Who are some of the players in the Upper Mississippi River system?

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ON THE RIVER

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—manages and maintains the nine-foot navigation channel and locks and dams along the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. Purchased thousands of acres of land as part of these navigation projects. Today, many of these acres are managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service but the Corps maintained forest management rights.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—manages a 260 mile refuge system on the Upper Mississippi River. Also has management authority for trust species on the river such as migratory birds and endangered, threatened, and species of concern.
U.S. Coast Guard—maintains the navigational marking system on the river and has authority to respond to spills on the river.
Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Missouri—Five basin states maintain State rights for water quality, water supply, water discharge, fish consumption, fish and other commercial harvest regulations, and permitting of structures.
Local government—maintain boat patrol for safety and law enforcement as well as maintain slow-no-wake zones and fleeting sites.

LONG STANDING ORGANIZATIONS

Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee (UMRCC)—formed in 1943 by fish and wildlife biologists and administrators. Membership includes conservation agencies of five states (MN, WI, IL, IA, MO). Federal agencies are cooperators. The objective of the UMRCC is to "promote the preservation and wise utilization of the natural and recreational resources of the UMR and to formulate policies, plans, and programs for conducting cooperative studies." Activities have included recreation use surveys, compiling commercial fishing statistics, waterfowl and wildlife studies, education, and water safety enforcement. Technical working groups include fisheries, water quality, wildlife, recreation, and law enforcement.

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association (UMRBA)—formed in 1981 as a successor to the federally authorized Upper Mississippi River Basin Commission. The Governors of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin signed a joint resolution calling for the "continuation of an interstate organization to maintain communication and cooperation among the states on matters related to water planning and management." Six federal agencies also participate as non-voting members: Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Agriculture (Natural Resource Conservation Service), Department of Homeland Security (Coast Guard and Federal Emergency Management Agency), Department of Interior (Fish and Wildlife Service, Geological Survey), Department of Transportation (Maritime Administration), and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Environmental Management Program Coordinating Committee (EMP-CC)--
serves as a consultative capacity to the Army Corps of Engineers concerning implementation of habitat restoration projects and the long-term monitoring components of their Environmental Management Program. Members include 5 state agencies, 7 federal agencies, and the UMRBA provides support staff.

NON-GOVERMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (not an exhaustive list)

NAME	WEB SITE
Audubon Society	Audubon.org
Izaak Walton League	IWLA.org
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Nfwf.org
Green Lands, Blue Waters	Greenlandsbluewaters.org
Institute for Ag. & Trade Policy	Iatp.org
Trout Unlimited	tu.org
Ducks Unlimited	Ducks.org
Driftless Area Initiative	Swbadger.com
Great River Greening	Greatrivergreening.org
The McKnight Foundation	Mcknight.org
Friends of the Mississippi	Fmr.org
Partners in Flight	Partnersinflight.org