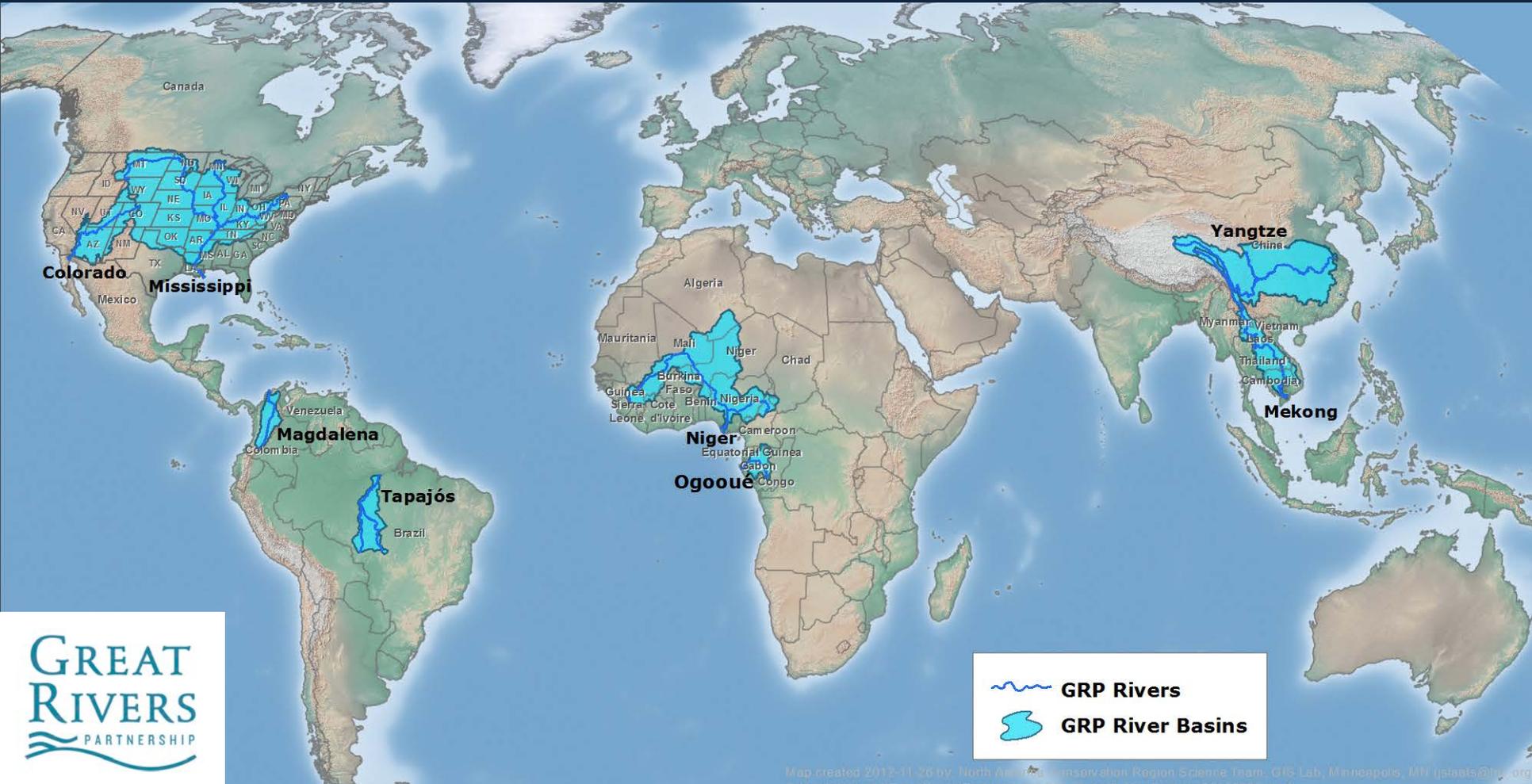
comprehensive economy society environment basin-wide
integrated river multi-sector
Mississippi river basin management

America's WATERSHED Initiative



NOTE: The content of this table is meant to be illustrative, not an accurate or final product.

Great Rivers Partnership



North America:
Mississippi & Colorado rivers

South America:
Magdalena & Tapajós rivers

Africa:
Niger & Ogooué rivers

Asia:
Mekong & Yangtze rivers

Magdalena River



2011 Flooding: Over 3 million people displaced | 192+ dead | Damages above US \$5 billion

GRP Facilitated Exchange



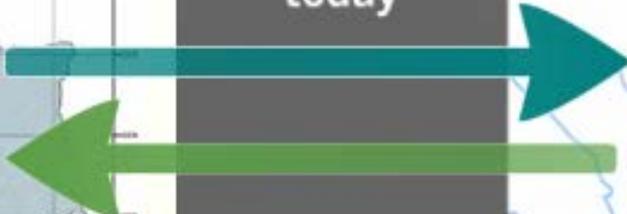
Colombia to China

HYDROPOWER IN CHINA



China Hydroelectric Corporation

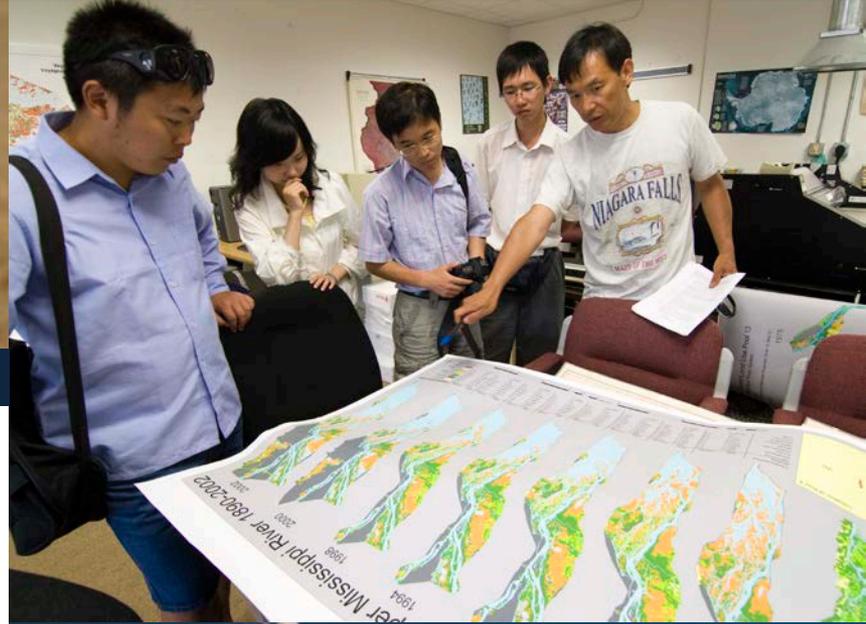
China is a center of influence in dam building today



The Yangtze and Mekong Rivers



Dr. Yao Yin, USGS



Dams & Fisheries

- Solutions exist
- Markets are concentrated
- More companies see the value





The Ogooué: *Our Best Chance?*





Water Scarcity—*Our Future?*



The GRP: *A River Runs Through It*



This is a Journey



This is a Journey





