

(This represents an example of a support letter. If you choose to support the project idea, please let us know by also signing at the bottom if MSAC can use your organization's name and/or logo on MSAC's websites, and project educational material to be disseminated to the public.)

Dear Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition,

Recognizing the importance of the six main-stem dams and reservoirs on the Missouri River, these resources need to be sustained to keep the system functional for flood control, hydropower generation, water supplies such as for drinking and irrigation, along with the other authorized purposes of water quality, recreation, navigation and fish and wildlife. Accumulating sedimentation reduces the reservoirs' ability to store water which is needed to efficiently provide these benefits to thousands of people and future generations.

Sediment problems are clearly evident at the smallest reservoir on the system, Lewis and Clark Lake. Recognizing that Lewis and Clark Lake is already approximately 30 percent full of sediment and projected to be 50 percent full by 2045, we support pursuing a sediment management plan for the region, which would aim to sustain the reservoir's ability to store water thus maintaining benefits for future generations.

We also support the need for river managers, adjacent landowners, river water users and the public to take action to reduce sedimentation by exploring installation of sediment collectors on the Niobrara River. The collectors are estimated to reduce sediment delivery from the Niobrara River by up to 60 percent, according to the project overview report. The Niobrara River feeds approximately 60 percent of the sediment entering Lewis and Clark Lake annually.

The Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition proposes a 2-week study to take a closer look at how the sediment collector equipment would perform on the Niobrara River. The study is outlined by Kurtz Bros. Inc. and Streamside Technology, which has developed sediment collectors as an alternative to dredging. The technology offers the potential of being environmentally friendly and possibly a more economical alternative to dredging. Collectors foster an opportunity of reusing the material.

We support this idea of a short-term feasibility study that aims to move a step closer to addressing accumulating sediment in Lewis and Clark Lake which is long overdue.

Sincerely,

(In submitting this letter of support, (ORGANIZATION NAME) _____ allows MSAC to include the organization's name and logo on MSAC's website and promotional materials indicating that this organization provided a letter of support.

Authorized Representative of Organization