Mississippi River Basin Panel (MRBP) Coordination Meeting
October 20-22, 2026

North Dakota Game and Fish Headquarters
100 N. Bismarck Expy, Bismark, ND 58501

Agenda
Times are listed in Central Standard Time

All speakers have been invited, but not all are confirmed*
(v)=virtual

Tuesday, October 20, 2026

8:00 am - 8:15 am	*Welcome and Introductions - Jeff Herod, MRBP 2nd Term Co-Chair*
8:15 am - 10:00 am	Session 1 - Host State Presentations - Ben Holen, ND Game and Fish* ● North Dakota AIS Program (45 minutes) ● Smishek Lake Zebra Mussel Eradication Effort (25 minutes) ● The Story of Zander in North Dakota (25 minutes) ● Q&A (10 minutes)
10:00 am - 10:15 am	*Networking Break*
10:15 am - 12:15 pm	Session 2 - Pathways (20 minutes each + 5 minutes Q&A) ● Mapping Human-Mediated NAS and AIS Pathways: Prevalence and Patterns in the Upper Mississippi River Basin - Alison Coulter, SD State University* ● AquaSale: A National Tool for Addressing Organisms in Trade and Online AIS Sales - Sam Tank, Great Lakes Commission* ● Live Bait as an AIS Pathway: Risk, Regulations, and Prevention in the Missouri River Basin - Alison Coulter, SD State University* ● Boat Launch Cleaning Tools Could Help Prevent AIS Spread by Waterfowlers - Valerie Brady, University of Minnesota* (v) ● When Watersheds Connect: Flood-Driven Pathways for AIS Spread - David Coulter, SD State University*
12:15 pm - 1:45 pm	*Lunch (on your own)*

1:45 pm - 3:30 pm	Session 3 - Education and Outreach (20 minutes each + 5 minutes Q&A)

- Closing the Knowledge–Action Gap: What Actually Motivates AIS Prevention Behavior? - Elizabeth Golebie, The Ohio State University* (v)
- From Awareness to Action: Using Community-Based Social Marketing to Prevent Invasive Fish Spread - Amber Stilwell, Pennsylvania Sea Grant* (v)
- Trusted Voices, Wider Reach: Using Influencers and Ambassadors for AIS Prevention - Rebecca D'Orazio, Invasive Species Centre in Ontario* (v)
- Brewing Up AIS Awareness: Partnering with Local Breweries to Reach New Audiences - Amanda Weberg, Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District in Grand Marais Minnesota* (v)

3:30 pm - 3:45 pm	*Networking Break*
3:45 pm - 5:15 pm	Session 4 - Aquatic Invasive Plant Management (20 minutes each + 10 minutes Q&A)

- Starry Stonewort Management: What a Decade of Research Is Telling Us — Dan Larkin, University of Minnesota* (v)
- When Watermilfoil Hybridizes: How Genetics Can Change Management Outcomes — Ryan Thum, Montana State University*
- Managing Invasive Phragmites at the Landscape Scale: Lessons from Federal and State Partnerships — Richard King, USFWS

5:15 - 5:30 pm	Wrap-Up and Adjourn Day 1

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

8:00 am - 10:00 am	Welcome to Day 2! Session 5 - Invasive Fish (20 minutes each + 4 minutes Q&A)

- Grass Carp Rapid Ploidy Analysis Method - Jill Jenkins, USGS*
- Emerging Threat: Wild Goldfish Species in the Pacific Northwest – Theresa Thom, US Fish and Wildlife Service* (v)
- Keeping Prussian Carp Out: Structured Decision Making for an Emerging Invasion Threat - Michael Colvin, USGS
- Keeping Carp Back: What We Know About Invasive Carp Barriers and Deterrents - Andrea Fritts and Marybeth Brey, USGS* (v)

- From Pest to Product: Market-Based Solutions for Invasive Carp Control - Julie Kurnik, World Wildlife Fund* (v)

10:00am - 10:20 am — *Networking Break*

10:20 am - 12:00 pm — Session 6 - Contributed Presentations
(20 minutes each + 5 minutes Q&A)

- Golden Mussel in California: Rapid Response to a New Aquatic Invasion - Martha Volkoff, CADFG*(v)
- Discovering and Developing Biological Solutions to Aquatic Invasive Species – Brady Hirshfeld, Invasive Species Corporation
- Aquatic Invasive Species in Midwest National Parks: Challenges, Priorities, and Management Perspectives - Lily Thompson, University of Missouri School of Natural Resources*
- Measuring the Invasion: Occupancy, Detection Power, and Community Size Spectra for Invasive Carp Management - Chris Rota and Brent Murry, WVU* (v)

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm — *Lunch (on your own)*

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm — Session 7 - 2025-2026 Updates (15 minutes each)

- ANS Task Force - Susan Pasko
- NAS - Matt Neilson, USGS
- MICRA - Neal Jackson and Rob Bourgeois*
- MRBP - Neal Jackson and Elizabeth Brown*

2:30 pm - 4:00 pm — Session 8 - MRBP Committee Meetings

- Education and Outreach - Breakout Room A
- Prevention and Control - Breakout Room B
- Research and Risk Assessment - Breakout Room C

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm — *Networking Break*

4:30 - 5:30 pm — Session 9 - *Wrap-Up - Jeff Herod, MRBP 2nd Term Co-Chair*

- Committee Reports by Committee Chairs (10 minutes each)
    - Project Updates
    - 2027 Work Plan and Budget Requests
- ANS Task Force Recommendations (10 minutes)
- MICRA AIS Committee Recommendations (10 minutes)
- Hosting the ANS Task Force in Spring 2027 in KY (5 minutes)
- Winter 2027/2028 MRBP Meeting Location (5 minutes)

5:30 pm — Adjourn

Thursday, October 22, 2026

Field Trip to Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery. We will leave the hotel at 8:00 am and return by 12:30 pm. Transportation will be provided, but attendees are also welcome to drive themselves.