



The Water Resources Development Act of 2022

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

Chairman Tom Carper and Ranking Member Shelley Moore Capito

The bipartisan Water Resources Development Act of 2022 (WRDA 2022) authorizes U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) studies, projects, and programs across the country. This legislation continues the two-year cycle for the enactment of WRDA legislation. Through its Civil Works missions, the Corps assists in the construction and maintenance of ports, inland waterways, locks, dams, and other critical infrastructure essential to economic growth, the movement of goods throughout the country, and trade with markets beyond our borders. The Corps' vital flood and coastal storm risk management and ecosystem restoration programs help make our communities more resilient and sustainable.

In addition to key policy reforms, WRDA 2022 includes authorizations for 106 feasibility studies and 31 projects for new construction or modification and directs the Corps to expedite several ongoing studies and projects that are critical to addressing our nation's water resources needs. The legislation also authorizes or reauthorizes environmental infrastructure authorities of the Corps, which support drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater management projects.

Invests in our Nation's Ports and Waterways

The Corps' efforts to keep shipping channels navigable are essential to our economy. Over 99 percent of U.S. overseas trade volume moves through coastal channels that the Corps maintains. An estimated \$66 billion in investment in port-related infrastructure is needed over the next decade to ensure U.S. job creation and economic growth.



- WRDA 2022 facilitates the timely completion of much-needed improvements to the country's inland waterways system through reforms to permanently reduce the strain on the Inland Waterways Trust Fund.
- The legislation addresses the harbor deepening and maintenance needs of commercially significant ports, maintaining their competitiveness and supporting global supply chains.
- The legislation also authorizes new avenues to provide assistance to underserved community harbors that are critical to local and regional economies.

Improves Inland and Coastal Resilience and Restores Ecosystems

Extreme weather events cause flooding that some communities are ill-prepared to withstand. Corps projects help mitigate the worst impacts of these events.

- WRDA 2022 enables critical investments in the protection and restoration of shorelines and riverbanks from erosion and other damaging forces.
- The legislation authorizes the Corps to modify shore protection projects during the performance of emergency restoration activities to increase resiliency.
- The legislation streamlines the implementation of shoreline protection and restoration projects to aid communities most vulnerable to coastal storms.
- The legislation enables communities to partner with the Corps to develop water resources projects that directly address risks of extreme weather.
- The legislation supports the ability of states and localities to plan for, and respond to, water resources challenges.



- The legislation authorizes the Corps to mitigate the impact of repetitive drought conditions and conserve water supplies.

Empowers Communities in the Project Delivery Process

Non-federal partners play a significant role in the Corps' delivery of studies and projects. WRDA 2022 further empowers communities to participate in the project delivery process.

- WRDA 2022 establishes a new Non-Federal Interest Advisory Committee that will provide the Corps with advice and recommendations to ensure more effective and efficient delivery of water resources development projects, programs, and other assistance.
- The legislation establishes a new Tribal and Economically Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Committee to help the Corps more effectively deliver projects, programs, and other assistance to these groups.
- The legislation directs the Corps to perform education and outreach to non-federal interests regarding the Agency's water resources development authorities, in order to identify partnership opportunities.
- The legislation expands options for non-federal partners to transfer credit for materials and services provided across studies and projects.
- The legislation authorizes the Corps to advance federal funds to project partners for real estate expenses that exceed the non-federal share of a project's cost.
- The legislation increases flexibility for non-federal partners to use funds provided by another federal agency to satisfy the non-federal share of the cost of a Corps study or project.