

River Connections: A Science and Strategy Workshop for the Mississippi River Watershed

Day 2 Agenda: May 20, 2026
Tulane University
2nd Floor, Lavin-Bernick Center, 29 McAlister Drive
New Orleans, Louisiana

Breakfast

7:30 – 8:30 am

Getting Started

8:30 – 9:00 am | Introduction to Day Two

SESSION 1: Bridging the Research-Practice Gap

9:00 – 10:30 am | **Panel Discussion: Pressing Questions from the Field** Resource managers present their most pressing questions and challenges to the room. Panelists represent key issue areas and geographies

10:30 – 10:45 am | **Break**

10:45 am – 12:15 pm | **Small Group Discussions: Gaps and Potential Collaborations** Researchers and resource managers will meet in assigned breakout groups to discuss critical gaps and identify opportunities for collaboration.

12:15 – 1:15 pm | **Lunch**

SESSION 2: Achieving the Science We Need – Translating Ideas into Programs

1:15 – 2:00 pm | **Panel: Sentinel Monitoring Program, MS River Fisheries Commission, and MS River Watershed Partnership (MRWP)** Panel members will present an overview of each program and how they can serve as platforms for applied research.

2:00 – 3:00 pm | **Small Group Discussions** Pre-assigned groups will discuss moving these three programs forward, as well as any other initiatives participants identify as advancing science in the basin.

3:00 – 3:15 pm | **Break**

SESSION 3: Growing the Cause – Bringing More Voices in Support of Science

3:15 – 4:00 pm **Small Group Discussions** Groups will identify who needs to be at the table, refine science and monitoring messages for key audiences, and define next steps for outreach and engagement.

4:00 – 4:15 pm **Report Back to Full Group**

4:15 – 4:30 pm | **Reflections of day 1 and 2 and preview of Day Three**