



MARILYN EDWARDS  
County Judge

280 North College, Suite 500  
Fayetteville, AR 72701

WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
County Courthouse

May 31, 2013

MEETING OF THE  
WASHINGTON COUNTY QUORUM COURT  
COUNTY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, June 3, 2013  
5:30 p.m.  
Washington County Quorum Court Room

A G E N D A

1. Call to Order.
2. Adoption of Agenda.
3. Report from the Washington County Planning Office. County Planning Director Juliet Richey will update the Committee on activities of the County Planning Board during the past month.
4. Review of An Ordinance Amending Washington County Code 11-100 Pertaining To Large Scale Development Standards and Amendment To The Rules And Regulations Of The Planning Director Regarding Zoning. These two items have been drafted by the County Attorney at the request of Planning Director Juliet Richey and adds an exemption for ambulance services. (4.1, 4.2)
5. Report from the Lester C. Howick Animal Shelter.
6. Request from NWA Citizens for Better Government for a Resolution in Opposition of the National Blueway Designation of the White River Watershed. The White River and its entire watershed were designated a National Blueway on January 9, 2013. The time frame in which opposition can be expressed and action taken against this designation ends on July 6, 2013. This was placed on the agenda at the request of JP Joe Patterson. (6.1- 6.5)
7. Other Business.
8. Public Comment.
9. Adjournment.

/kb

**ORDINANCE NO. 2013-\_\_\_\_**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE QUORUM COURT  
OF THE COUNTY OF WASHINGTON,  
STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE  
TO BE ENTITLED:**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING WASHINGTON  
COUNTY CODE 11-100 PERTAINING TO LARGE  
SCALE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS.**

**WHEREAS,** Washington County has enacted exemptions to Large Scale Developments in the past; and,

**WHEREAS,** there is a need to add an exemption for ambulance services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE QUORUM  
COURT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS:**

**ARTICLE 1.** Washington County Code 11-100 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 11-100 Large-scale development standards**

- (l) The following public utility services and structures are hereby exempt from the Washington County Code provisions concerning large-scale developments:
  - (1) Utility boxes;
  - (2) Passenger stops for buses;
  - (3) Police alarm boxes;
  - (4) Historical markers, watershed improvement projects, water conservation projects, or flood control projects;
  - (5) Utility mainline, local transformer and station, water pump stations, waterline flushing assembly, water storage facilities, PRV vaults, electric regulation stations, sewage lift station, manholes, natural gas pressure control stations, individual septic systems, other necessary structures and equipment for water, sewage, and other utility facilities. However, in residential areas, lift stations and pump stations may be required to insulate their station machinery, if the noise produced by such machinery would be an annoyance to the surrounding residential community.

- (6) Booster generators, not owned by a utility, which are utilized for homes, poultry houses and other agricultural facilities.
- (7) Any additions or expansions of ~~existing~~ municipal fire department or volunteer fire departments, or ambulance service buildings or facilities located in the unincorporated portions of the County.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MARILYN EDWARDS, County Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
BECKY LEWALLEN, County Clerk

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Passage: \_\_\_\_\_  
Votes For: \_\_\_\_\_ Votes Against: \_\_\_\_\_  
Abstention: \_\_\_\_\_ Absent: \_\_\_\_\_

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE PLANNING  
DIRECTOR REGARDING ZONING**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article 7 of Ordinance No. 2006-66 the Planning Director is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations in regards to zoning matters; and,

**WHEREAS**, said rules were promulgated and approved by the Quorum Court on January 8, 2007 and March 8, 2008; and,

**WHEREAS**, said rules were amended in 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2012.

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to amend said rules again.

**NOW, THEREFORE:**

**ARTICLE 1.** The following is hereby promulgated subject to the approval of the Quorum Court:

Said rules are hereby amended to add the following to be allowed as a matter of right within the zoned areas of the County:

- a. Any addition or expansion of ~~existing~~ municipal fire departments, ~~or~~ volunteer fire departments, or ambulance service buildings or facilities located in the unincorporated portions of the County.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JULIET RICHEY, Planning Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

**Jessica Ims**

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**From:** Karen Beeks  
**Sent:** Friday, May 31, 2013 9:38 AM  
**To:** Jessica Ims  
**Subject:** Fwd: White River Watershed National Blueway

Karen

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Debbie Beckerdite <[debibecker@gmail.com](mailto:debibecker@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** May 29, 2013, 1:33:41 PM CDT  
**To:** Karen Beeks <[KBeeks@co.washington.ar.us](mailto:KBeeks@co.washington.ar.us)>  
**Subject:** **White River Watershed National Blueway**

Karen, I apologize for not getting this to you over the weekend. Since it was a holiday weekend it has been one family issue after the other. I do hope you can still get this to the County Services committee if that is the one who should receive it because it is time sensitive. Also, I do not have the attorney's email who needs to receive this. Could you forward this to those that need to receive it?

Please let me know if this is alright and that you can open these links.

Debbie Beckerdite, Chair  
Northwest Arkansas Citizens for Better Government

Northwest Arkansas Citizens for Better Government in conjunction with Secure Arkansas ask that the Washington County Quorum Court pass the resolution below. We are providing the following information to explain our position and why we ask for this resolution to be passed for the people of Washington County and in a concerted effort county by county across the state of Arkansas. We apologize for the short notice on this but we were not given notification either. This is time sensitive and if we desire to protect Washington county this resolution must be passed by July 6, 2013.

We have been looking at some very disturbing information recently regarding Arkansas and Missouri. The White River and its entire watershed were designated a National Blueway on January 9, 2013, by Ken Salazar, the Secretary of the Interior, as part of President Obama's "Great Outdoors Initiative". (Salazar actually initiated the "National Blueways" program on May 24, 2012, with Secretarial Order 3321 designating the Connecticut River and its watershed as the Nation's first National Blueway.) While this may sound warm and fuzzy, it actually outlines the destruction of private land ownership and the rise of the future estate of the Federal government!

This Secretarial Order appears to allow any watershed in the United States to be designated a National Blueway with no involvement of Congress or the American public. This is an infringement on our private property rights.

