



WATERWAYS
COUNCIL, INC.

Low Water Crisis 2012-2013

**Missouri River Corps, Coast
Guard & Navigators Meeting**

February 13, 2013



WATERWAYS
COUNCIL, INC.

**National Public Policy
Organization Advocating a
World-Class System of Ports
and Inland Waterways**



Who is WCI?

- **Towboat , Tugboat, & Barge Industry Companies**
- **Companies Utilizing Waterways for Shipping**
- **Companies Utilizing Goods Delivered/Sent via Waterways**
 - **Power, Construction, Agribusiness, etc....**
- **Agricultural Associations**
- **Economic Development Groups (Chambers of Commerce)**
- **Ports**
- **Organized Labor Unions**
- **Conservation Organizations**
- **Advocates for Reliable River Transportation !**



Drought & Low Water Crisis 2012-2013



JOSH RUBEN/CONTR



At Stake Nov-Jan

- For Each Inch of Lower Water = 765 tons lost
 - (45-Barge Tow on Lower Mississippi...17 Tons/ Barge)
- Key is Predictability & Reliability
- \$7 Billion (Value of Products Disrupted, Delayed or Transferred Landside)
 - 300 Million Bushels of Agricultural Products: Valued at \$2.3 Billion
 - 3.8 Million Tons of Coal
 - 5 Million Barrels of AMERICAN-Produced Crude Oil: Valued at \$545 Million
 - Domestically-Produced Oil Would Require Additional Imports
- ***Not Factored:* Impacts to Jobs, Power Generation, Reduced Capacity at Manufacturing Facilities, Long-Term Impacts.....**



Low Water: Challenges

- **Lack of 2012 Rainfall**
 - and Below-Normal 2011-2012 Snowpack
- **Question: Where is Water Available Until Rocks Removed**
- **Industry to Army Corps of Engineers: *Speed Up Contracting for Rock Removal!***





WCI Role in Low-Water Crisis

- Urge USACE to Expedite Actions *

*** Examine Alternate Water Resources**

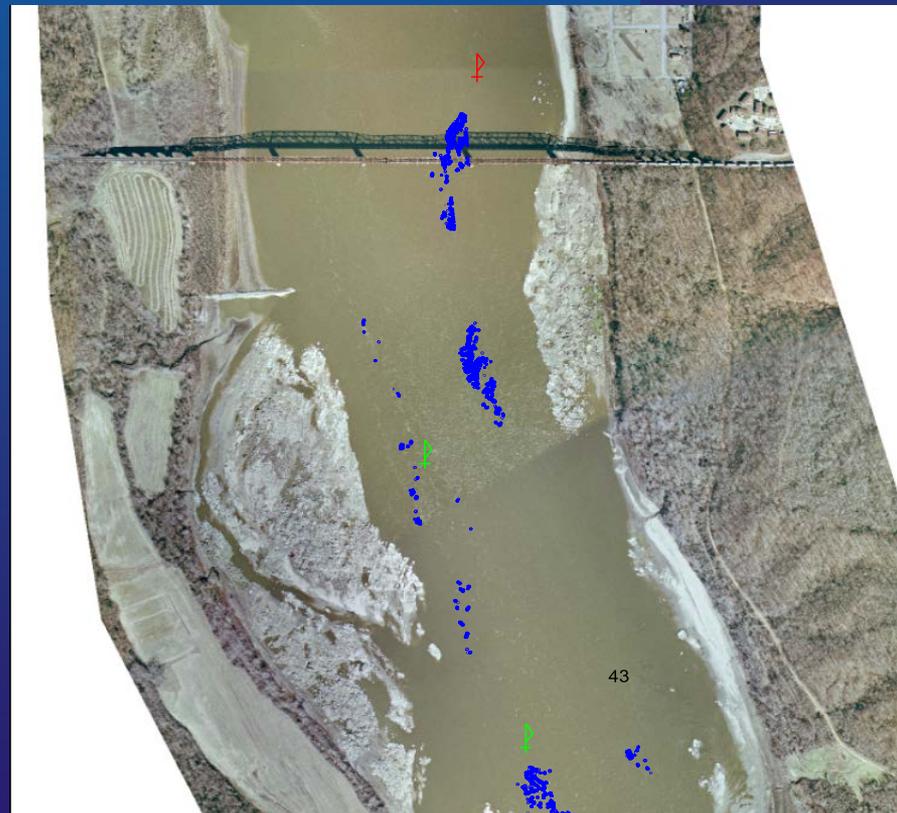
*** Expedite Contract of Removing Rock Pinnacles at Thebes and Grand Tower, IL**

- Outreach to Governors' Offices
- Alert Congressional Delegation
- Educate Administration
- Message Control with Media
- Assist AWO in Industry Coordination



Remove the Rock Pinnacles... ...Quickly

Grand Tower, IL (mile 79)



Thebes, IL (mile 38.5)



Rock Removal: Keeping River Open



T

10



It Could Have Been Much Worse





In the Media Spotlight





Lessons Learned & Retaining Positive Media Attention

- **Opportunities Moving Forward**
 - Ongoing Media Interest (for how long?) and the Prospects that Interest Provides
 - Elected Officials Engaged
 - Key Senators & Representatives
 - White House
 - Governors
 - State Legislatures
- **Rock Removal was Key (2' Retained)**
- **Water Availability from Other Sources**



www.waterwayscouncil.org

Paul Rohde
prohde@vesselalliance.com