



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Louisville District®

Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration

Section 206, 1996 Water Resources Development Act

What the US Army Corps of Engineers Can Do

Section 206 of the 1996 Water Resources Development Act allows the US Army Corps of Engineers to carry out aquatic ecosystem restoration and protection projects. Projects typically involve environmental restoration of aquatic and floodplain areas including creation/restoration of wetlands and riparian areas, as well as small dam removal. Other types of projects include providing water management, planting of hardwood trees or native grasses, and other types of restoration to improve and enrich aquatic habitat. Limited recreational features can also be included in the project, provided they are compatible with the ecosystems outputs of the project.

Study Process

Before the Federal Government can participate in implementing Section 206 project, a planning study must be conducted to determine if the project is economically justified (benefits exceed the costs), technically feasible, and environmentally acceptable.

Cost Sharing Information

Initial study is 100% federally funded up to \$100,000. The remainder of the study phase is cost shared 50% Federal and 50% non-Federal. The design and implementation of the project are cost shared on a 65% federal, 35% non-Federal basis. The non-Federal portion may be made up of a mixture of cash, in-kind contributions, and Lands, Easements, Rights-of-way, Relocations, and Disposal areas (LERRDs). Each project is limited to a Federal Cost of no more than \$10,000,000, and the national program limit for these projects is \$63,000,000 per year.

Responsibility of the Project Sponsor

The local sponsor is responsible for provision of the LERRDs necessary for the project. A Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement (FCSA) must be executed for studies in excess of \$100,000. Formal assurance in the form of a Project Partnership Agreement must be executed with the project sponsor. The Corps of Engineers would oversee project construction; however, once constructed, the operation and maintenance of the project would be the responsibility of the project sponsor.

How to Request Assistance

An investigation of a prospective project under Section 206 can be initiated upon receipt of a request from a sponsoring agency empowered under State law to provide local partnership.

For more information, contact

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Pre-Project Condition



Post-Project Condition