The time for our input is NOW before the 180 days expires, which will happen in early July 2013. To read more about the purpose of this White River Watershed National Blueway designation, go to the [Memorandum of Understanding](#).

[Click here](#) to view the map of the affected area. The White River Watershed National Blueway stretches from up above Springfield, Missouri all the way down past Little Rock, and from Rogers/Fayetteville eastward past Jonesboro. It involves millions and millions of acres across 60+ counties in Arkansas and Missouri of public and private lands and waters.

This National Blueway designation seems to be an Agenda 21 Program intended for implementation in Arkansas and Missouri and will be a disaster for everyone in those states. Federal bureaucrats gave no initial notification nor received any input from local county governments or the public --- which is a violation of federal law.

The designation of the White River and its watershed as a National Blueway and our White River Basin guts the state, and the Federal government will control it. If this isn't stopped, we the people will lose control of our states.

The National Blueway designation brings various unelected environmental stakeholders and organizations, as well as local, state, federal, and international bureaucrats together for environmental issues in the White River Watershed area and for building a sustainable economic region. In actuality, it will be a future federal land grab under U.N. Agenda 21, and we will be used as a biosphere model for other areas in the United States. This will force many people off their land to implement U.N. Agenda 21.

In fact, the White River was actually nominated as a Blueway by more than [26 stakeholder groups](#) including: the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, the Audubon Society, federal partners from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Department of the Interior, as well as other agencies interested in environmentalism and conservation. At least two international, non-governmental organizations were involved as well: the Nature Conservancy and Ducks Unlimited. Both of these have a mindset and purpose in line with U.N. Agenda 21.

Not surprisingly, Arkansas State Lawmakers and property owners were purposely left out, and no public hearings were held.

Salazar's Secretarial Order has a disclaimer: "Nothing in this Order is *intended* to authorize or affect the use of private property. Nothing in this Order is *intended* to be the basis for the exercise of any new regulatory authority, nor...affect or interfere with any Federal, state, local, and tribal jurisdiction or applicable law..."

The words "Nothing in this Order is intended..." does not mean that eminent domain will not happen.

The planned consequences of this Blueway are a clear and present danger to our rights, and this will put a group of unelected bureaucrats in control of policies that will influence water rights and private property, using taxpayer dollars to fund it!

**If this sounds vaguely familiar to you, it is. It's nothing new. The Blueway appears to be a carbon copy of the U.S. Man and Biosphere designation that was aborted in 1996. The**

**history of the Man and Biosphere will be forthcoming. (Some of you may have helped to stop that proposition almost 20 years ago. If so, thank you!)**

## **What is the White River Watershed National Blueway?**

### **WHAT & WHERE?**

In 2012, the Department of Interior established the National Blueways System which brings various unelected environmental stakeholders and organizations, as well as local, state, federal, and international bureaucrats together for environmental issues in the White River Watershed area and for building a sustainable economic region. In actuality, it looks like it could be a future federal land grab under United Nations Agenda 21, and we will be used as a biosphere model for other areas in the United States.

\*Watershed means every square inch of land from which rainfall runoff eventually draws into the White River, including **your** own back yard! **The misconception is that this affects ONLY the White River, but this is incorrect. This could affect your property even if you don't live near the White River. [Click here](#) to view maps of the affected areas.**

We're an agricultural state. An example of consequences are that farmers and cattlemen would be limited regarding the tilling of their soil and water runoff from their fields and pastures, and this would limit their ability to be profitable in their business. The government watershed regulations and restrictions will be extreme and oppressive. You could have no ability to decide what to do with your own property. It seems like these pro-conservation groups view wildlife as more important than humans.

Many international organizations who are supporting this Blueway designation and that supposedly protect habitats and millions of designated acres use the slogan: "Leave no trace". This means no human carbon footprint: no human presence allowed. It's time to say, "ENOUGH! This is oppressive!"

We understand that it's important to take care of our natural resources, but federal government involvement is neither necessary nor desired.

### **WHO?**

We mentioned these people, businesses, and groups who support the National Blueways System in our email from Saturday, May 18, 2013 entitled "Help Oppose the Destruction of Our Heartland!"

There are [over 26 stakeholder groups](#) that support the White River Watershed National Blueway designation, including:

*The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission*

*The Audubon Society*

*Federal partners from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

*The U.S. Department of Agriculture*

*The Department of the Interior*

*The Nature Conservancy*

*Ducks Unlimited*

*Several other agencies and businesses interested in environmentalism and conservation*

[Click here](#) to view the sponsors of this designation.

## **WHY?**

Why are the same bureaucrats and NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations) who, in the 1990's tried to give the same general area a U.N. title ("United Nations Biosphere"), now trying to call it by a National Blueway title? Remember the Ozark Man and Biosphere of the 1990's? Recall that battle.

Why do bureaucrats & "do-good environmentalists" want to designate\* **your** land without consulting you or notifying any of our Constitutional officers whom you have elected to protect you from such encroachment on your private property and on the public lands which your tax dollars maintain for your public access and enjoyment?

\*Don't be deceived by flattering bureaucratic designations. Designations always lead to stronger rules and regulations for you and me and what we can do on our own property.

It seems that some NGOs represent the United Nations, and the government represents some of the NGOs!

## **Arkansas' State Constitution, Article 7, § 28 states:**

*"The county courts shall have exclusive original jurisdiction in all matters relating to county taxes, roads, bridges, ferries, paupers, bastardy, vagrants, the apprenticeship of minors, the disbursement of money for county purposes, and in every other case that may be necessary to the internal improvement and local concerns of the respective counties. The county court shall be held by one judge, except in cases otherwise herein provided."*

Counties in both states of the White River Watershed which have adopted Interim or Comprehensive Land Use and Management Plans were **not** notified nor included from the beginning stages of this purported "designation" as is required by federal law. Therefore, as we see it, the whole process to this point is null and void and has therefore been a waste of taxpayer dollars.

