

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

- Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program
- IJJA/BIL Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) 206
“carve-out” for barrier removal
- Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program (NEW!)
- Planning Assistance to States
- Sustainable Rivers Program

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Oaks Bottom Reconnection, Portland, OR



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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers- Key Points

- USACE is not a granting agency
- Most restoration work that involves construction is done in partnership with a non-Federal cost-sharing partner via project-specific appropriations (e.g., a specific line in the budget/appropriation)
- New projects undergo multiple phases:
 - Planning, Design, Construction/Implementation
- Larger projects (>\$10M require individual Congressional authorization); smaller projects can be conducted under our “Continuing Authorities Program” Authorities



South Platte River, Denver, CO



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Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program

- The AER mission is to restore degraded ecosystem **structure, function, and/or dynamic processes** to a more natural condition
- The emphasis is on **restoration of nationally or regionally significant ecosystems** where the solution primarily **involves modifying the hydrology and/or geomorphology**
- Major programs and regions that have received funding in recent years include:
 - South Florida Ecosystem (Everglades) Restoration Program (SFER)
 - Upper Mississippi River Restoration (UMRR)
 - Missouri River Recovery Program (MRRP)
 - Chesapeake Bay Oyster Recovery
 - Columbia River Fish Mitigation (CRFM, fish passage at large dams)
 - Puget Sound (multiple)
 - Louisiana Coastal Area
- Typically \$400-600M per year, BIL provided \$1.9B



Duckabush Estuary, WA



Mud Mountain Dam Fish Passage, WA



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BIL In-stream Barrier Removal (CAP 206 “carve out”)

- \$115M “carve-out” (of USACE BIL funding) for removal of in-stream barriers to be implemented via CAP 206 Ecosystem Restoration authority
 - Feasibility, design, construction (implementation) phases
- Technical Assistance also allowed
- No per-project cost limit (typically \$10M Federal)
- no annual program limit
- No specific authorization required
- 100% Federal funding (i.e., non-Federal cost-share removed*)
- Cannot be used on Federal hydropower dams

- USACE selected projects from existing queue of CAP projects; majority of funding already allocated to projects

**still requires a non-Federal cost-share sponsor (see next slide)*



Green River L&D 5



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BIL In-stream Barrier Removal (CAP 206 “carve out”)

Program and Partner Details:

- 100% Federally funded (vs typical 65% Fed/35% non-Fed cost share)
- Non-federal sponsor must:
 - Submit letter of intent (LOI)
 - Ultimately sign a cost share agreement
- While 100% Federal cost, the Non-federal sponsor responsible for:
 - Acquiring/purchasing Lands, Easements, Rights of way, Relocations, and Disposal areas (LERRDS)
 - HTRW issues
 - Monitoring and Adaptive Management requirements
 - Operation and Maintenance of the project



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Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program (CWIFP)

NEW!!



- Modeled after EPA's WIFIA program, currently focused on dam safety
- Project definition (from Rule): "Safety projects to maintain, upgrade, and repair dams (**including dam removal**) identified in the National Inventory of Dams with a primary owner type of State, local government, public utility, or private...*"
- Final Rule signed May 16, 2023
- First Notice of Funding Availability from June 23- Sep 21, 2023
 - Webinars offered June 15 & 29; July 15
- USACE can issue up to \$7.5 Billion in loans to eligible projects, based on appropriations to date
- Minimum project cost of \$20M, but can include multiple projects AND the cost of planning and design (even if already incurred)



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Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program (CWIFP)

NEW!!



Benefits over other loan programs:

- **Low Interest rates** are comparable to **U.S. Treasury rates**, and are not impacted by borrower credit or loan structure
 - **No interest rate risk** – rates are locked at the loan’s closing and fixed for the life of the loan
 - **Cash when needed** – interest only accrues once funds have been disbursed
 - **Long and flexible repayment schedules** allow repayments to grow over time with terms up to 35 years after project completion, making debt service more affordable
 - **No prepayment penalty** – loans can be prepaid at any time *without* penalty
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- Loan could be structured as a program managed by an NGO that allows for multiple dam removals by multiple entities
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- **Significant opportunities for dam removals nationwide by multiple entities- APPLICATIONS DUE 19 DEC 2023**

<https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Infrastructure/revolutionize/CWIFP/>

Contact: Aaron Snyder CWIFP Program Manager Aaron.M.Snyder@usace.army.mil



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Planning Assistance to States (PAS)

Technical Assistance and Water Resource Planning

- Eligible Partners:
 - A state
 - Group of states
 - Non-federal public bodies
 - Federally-recognized Indian Tribes *
 - Specified territories *
 - Not for profits (with letter of support from local government)
- Cost-shared 50/50 (with exceptions for tribal partners)
- No per-project limit, but typically \$100-\$300k
- Cannot be used for site-specific designs, or to purchase equipment for another entity

Potential Applications Related to Barrier Removal and Fish Passage:

- Watershed assessments, sediment budget analysis, assessment for nature-based solutions, GIS mapping, tracking fish movement pre- and post-project, instream habitat assessments



Monitoring movement of Walleye on Big Sandy Lake, Iowa



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Planning Assistance to States (PAS) Technical Assistance- Getting Started

