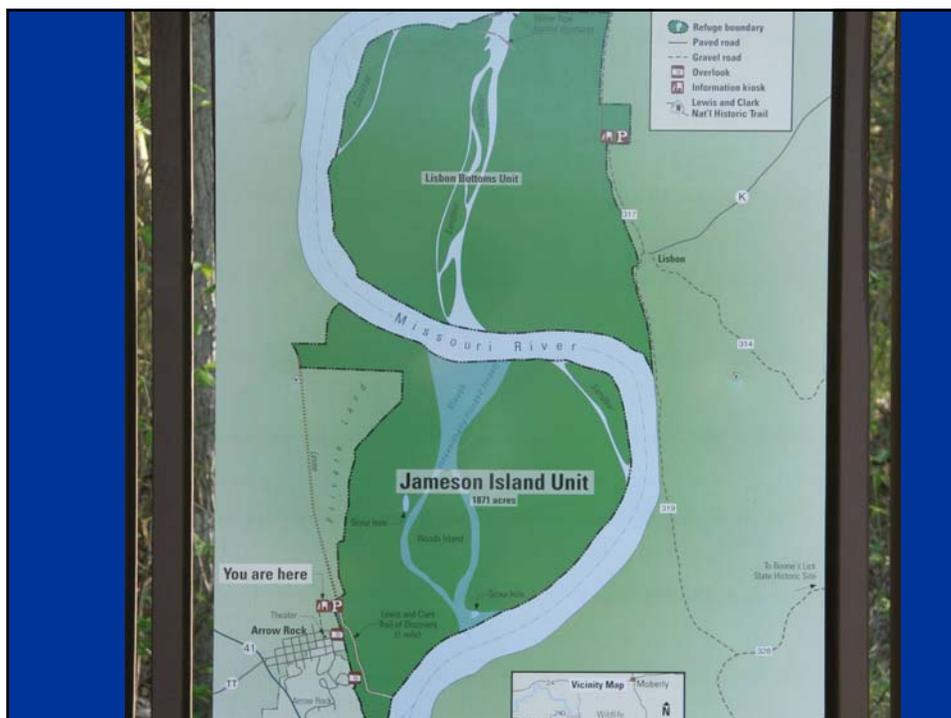


Dirty Dumping by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Submitted by
Kristin Perry, Vice-Chair
Missouri Clean Water Commission
June 13, 2007