## **Resolution we ask the Washington County Quorum Court to pass:**



*(all these links are the same to make sure you can open one of them).*

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/SecureTheRepublic/State+Documents/Arkansas/blueway/ProposedResolution.pdf>

[resolution](#)

## **WHEN? RIGHT NOW!**

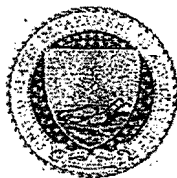
Our time is running short!

The time frame in which we may express our opposition and take action against the White River Watershed National Blueway designation is from January 9, 2013 – July 6, 2013.

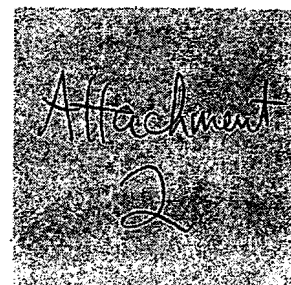
Concerned,

Debbie Beckerdite, Chair

Northwest Arkansas Citizens for Better Government



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**Between the**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
**And the**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**And the**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**



**I. Purpose**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is between the Department of the Interior (Interior), acting through its Secretary; the Department of Agriculture (Agriculture), acting through its Secretary; and the Department of the Army (Army), acting through the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. The purpose of this MOU is to establish a framework for collaborative efforts to identify and create opportunities to work together as partners to accomplish shared, compatible, and priority conservation, restoration, outdoor recreation, environmental education, and sustainable economic objectives in support of the National Blueways System as a whole, and specific designated National Blueways.

**II. Background**

Thanks to growing awareness of the link between healthy communities and healthy watersheds, one of the objectives of the America's Great Outdoors Initiative (AGO), launched by President Barack Obama in 2010, calls on Federal agencies to use a comprehensive and collaborative approach to conserving rivers and other waters by employing a combination of land and water management strategies at the watershed level and using tools such as Integrated Water Resources Management to pursue this approach in cooperation with stakeholder-driven watershed-based partnerships.

On May 24, 2012, Secretary Ken Salazar issued Secretary's Order 3321 establishing the National Blueways System, which designates the Connecticut River and Watershed as the Nation's first National Blueway, and directs Interior to align the implementation of all plans and programs in Interior with the National Blueways System; coordinate among bureaus to support designated National Blueways; and pursue partnerships outside Interior in support of the National Blueways System and designated National Blueways.

A National Blueway is a designation for nationally significant rivers and their watersheds that recognizes the economic, recreational, ecological, and cultural value of healthy river systems. A Watershed designated as a National Blueway employs integrated land and water management techniques to conserve and restore a river from its headwaters to its mouth, and across its entire watershed. A large scale is needed, such as the Connecticut River and Watershed National Blueway, to successfully address 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges posed by changing patterns of resource

use and climate. National Blueways are intended to achieve a balance between scope, scale, and national significance while facilitating grassroots stewardship and local leadership from communities, organizations, and agencies within the watershed, and also remaining relevant and manageable at the local scale.

A National Blueway is envisioned, planned, and adaptively managed by a diverse stakeholder partnership among the communities, tribes, organizations, and agencies that are responsible for, invested in, and committed to the river, watershed, and its array of resources. A National Blueway designation facilitates communication, cooperation, and collaboration to leverage resources and magnify the favorable outcomes of land and water management actions. The large scale of a National Blueway provides a shared context for locally based organizations and agencies to come together in support of a common vision, goals, and actions within the watershed.

There are opportunities for the Federal Government to efficiently coordinate management of their resources in order to maximize program effectiveness across shared objectives. This MOU establishes a framework whereby the Federal Government can better integrate its existing or future investments in rivers and watersheds to achieve shared objectives within the National Blueways System and designated National Blueways.

### **III. Authorities**

The Interior authorities for this MOU include the following: the Take Pride in America Act, Public Law 101-628; the Outdoor Recreation Act, Public Law 87-714; the Cooperative Watershed Management Program of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, Public Law 111-11; the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, 16 U.S.C. 742 et seq.; the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 16 U.S.C. 4601-4 et seq.; the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, 16 U.S.C. 1271-1287; and the National Trails System Act of 1968, 16 U.S.C. 1241 et seq.; The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.

The Agriculture authorities for this MOU include the following: the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (Public Law 74-46 as amended through Public Law 110-246); the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended (Public Law 99-198 as amended through Public Law 110-246); the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-313 as amended through Public Law 110-246) which includes Rural Forestry Assistance (16 U.S.C. 2102), Forest Stewardship Program (16 U.S.C. 2103a), Watershed Forestry Assistance Program (16 U.S.C. 2103b), Forest Legacy Program (16 U.S.C. 2103c), Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program (16 U.S.C. 2103d), and Urban and Community Forestry Assistance (16 U.S.C. 2105); and the Wyden Amendment (Public Law 105-277 as amended).

The Army authorities for this MOU include the following: the Flood Control Act of 1944, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460d); Federal Water Project Recreation Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-12, et seq.); and Section 313 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2320).

#### IV. Objectives

It is the intent of the parties to this MOU to establish a general framework and identify agency leaders to work collaboratively among Federal Agencies and with external stakeholders nationally and within designated National Blueways to create and enhance partnerships among the Federal agencies to leverage the suite of agency programs and magnify the impact of existing multi-agency investments in the National Blueways System. The activities under these partnerships will be consistent with agency priorities, objectives, and mission, and will be deployed in a manner that attracts the attention and participation of state and municipal partners, organizations, and individuals to invest additional human and financial resources into the National Blueways System.

For purposes of this MOU, the parties agree that the broad objectives for the National Blueways System include the following:

- Conserving, protecting, and enhancing the natural diversity and abundance of fish and wildlife species, and the ecosystems upon which these species depend;
- Restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters;
- Integrating and adaptively managing the land and water resources, including agricultural and working lands and waters, within the National Blueways System consistent with applicable laws;
- Providing opportunities for scientific research, environmental education, outdoor recreation, cultural preservation, and sustainable economic opportunities within National Blueways to the extent compatible with agency missions, goals, objectives, and priorities.

