

America's WATERSHED Initiative

UNITING PEOPLE, LAND AND WATER ACROSS 31 STATES.



We are America's Watershed Initiative

America's Watershed Initiative is a collaboration working with hundreds of business, government, academic and civic organizations to find solutions for the challenges of managing the 31-STATE Mississippi River Watershed and the more than 250 rivers that flow into it. The challenges facing the waters and lands in America's Watershed are large and growing. Our nation's economic prosperity and our future are dependent on maintaining our resources and our investments in the waters of the Mississippi River watershed. Only by working together in a coordinated and focused fashion for the long term will we make meaningful progress to **Raise the Grade** for America's Watershed—for our future and our children's future.

OUR GOALS



Maintain supply of abundant, clean water



Provide reliable flood control and risk reduction



Support local, state and national economies



Provide world-class recreational opportunities



Support and enhance healthy and productive ecosystems



Serve as the nation's most valuable river transportation corridor

Steering Committee

The America's Watershed Initiative Steering Committee includes members from throughout the watershed and a diversity of sectors including conservation, navigation, agriculture, flood control and risk reduction, industry, academia, basin associations, local and state government and local and state and federal government agencies.

DRU BUNTIN

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

NANCY DELONG

DuPont Pioneer

SEAN DUFFY, SR.

Big River Coalition

STEPHEN GAMBRELL

Mississippi River Commission
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

TERI GOODMAN

City of Dubuque, IA

SUE LOWRY

State of Wyoming
Upper Missouri Basin

STEVE MATHIES, PhD

Lower Mississippi River Basin

DANIEL MECKLENBORG

Ingram Barge Company

ROB RASH

Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association

MICHAEL REUTER

The Nature Conservancy

RAINY SHOREY, PhD

Caterpillar, Inc

CHARLES SOMERVILLE, PhD

Ohio River Basin Alliance

MAX STARBUCK

National Corn Growers Association

America's Watershed Initiative Director

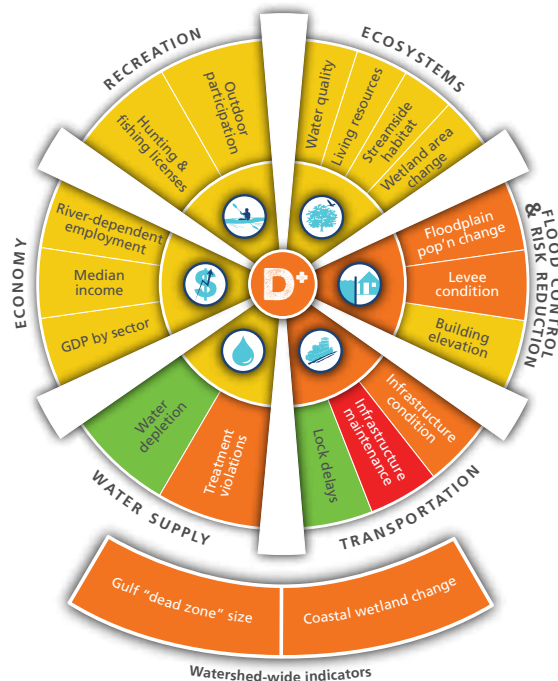
HARALD "JORDY" JORDAHL

America's Watershed Initiative: Report Card for the Mississippi River Watershed

America's Watershed Initiative has worked with leaders, stakeholders, and experts from more than 400 businesses, civic organizations, agencies and academic institutions to develop the Report Card. Stakeholders from each of the five basins participated—Upper Mississippi River Basin, Lower Mississippi River Basin, Ohio & Tennessee River Basin, Arkansas River & Red River Basin, and Missouri River Basin. The Report Card will show the status and key trends for six critical watershed goals: water supply, transportation, recreation, ecosystems, local and national economies, and flood control and risk reduction.



The goal for the Report Card is simple—provide decision makers, watershed leaders and the public with easy to understand information about the state of the watershed and help them develop a collaborative approach to managing America's Watershed.



For more information on the Report Card, visit AmericasWatershed.org/ReportCard

Building The Report Card

Built in the Basins—The size of the entire watershed required the Report Card obtain input and report from each of the main basins. The Report Card project is based on information at the basin scale, and includes grades for each basin and then the entire watershed.

Built with Partners—The Report Card Steering Committee traveled to every basin and to Washington D.C. to bring together diverse experts with broad perspectives to develop the Report Card.

Built with Diversity—The Report Card included input from a broad range of stakeholders and interests in each basin. Volunteer participants have been involved in designing the project, identifying and gathering initial data, supporting the analysis, reviewing results, and suggesting refinements.

America's Watershed Initiative will officially release the Report Card on October 14, 2015. It will include grades and key information about the watershed and basics for each of the six goals. Additional reports, analysis, background information and methodology will be found on America's Watershed Initiative website, AmericasWatershed.org.

'Raise the Grade' for the Mississippi River Watershed

America's Watershed Initiative will officially release the full Report Card and background documents on **October 14, 2015**. Full materials will be available at AmericasWatershed.org

The America's Watershed Initiative Steering Committee is working to strengthen the collaboration and engage more stakeholders and leaders. Over the course of the Fall and Winter 2015, America's Watershed will work with these partners to develop an action agenda to **Raise the Grade** for the Mississippi River watershed and to form a stronger and enduring collective effort for the Mississippi River watershed.

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