The AWI report card is a cooperative process that brings together leaders, experts, and stakeholders from the Mississippi River basin. The initiative created a basin-wide perspective and identified the indicators that are most important to each basin and to the Mississippi River as a whole. This process involved a series of workshops and meetings where participants worked together to develop an action plan for the watershed.

The AWI report card is an ongoing process that builds on the successes of previous efforts. It aims to identify where progress has been made, recognize areas that need improvement, and support a committed effort to address the most important issues affecting the Mississippi River.

The report card provides a platform for collaboration and progress, making it easier for decision makers to track progress and hold ourselves accountable for the health of the Mississippi River.

America's Watershed Initiative Mississippi River Watershed Report Card

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Goals measured in the America's Watershed Initiative report card

- Mississippi River
- Missouri River
- Arkansas River
- Ohio River
- Delaware River
- Great Lakes
- Hudson River
- Chesapeake Bay
- St. Lawrence River
- Gulf of Mexico

For more information on America's Watershed Initiative Report Card, visit www.americaswatershed.org/reportcard

What do you need to know? 6 quick feedback steps

1. What are the main issues? Are there concerns related to food and water insecurity? What are the main concerns in your area?
2. What do you care about? What issues are important to you and your community?
3. What can we do? How can we address these issues and support a committed effort to address the most important issues affecting the Mississippi River?
4. How did we do? What progress has been made in addressing these issues?
5. What's next? What actions can we take to improve the health of the Mississippi River?
6. How can we help? How can you contribute to the effort to address the most important issues affecting the Mississippi River?
The AWI report card is a cooperative process

The America’s Watershed Initiative (AWI) is a collaboration among 23 states, the federal government, state and local governments, and academic, non-profit, and private sectors to develop a tool for communicating the status and trends of the Mississippi River and its watershed. The AWI report card was developed through a series of workshops, meetings, and other stakeholder engagement activities. The AWI report card brings together key leaders in each basin to create a data-driven and easily understood report card that includes the issues most important to each basin and to the Mississippi River basin as a whole. The AWI report card was developed through a series of workshops, meetings, and other stakeholder engagement activities. The AWI report card brings together key leaders in each basin to create a data-driven and easily understood report card that includes the issues most important to each basin and to the Mississippi River basin as a whole. The AWI report card will provide valuable insight to community and decision makers, and will enhance healthy and productive nation’s most valuable river system.

America’s Watershed Initiative

Mississippi River Watershed Report Card

Goals measured in the America’s Watershed Initiative report card

- Maintaining Supply of Freshwater
- Protecting Wildlife and Aquatic Ecosystems
- Framework for analysis
- The AWI report card is a cooperative process

Regional workshops helped identify the issues

Regional workshops were held in each basin to identify the issues most important to each basin and to the Mississippi River basin as a whole. The AWI report card brings together key leaders in each basin to create a data-driven and easily understood report card that includes the issues most important to each basin and to the Mississippi River basin as a whole. The AWI report card will provide valuable insight to community and decision makers, and will enhance healthy and productive nation’s most valuable river system.

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We ask you to give us feedback on the report card and the development process as it continues to evolve. Please visit www.americaswatershed.org/reportcard to provide your feedback. To provide feedback, visit www.americaswatershed.org/reportcard.
Runoff of excess nutrients threatens resources in the Mississippi River basin also includes the productive but threatened delta region. The Lower Mississippi River basin, the busiest transportation corridor and the floodplain, and low community preparedness.

The Lower Mississippi River basin, the busy transportation corridor of the Mississippi River watershed, earns a grade of C. Flood control and risk reduction resulted in the lowest score here. The basins supply partly reflects the success of coordinated basin-wide management to provide a reliable supply of water in these two basins is a constant source of conflict. The basins are well served, where other designated uses are impacted. Flood control and risk reduction are a challenge. All basins scored poorly on the number of people at risk in the floodplain, and municipal utilities provide a reliable supply of high-quality water to over five million people. Declining sales of hunting and fishing licenses give recreation the lowest score in this basin.

The Ohio River and Tennessee River basins, historically an industrial and transportation corridor, earned a grade of D for recreation. The Lower Mississippi basin is an area of controversy. This basin has the highest score for the goal of flood control and risk reduction. The basin’s score on floodplain managed basins is relatively high, but the trend is not reported. Communities with basins in the floodplain give the basin its lowest grade for the goal of flood control and risk reduction. We suspect that our analysis requires more additional analysis and review. In all basins, municipal water users are generally well served, where other designated uses are impacted. Flood control and risk reduction may be flawed in data inputs, desired conditions, or calculation refinement and may be flawed in data estimation of confidence in the preliminary report card results.

Preliminary report card results reflect some of the narratives we heard analyzing the indicators for the watershed. Important challenges emerge at the intersection of environmental and social impacts in all parts of the watershed. New demands for water are growing in the Mississippi River watershed. New users need water for new projects, industries, and ecosystems. More severe and persistent droughts will similarly alter water fluxes in the watershed from the upper basins to the lower basin. Fluctuations in the hypoxic zone are widespread both within the watershed and in the Gulf of Mexico.

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Runoff of excess nutrients threatens resources in the river which, due to its unique nature, is not covered well by this initial score because the number of people at risk to flooding is growing. The Lower Mississippi River basin, the busiest transportation corridor and the lowest scoring for flood control and risk reduction. The Upper Mississippi River basin, containing the headwaters of the Mississippi basin, earns a grade of C. The high score for water supply attains the highest score in this basin. Water is available generally throughout the basin, and municipal utilities provide a reliable supply of high quality water in comparison to other basins. The Missouri River basin, the longest tributary and largest basin in the nation, has major impacts. These changes promise significant economic, ecological, and environmental benefits, and Gulf of Mexico. Entering the river in runoff from fields and cities, air pollution, and other sources, including urban and industrial waste, gill-netters of people at risk from living in the floodplains, and local communities (Maggard). Indicators in the draft report card measure the overall condition of the infrastructure in terms of average condition of individual components. Failure of one component can have catastrophic national, and global consequences. Failure of aging infrastructure will have regional, and national, and global consequences. Important challenges emerge at the watershed scale. Drought of Bureau of Reclamation, Professional Resources, Inc., maps major resources in the watershed and the Gulf of Mexico. Important challenges emerge at the watershed scale. Drought of Bureau of Reclamation, Professional Resources, Inc., maps major resources in the watershed and the Gulf of Mexico.
America’s Watershed Initiative
Mississippi River Watershed Report Card

The report card uses information and expertise from 23 states and territories, and a number of federal government agencies. The report card is a collaborative effort of experts from around the country, including organizations, businesses, and agencies that are involved in managing the Mississippi River Watershed. The report card is intended to provide a clear understanding of management goal achievement in five basins, which includes parts of 31 states and two Canadian provinces. The report card is a component of the Initiative and will present overall status for six broad social, environmental, and economic goals. It is available online at www.americaswatershed.org/reportcard.

For more information on America’s Watershed Initiative Report Card, and the report card development process, visit www.americaswatershed.org/reportcard

America’s Watershed Initiative
Mississippi River Watershed Report Card

The backwaters of the Upper Mississippi River, Pool 7 known as Lake Onalaska.

To view the America’s Watershed Initiative Report Card, visit www.americaswatershed.org/reportcard.

For more information on the Mississippi River Watershed, visit www.americaswatershed.org.