WRRDA 2014 Updates and Other Corps Planning & Policy Initiatives

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A Perfect Storm: U.S. Water Resources Challenges

- Increased Competition for Water – Population Growth & Demographic Changes
- Aging Civil Works Infrastructure and Implications to Resilience
- Increasing Demand - Mega Nexus Drivers – i.e. Water Supply, Domestic Hydrocarbon Production, Agricultural Needs
- Nonstationarity and Adaptation to Climate Change
- Paradigm Shift to IWRM /Systems Perspective Focused on Sustainability
- Technological Advancement and Knowledge Management
- Global Economy & Increased Importance of U.S. Maritime Transportation System
- As “World Shrinks” – Increasing Concerns Over International Water Security
- US Debt Pandemic & Constrained Federal Budgets
Our water infrastructure supports our quality of life. It delivers:

- economic prosperity
- flood risk reduction
- healthy ecosystems
- waterborne commerce
- usable water
- renewable energy
Planning Modernization

End State: A Planning Program that delivers timely, cost-effective and high quality and enduring water resource solutions to strengthen our Nation’s security, the economy, reduces risks from disasters and improve and restore the Environment

- **People**: People trained, equipped, and capable of solving problems.
- **Process**: Timely, technically sound, and policy compliant products.
- **Projects**: Implementable solutions for the Nation’s water resource priorities based on transparent, risk informed decisions.
- **Program**: An accountable, proactive, responsive, and relevant Planning Program providing value to the Nation’s Civil Works investment.
The 4 “P”s in Practice

**Investing in Planner’s Knowledge**
- Civil Works Project Development Process
- Planning Essentials
- Plan Formulation & Evaluation Capstone
- PCOP Leaders Meeting
- Monthly Webinars - Ongoing
- 271 Planning Certifications
- Launched National Water Resources Certified Planner Program

**SMART Planning, 3x3x3 & WRRDA**
WRRDA 14 Provisions:
- Elimination of Recon Studies
- Strict time and costs for feasibility studies
- Expansion of contributed funds
- Sponsor role in requesting new study authorization
- 85% of WRRDA 14 Implementation

Guidance(s) addressed
Planning Policy Updates
Interagency Guide to SMART Planning

**Delivering Commitments**
- WRRDA 2014 included $25 Billion in project authorizations for 34 Projects
- 36 Chief’s Reports completed in 2007-2014 recommending an investment total of $28 Billion
- 29 Chief’s Reports completed since WRRDA 14 recommending $12.68B
- 2 more Chief’s Reports scheduled in FY16 recommending additional $2.77B

**Sustainable for the Nation’s Future Needs**
- 9 new start reconnaissance studies in FY14
- 10 new start feasibility studies in FY15
- 10 new start feasibility studies in FY16
- 9 Sandy focus area studies
- 5 disposition studies
WRRDA 2014

- Water Supply and Reservoirs
- Regulatory (including 408)
- Dam Safety
- Levee Safety
- Alternative Financing
- Navigation
- Non-Federal Implementation
- Deauthorizations & Backlog Prevention
- Project Development and Delivery (Including Planning)
- Credits
**WRRDA Implementation**

- Staff continues to work through all the provisions of WRRDA. There are 202 provisions that need to be addressed in some manner. **85% of the provisions have been addressed to date.**

- Corps submitted 2nd Annual Report required by Section 7001 of WRRDA 14 on activities related to USACE missions that require specific authorization in law.

- Developed lists of candidate projects for deauthorization to reduce backlog pursuant to Secs. 6001 and 6003 of WRRDA 14.

- Actively evaluating and developing guidance for provisions in WRRDA that support other mechanisms for funding development of water resources infrastructure – either public-private partnerships or enhanced non-Federal participation.
WRRDA Implementation, Continued

- Issued guidance on Secs. 1001 and 1002 that support streamlining Corps study processes, limiting feasibility studies to 3 years and $3 million Federal cost as well as eliminating the reconnaissance phase.
- Developed guidance for Sec. 1006, Expediting the Evaluation and Processing of Permits,
  - Permanent authority for Corps to accept funds from non-federal public interests and allowing public utility and natural gas companies to participate in the program for 7 years.
- Addressing requirements for expenditures from Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund through the Budget process.
- Finalizing development of implementation plan for Levee Safety Initiative, per Sec. 3016 of WRRDA 14.
- Updated guidance on acceptance of contributed funds Section 1015 & Section 1023 and conduct of feasibility studies by NFS Section 1014(a)
WRRDA 2014 Challenges and Opportunities

- Feasibility and Watershed Studies
- Environmental Streamlining
- Advanced and contributed funds
- Alternative financing
- Emergency use of materials and services
- Liability of Owners, Lessee and Operators of Vessels
- Section 203 and 204 technical assistance
WRRDA 2014 Section 7001
Annual Report on Future Water Resources Development

- Identifies proposals for new study authorizations, new project authorizations, and modifications to existing project or feasibility study authorities
- In part, based on non-Federal interests annual requests
- Secretary certifies proposals meet 5 WRRDA criteria
- Proposals that don’t meet criteria are included in an appendix

**DEADLINE FOR THIS YEAR IS SEPTEMBER 19TH**
For the Latest Planning Information

- Planning Community Toolbox: www.corpsplanning.us
- Report to Congress on Future Water Resources Development / WRRDA 7001 Webpage
  - Includes Links to Fed Register Notice and Proposal Form
  - FAQs on the Report to Congress on Future Water Resources Development
  - Questions? Email: wrrda7001proposal@usace.army.mil
- Implementation Guidance for All sections of WRRDA
Questions?

PLANNING SMART
BUILDING STRONG
SMART Planning Feasibility Study Process

SMART Feasibility Study Process

1. SCOPING
   - Alternatives Milestone
     - Vertical Team concurrence on array of alternatives

2. ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION & ANALYSIS
   - TSP Milestone
     - Vertical Team concurrence on tentatively selected plan

3. FEASIBILITY-LEVEL ANALYSIS
   - Agency Decision Milestone
     - Agency endorsement of recommended plan

4. CHIEF’S REPORT
   - Civil Works Review Board
     - Release for State & Agency Review

5. DE transmits final report package

$300K YR 1
$700K YR 2
$500K YR 3

Sample federal funding stream.

Execute FCSA to Begin the Feasibility Phase