



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG

Program Name: Projects for Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration

Authorization: Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996, as amended

Purpose: The Section 206 program provides authority for the Corps of Engineers to restore aquatic ecosystems that have been degraded or impacted.

What the Corps of Engineers Can Do:

We can assist in the restoration of degraded ecosystems through measures such as wetland, stream, riverine and riparian restoration features. Measures as appropriate are combined into a plan that will provide tangible habitat restoration benefits representing a sound investment of federal funds.

Study Phase:

The initial phase is the Feasibility Study which results in a Feasibility Report serving as the recommendation document for the selected alternative plan. The Corps conducts the Feasibility Study to verify applicability of the program, define the degraded or impacted habitat, formulate alternative restoration measures and plans, compare plan costs and benefits and recommend a plan for implementation. The first \$100,000 of the Feasibility Phase costs are fully federal. All planning costs above \$100,000 are cost-shared 50/50 with a state or local government partner, also called the sponsor. Non-governmental agencies can also be a sponsor. A Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA) is signed for the cost-shared phase. Work-in-kind performed after the signing of the FCSA and included in the study cost estimate is allowed.

Implementation Phase:

The Implementation Phase includes design and construction of the project. Implementation Phase is initiated upon approval of the Feasibility Report by the Corps' Northwestern Division and upon availability of sponsor and federal funding. All design and construction costs are cost-shared 65% federal and 35% non-federal.

Responsibility of the Project Sponsor:

Formal assurance in the form of a Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) must be signed with the project sponsor during Implementation Phase. The non-federal share of Implementation is 35% of the total project cost and includes a combination of cash, lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal areas (LERRD). Work-in-kind is allowed if requested for work done subsequent to signing of the PPA and included in the scope and cost of the project. The sponsor is responsible to own, operate and maintain the project after construction. The project federal limit per project is \$5 million including Feasibility and Implementation.

How to Request Assistance:

Initiation of an ecosystem restoration project under Section 206 requires a letter request from a prospective project sponsor. A template letter is available upon request.

Point of Contact:
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Kansas City District - Example Ecosystem Restoration Projects:



Wetland Restoration; 2,000 acres of wetland and aquatic habitat restored in the upstream end of Milford Lake, Kansas



Wetland Restoration; 200 acres of wetland and aquatic habitat restoration at Greenville Marsh on Honey Creek in Lucas County, southern Iowa



Habitat Restoration; 300+ acres of wetland restoration plus lake shoreline and fisheries habitat restoration at Rathbun Lake, Iowa



Wetland Restoration; 200 acres of wetland and aquatic habitat at State of Kansas' Lake Nemaha Wildlife Area near Seneca

Key Messages	Facts & Figures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Section 206 of WRDA of 1996 provides authority for the Corps to assist in the restoration of degraded ecosystems ● Project sponsor must provide formal assurance in the form of a Project Partnership Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Initial study is 100% federally funded up to \$100K ● All study costs after initial amount is cost-shared 50/50 ● Design and construction costs are cost-shared 65% federal and 35% non-federal