

**REVIEW PLAN
USING THE NWD MODEL REVIEW PLAN
for
Continuing Authorities Program
Section 14, 107, 111, 204, 206, 208, 1135 and projects directed by guidance to
use CAP procedures**

**Clover Island, Kennewick, Washington
Section 1135 Project**

Walla Walla District

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**US Army Corps
of Engineers ®**

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**Clover Island, Kennewick, Washington
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1. PURPOSE AND REQUIREMENTS

- a. **Purpose.** This Review Plan defines the scope and level of peer review for the Clover Island, Kennewick, Washington, Section 1135 project.

Section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, Public Law 99-662, provides the authority to modify existing Corps projects to restore the environment and construct new projects to restore areas degraded by Corps projects with the objective of restoring degraded ecosystem structure, function, and dynamic processes to a less degraded, more natural condition considering the ecosystem's natural integrity, productivity, stability and biological diversity. This authority is primarily used for manipulation of the hydrology in and along bodies of water, including wetlands and riparian areas. It is a Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) which focuses on water resource related projects of relatively smaller scope, cost and complexity. Traditional USACE civil works projects are of wider scope and complexity and are specifically authorized by Congress. The Continuing Authorities Program is a delegated authority to plan, design, and construct certain types of water resource and environmental restoration projects without specific Congressional authorization.

Additional Information on this program can be found in Engineering Regulation 1105-2-100, Planning Guidance Notebook, Appendix F Amendment #2.

- b. **Applicability.** This review plan is based on the NWD Model Review Plan for Section 14, 107, 111, 204, 206, 208, 1135, and authorities directed by guidance to follow CAP procedures, which is applicable to projects that do not require Independent External Peer Review (IEPR), as defined in EC 1165-2-214, Civil Works Review.

c. References

- (1) Engineering Circular (EC) 1165-2-214, Civil Works Review, 15 December 2012
- (2) EC 1105-2-412, Model Certification, 31 May 2005
- (3) Engineering Regulation (ER) 1110-1-12, Quality Management, 30 Sep 2006
- (4) ER 1105-2-100, Planning Guidance Notebook, Appendix F, Continuing Authorities Program, Amendment #2, 31 Jan 2007
- (5) ER 1105-2-100, Planning Guidance Notebook, Appendix H, Policy Compliance Review and Approval of Decision Documents, Amendment #1, 20 Nov 2007
- (6) Continuing Authority Program Planning Process Improvements, Director of Civil Works' Policy Memorandum #1, 19 Jan 2011

2. REVIEW MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION (RMO) COORDINATION

The RMO is responsible for managing the overall peer review effort described in this review plan. The RMO for Section 1135 projects is Northwestern Division (NWD), the home MSC. The MSC will coordinate and approve the review plan and manage the Agency Technical Review (ATR). The home District will post the approved review plan on its public website and provide

the appropriate NWD District Support Planner with the link. A copy of the approved review plan (and any updates) will be provided to the ECO-PCX to keep the PCX apprised of requirements and review schedules.

3. PROJECT INFORMATION

- a. **Decision Document.** The Clover Island, Kennewick, Washington, Section 1135 decision document will be prepared in accordance with ER 1105-2-100, Appendix F. The approval level of the decision document (if policy compliant) is NWD. An Environmental Assessment (EA) will be prepared along with the decision document.
- b. **Study/Project Description.** The Clover Island project is located on the Columbia River in Kennewick, Washington, and lies within an important migratory corridor for aquatic species in the Hanford reach of the Columbia River. Riparian and shallow water habitat was degraded and destroyed by construction of McNary Dam and the associated Federal levees. Negative impacts have occurred to eight species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA): causing negative impacts to eight-listed species (seven salmonid species and bull trout) and their designated critical habitat.

This project would provide benefits for three of those ESA-listed species: Upper Columbia River Spring Chinook salmon, Upper Columbia River steelhead, and bull trout. Several preliminary alternatives have been identified, including no action, shoreline regrade, cut/fill to develop shallow water habitat, native riparian plantings, and placement of woody debris and/or other engineered structures to create cover and provide food sources.

The non-Federal sponsor (NFS) is the Port of Kennewick. The Port has already restored shoreline on the upstream side of the island, working closely with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service. The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation have also registered great interest in the project.

Total estimated study cost is \$404,470.50. The Federal Government is responsible for the initial \$100,000 for feasibility studies. The remaining \$304,470.50 estimated will be shared at a 50/50 split with the NFS.

- c. **Factors Affecting the Scope and Level of Review.** This aquatic ecosystem restoration study does not involve a significant threat to human life/safety assurance, as it likely involves only minor modifications to the shoreline. There is no request by a Governor of an affected state for a peer review by independent experts. The project/study is not likely to involve significant public dispute as to the size, nature, or effects of the project, or the project's economic or environmental cost or benefit. The Sponsor has previously constructed environmental improvements at the site that have been received vary favorably by the public. The information in the decision document is not likely to be based on novel methods, involve the use of innovative materials or techniques, present complex challenges

for interpretation, contain precedent-setting methods or models, or present conclusions that are likely to change prevailing practices. The project design is not anticipated to require redundancy, resiliency, and/or robustness, unique construction sequencing, or a reduced or overlapping design construction schedule.

