

Purpose

Section 729 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986, as amended; Section 203 of WRDA 2000, as amended; and other specifically authorized watershed authorities authorizes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to assess the water resource needs of river basins and watersheds of the United States including needs relating to:

- ecosystem protection and restoration
- navigation and ports
- flood risk management
- watershed protection
- water supply
- drought preparedness

In conducting watershed planning, USACE uses its planning capability in a broader sense to meet the changing water resources needs of the nation. Ultimately, watershed studies should inform multiple audiences and decision makers at all levels of government, and provide a strategic roadmap to inform future investment decisions by multiple agencies.

Process and Funding

Watershed studies will be completed in a single phase. A non-federal sponsor will be required to sign a cost-sharing agreement for watershed studies to initiate USACE involvement. No work may begin on these assessments prior to execution of a cost-sharing agreement. Non-federal sponsors must be prepared to provide \$25,000 for initiation of the study, and additional funds if needed, to develop the Project Management Plan (PMP). Once the PMP is developed, the nonfederal sponsor must provide its proportional funding or in-kind contributions consistent with Federal funding and cost-sharing provisions of the study authority.

Local Responsibilities

The non-federal sponsor must be a public agency, a non-profit environmental organization, or a federally recognized tribe, and must agree to provide 25 percent of the watershed study costs.

Request for Assistance

Requests for assistance should be submitted in the form of a Letter of Intent from a state or local government agency. Samples are available upon request and should be mailed to the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District, Attn: Chief, Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division, 110 9th Avenue South, Room A405, Nashville, TN 37203**. After receipt of a written request, the Nashville District will contact the applicant by telephone to discuss the problem and our processes.

For more information contact:

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