

Senators Touring Missouri River Dams and Levee's
BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - Two U.S. senators who symbolize disagreements between upstream and downstream states over management of the Missouri River say last year's historic flooding was a unifying moment.

Missouri Sen. Roy Blunt and North Dakota Sen. John Hoeven are on a two-day ground and air tour of dams and levees along the Missouri. Their home states have long battled over whether the river should be managed to benefit upstream recreation or downstream navigation. But the flooding last summer has put flood control at the forefront of priorities.

Hoeven and Blunt say they're working in the Senate to initiate a new era of cooperation among Missouri River states to improve flood control and river management. Blunt says the river is critical to the region's identity, culture and economy.

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