- d. **In-Kind Contributions.** Products and analyses provided by non-Federal sponsors as in-kind services are subject to District Quality Control (DQC) and ATR, similar to any products developed by USACE. The NFS owns the land in fee, although land values have yet to be determined. In-kind services anticipated for the feasibility phase of the project include only oversight and administrative services.

4. DISTRICT QUALITY CONTROL (DQC)

All decision documents (including supporting data, analyses, environmental compliance documents, etc.) shall undergo DQC prior to ATR. The DQC will be handled within the Walla Walla District. All DQC documentation shall be retained and provided to NWD prior to review of the draft report. The documentation, at a minimum, should include: a list of the DQC reviewers, all comments provided, the PDT’s responses to comments, and the backcheck and closeout of the responses.

5. AGENCY TECHNICAL REVIEW (ATR)

One ATR is mandatory for all decision documents (including supporting data, analyses, environmental compliance documents, etc.), however additional ATRs may be performed if deemed warranted. ATR is managed within USACE by the designated RMO and is conducted by a qualified team from outside the home district that is not involved in the day-to-day production of the project/product. ATR teams will be comprised of senior USACE personnel. The ATR team lead will be from within the home MSC.

a. Required ATR Team Expertise

ATR Team Members/Disciplines	Expertise Required
ATR Lead	The ATR lead should be a senior professional preferably with experience in preparing Section 1135 decision documents and conducting ATR. The lead should also have the necessary skills and experience to lead a virtual team through the ATR process. Typically, the ATR lead will also serve as a reviewer for a specific discipline (such as planning, economics, environmental resources, etc). The ATR Lead MUST be from outside NWW.
Plan Formulator	The Planning reviewer should be a senior water resources planner with experience in Section 1135 plan formulation, economics, and basic environmental and cultural compliance.

Biologist	The biologist should be experienced in aquatic ecology, fisheries, and riparian ecology.
Hydraulic Engineer	The engineer reviewer must be familiar with river mechanics.
Geotech Engineer	The engineer must be familiar with geotechnical bank stabilization techniques.
Certified Cost Engineer	Cost DX Staff or Cost DX Pre-Certified Professional with experience preparing cost estimates for river bank stabilization projects.
Real Estate	The real estate reviewer must have an understanding of real estate issues relating to a Section 1135 project.

b. Charge Document. The district will prepare a charge document that clearly identifies review requirements. This document must be completed prior to requesting an ATR team.

Documentation of ATR. *DrChecks review* software will be used to document all ATR comments, responses and associated resolutions accomplished throughout the review process. Comments should be limited to those that are required to ensure adequacy of the product. If an ATR concern cannot be satisfactorily resolved between the ATR team and the PDT, it will be elevated to the vertical team for further resolution in accordance with the policy issue resolution process described in either ER 1110-2-12 or ER 1105-2-100, Appendix H, as appropriate. Unresolved concerns can be closed in *DrChecks* with a notation that the concern has been elevated to the vertical team for resolution.

6. POLICY AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE REVIEW

All decision documents will be reviewed throughout the study process for their compliance with law and policy. Guidance for policy and legal compliance reviews is addressed in Appendix H, ER 1105-2-100. These reviews culminate in determinations that the recommendations in the reports and the supporting analyses and coordination comply with law and policy, and warrant approval or further recommendation to higher authority by the NWD Commander. The DQC and ATR augment and complement the policy review processes by addressing compliance with pertinent published Army policies, particularly policies on analytical methods and the presentation of findings in decision documents.

7. COST ENGINEERING DIRECTORY OF EXPERTISE (DX) REVIEW AND CERTIFICATION

For CAP projects, ATR may be conducted by pre-certified cost personnel within the region or by the Walla Walla Cost DX. The pre-certified list of cost personnel has been established and is maintained by the Cost DX. The cost ATR member will coordinate with the Cost DX for execution of cost ATR and cost certification. The Cost DX will be responsible for final cost certification and may be delegated at the discretion of the Cost DX.

8. MODEL CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL

Approval of planning models under EC 1105-2-412 is not required for CAP projects. MSC commanders remain responsible for assuring the quality of the analyses used in these projects. ATR will be used to ensure that models and analyses are compliant with Corps policy, theoretically sound, computationally accurate, transparent, described to address any limitations of the model or its use, and documented in study reports.

- a. **EC 1105-2-412.** This EC does not cover engineering models used in planning. The responsible use of well-known and proven USACE developed and commercial engineering software will continue and the professional practice of documenting the application of the software and modeling results will be followed. As part of the USACE Scientific and Engineering Technology (SET) Initiative, many engineering models have been identified as preferred or acceptable for use on Corps studies and these models should be used whenever appropriate. The selection and application of the model and the input and output data is still the responsibility of the users and is subject to DQC and ATR.

