

*1. Administrative Details*

**Proposal Name: St. Louis Riverfront - Meramec River Basin Eco system Restoration Construction Authority**

**by Agency: Missouri Department of Natural Resources**

**Locations: MO**

**Date Submitted: 08/17/2018**

**Confirmation Number: 2e80997d-6630-4b0b-bb7f-a8a7fc37a5c6**

*Supporting Documents*

<b>File Name</b>	<b>Date Uploaded</b>
MDNR St. Louis Riverfront - Meramec Basin Letter of Support.pdf	08/17/2018
Meramec and Big River maps.pdf	08/17/2018

**2. Provide the name of the primary sponsor and all non-Federal interests that have contributed or are expected to contribute toward the non-Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification.**

Sponsor	Letter of Support
Missouri Department of Natural Resources(Primary)	The Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is currently serving as the non-Federal sponsor for the St. Louis Riverfront - Meramec Basin Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study. This study reached the Tentatively Selected Plan Milestone in February 2018, reached the Agency Decision Milestone in September 2018, and is scheduled to have a Chief's Report by November 2019. MDNR strongly supports the construction of the recommended plan, which consists of critical restoration projects within the Meramec Basin. The construction of these projects will restore and maintain the ecological importance of the Meramec River and its tributaries and would benefit public health and safety, the economy, and water quality.

**3. State if this proposal is for a feasibility study, a modification to an authorized USACE feasibility study or a modification to an authorized USACE project. If it is a proposal for a modification, provide the authorized water resources development feasibility study or project name.**

[x] Modification to an Authorized USACE Feasibility Study : St. Louis Riverfront, Missouri and Illinois, Meramec River Basin Feasibility Study

***4. Clearly articulate the specific project purpose(s) of the proposed study or modification. Demonstrate that the proposal is related to USACE mission and authorities and specifically address why additional or new authorization is needed.***

The purpose of this request is for construction authority of the St. Louis Riverfront - Meramec River Basin Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study. Following completion of the Chief's Report in November 2019, DN R supports authorization of construction for the Recommended Plan of the Meramec Basin Feasibility Study. The Recommended Plan includes aquatic ecosystem restoration consisting of bank stabilization, sediment capture, and riparian restoration at an estimated cost of approximately \$78 million. The construction of this plan will benefit the ecosystem, local landowners, and recreation impacted by historic mining in the basin.

5. To the extent practicable, provide an estimate of the total cost, and the Federal and non-Federal share of those costs, of the proposed study and, separately, an estimate of the cost of construction or modification.

	Federal	Non-Federal	Total
<b>Study</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Construction</b>	\$51,261,000	\$27,602,000	\$78,863,000

**Explanation (if necessary)**

The estimated construction costs represent the total project costs as estimated at the Agency Decision Milest one. The final recommended total project cost is not expected to deviate significantly from this estimate.

***6. To the extent practicable, describe the anticipated monetary and nonmonetary benefits of the proposal including benefits to the protection of human life and property; improvement to transportation; the national economy; the environment; or the national security interests of the United States.***

Construction of these ecosystem restoration projects would benefit public health; aquatic species, including several that are Federally-listed as threatened or endangered; riparian land that is currently being lost to excessive erosion; and recreation. Implementation of the recommended plan will provide 1,565 habitat units over the no action plan and would benefit 675 acres of riparian habitat and 1,310 acres of aquatic habitat.

*7. Does local support exist? If 'Yes', describe the local support for the proposal.*

Yes

### **Local Support Description**

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is submitting this request as the non-Federal Sponsor. Support for restoration projects in the Meramec Basin has been expressed by local watershed groups such as the Meramec River Tributaries Alliance and Meramec River Recreation Association; NGOs such as The Nature Conservancy; and other agencies such as the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the US Environmental Protection Agency, and the Missouri Department of Conservation, Jefferson County and Jefferson County Public Sewer District. Moreover, local landowners have stepped forward in favor of this project and have expressed interest in projects that would be constructed on their land.

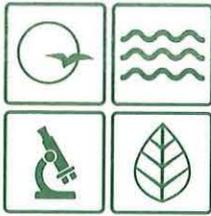
*8. Does the primary sponsor named in (2.) above have the financial ability to provide for the required cost share?*

Yes

# Primary Sponsor Letter of Support

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**MDNR St. Louis Riverfront - Meramec Basin Letter of  
Support.pdf**



Missouri Department of [dnr.mo.gov](http://dnr.mo.gov)

# NATURAL RESOURCES

Michael L. Parson, Governor

Carol S. Comer, Director

AUG 15 2018

Colonel Brian Sizemore  
District Engineer  
U.S. Army Engineer District, St. Louis  
1222 Spruce Street  
St. Louis, MO 63103

Dear Colonel Sizemore:

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is the non-federal sponsor of the St. Louis Riverfront – Meramec Basin Feasibility Study with the St. Louis U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The study is being conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Nature Conservancy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Following completion of the Chief's Report in November 2019, the Department supports authorization of construction authority for the Meramec Basin Feasibility Study in the next available Water Resources Development Act. Immediate authorization will enable the critical restoration projects that are recommended in the Chief's Report to move forward to achieve restoration goals in the basin.

