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Upcoming Meetings:

- **Wed, February 26th**
Topic: Leadership Lessons from the South Pole
- **Wed, March 26th**
Topic: TBD, Joint meeting with ASCE

Frequently Used Links:

- National website at www.same.org
- Post website at www.same-msp.org
- Listing of [Post Leaders](#)
- Listing of [Post Sustaining Members](#)

*Note about PDHs:

To the best of our knowledge, this program meets the requirements of continuing education as outlined by the Minnesota Board of Registration and should count as 1.0 PDH or .1 CEU (or portion thereof as indicated in the announcement) of development towards required continuing education credits. Certificates will be distributed to those in attendance immediately following the seminar.

Next Meeting Presentation
Wednesday, 22 January 2014

Red River Basin Comprehensive Watershed Management

Lance Yohe, Executive Director of the Red River Basin Commission
Jeff Lewis, Assistant Executive Director of the Red River Basin Commission

1-PDH* will be available

Presentation Synopsis:

The Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) is a registered non-profit working in the Red River Basin (RRB) of the North across the Canada and United States international boundary and the states of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and the Province of Manitoba. RRBC connects to citizens, local, state, provincial and federal levels of government through its board and meetings and has created a basin wide vision related to 13 Goal areas that creates a path forward for the future that all can do their part in helping achieve.

Goals # 5, 6, and 7 related to some aspect of flooding, which is a major reoccurring problem in the RRB resulting in millions of annualized damages. Significant efforts have created a definitive strategy for the future that will assist in reducing these damages from flooding.

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Speaker Bios:

Lance Yohe ... See next page.

Jeff Lewis ... See next page.

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Meeting Location:

Fort Snelling Officer's Club at 395 Minnesota 5, St Paul, MN 55111
See map at http://www.same-msp.org/_images/934thOfficersClub.jpg

Agenda:

Social time and lunch (if you so desire) will be from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM in the dining room of the Officers Club. Post Meeting and Presentation will be from 12:30 PM to about 1:30 PM in the ballroom of the Officers Club.

Luncheon Menu, Cost, and RSVP Info:

The Club's cafeteria-style lunches are typically \$10.00 or less; people who partake in the cafeteria-style lunch will pay the Officers Club directly. If you come only for the presentations, there is no charge.

Please RSVP with your intent to either partake in the cafeteria-style lunch or to come for the presentation only; this will help the Officers Club staff to ensure that an adequate amount of food is prepared. Either leave a voice mail message with Ann Banitt at 651-290-5541, or click the RSVP button in the left-hand column, or send an email message to ann.m.banitt@usace.army.mil

Highlights of the Previous Meeting



Post President Disa Wahlstrand (r) thanks Scott Burfeind and Kabby Jones for their interesting presentation about the relatively new awards program called “**Envision™ Sustainable Infrastructure Rating System**”.

The **Envision** rating system provides a means to establish goals and document successes in creating sustainable infrastructure projects, much as the well-known LEED® rating system does for buildings. Scott and Kabby provided an introduction to the purpose, process, metrics, and possibilities of using **Envision** to guide infrastructure planning, design, and construction toward environmentally and socially sustainable results. They also discussed the William Jack Hernandez Fish Hatchery which was the first project ever to receive an Envision Gold rating.

See <http://sustainableinfrastructure.org/rating/index.cfm> for additional information about the **Envision™ Sustainable Infrastructure Rating System**.

A copy of their presentation can be downloaded from the Post website at www.same-msp.org/pdf/SAME_Envision_Presentation_HDR.pdf.

Winners of the Drawing for a Free Lunch

- At the December Meeting — **Christine Afdahl**, USACE St. Paul District
Keith Anderson, HR Green
- At the November Meeting — **Omid Mohseni**, Barr Engineering
Matt Redington, HDR Engineering
- At the October Meeting — **Ted McCaslin**, HR Green
Steve Alm, Stantec
- At the September Meeting — **Paul Hegre**, SEH Inc
Dave Anderson, Anderson Engineering of Minnesota

Volunteers Wanted for Habitat for Humanity Event



**Habitat
for Humanity®**

The M-SP Post has arranged to assist Habitat for Humanity on one of their home building sites again in February. We are scheduled to provide two teams of 10 to 13 volunteers for a site in Brooklyn Park. We have chosen **February 15th and 22nd** as our dates, to be assigned on a first come/ first served basis (sign up early!).

Each shift is seven hours plus a 30 minute lunch (8:30AM to 4:00PM). Arrive early so you can get suited up in our 2014 SAME/ Habitat T-shirts and get oriented with our Habitat Team. Lunch is provided, as are tools and great instruction, if needed. They have been able to turn several of our volunteers loose with very little instruction at past events, and I expect it will be the same this year! It is also a great opportunity to meet some of our Student Chapter Members from St. Thomas University.

Both days are already filling up, so send in reservations to beth.keister@urs.com and if you have any questions, feel free to call 612.373.6885. Volunteers must be 18 years or older.

