

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL WORKS

Funding Highlights:

- Provides \$4.7 billion, a 5.4 percent decrease from the 2012 enacted level. The Budget achieves savings by prioritizing investments that will yield high economic and environmental returns or address a significant risk to public safety.
- Continues efforts to restore significant ecosystems such as the California Bay-Delta, the Everglades, the Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay, and the Gulf Coast, helping to promote their ecological sustainability and resilience.
- Supports a high level of investment in maintenance and related activities at the most heavily used commercial harbors in the Nation and other high performing projects, such as navigation in the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and the Illinois Waterway.
- Reforms financing of capital investments in inland waterways that support economic growth by establishing a new user fee.
- Invests in improvements to the Corps Regulatory Program that will provide greater certainty for businesses and more protection to our wetlands and small streams.
- Supports the modernization of Federal water resources infrastructure processes to address 21st Century water resources needs through improvements to policies and procedures that govern Federal water resources development and strategies for both managing the Nation's aging infrastructure and restoring aquatic ecosystem functions affected by past investments.
- Increases the organizational efficiency and improves the management, oversight, and performance of ongoing programs to meet water resources needs and achieve additional savings.

The Army Corps of Engineers civil works program (Corps) develops, manages, restores, and protects water resources primarily through construction of projects, operation and maintenance, studies of potential projects, and its regulatory program. Working with other Federal agencies, the Corps also helps communities respond to and recover from floods and other natural disasters. To support this work, the President's 2013 Budget provides \$4.7 billion, a \$271 million decrease from the 2012 enacted level. In light of the tight discretionary constraints, the Budget focuses on the highest priority work within the agency's three main missions: flood and storm damage reduction, commercial navigation, and aquatic ecosystem restoration.

Invests in Our Water Resources to Spur Economic Growth and Protect the Environment

Emphasizes Investments with High Economic and Environmental Returns While Addressing Public Safety. The Administration proposes about \$1.6 billion in total for high-return construction projects in the three main mission areas of the Corps: flood and storm damage reduction, commercial navigation, and aquatic ecosystem restoration. For example, the Budget emphasizes funding for dam safety work and for projects to address a significant risk to public safety. The Administration will establish a White House-led Navigation Task Force to develop a Federal strategy for future navigation investments.

Restores High-Priority Aquatic Ecosystems. The Administration proposes funding to restore significant aquatic ecosystems based on sound science, criteria grounded in research and development, and adaptive management. Funds are provided for work on priority ecosystems, including the California Bay-Delta, Chesapeake Bay, Everglades, Great Lakes, and Gulf Coast. Funding is also provided for other ecosystem efforts, such as restoring Puget Sound and improving aquatic ecosystem restoration outcomes in the Upper Mississippi River, Missouri River, and Columbia River.

Invests in the Reliability and Safety of Water Resources Infrastructure. The Administration prioritizes funding for the operation and maintenance of key infrastructure, including navigation channels that serve our largest coastal ports and the inland waterways with the most commercial use (such as the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and the Illinois Waterway). The Budget focuses on improving the reliability and operation of existing infrastructure rather than starting new projects that require additional Federal dollars and resources.

Increases Revenue and Flexibility

Reforms the Inland Waterways Funding Process. The Administration has proposed legislation to reform the laws governing the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, including increasing the revenue paid by commercial navigation users sufficiently to meet their share of the costs of activities financed from this fund. This proposal will provide an additional source of financing for major new investments in the inland waterways to support economic growth.

Modernizes Federal Water Resources Management. The Administration has already proposed several major actions to modernize the policies and procedures of the Corps and other Federal water resources agencies, to allow the Federal Government, working with its non-Federal partners, to make better use of water resources to generate economic growth, environmental improvements, and social benefits. These actions include revising the 25-year old principles and guidelines for planning water resources projects, proposing a user fee to help finance inland waterways capital investments, and establishing an Infrastructure Bank that would help finance port deepening projects, levees, and other major water resources development activities. The Administration is also considering proposals to improve the ability of the Corps to invest in and manage its assets and to enhance non-Federal leadership in water resources, including removing unnecessary obstacles and streamlining procedures for non-Federal parties to move forward on their own with important water resources activities, while ensuring appropriate Federal interests are maintained.

Improves Operational Oversight and Management

Improves the Corps Regulatory Program. The Budget increases funding for the Regulatory Program by 6 percent above the 2012 enacted level, allowing support for sustainable economic development. This funding will enable the Corps to provide greater protection to our wetlands and small streams, to reduce an ongoing loss of wetlands and other aquatic resources. This will support a transparent and timely permit review process, helping to bring greater certainty to business planning while protecting environmental, social, and economic benefits provided to the American public by clean water.

Increases Organizational Efficiency. The Administration will also focus on ways to improve the responsiveness, accountability, and operational oversight of the civil works program in order to best meet current and future water resources challenges. This effort will improve performance and free up resources for other uses and deficit reduction.

	Actual 2011	Estimate	
		2012	2013
Spending			
Discretionary Budget Authority:			
Construction	1,612	1,694	1,471
Operation and Maintenance	2,460	2,412	2,398
Mississippi River and Tributaries	242	252	234
Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies	_	27	30
Investigations	122	125	102
Regulatory Program	190	193	205
Expenses	185	185	182
Office of Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works	5	5	5
Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program	130	109	104
Total, Discretionary budget authority	4,946	5,001	4,731
Discretionary Cap Adjustment:1			
Disaster Relief	—	1,724	—
Total, Discretionary outlays	10,298	9,261	8,165
Mandatory Outlays:			
Existing Law	-140	-56	-7
- Total, Mandatory outlays	-140	-56	-7
Total, Outlays	10,158	9,205	8,158

Corps of Engineers—Civil Works

¹ The Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (BBEDCA), as amended by the Budget Control Act of 2011, limits—or caps—budget authority available for discretionary programs each year through 2021. Section 251(b)(2) of BBEDCA authorizes certain adjustments to the caps after the enactment of appropriations.