- **Scope of Work**

- USACE District and partner develop scope of work for project
- Identify tasks, deliverables, cost, and schedule
- Identify cost-share requirements and work in kind (Comprehensive Plan only)
- USACE Division review and approval prior to executing agreement

- **Letter of Agreement**

- District Commander and non-federal partners sign a Letter of Agreement
- Template Agreements:

- http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Partnership-Agreements/templates_pas/

- **Funding**

- USACE Division works with HQ on availability of funds during their approval of the scope
- Funds are provided with an executed agreement

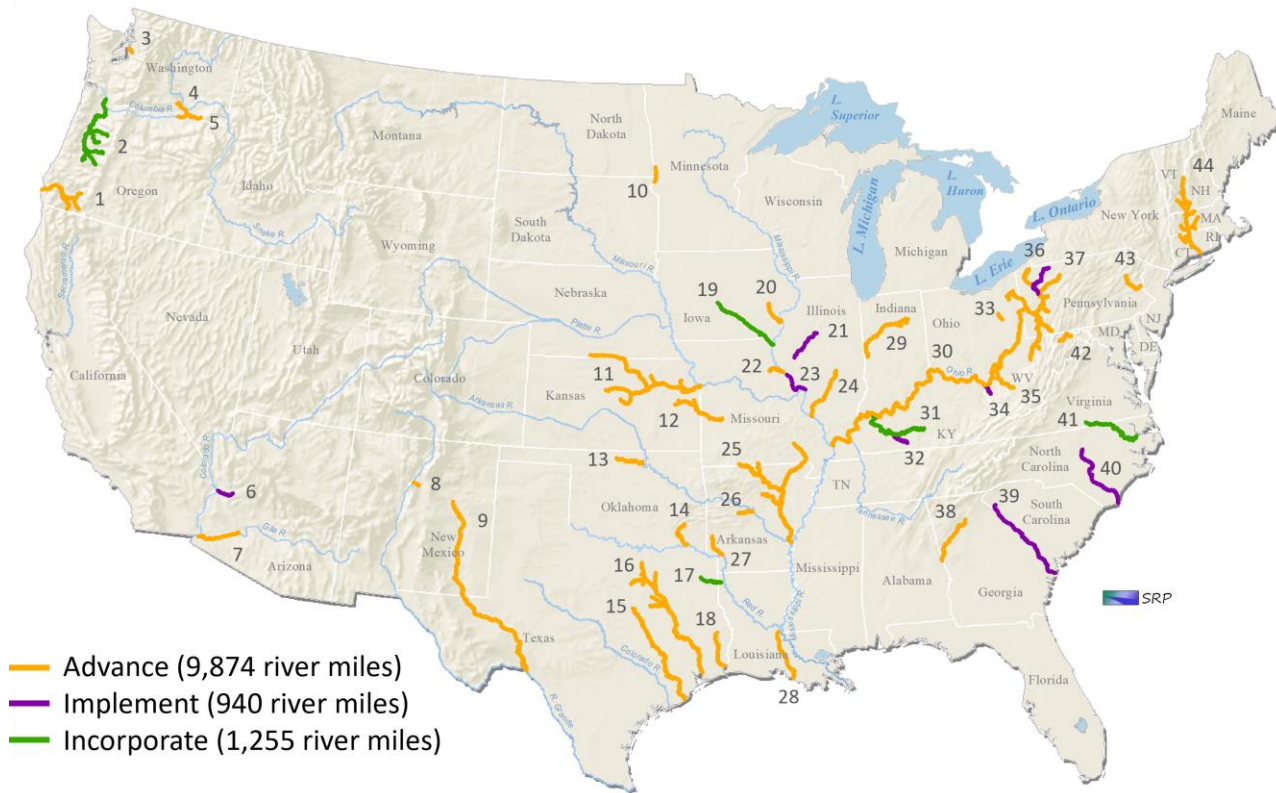
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Sustainable Rivers Program

Site Status - Advance - Implement - Incorporate



1. Rogue River
2. Willamette River
3. Ballard Locks
4. Yakima River Delta (McNary)
5. Walla Walla River (Mill Creek)
6. Bill Williams River
7. Gila River
8. Galisteo Creek
9. Pecos River
10. Bois de Sioux River
11. Kansas River
12. Osage River
13. Salt Fork Arkansas River
14. Kiamichi River
15. Brazos River
16. Trinity River
17. Big Cypress Bayou
18. Neches River
19. Des Moines River
20. Iowa River
21. Farm Creek
22. Salt River
23. Mississippi River
24. Kaskaskia River
25. White/Black/Little Red Rivers
26. Fource LaFave River
27. Cossatot River
28. Atchafalaya River
29. Wabash River
30. Ohio River
31. Green River
32. Barren River
33. Sugar Creek
34. Twelve Pole Creek
35. Kanawha River
36. French Creek
37. Upper Ohio River
38. Chattahoochee River
39. Savannah River
40. Cape Fear River
41. Roanoke River
42. Potomac River
43. Lehigh River
44. Connecticut River

Modify operations of Existing USACE Projects for environmental benefits while meeting authorized purposes

- Proposals developed at the field level and submitted annually
- \$5-7M annual program
- TNC POC: Jim Howe



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