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This presentation will cover the following:

- ◆ A brief background, purpose, structure, and activities of RRBC.
- ◆ A brief review of the RRB captured in the RRBC Natural Resource Framework Plans 13 Goals.
- ◆ A detailed breakdown of activities related to Goal # 6, “reducing damages from flooding.”
- ◆ A brief review of USACE activities on the Mainstem.
 - Reconnaissance Studies.
 - Feasibility Studies.
- ◆ RRBC Flood Damage Reduction Working Group.
 - Initial effort in building a seamless mainstem model from Lake Traverse in South Dakota to Lake Winnipeg in Manitoba.
 - ◇ Mike II, Sub-Watersheds, Mainstem results and problems.
 - ◇ Establishing a basin-wide 20% flow reduction goal.
 - ◇ International Border issues.
- ◆ LiDAR Data Collections: US, CN, and along the Border.
- ◆ Development of new HMS (Sub-Watershed Models and Plans) MN and ND.
 - Link to USACE Mainstem Feasibility Study.
- ◆ Development of HEC/RAS Mainstem Model.
 - Fargo-Moorhead Diversion.
- ◆ Halstad Upstream Modeling—Phase I.
 - Site Identification sub-watersheds.
 - Mainstem Impacts.
 - ◇ Snow Melt Grid.
 - ◇ Matching the USACE Balanced Hydrograph (runoff and days).
 - ◇ Results at mainstem locations.
- ◆ Phase II – Halstad to International Border.
- ◆ Phase III --- International Border to Winnipeg Floodway inlet.
 - Manitoba activities and progress.
- ◆ Linking RRBC NRFP to the US ACE Comprehensive Management Plan.
 - Combining Goals.
 - Working together.

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Lance Yohe did his undergraduate work at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN graduating with a degree in Biology. While working toward his BA degree he received training and experience in the US Air Force in the Medical Laboratory field, acquainting him with quantitative and qualitative analytical analysis. Later, he attended Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, MN and received his Master of Divinity degree.

Lance has had first-hand experience in water and land resource issues from a pastor's viewpoint, in a local parish with churches in the Perley, MN and rural Gardner, ND areas next to the Red River. He is familiar with the unique resource and jurisdictional problems within the Red River basin as he was an early Board member of the International Coalition for Land and Water Stewardship in the Red River Basin as well as its Board Chair and later the President/CEO. He served a parish in South Dakota and did other non-profit work before returning to the Red River Basin as Executive Director of the Red River Basin Board in 2001.

In 2002 several organizations: The International Coalition, The Red River Basin Board, and the Red River Water Resource Council merged to form the Red River Basin Commission. Lance has been the RRBC Executive Director since its formation. He has over 25 years of experience and familiarity with Red River Basin water and land resource issues.

The RRBC has a 41 member board that represents: Manitoba, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota at local: county, city, water resource district, and citizen; tribal; environmental; state; and federal (ex-officio) levels. RRBC works on issues and projects that are trans-boundary and promotes cooperation and future driven visioning that has the potential to solve problems before they get to the conflict stage. The Red River Basin Natural Resource Framework Plan is an example of how RRBC is working to build a basin vision and unified voice for action.

Lance has given many conference presentations over the years on issues in the Red River Basin including such topics as: trans-boundary approach, grass-roots involvement, local leadership roles, international issues, resources issues: water quality, water supply, flooding, drainage, water laws, flow modeling, and etc. He has managed numerous projects and guided or co-authored several key basin documents: "Land and Water Guide to the Red River Basin", "Red River Basin Drought: Scoping Document", and the Red River Basin Long Term Flood Solutions Report/Recommendations".

Jeff Lewis was hired as an Assistant Executive Director for the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) in January 2013 and will take over as Executive Director of RRBC on January 1, 2014. Prior to coming to RRBC Jeff had worked for the State of Minnesota for 34 years with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. From 2003 to 2013 Jeff managed several environmental cleanup programs at MPCA headquarters in St. Paul. From 1991 to 2003 Jeff managed the Detroit Lakes Regional office of MPCA where he was responsible for all MPCA programs including the point and nonpoint water quality programs for the Red River Basin (RRB). Jeff was actively involved in setting up the RRBC in its current form and he represented the water quality interests of the State of Minnesota on the RRBC and the IJC International Red River Board when he was Regional Director for MPCA. Jeff has had a strong interest in working to make water management improvements in the RRB for many years.

Prior to coming to the RRB and the MPCA, Jeff worked as an Area Hydrologist for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources from 1979 to 1991 in southwest Minnesota at Marshall, Minnesota. Jeff was responsible for administering a wide range of mainly water quantity issues for MnDNR including surface water drainage, floodplain management and groundwater appropriations. Jeff is a Forest Hydrologist by education with a BS degree in Forestry and an MS degree in Forest Hydrology from the University of Minnesota. Prior to starting with MnDNR Jeff worked for 2 years as a Research Scientist at the University of Minnesota where he worked on a research project characterizing the water quality and quantity of peatland watersheds and evaluating the potential environmental impacts of large scale peat harvesting under the direction of Dr. Kenneth Brooks his advisor and friend.

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