

News Release

Midwest Region



5600 American Boulevard West, Suite 990, Bloomington, MN 55437
612-713-5360

John Weber 573-234-2132 x 177
John_S_Weber@fws.gov

Trustee Agencies Plan to Restore the Little St. Francis River Pile at the Madison County Mines Site

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, acting as trustees for natural resources, invite the public to an informational meeting on Tuesday, October 25, 2016, to learn about the trustees' proposal to restore natural resources at the Little St. Francis River Pile site in Fredericktown.. The meeting will be from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Black River Electric Cooperative, 2600 Highway 67, Fredericktown, Missouri 63645.

Agency representatives will be on hand to discuss the proposal to spend ASARCO restoration dollars to restore native floodplain forest at the former mine site. ASARCO owned and operated a mine and mill at the site of the planned restoration along the banks of the Little St. Francis River. The draft proposal discusses how the now city-owned site will be restored to forest and protected following the completion of planned cleanup activities by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Planned restoration activities include tree planting, spraying for invasive species, monitoring the success of plantings and long-term protection of the site by the City of Fredericktown.

The Little St. Francis River Pile is part of the larger Madison Count Mines Site, which in turn, is a part of the Southeast Missouri Lead Mining District. The Southeast Missouri Lead Mining District spans multiple counties from 40 to 90 miles south southwest of St. Louis, Missouri, and is located in the Big River, Black River and St Francis River watersheds. It is one of the largest lead-producing regions of the world.

Public participation is an important part of Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration process. Comments and input from the public on the restoration proposal are encouraged and will be accepted for 30 days after the release of the draft. Members of the public should submit their comments to:

Mr. John Weber
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
101 Park DeVille Dr. Suite A
Columbia, MO 65203
John_S_Weber@fws.gov

To obtain a copy of the restoration proposal and to learn more about the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration process and the Southeast Missouri Lead Mining District, visit <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/es/ec/nrda/SEMONRDA/index.html> or <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/hwp/sfund/nrda.htm>.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit <http://www.fws.gov>.

Connect with our Facebook page at facebook.com/usfwsmidwest, follow our tweets at twitter.com/usfwsmidwest, watch our YouTube Channel at youtube.com/usfws and download photos from our Flickr page at flickr.com/photos/usfwsmidwest.

###