



Overview

The *Mississippi River Corridor - Tennessee, Inc.* (MRCT) is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit Tennessee corporation. Its mission is to identify, conserve and enhance the region's natural, cultural and recreational resources to improve the quality of life and prosperity in West Tennessee.

The MRCT is dedicated to the economic development, land conservation, environment and wildlife preservation of the six counties that border the Mississippi River along the entire western coast of Tennessee. The six counties that comprise the Corridor are: Shelby, Tipton, Lauderdale, Dyer, Lake and Obion.

The Corridor is a complex and ever-evolving project that involves uniting hundreds of key stakeholders and property owners within the region to preserve the area's important and significant resources like vegetation, wildlife, wetlands, water, trails, sites of historical, geological and archaeological interests, scenic vistas and areas of high aesthetic value. The Corridor promotes and provides managed access to this unique region for enhanced economic development through tourism related recreational, cultural and educational experiences along the Mississippi River.

Not only is this a critical initiative for the preservation of the region, its wildlife and natural amenities, it is equally important in the economic development of our distressed counties in western Tennessee that are experiencing a major loss of employment opportunities and contain high concentrations of employment in declining industries.

The potential economic impact of this project is a windfall for the region. The Corridor will attract thousands of tourists as well as regional travelers along the designated FHWA **Great River Road - National Scenic Byway & Trail**. Outdoor recreational enthusiasts, history buffs, biology and ecology researchers, families and students of all ages benefit from the Corridor's magnificent trails and scenic vistas, interpretive visitor centers and recreational facilities. Development of amenities to support the influx of visitors, coupled with new business ventures, will positively impact job creation, capital investments, income levels and local and state tax revenues.

www.msrivertn.org