



NEWS & VIEWS

RED RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD

RED RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD CO-SPONSORING INTERNATIONAL WATER INSTITUTE BASIN MAPPING INITIATIVE

The Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) is working with the International Water Institute (IWI) to gather state-of-the-art data that will help coordinate and plan for future flood control and protection. At a May 5, 2008 press conference sponsored by the IWI, details of the initiative were shared with public officials, agency representatives, and members of the press.

The initiative will generate data using Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) technologies. LiDAR combines aircraft, global positioning systems,

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Mark Meister – Public Information Officer, RRWMB; Timothy Flakoll – Provost, Tri-College University and North Dakota Senator; Byron Dorgan – U.S. Senator for North Dakota; George Sinner – Former Governor of North Dakota; Charles Fritz – Director, International Water Institute; Joseph Chapman – Chair, Tri-College University; John Hoeven – Governor of North Dakota; and Naomi Erickson – Administrator, RRWMB.

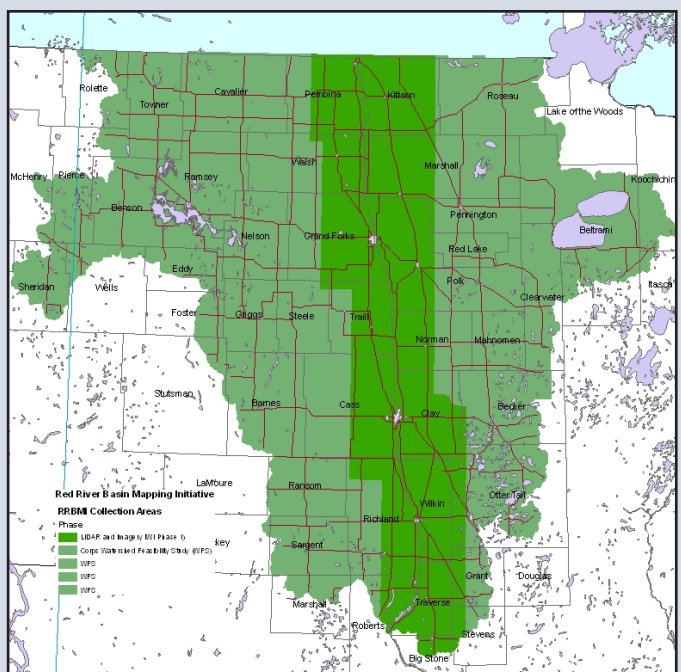
RED RIVER BASIN MAPPING INITIATIVE “REDEFINING THE LANDSCAPE”

ESTIMATED PROJECT COST: \$5,000,000

PROJECT DELIVERABLES: All data generated from the Red River Basin Mapping Initiative will be publically available on the US Geological Survey’s Center for LiDAR Information Coordination and Knowledge - “CLICK” website (<http://lidar.cr.usgs.gov/>). Elevation products shall meet 15-centimeter vertical and 1-meter horizontal accuracies (Root Mean Square Error - RMSE).

- Raw Classified Data Files
- Filtered Bare-Earth Data
- Bare-Earth Digital Elevation Model
- 2-Foot resolution concurrent Ortho-Imagery (Phase 1)
- Public Outreach
- Project Completion Report
- Metadata Records

PROJECT SCOPE: The Entire US Portion of the Red River of the North Basin (40,734 miles²)



computers, and lasers and is a proven technology capable of collecting massive quantities of highly accurate elevation data over large regions. "Thanks to the efforts of national, state, and regional leaders, 13 non-federal, 3 federal funding partners, the \$5 million mapping initiative covering 41,860 square miles of the Red River Basin is underway," announced Chuck Fritz, IWI Director.

"The RRWMB has been behind this project from the beginning. The board

knows that the data will help it in its flood protection projects," notes Fritz. RRWMB President John Finney adds that the information from the mapping initiative is an excellent example of how the board collaborates with other agencies. "We are all in this together, the work we do is for the betterment of all in the basin," says Finney.

The RRWMB was represented at the IWI press conference by Naomi Erickson, Administrator and Mark Meister, Public Information Officer.



Joseph Chapman – Chair, Tri-College University; John Hoeven – Governor of North Dakota; and Naomi Erickson – Administrator, RRWMB.

RRWMB MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

At it's regularly scheduled May meeting, the RRWMB:

- *Received a report from Mark Meister, Public Information Officer.*
- *Authorized N. Erickson and R. Harnack to proceed in conjunction with the board's attorney to prepare funding agreements for the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project and the North Ottawa Impoundment Project.*
- *Received a report from Dan Thul, Red River Coordinator.*
- *Authorized funding a website calendar link for use by the board and member watershed districts.*
- *Received a report from Naomi Erickson, Administrator.*
- *Authorized a resolution requesting the Board of Water & Soil Resources to conduct a performance review and assessment of the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District.*
- *Toured Project No. 42 of the Wild Rice WD.*

EVENTS COMING UP

The next scheduled meeting of the RRWMB will be held at the Dakota Magic Casino & Hotel, Hankinson, ND, Thursday, June 19, 2008, starting at 1:00 p.m. A tour of the Redpath Project will be conducted.



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Your comments and contributions are always welcome. If you are receiving this newsletter and are not currently a member of a governing unit in the Red River Basin, please notify us and provide the name of the appropriate person to be added to our mailing list. News & Views, c/o RRWMB, P.O. Box 763, Detroit Lakes, MN 56502-0763, Phone: (218) 844-6166; Fax: (218) 844-6167.