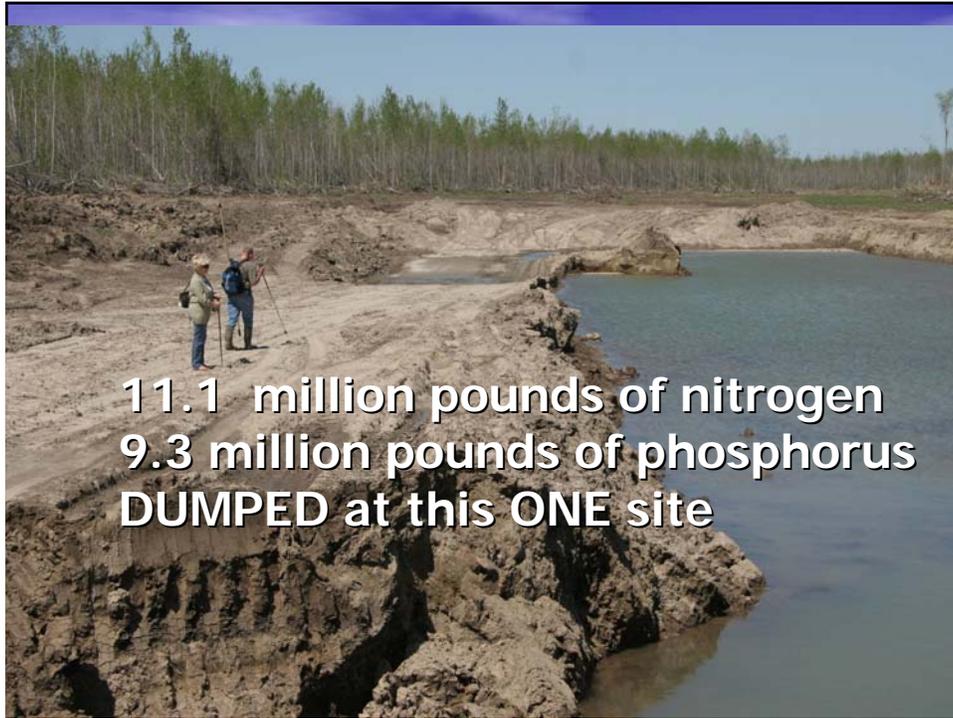
Jameson Island Chute





If you had 2 tons of runoff per acre,
this 5.4 million tons
would be equivalent to the
runoff off from
2.7 million acres.

Last year, Missouri harvested 2.63
million acres of corn.



If this amount of nutrients were
put in fertilizer trucks
of DAP and urea,
you would need

795 semi trucks

holding 46,000 pounds each



Chute Projects

- 13 chutes – 22.9 miles in Missouri
- Total of 21 in four states of Missouri River Basin
- The first four projects in Missouri, the soil was side cast or used along the levee or used to build sand bars.
- The remaining projects are scheduled to be dumped directly into the river.

Jameson – Pre-flood looking north



Jameson chute from the air during recent flood – looking south



Corps stand on sediment They call it “paradigm shift”

- The Missouri River is a sediment based ecosystem.
- The Corp has not developed methods to move sediment downstream from dams upstream where sediment is trapped.
- Therefore, the Missouri River only carries 20-25% of the natural historic sediment load.
- The Missouri River has less sediment load than is desirable.
- One way to help hypoxia is to increase sediment load reaching the Gulf.

Corps stand on nutrient loading

- All nitrogen fertilizer not incorporated into plants is lost to the atmosphere or leached out by rainfall within a year.
- Most phosphorus fertilizer not taken up by plants is converted by soil processes into insoluble phosphate minerals within a few years of application.
- When nitrogen and phosphorus pollution occurs from farm application of fertilizer, it is typically very soon after application.

Soil test levels on Jameson Project

Depth	Bray P1 lbs/ac	% Sand
0-12"	89	12.3
12-24"	76	17.3
24-36"	70	14.8
36-48"	25	27.3
48-60"	25	4.8

Soil test levels on Jameson Project

Depth	Total P as P205 mg/kg	Total N mg/kg
0-12"	1431	1275
12-24"	1431	966
24-36"	1317	909
36-48"	1031	511
48-60"	1260	822
Hog Lagoon-unstirred	140	598

Is this dumping scientifically defensible?

- If it is, why are we spending 86 million dollars in Missouri on CREP to keep soil out of our watersheds?
- If it is acceptable only on the Missouri River, why is only the Corps allowed to dump soil there?
- If it NOT scientifically defensible, why are we allowing the Corps to do it?

We need some good science.

- Is this dumping a good thing or a bad thing?
- I have maintained that nutrients in soil are good, in water are bad. If I am not correct, I need to know that.
- The EPA response when asked if this dumping was good or bad, said “Not necessarily.”
- The Missouri Clean Water Commission is meeting with the Corps to discuss revising their permit at the end of this month. What do we say ?

Will agriculture be blamed?

- I represent the interest of agriculture on the Missouri Clean Water Commission.
- I think this Corps dumping is of far greater magnitude than the runoff of all of Missouri agriculture.
- The dumping by the Corps should be measured and reflected in your reports.

- Soil lost from a farm, we have been taught, is productivity lost forever.
- But the erosion of the good standing of agriculture is just as permanent. Federal agencies dumping soil straight into the river without taking responsibility for the effects has an eroding effect on the reputation of agriculture. I think it is time to stop it.
- Please tell me if I am scientifically correct.