#### V. Implementation Strategies

The parties to this MOU will work to implement the stated objectives using agency programs and initiatives as a part of a collaborative effort to leverage, focus, and magnify the impact and use of those programs and related available resources to accomplish shared and compatible objectives in support of designated National Blueways and the National Blueway System. Specifically, to the extent possible in accordance with applicable laws, policies, budgetary limitations, and consistent with agency priorities, the parties to the MOU will do the following:

1. Encourage interagency sharing of a broad range of specialized professional expertise, program capacity, and other appropriate resources among the parties in order to overcome barriers facing any individual agency and create opportunities for collaborative action to achieve National Blueways System goals.
2. Employ voluntary and incentive-based measures within the National Blueways System to promote integrated and adaptive land and water management, including working lands

and waters, to achieve more natural riverine flows, functions, and aquatic species passage consistent with applicable laws.

3. Promote resiliency and representation of terrestrial and aquatic species and habitats within the National Blueways System by enhancing connectivity within the conservation estate in area, elevations, latitudes, aspects, and processes at a scale that is sustainable given anticipated changes in climate and land use.
4. Ensure robust consideration of projects and proposals associated with designated National Blueways when deliberating on the award of agency grants, enrollment in programs, agency initiatives, and/or other agency assistance.
5. Use and promote a watershed approach to river conservation that integrates land and water conservation and addresses morphology, hydrology, and ecology of the river and its watershed to enhance the effectiveness of restoration and conservation efforts.
6. Promote and integrate habitat connectivity, representation, redundancy, and resiliency into the design of conservation, restoration, and recreation initiatives, to address the effects of climate and land use changes.
7. Communicate, collaborate, and cooperate with diverse stakeholder partnerships of public and private organizations to further the objectives of this MOU and the National Blueways System and designated National Blueways.
8. Seek opportunities to use the broad range of programs, improve capacity, and facilitate participation by allowing additional administrative flexibility in the allocation and use of agency financial assistance and technical assistance funding, to expand the ability to forge internal and external partnerships to achieve the objectives herein.
9. Within 180 days of designation, the parties with land and/or water managing authorities within the watershed will work together to develop, sign, and submit a Memorandum of Understanding or similar agreement for the specific National Blueway to the signatories of this MOU and the National Blueway System Committee that was created under Interior's Secretarial Order 3321. Future MOUs or similar agreements are intended to facilitate communication, cooperation, collaboration, and resource prioritization consistent with agency priorities and to the extent allowable in light of legal, budgetary, and policy limitations. National Blueway-specific MOUs or similar documents will outline watershed-specific objectives, implementation strategies, projects, and initiatives, along with short- and long-term desired outcomes for the river and watershed as an integrated land and water management system. In an effort to increase capacity, leverage resources, and magnify the outcomes, the recruitment of additional Federal partners as parties to the National Blueway-specific MOUs is encouraged as a means of achieving additional and enhanced outcomes and quality public service.

## **Disclaimer**

1. While the actions identified in this MOU are deemed desirable and considered necessary to achieve the aforementioned objectives, the actual contribution will be dependent on agency priorities, laws and policies, and contributions toward core objectives, and subject to the availability of resources for these purposes.
2. This MOU is not a fiscal obligation document. Nothing in this MOU obligates the parties to enter into contracts or other funding instruments to carry out the purposes of this MOU.
3. Nothing in this MOU is intended to authorize or affect the use of private property or is intended to be the basis for the exercise of any new regulatory authority. This MOU shall not affect or interfere with any Federal, state, local, and tribal government jurisdiction or applicable law including interstate compacts relating to water or the laws of any state or tribe relating to the control, appropriation, use, or distribution of water or water rights.
4. This agreement and the obligations of the parties to this MOU hereunder shall be subject to the availability of funding, and nothing herein contained shall be construed as binding the parties to this MOU to expend in any one fiscal year any sum in excess of appropriations made by Congress or administratively allocated for the purpose of this MOU for the fiscal year, or to involve the parties to this MOU in any contract or other obligation for the further expenditure of money in excess of such appropriations or allocations.
5. This MOU is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

## **VII. Special Provisions**

1. No voluntary transfer or assignment of this agreement or any part thereof or interest therein, directly or indirectly, shall be made unless such transfer or assignment is first approved by all of the parties hereto in writing.
2. Additional Federal agencies and departments may be added to this MOU upon approval of the National Blueways Committee after executing a copy of Exhibit I, certifying acceptance of the intent, objectives, implementation strategies, and provisions outlined in this document.
3. Participating departments and/or agencies may designate a representative from each agency or department to serve on the National Blueways System Committee who will strive to support the National Blueways System and seek opportunities to enhance communication, cooperation, and collaboration to leverage available agency resources and magnify the impact of desired outcomes, consistent with agency objectives and priorities.

4. This MOU shall become effective on the date of the last signature as indicated below and the same will apply to all National Blueways once they are designated and included in the National Blueways System.

**VIII. Expiration**

This MOU shall be in effect for a term of five (5) years and will automatically renew for periods of five (5) year intervals unless participation is terminated by the signatories to this MOU.

This agreement may be terminated in whole or in part hereof at the option of any party to this MOU after thirty (30) days from the date written notice of termination is given.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have hereunto subscribed their names as of the date indicated.

**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Date: JAN 23 2013

By: Ken Salazar  
Secretary of the Interior

**U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Date: JAN 17 2013

By: [Signature]  
Secretary of Agriculture

**Department of the Army**

Date: JAN 1 2013

By: [Signature]  
Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works

**EXHIBIT - I**

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**Between the**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**And the**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**And the**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

**I. Purpose**

This addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of the Interior (Interior); the Department of Agriculture (Agriculture); and the Department of the Army adds the (Department/Agency) to the aforementioned MOU. The purpose is to expand the federal partners working together to accomplish shared, compatible, and priority conservation, restoration, outdoor recreation, environmental education, and sustainable economic objectives in support of the National Blueways System (NBS). Departments and/or agencies may be added to the MOU by completing and executing Exhibit – I and certifying acceptance of the intent, objectives, implementation strategies, and provisions outlined in the NBS Master MOU.

