

PLANNING ASSISTANCE TO STATES Section 22

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG

Scope and Authority

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) can assist states, local governments, other non-federal entities and eligible Native American Indian tribes with preparation of comprehensive plans for the development, use and conservation of water and related land resources.
- Studies and analyses are conducted at a planning-level of detail only. They do not include feasibility-level studies or detailed design that support or lead to project construction.
- Corps assistance is authorized by Section 22 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-251), as amended, also referred to as Planning Assistance to States (PAS) program.
- Studies completed under this program include flood inundation mapping, dam safety and failure modeling, water supply and demand analysis, water quality assessments, environmental restoration concepts, flood damage reduction assessments, wetlands delineation and biological assessments.



Study Process

- A state, local or regional government agency or eligible Native American Indian tribe (sponsor) submits a written request to the Corps for assistance.
- The Corps then meets with the non-federal sponsor to discuss potential study scope and prepare a project management plan that describes the tasks, deliverables, schedule and cost estimate.
- Once all parties agree on the project management plan, the Corps and sponsor sign a Letter of Agreement.
- The Corps initiates the study upon receipt of both federal and sponsor funding.

Study Costs

- Studies under this program are cost shared. The sponsor has the option of providing its required 50 percent of study costs as cash or through work-in-kind.
- Federal funds for each state or tribe are limited to \$2 million annually, but typically are much less.
- Individual studies, of which there may be more than one per state or tribe per year, generally range in cost from \$25,000 to \$100,000.

How to Request Assistance

• A PAS study is initiated after the Corps receives a written request from the prospective sponsor and funding becomes available. An example request template is provided on the reverse side of this information sheet.

EXAMPLE REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Bret L. Walters Chief, Planning Branch U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Walla Walla District 201 North Third Street Walla Walla, Washington 99362

Dear Mr. Walters:

This letter is to request the assistance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under Section 22 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1974, as amended. The (NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR) requests planning assistance to (DESCRIBE STUDY OR PROBLEM, AND LOCATION).

(BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE NATURE OF THE REQUESTED PLANNING STUDY.)

We understand that as a local sponsor under the Section 22 program, we are responsible for 50 percent of the study costs. Our cost-share contribution can be in the form of "in-kind" services, cash, or a combination.

The (NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR) has designated (NAME /PHONE NUMBER) as the point of contact for this project.

Sincerely, (NAME / TITLE OF OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO REQUEST STUDY)