



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Louisville District

AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION SECTION 206

PURPOSE: Section 206 of the 1996 Water Resources Development Act authorizes the Corps of Engineers to participate in planning, engineering and design, and construction of projects to restore degraded ecosystem structure, function, and dynamic processes to a less degraded, more natural condition when the restoration will improve the environment, is in the public interest, and is cost-effective.

TYPES OF PROJECTS: Projects typically involve environmental restoration of aquatic and floodplain areas. Completed projects should involve little or no maintenance. Types of projects typically include providing water management, planting of hardwood trees or prairie grasses, and other restoration to enrich aquatic habitat. Limited recreational features compatible with the ecosystem outputs for which the project is designed are permissible.

PARTNERS: Projects require partnering with a non-Federal sponsor who may be a public agency, state or local government, or a large national non-profit environmental organization.

FUNDING: The initial step for a proposed ecosystem restoration project is the preparation of a Preliminary Restoration Plan (PRP). Each PRP is limited to \$10,000 and 100% federally funded, taking approximately 2-6 months. For Section 206 projects with a Federal cost exceeding \$1,000,000, a Feasibility phase is required. The non-Federal sponsor's share of the costs for all planning and design work, whether done in one or two stages, completed prior to execution of a project cooperation agreement will be initially federally financed. The non-Federal sponsor will be responsible for these costs when the project cooperation agreement is executed. The total project cost will be shared 65 percent Federal and 35 percent non-Federal. The non-Federal sponsor will provide all necessary lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, or disposal areas necessary for the projects. In-kind services may be credited toward the local share. The sponsor will be responsible for all operation and maintenance costs. The maximum Federal cost for each project is \$5 million. The national limit for 206 projects is 25 million dollars per year.

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE: Requests for assistance should be submitted in the form of a Letter of Intent from a state or local government agency to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District. Samples are available upon request and should be mailed to **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District, Attn: Chief, Planning Branch, P.O. Box 59, Louisville, KY 40201**. After receipt of a written request, the Louisville District will contact the applicant by telephone and discuss particulars of the problem and of continuing the process.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: If you need more information, you may contact the Louisville District Outreach Coordinator:

Brandon R. Brummett, P.E., PMP

(502) 315-6883

Brandon.r.brummett@usace.army.mil