

Mississippi River Basin / Gulf of Mexico Nutrient Runoff Network Info Bulletin

Sharing information and making connections from the headwaters to the gulf.

February / March 2020 | Issue 1

Welcome!

This bulletin is designed as a way to share information and updates related to nutrient runoff issues and impacts throughout the Mississippi River Basin. *We hope that you find this a valuable resource and encourage you to be a part of the exchange!* You can join the distribution list, or share relevant news, resources, or information for inclusion in future bulletins by sending an email to noaa.centralregion@noaa.gov.

News Items

The Gulf of Mexico Alliance Kicks Off Embrace the Gulf 2020, a daily awareness campaign highlighting the value and vitality of the world's ninth-largest body of water. The goal of the campaign is to promote the sustainability, beauty, and productivity of the Gulf of Mexico.

North Central Region Water Network
The Network has released a **Partnering to Mitigate HABs Report** addressing next steps to combat Harmful Algal Bloom related issues throughout the region.

Spring Flood and Water Resources Outlooks
The first flooding outlook for the upcoming spring was released by the National Weather Service on February 13 (view recording [here](#)). Additional outlooks are scheduled for release on February 27 ([register here](#)) and March 12. These briefings provide an opportunity for NOAA partners to better understand the information and analysis related to the current conditions and flooding projections for the Mississippi River, Western Great Lakes, and Hudson Bay drainage basins.

National Hydrologic Outlook
The National Water Center will release the Spring Flood Outlook for the entire country on March 19. This includes information on water resources



Spotlight: Upper Basin

Well above normal rain and snowfall throughout 2019 has led to record flooding, record high river levels, and abnormally wet ground for the winter season across the region.

The NWS Central Region Regional Operations Center has provided a brief 2 page update, "[Extremely Wet Conditions Across the Region Sets the Stage for a Significant Spring Flood Season](#)", designed to share with partners and the public.



Spotlight: Lower Basin

across the country including drought, water supply, and flooding.

Upcoming Meetings / Webinars

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association Meeting, Feb 25-26, Moline, IL

Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative Capitol Meeting, March 3-5, Washington DC

Gulf of Mexico Alliance All Hands Meeting
June 23-25 - Biloxi, MS

The Gulf Alliance Federal Working Group
Coming up in April the working group will feature Greg Doucette from NOAA's National Center for Coastal Ocean Science to share about his work in detection and identification of HABs on the Great Lakes. Look out for more information soon!

Items of Interest

The Watershed Game is expanding to include new models that address coastal and estuarine environments. [Learn more](#) about this valuable outreach and education tool!

The USDA Midwest Climate Hub has released an updated [Midwest Ag-Focus Outlook](#) which uses NOAA and USDA outlooks and places them in context for Midwest agriculture based on current impacts.

While the earliest components of NOAA date back to 1807 when President Thomas Jefferson founded the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, this year NOAA celebrates the 50 years of our collective work together as one agency. Bringing together the cultures of scientific accuracy and precision, service to protect life and property, and stewardship of resources, NOAA was established in 1970 by President Richard Nixon. Learn more about the compelling history of NOAA, as well as where we are going, but visiting the [50th Anniversary site](#) or watching a [short video](#).

As a way to keep stakeholders aware of Gulf of Mexico based science and restoration funding opportunities, a [three year calendar](#) has been created to assist grant applicants in planning ahead and submitting applications to the appropriate funding opportunity.



Spotlight: Resources to Know

The Hypoxia Task Force has a newsletter which provides a great deal of valuable information for a wide audience - for example in January several nutrient reduction efforts from upper basin states were featured. To learn more and subscribe to the newsletters visit the [Hypoxia Task Force homepage](#).

The Northeast - Midwest Institute creates a weekly message specifically focused on the Mississippi River Basin which includes legislation updates, a schedule of relevant congressional hearings, news from around the basin, and other resources. To get this info weekly, [join the distribution list](#).

Brought to you by...

This bulletin is compiled by the NOAA Central Region and Gulf of Mexico Regional Collaboration Teams nutrient runoff working group.

Members represent Minnesota, Louisiana, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Programs, National Water Extension Program, Northern Gulf Institute, NOAA



National Center for Coastal Ocean Science, NOAA National Weather Service Forecast Offices and River Forecast Centers.

If you would like to join the distribution list and/or include information in the next bulletin, email noaa.centralregion@noaa.gov

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