



## Modernizing the USACE Water Resources Infrastructure Portfolio

*“The USACE Infrastructure Strategy must lead to reliable, resilient and adaptable infrastructure systems, enabled by an efficiently funded long-term life cycle investment plan. It will enable us to achieve the goals of the Civil Works Strategic Plan, and advance the success of our Civil Works mission in addressing 21<sup>st</sup> century water resources challenges and demands.”*

—Steven L. Stockton, USACE Director of Civil Works

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is committed to a sustainable, 21<sup>st</sup> century infrastructure to strengthen the Nation’s economy, create jobs, reduce risk and bolster long-term global competitiveness. USACE has critical responsibilities to plan, construct, operate and maintain a significant portion of America’s water resources infrastructure. This infrastructure enables transportation of goods and commodities, such as food for people in the U.S. and abroad; reduces risk to communities from floods, hurricanes and droughts; provides clean, renewable hydroelectric power to homes and industry; restores significant aquatic ecosystems; and effectively supports millions of water-based recreation visits each year.

A key USACE challenge is that these critical infrastructure assets, which provide essential value and services to the American people, are worn and aging rapidly. Most projects are more than 50 years old. There remains a pressing national need to either recapitalize these assets to maintain their viability today and in the future, or to repurpose or divest them.

The USACE infrastructure transformation strategy will:

- Develop reliable methods of assessing the current value and levels of service of our infrastructure systems to determine where priority investments need to be applied.
- Emphasize the interdependence and interrelationship of our assets within a watershed or system to provide reliable, resilient, and adaptable infrastructure systems that deliver the required levels of service.
- Evaluate assets in terms of their value to the Nation.
- Systematically evaluate infrastructure based on current performance in meeting original authorized project purposes, and how demands within the watershed or system have evolved and changed over time.

USACE will seek alternative and innovative funding that can complement federal budget allocations and meet the high-value needs of the Nation over the next 20-to-50 years. USACE will consider leveraging its federal appropriations with potential non-federal investments, and engaging non-federal leadership in support of the Nation’s water resources needs. This could include removing unnecessary administrative or regulatory obstacles, and streamlining procedures for non-federal parties to move forward on their own with important water resources activities, while ensuring federal interests are maintained. USACE will use available technical assistance programs to further enable non-federal partners to solve complex project and system challenges.

### Key Messages

- The President’s FY 2013 budget supports modernization of federal water resources infrastructure processes to address 21<sup>st</sup> century water resources needs.
- Modernization includes 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.
- USACE continues to build, maintain and operate projects that reduce risk to communities, reduce highway congestion, create clean renewable energy, and sustain the environment.
- The FY 2013 budget will enable USACE to continue its work to maintain and improve the Nation’s water resources infrastructure.

### Facts & Figures

USACE infrastructure assets:

- Reduce risk to communities—over \$700 billion in property damages avoided in the last 25 years.
- Reduce highway congestion—2.5 billion tons, valued at \$70 billion annually, move through the inland navigation system.
- Provide low-cost renewable energy—20 percent of America’s hydropower.
- Restored ecosystems—29,000 acres were produced by USACE water resources projects in the last five years.
- Enhance quality of life—over 370 million visits a year to quality water-based recreation in America’s great outdoors.
- For more information visit <http://www.usace.army.mil/>.