



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Louisville District

## **General Investigation (GI) Studies and Projects**

GI Studies are the traditional and most common way for us to help a community solve a water resource issue. Project candidates are those whose costs exceed those limited by our Continuing Authorities and include, but are not limited to, multipurpose projects. Types of GI projects include flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, navigation, hydropower, streambank stabilization, and watershed management. They involve jointly conducting a study with a sponsor and, if shown by the study to be feasible, the construction and implementation of the project. This approach requires that Congress provide us with authorization to construct or implement the project. Congressional authorizations are contained in public laws, and in resolutions of either the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee or the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. The “authority” gives the Corps the permission to conduct a study, implement a project, or do other actions.

**PROCESS AND FUNDING:** Before a project can be constructed, a planning study or decision document must be completed. There are several types of planning studies and/or decision documents, but for the GI process the most common studies are those that are conducted in two phases: the Reconnaissance Study [also known as a 905(b) study], funded by the Federal government and usually completed in less than 12 months, and the Feasibility Study, optimizing the plan(s) to be built, equally cost-shared, and usually completed in 24-36 months. The first \$100,000 is federally funded. If the study cost exceeds \$100,000, the cost share is 50 percent Federal and 50 percent non-Federal. Project implementation cost share is typically 65 percent Federal and 35 percent non-Federal. GI Studies require specific congressional appropriations and must be in the Corps budget or appropriated through a congressional add. 100% of the non-Federal share may be contributed as in-kind products or services.

**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:  
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