**II. Background**

Thanks to growing awareness of the link between healthy communities and healthy watersheds, one of the objectives of the America's Great Outdoors Initiative (AGO), launched by President Obama in 2010, calls on Federal agencies to use a comprehensive and collaborative approach to conserving rivers and other waters employing a combination of land and water management strategies at the watershed level using tools such as Integrated Water Resources Management to pursue this approach in collaboration with locally driven watershed-based partnerships.

On May 24, 2012, Secretary Salazar issued Secretary's Order 3321 establishing the National Blueways System, designating the Connecticut River and Watershed as the Nation's first National Blueway, and directing Interior to align the implementation of plans and programs with



the National Blueways System, coordinate among bureaus to support designated National Blueways, and pursue partnerships outside Interior in support of the National Blueways System and AGO.

**III. Department/Agency Authorities (Insert appropriate authorities here)**

**IV. Expiration**

This MOU shall be in effect for a term of five (5) years and will automatically renew for periods of five (5) year intervals unless participation is terminated by the signatories to this MOU.

This agreement may be terminated in whole or in part hereof at the option of any party to this MOU after thirty (30) days from the date written notice was given.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have hereunto subscribed their names as of the date indicated.

**Department/Agency Name:**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title: Department/Agency - Secretary/Director**



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
U.S. Department  
of the Interior

[www.doi.gov](http://www.doi.gov)

## News Release

### AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS: White River and its Watershed in Arkansas and Missouri Recognized as Second "National Blueway"

Designation to Boost Tourism, Expand Recreational Opportunities and Fuel Local Economies

01/09/2013

Contact: Blake Androff (DOI) 202-208-6416  
Courtney Rowa (USDA) 202-720-2971  
Molra Kelley (Army) 703-614-3992

**LITTLE ROCK, AR**— Deputy Secretary of the Interior David J. Hayes today announced that the White River, along with its watershed, has been named the nation's second National Blueway. Hayes was joined by Senator Mark Pryor, Congressman Tim Griffin, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army Terrence "Rock" Salt, Deputy Undersecretary of Agriculture Ann Mills, as well as state, local, and conservation leaders at a ceremony in Little Rock, Arkansas, to make the announcement. Deputy Secretary Hayes said that the collaboration taking place in the White River watershed is a model of successful river conservation for the 21st century.

"The National Blueway designation recognizes that strong, diverse partnerships are the best way to address the modern-day threats to our nation's most important rivers, and the White River is an outstanding example of that approach," said Hayes. "The river is the recreational and economic lifeblood of communities from the Ozarks to the Mississippi. River users and river lovers of all stripes have banded together to protect the White River watershed and maintain this magnificent resource for the region — and for the nation."

"The designation of the White River watershed as a National Blueway demonstrates the Obama Administration's continued commitment to the protection of public and working lands that are crucial to the growth and revitalization of rural America," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "The resources made available through this designation will support and promote needed conservation efforts and bolster valuable economic growth and job creation in years to come."

In May 2012, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar established the National Blueways System, a new designation for rivers and watersheds of national significance designed to promote and conserve the economic, recreational, and natural values of healthy river systems from source to outlet and across watersheds. The initiative is part of President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative to establish a community-driven conservation and recreation agenda for the 21st century. The designation does not establish a new protective status or regulation, but rather is intended to recognize and support existing local and regional conservation, recreation, and restoration efforts by coordinating ongoing federal, state, and local activities.

Flowing for over 700 miles from its headwaters in the Ozarks to its mouth at the Mississippi River, the White River drains a watershed spanning 17.8 million acres across 60 counties in Arkansas and Missouri. It is home to 1.2 million people who rely on the economic impact that recreation, tourism, agriculture, and commerce along the river provide to watershed communities. The White River is an important part of the wildlife-related economies of Arkansas and Missouri, which statewide accounted for \$1.8 billion and \$2.8 billion in 2011, respectively. Public and private landowners in the watershed have already conserved more than 3.2 million acres of their land for the benefit of people and wildlife.

The White River National Blueway was nominated for this designation by 26 diverse stakeholder groups including the National Wildlife Refuge Association, The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, The Conservation Fund, Audubon, the Arkansas Canoe Club, the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, the cities of Augusta and Clarendon, local businesses, and federal partners from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Interior, and the Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture.

"We know through experience that by aligning federal, state and local agencies along with nonprofit and private interests, we can together accomplish great things for the people and wildlife of Arkansas and Missouri," said National Wildlife Refuge Association President David Houghton.

In support of the new White River National Blueway, senior leaders from partnering federal agencies announced new projects that will enhance the river's natural resources and create economic opportunities for the region.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that in FY 2013, working with the Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts to establish priorities, it will commit more than \$22 million to soil and water conservation in counties located within the White River Watershed through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Approximately \$13 million of those funds will be directed to pasture land to provide soil and water conservation needs that arose from the drought in 2012. Additionally, the USDA Forest Service manages more than 1 million acres of federal forest land within the boundary of the Blueway, and is engaging in dozens of projects aimed at improving habitat within the watershed.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently approved a 101,110-acre expansion to the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge—named for one of the White River's main tributaries—that will protect valuable floodplain habitat through conservation easements and acquisitions from willing landowners.

"The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service seeks to build on the great conservation work by our state, federal, conservation, and sportsmen partners," said U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe. "Today's recognition formalizes something all of us already know—that the White River watershed is special. We are committed to passing on to future generations the chance to hike, paddle, hunt, fish, and otherwise enjoy this

exceptional watershed."

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced that they are moving forward with the Lower Cache River Basin Restoration Project, which will restore flows to meanders cut off by flood control work and will increase fish and wildlife habitat.

"In keeping with President Obama's commitment to the America's Great Outdoors initiative, the Corps is proud to be a part of the National Blueways initiative, which recognizes and supports stakeholder partnerships," said Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Jo-Ellen Darcy. "The Corps' Lower Cache River Basin Restoration project is part of this effort."

