

Missouri River Makes List of Most Endangered Waterways

The Missouri River is number-four on the new list of the country's "most endangered" waterways, according to an environmental conservation group. Eileen Fretz (FRETZ), spokeswoman for American Rivers, says last year's historic, months-long flooding of the Missouri showed how management of the river is at a crossroads. (play audio :19 "store floodwaters.")

The 2011 flooding caused hundreds of millions of dollars damage to homes, businesses, farmland and infrastructure. Many blamed the U-S Army Corps of Engineers for not acting quickly enough to avert the flooding, but Fretz says there needs to be more long-term planning to prevent future flooding disasters. (play audio :16 "those needs.")

Fretz encourages Nebraskans to take action by going to the Washington D-C-based group's website, "www.americanrivers.org". (play audio :08 "their rivers.")

The nation's top three most endangered rivers, according to the report, are: the Potomac, the Green River and the Chattahoochee. American Rivers calls itself "the nation's voice for clean water and healthy rivers," and releases the report every year to shine a public spotlight on threats facing rivers and how citizens can take action to help.

Nebraska Radio Network