



Maintaining and Improving Infrastructure: To Maintain Economic Prosperity, National Security and Social Well Being

“Investing in the Nation’s infrastructure brings both immediate and long-term economic benefits— benefits that can accrue not only where the infrastructure is located, but also to communities all across the country. And at a time when job growth must be a top priority, well-targeted investment in infrastructure can be an engine of job creation and economic growth.”

— President Barack Obama

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers managed water resources are an immense accumulation of assets found in all 50 states. USACE’s infrastructure provides 24 percent of U.S. hydropower, 11,000 miles of levees for flood damage reduction, 329 million acre-feet of water storage capacity that meets 18 percent of the nation’s household water consumption, 343 recreation projects in 43 states that serve 370 million visits a year, and facilitate the effective and efficient transportation of 78 percent of the U.S. domestic and international cargo.

The majority of the Army Civil Works program today is focused on the operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of major navigation, flood risk management and hydropower infrastructure systems, as well as on the environmental mitigation and restoration of natural resources affected in the past by these systems. As the infrastructure that USACE operates ages, it often becomes more difficult and more expensive to maintain these systems to meet performance goals and efficiently provide the economic and environmental benefits for which they were designed and constructed. The Army is adopting new practices to improve management of large and costly projects and is considering additional proposals to advance those efforts.

USACE’s plan for maintaining and improving infrastructure outlines specific actions to communicate a vision for synchronized investment in critical waterway and other infrastructure construction and maintenance that will help the U.S. maintain global competitiveness.

Protecting Communities

The USACE flood risk management program is focused on reducing risk to life and public safety from inland and coastal flooding across the Nation. The flood risk management systems are complex collections of levees, reservoirs, floodways, and water control structures that enable USACE to control, mitigate, and anticipate flood waters, and reduce the risk of levee failures and flood damages in communities near those levees.

Assuring Efficient Completion of Projects

Funding fewer projects more efficiently and placing the remaining projects on a prioritized list will allow USACE to complete some projects sooner and at a lower overall cost than trying to divide appropriations among many projects. For example, the budget contains \$144 million for Olmsted Lock and Dam to support construction efficiency to the greatest extent possible. USACE is committed to evolving to a more effective project delivery model. In doing so, it will be transparent, sharing its future plans and direction, and collaborate with interested stakeholders.

Exploring Public-Private Partnerships

USACE will continue to seek public-private partnerships to finance the modernization of our nation’s navigation, hydropower and flood control infrastructure.

Key Messages	Facts & Figures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USACE’s water resources program is an immense accumulation of assets found in all 50 states. USACE will develop a list of major projects in major program areas in an effort to complete projects within cost and on schedule. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USACE owns and operates 692 dams. USACE operates and maintains 12,000 miles of commercial inland navigation channels, and owns and/or operates 238 lock chambers at 192 sites. During the period FY 2006 through FY 2011 about 29,000 restored acres were produced by USACE water resources projects. For more information about USACE’s efforts, visit http://www.usace.army.mil/