For maps and photographs of the White River, [click here](#).

For a copy of the Designation of the White River National Blueway, [click here](#).

For a copy of Secretary's Order Number 3321 establishing the National Blueways System, [click here](#).

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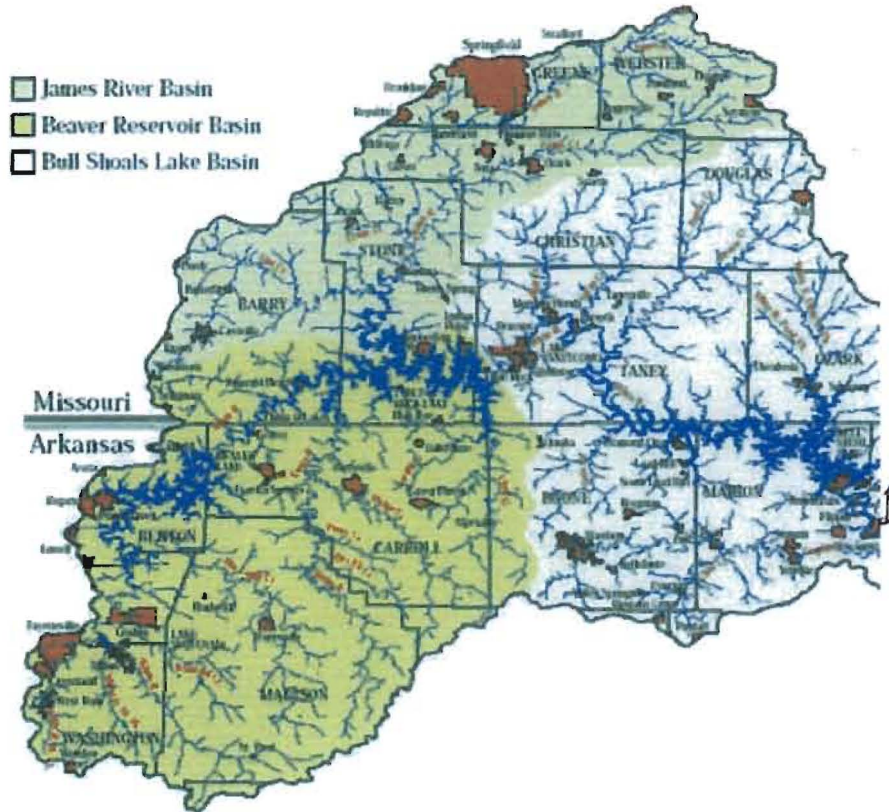
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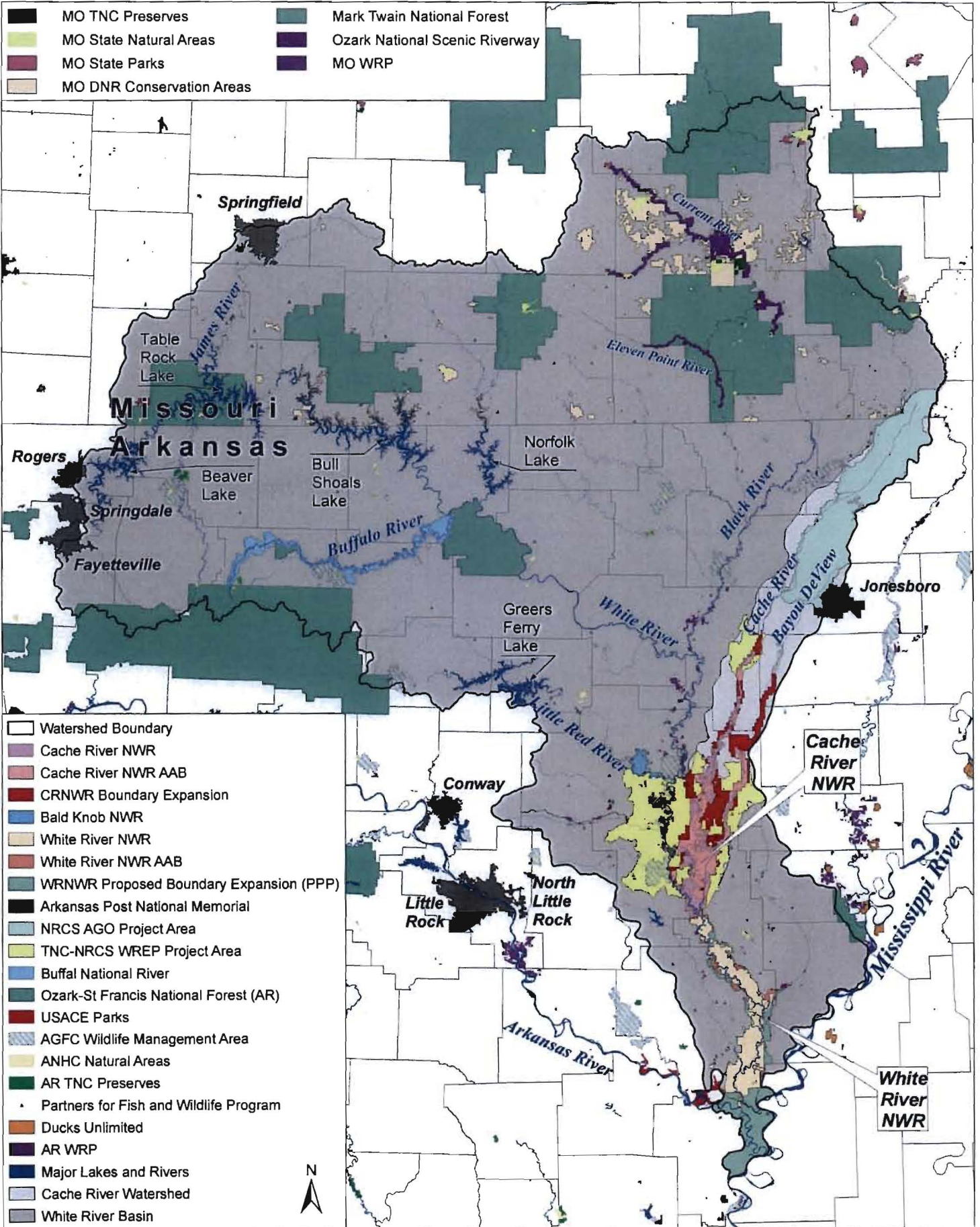


