

Friends of the Missouri National Recreational River  
2016 Annual Report

Executive Board Message to Members and Stakeholders

The *Friends of the Missouri National Recreational River* sincerely thanks you for the generous support that helped launch our organization. This 'Annual Report' highlights activity from our first 22 months of operation. Learn more about FOMNRR at our web site **fomnrr.org** and please "Contact Us" with questions or comments. We welcome your input.

A brief review of MNRR history shows how the park and our organization emerged.

- 1978 – The 59-mile segment, Yankton, SD (Gavins Point Dam) to Ponca, NE designated under the "Wild and Scenic Rivers Act" for 'outstandingly remarkable values,' including cultural, ecological, fish & wildlife, geological, recreational, and scenic. Unit of the national park system administered by the National Park Service.
- 1991 – The 39-mile segment, Pickstown, SD (Ft Randall Dam) to Running Water, SD along with the lower 20-mile segment of the Niobrara River and 8-mile segment of Verdigre Creek added to MNRR.
- 1999 – MNRR General Management Plan & Final Environmental Impact Statement – to guide short- and long-term management decisions in accordance with the Park's enabling legislation and primary purposes intended by Congress upon making the designation.
- 2000 – Missouri River Institute (MRI) inaugurated at USD in Vermillion to foster research, education and outreach related to the Missouri River Basin.
- 2013 – MNRR received "National Water Trail" designation by Secretary of the Interior.
- 2015 – Friends of the Missouri National Recreational River established as a 501-c-3 to advocate park stewardship, collaborate with stakeholders, and help fund projects.
- 2016 – NPS-MNRR Strategic Action Plan – summary document outlining the primary management goals, objectives, and prioritized actions for MNRR to be completed during the period 2016 – 2021. Plan includes Green Island, Mulberry Bend and Bow Creek properties.
- 2016 (November 14) – Goat Island public domain claim filed. Interagency planning effort commenced to complete a management plan for Goat Island by October 2018.

Our Missouri National Recreational River is a truly unique natural resource that positively impacts local economies. National Park Service estimated 148,200 park visitors in 2016 spent \$6.4 million. These expenditures generated 102 jobs, \$2.4 million in labor income, \$4.1 million in value added, and \$7.6 million in total economic output. Tourism generates significant sales tax revenue for MNRR communities. Businesses and institutions consider intangible factors, like MNRR outstandingly remarkable values, in their location, recruiting and investment decisions.

*The mission of the Friends of The Missouri National Recreational River is to build awareness, enhance and advocate for the scenic, recreational, fish and wildlife, ecological, geological, cultural/historical values and economic and recreational opportunities of the Missouri River, a recreational component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.*

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Events and activities, including Missouri River Events (MRE), the FOMNRR supported financially or administratively, and helped rally volunteers:

- Annual Missouri River Watershed School Festival – May 6, 2016 & May 4, 2017
- Annual Yankton Area Missouri River Cleanup – May 13, 2016 & May 6, 2017
- Missouri River Outdoor Festival – June 18, 2016
- Missouri River Clean Boat Invasive Species Awareness – May 7 to 14, 2016
- National Park Service Centennial Celebration event – August 25, 2016
- ROSCOE (River Odyssey for School and Community Outreach and Education), a National Park Service education outreach program for MNRR communities
- Two annual, seasonal newsletters produced in conjunction with NPS

Projects and outreach FOMNRR initiated include:

- Frost Trail (Clay County); land use agreements, trail construction plan, funding needs
- Promotion of and support for paddle (canoe and kayak) events on the MNRR
- Planning process initiated for a MNRR landowner communication program
- Grant writing team established

### Membership and Donor Report

Membership is the lifeblood of a non-profit organization like FOMNRR. Member dues help fund our activities. Member participation enhances our effectiveness. Our membership term runs the calendar year. Please offer your time and talents by emailing us at **info@fomnrr.org**

FOMNRR also maintains relationships with businesses that prefer to ‘earmark’ their corporate donations for specific projects and MRE activities. FOMNRR welcomes these corporate ‘restricted funds’ donors as members.

FOMNRR membership includes 24 Individual, 23 Family, 9 Bronze, 9 Silver, 5 Gold and 2 Platinum for 72 total members as of May 31, 2017.

### Treasurer Report

FOMNRR relies entirely upon member talents. A financial report cannot adequately quantify the significant contributions made by our dedicated members. Thanks to all who freely give their time and skills! However, we can provide members a summary of how FOMNRR raises and uses funds.

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**Balance Sheet**  
**May 31, 2017**

Restricted Funds	\$2,928.69	- Reserved for MRE Events
Unrestricted Funds	<u>\$2,964.95</u>	- Available to FOMNRR
Total Assets	\$5,893.64	- Cash in Checking Account
Liabilities	- none -	
Net Assets	\$5,893.64	

**Statement of Activities**  
**Aug 26, 2015 to May 31, 2017 (22 Months, Life to Date)**

Dues (Unrestricted Revenue)	\$ 6,842.00	
Grants (Restricted Revenue)	<u>\$ 7,102.44</u>	- MRE Funds
Total Revenue	\$13,944.44	
Admin & Promotion Expense	\$ 2,429.76	- 'Start-up' Costs = \$1399.48
Registration & Fee Expense	\$ 420.00	- 'Start-up' Costs = \$410.00
Program & Activity Expense	<u>\$ 5,201.04</u>	- MRE Expenses = \$3877.05
Total Expense	\$ 8050.80	
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 5,893.64	

Annual Report Submitted by FOMNRR Executive Board

Paul Lepisto, Chair (Izaak Walton League)

Tim Cowman, Vice Chair (SD Geological Survey/MNRR Water Trail)

Dave Swanson, Secretary (USD/Biology)

Robert Foley, Treasurer (Landowner/NE-59)

Rick Clark, NPS Liaison (Superintendent, Missouri National Recreational River)

Daniel Peterson, NPS Liaison (Chief of Interpretation, Education and Outreach MNRR)

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