Planning and Engineering Models. The following models may potentially be used during development of the decision document:

Model Name and Version	Brief Description of the Model and How It Will Be Applied in the Study	Approval Status
IWR-Plan	The IWR-Plan model, developed by the Institute for Water Resources, is used to determine incremental costs and benefits of various plans.	Approved
HEC-RAS (Engineering Model)	The Hydrologic Engineering Center’s River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) program provides the capability to perform one-dimensional steady and unsteady flow river hydraulics calculations. The program will be used to evaluate the future without- and with-project conditions and determine velocities for appropriate design (rip rap sizing).	CoP Preferred
Yellow Warbler HSI Model	Riparian habitat structural and species composition values are rated using parameters contained in the Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) model for Yellow Warbler. Model uses shrub height, overall shrub cover, and the percentage of shrub cover dominated by hydrophytic shrubs.	Approved
Willamette River Juvenile Salmonid HSI Model	Salmon spawning is not known to occur in the area, so only HSI values for adult migration and juvenile rearing will be used. Key variables used to evaluate measures include water velocity, temperature, structure, substrate material, depth, and percent riparian habitat.	Currently undergoing certification

9. REVIEW SCHEDULES AND COSTS

DQC Schedule and Cost. The DQC is scheduled for completion July 15, 2015. Anticipated costs for DQC are \$20,000.

ATR Schedule and Cost. The ATR is scheduled for completion August 30, 2015, following which the report will be sent to NWD for final approval. Anticipated costs for ATR are \$40,000.

10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

State and Federal resource agencies may be invited to participate in the study covered by this review plan as partner agencies or as technical members of the PDT, as appropriate. Agencies with regulatory review responsibilities will be contacted for coordination as required by applicable laws and procedures. The ATR team will be provided copies of public and agency comments.

In the January to February 2015 timeframe, dependent on funding, a public meeting will be held to officially scope the project with the public. The selected project will be presented to stakeholders after the public scoping. The draft decision document and environmental assessment will be posted to the Walla Walla District website, and a 30-day public review period will follow.

11. REVIEW PLAN APPROVAL AND UPDATES

The NWD Planning Chief has been delegated responsibility for approving this review plan and ensuring that use of the NWD Model Review Plan is appropriate for the specific project covered by the plan. The review plan is a living document and may change as the study progresses. The Walla Walla District is responsible for keeping the review plan up to date. Minor changes to the review plan since the last NWD Planning Chief approval will be documented in Attachment 2. Significant changes to the review plan (such as changes to the scope and/or level of review) should be re-approved by the NWD Planning Chief following the process used for initially approving the plan. Significant changes may result in the NWD Planning Chief determining that use of the NWD Model Review Plan is no longer appropriate. In these cases, a project specific review plan will be prepared and approved in accordance with EC 1165-2-214. The latest version of the approved review plan, along with the Chief's approval memorandum, will be posted on the Walla Walla District webpage.

12. REVIEW PLAN POINTS OF CONTACT (POC)

Public questions and/or comments on this review plan can be directed to the following points of contact:

Project Manager POC:	Karen Zelch, karen.s.zelch@usace.army.mil , 509-527-7251
Review Plan POC:	Karen Kelly, karen.l.kelly@usace.army.mil , 509-527-7248
NWD POC:	Jeremy Weber, jeremy.j.weber@usace.army.mil , 503-808-3858

ATTACHMENT 1: TEAM ROSTERS

Project Delivery Team

Position	Name	Phone	Email
Project Manager	Karen Zelch	509-527-7251	karen.s.zelch@usace.army.mil
Review Plan POC	Karen Kelly	509-527-7248	karen.l.kelly@usace.army.mil
NEPA Compliance	John Leier	509-527-7269	john.p.leier@usace.army.mil
Biologist	Len Kring	509-527-7299	len.m.kring@usace.army.mil
Geotech Engineer	Joy Hartl	509-527-7613	joy.g.hartl@usace.army.mil
Cultural Resources	Scott Hall	509-527-7278	scott.m.hall@usace.army.mil
Plan Formulation	Ben Swaner	509-527-7235	ben.swaner@usace.army.mil
SMART Planner	Cindy Boen	509-527-7246	cindy.a.boen@usace.army.mil
Cost Estimator	Kurt Friederich	509-527-7512	kurt.o.friederich@usace.army.mil
Real Estate	Diane Jordan	206-316-4419	diane.jordan@usace.army.mil
Economist	Craig Newcomb	509-527-7296	craig.a.newcomb@usace.army.mil
Hydrologist	Darrell Eidson	509-527-7291	darrell.e.eidson@usace.army.mil

Agency Technical Review Team

Position	Name	Phone	Email
ATR Lead	TBD		
Plan Formulator	TBD		
Biologist	TBD		
Geotechnical Engineer	TBD		
Hydraulic Engineer	TBD		
Cost Engineer	TBD		
Real Estate	TBD		

Vertical Team

Position	Name	Phone	Email
District Spt Planner	Jeremy Weber	503-808-3858	jeremy.j.weber@usace.army.mil
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ATTACHMENT 2: REVIEW PLAN REVISIONS

Revision Date	Description of Change	Page / Paragraph Number