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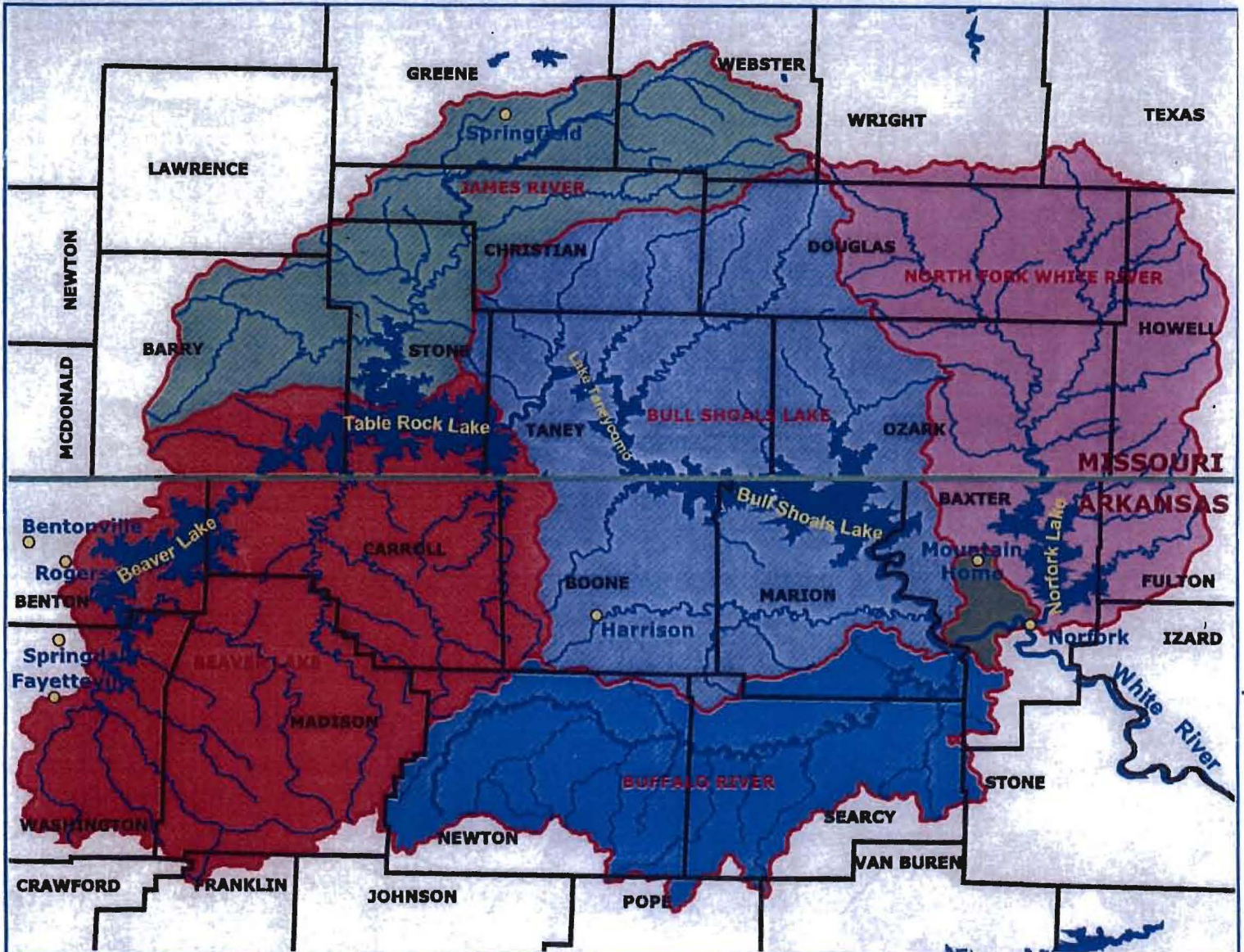
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**Our Mission:**  
**"With your help we will work together to make Beaver Table Rock, Taneycomo and Bull Shoals lakes the four cleanest manmade lakes in North America."**

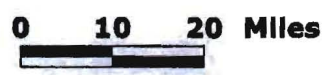
# Conservation Estate within the Watershed White River Watershed National Blueway



# UPPER WHITE RIVER BASIN



	State Boundary
	County Boundary
	Major Streams
	Lakes
	Upper White River Basin and Sub-Basins



Map Created By:  
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 Watershed & Technical Support  
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White River Watershed National Blueway Support Organizations January 07, 2013		
Support Organization	Lead Official	Title
<b>Federal Agencies &amp; Ventures</b>		
USFWS, Southeast Region	Cynthia K. Dohner	Regional Director
USACE, Memphis District	Colonel Vernie L. Reichling	District Commander
USGS, MO Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit (Univ. of Arkansas)	Elisabeth Webb Amanda Rosenberger	Assistant Unit Leader – Wildlife Assistant Unit Leader - Fisheries
USGS, AR Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit (Univ. of Missouri)	David Krementz	Unit Leader
USDA – NRCS - MO	J. R. Flores	State Conservationist
USDA – NRCS - AR	Michael E. Sullivan	State Conservationist
USDA – Forest Service – Mark Twain NF	Bill Nightingale	Forest Supervisor
USDA – Forest Service - Ozark-St. Francis NF	Judith L. Henry	Forest Supervisor
NPS – Buffalo National River	Kevin G. Cheri	Superintendent
NPS – Arkansas Post National Memorial	Edward E. Wood, Jr.	Superintendent
Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture	Ed Penny	Chairman
<b>State and Local Government</b>		
Missouri Department of Conservation	Robert L. Ziehmer	Director
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission	Mike Knoedl	Director
Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission	Chris Colclasure	Acting Director
Arkansas Forestry Commission	Joe Fox	State Forester
City of Augusta, Arkansas	Rocky Tidwell	Mayor
City of Clarendon, Arkansas	Jim Stinson	Mayor
Arkansas Waterways Association	Gene Higginbotham	Executive Director
<b>Non-Governmental Organizations</b>		
Ducks Unlimited	H. Dale Hall	CEO
National Wildlife Refuge Association	David Houghton	President
The Nature Conservancy - Missouri	Todd Sampsell	Director
The Nature Conservancy - Arkansas	Scott Simon	Director
The Conservation Fund	Ray Herndon	Director, Lower Mississippi Region
Audubon – Missouri	Patricia Hagen	VP & Executive State Director
Audubon – Arkansas	Ellen Fennell	VP & Executive State Director
Arkansas Canoe Club	Debbie Doss	Conservation Chair
Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts	Charles Glover	President
<b>Local Businesses</b>		
Greenway Equipment, Inc.	Tommy Hall	Vice-President of Service Operations
G & G Irrigation, LLC	David Graves	Owner