The Department strongly supports construction authorization and looks forward to working with USACE in the future to complete these projects for restoration of the Meramec Basin.

Sincerely,

Carol S. Comer  
Director

CSC:trs



Recycled paper

# Map Document

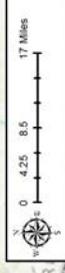
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Meramec and Big River maps.pdf

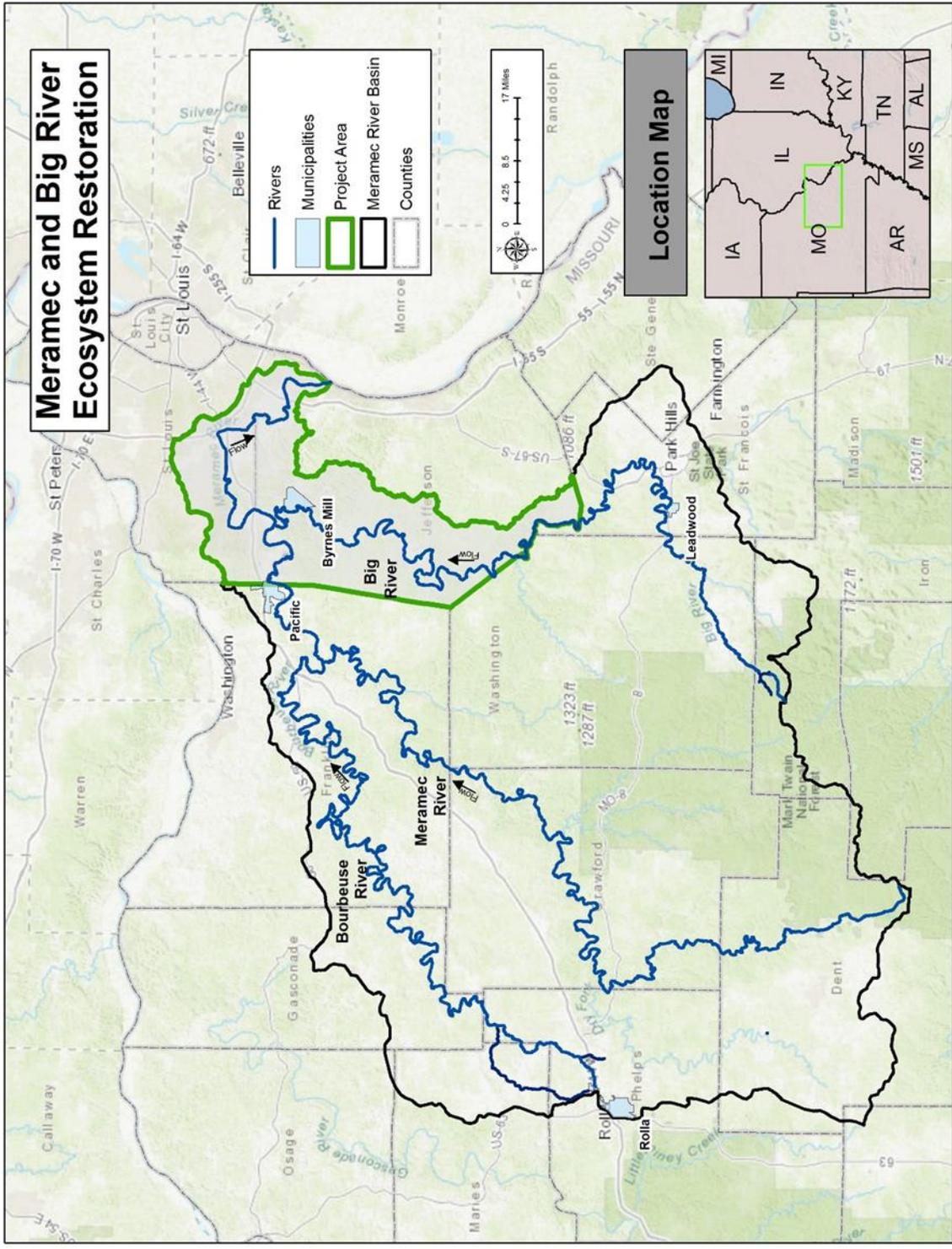
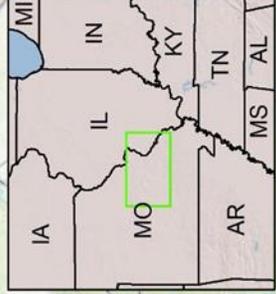
# Meramec and Big River Ecosystem Restoration

**Legend**

- Rivers
- Municipalities
- Project Area
- Meramec River Basin
- Counties



## Location Map





# Meramec and Big Rivers Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study

