

Oct. 30, 2011

US Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Paul District  
Fargo-Moorhead Metro Flood Project

I believe that almost everyone will agree that something must be done about the ongoing flood problems in the Fargo-Moorhead area. I however, strongly oppose the current plan for two main reasons.

1. It appears that the current plan would have the metro area solve their problems at the expense of their neighbors both up stream and downstream. Additional flows to the north would aggravate already flood prone towns between Fargo and the border. The latest plans would devastate Oxbow, Hickson, and create major financial problems for the Kindred school district as well as farm sites and land all the way down to Richland and Wilkin counties. This is inexcusable. Why implement a plan that only causes more problems in other areas?

2. The current plan is estimated to cost \$1.8 billion. The option of placing the diversion on the Minnesota side of the river is roughly \$1 billion less and has far fewer environmental issues. This is a much cheaper and better way to handle this problem. Another less costly option may be to dike the river like was successfully done in Grand Forks, ND following the disastrous flood of 1997. This created no ill affects either upstream or downstream.