RESOLUTION NO. 2013 -

Be It Resolved by the Quorum Court of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of Arkansas

## A Resolution to be Entitled:

A Resolution of Opposition to the January 2013 "designation" and "recognition" of the White River and its Watershed as the "Second National Blueway"; and especial Opposition to a "Blueway" Memorandum of Understanding being entered into by federal and state bureaucrats pertaining to our lands and waters- due to lack of proper notification or invitation, and due to failure to seek approval, involvement, or input of any kind from \_\_\_\_\_ County.

1. WHEREAS, on January 9, 2013, agents of the U.S. Department of Interior hosted in Little Rock an announcement/news release ceremony to announce that the White River and its watershed (17.8 million acres across 60 counties in Arkansas and Missouri) "had been named the nation's second National Blueway". The only two U.S. congressional delegates named as being present for the announcement were neither one a representative of the vast area of north Arkansas pertaining to the White River/Watershed. The three U.S. congressional delegates which do represent the White River/Watershed area of Arkansas, Senator John Boozman, Representative Steve Womack, and Representative Rick Crawford, were not present at the ceremony, and it is not know if even they were aware of or had been invited to the "naming/designating" of the supposed White River/Watershed "Blueway". Also, no County officials of any of the affected area were meaningfully informed nor known to have been invited to be present at the ceremony; AND,
2. WHEREAS, the federal law requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Clean Water Act (CWA) and other federal statutes require that all conservation programs be balanced with equal protection of the customs, cultures, and economies of the areas conserved or preserved; yet the language of the Blueway Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) contract plainly lists "cultural preservation" and "sustainable economic opportunities" to be provided for only "to the extent compatible with agency missions, goals, objectives, and priorities", while the overall language of the MOU contract is solely about grandiose schemes to "conserve" and "preserve" the *entire* watershed including "working lands and waters"; AND,
3. WHEREAS, no definition of "working lands and waters" is given in the MOU; AND
4. WHEREAS, affected Arkansas counties which have adopted Comprehensive Land Use and Management Plans according to the provisions of federal law at 40 CFR 1501.7(a)(1), et al, were neither informed, notified, or invited to participate in the "Blueway" process as is required by federal law; AND,
5. WHEREAS, such violation of federal law by federal agencies to not balance conservation and preservation with protection of custom, culture, social, and economic vitality; *plus* their failure to fulfill federal law requirements to inform, include, and involve county officials in all plans and proceedings of federal/state programs and projects, etc.— in our understanding thereby *nullifies* and *voids* all their bureaucratic attempts and efforts which have taken place up to this present time, for the purpose of "designating" or "naming" of White River/Watershed as a "National Blueway"; AND,
6. WHEREAS, the whole appearance of and the general list of participants in this ill-conceived "Blueway" attempt is so reminiscent of and similar to the now infamous effort of 1996 (by the U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Arkansas Game & Fish, and other state and federal agencies) to submit the same general area (Ozark Highlands/White River Basin) to the U.S. Man and Biosphere (MAB) program which had the same goals, objectives and strategies as does this "Blueway" newcomer; (the 1996 MAB attempt was aborted when former Governor Huckabee demanded AG&FC to withdraw); —continued next page



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SO THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of Arkansas, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the Year of our Lord 2013, THAT:

A) \_\_\_\_\_ County has every intention to continue present conservation practices as is mandated by laws that are consistent with historic and balanced provisions of the Constitution of the State of Arkansas and will therefore, neither recognize, cooperate, participate or partner with, nor submit to any so-called "Blueway" designs of any type or kind- due to the violations of federal law noted above; and due to the insult of our county being ignored by state and federal agents as they scheme together to "manage" our lands and waters without seeking our approval or consulting with us.

B) \_\_\_\_\_ County calls on Governor Beebe to demand immediate withdrawal of Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, and Arkansas Waterways Association from participation in or support of the White River Watershed National Blueway.

C) \_\_\_\_\_ County calls on our U.S. Congressional Delegation to demand immediate withdrawal of federal agencies from imposing a National Blueway System of any type or kind upon White River Watershed; and to refrain from entering into a Memorandum of Understanding for any purpose, now or in the future, pertaining to lands, air, water, etc. of Arkansas unless county governments have been fully informed, involved, and consulted, and have agreed to so do based on widespread local support from the public and private sectors. And further, our county also calls on our congressional delegates to take special care in the future, to prevent any attempt of any other similar federally designed "collaborative framework" MOU contract in Arkansas again.

\*BE IT THEREFORE SO RESOLVED.

\*Note: Upon adoption of this Resolution, the County Clerk of this county is to immediately forward a file-marked copy for publication in a newspaper of local circulation and also to forward file-marked copies to Governor Beebe and to each of Arkansas' six U.S. congressional delegates- to both their state offices and to their Washington D.C. offices, and for informational purposes to all our district Arkansas legislative delegates. The County Clerk is then to provide written file-marked certification to the Quorum Court that such distribution has been accomplished.