

Approved 8-18-08

## **Missouri River Watershed Coalition Constitution**

### **Article I.**

Section 1. NAME: This organization shall be known as the Missouri River Watershed Coalition.

Section 2. MEMBERS: The Missouri River Watershed membership shall be composed of the official state agriculture agencies of the following states:

- Colorado
- Montana
- Nebraska
- North Dakota
- South Dakota
- Wyoming

As well as,

- Other states within the Missouri River Watershed, upon the approval of the existing member states, and
- A representative from each of the following groups -- all the Tribes, Federal Agencies, and any private coalition or individual located in the Missouri River Watershed states.

All members shall be eligible to serve as Missouri River Watershed Coalition officers provided that all other provisions of the Constitution are complied with.

### **Article II.**

Section 1. PURPOSE: The purpose of this organization shall be to recognize the critical need for protecting the water resources of the Missouri River Watershed, and to develop management strategies and priorities for invasive plant species and water resources in this region. The overall goal of the Coalition is to protect and improve agriculture, recreation, aesthetics, water systems, habitats, and ranching/grazing by minimizing the effects of saltcedar and other noxious and invasive species within the Coalition boundary. The plan organizes project surveys and treatment and compiles necessary information to best use the states' limited collective resources.

### **Article III.**

Section 1. VOTING: Each member state shall be entitled to one vote when voting on Missouri River Watershed Coalition business. In the case of a tie, the President will cast a vote to break the tie. The Vice President shall only cast a vote in the absence of the President. Member state's votes are to be cast by the noxious weed coordinator or his/her authorized representative from his/her state. Authorized representatives from each state and the President shall be known as the "Executive Committee."

Section 2. QUORUM: A quorum shall consist of a number of members representing a majority of the member states.

Section 3. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS: All meetings of the Missouri River Watershed Coalition shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's "Rules of Order" except when there is conflict with this constitution and bylaws, in which case the constitution and bylaws shall prevail.

### **Article IV.**

Section 1. OFFICERS: The officers of this organization shall consist of a President and Vice-President. These officers shall be elected annually or until their successors are elected and qualified. Officers are eligible for re-election for an indefinite period of time, but not to exceed four years. All officers shall upon expiration of their terms, surrender to their successors all Missouri River Watershed Coalition property.

### **Article V.**

Section 1. AMENDMENTS: The Constitution may be amended at any meeting where a quorum of the member states is present, three-fourths of those present approve the amendment, and provided the proposed amendment or amendments have been submitted to each member thirty (30) days before the meeting.

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## **Missouri River Watershed Coalition Bylaws**

### **Article I.**

The Executive Committee shall govern the Coalition. The Executive Committee shall supervise the business, programs, and policies approved by the Coalition membership.

### **Article II.**

The officers of this Coalition shall be elected by written ballot.

### **Article III.**

The Executive Committee shall appoint members to such workgroups as deemed necessary to conduct the business of the Coalition.

**Article IV.**

All funds given to the Missouri River Watershed Coalition shall be deposited in a special account and shall be made available for paying Coalition expenses.

**Article V.**

The time and place of the bi-annual meeting shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

**Article VI.**

Special meetings of the Coalition shall be called at the discretion of the Executive Committee or upon the petition of four (4) or more member states.

**Article VII.**

The Bylaws may be amended at any meeting where a quorum of the member states is present, three-fourths of those present approve the amendment, and provided the proposed amendment or amendments have been submitted to each member thirty (30) days before the meeting.