



### **Authorizes water resources development projects and studies:**

- 25 authorizations for new projects.
- Six authorizations for modifications to existing projects.
- 106 feasibility studies.

### **Promotes efficiencies in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) project delivery process by:**

- Directing USACE to track, and annually submit to Congress, a report on the time to complete the environmental review process for projects as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- Authorizing USACE to expedite evaluation of mitigation bank instruments proposed by nonfederal interests for permitting purposes.
- Providing flexibility to nonfederal sponsors with respect to financial accounting and fulfilling cost-share obligations for projects.
- Creating a new federal advisory committee composed of traditional nonfederal interests for USACE projects to advise the Agency on ways to improve project delivery and partnerships with those interests.
- Renewing the process whereby the Corps proposes projects for de-authorization to Congress.
- Requiring the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a review of the factors and conditions that have led to cost increases and delays for certain projects and provide a report to Congress.

### **Ensures USACE will be responsive to the current and future water resources needs of all communities by:**

- Avoiding one-size-fits-all requirements and maintaining USACE's flexibility in the development of project alternatives, in consultation with nonfederal sponsors.
- Making permanent the cost-share changes for inland waterway projects included in WRDA 2020, which increased the federal cost-share of these projects from 50 percent to 65 percent for ten years.
- Prioritizing provision of technical assistance and watershed planning to states and communities seeking to address flood risks.
- Designating staff in each USACE district office to educate nonfederal interests about opportunities to partner with the Agency to address their water resources needs.
- Establishing new, or amending existing, programs to ensure USACE is responsive to local and regional water resources needs, including environmental infrastructure authorities critical to water and wastewater infrastructure.
- Improving USACE authorities to partner with Indian Tribes.
- Expanding existing programs that support opportunities to address the water resources needs of economically-disadvantaged communities, many of which are located in rural areas.

### **Encourages USACE to engineer for the future by:**

- Reaffirming USACE's existing authorities to consider all current and anticipated future conditions in the design of projects.
- Directing USACE, at the request of a nonfederal interest, to formulate alternatives that address water supply and drought risk reduction in carrying out a feasibility study for any purpose.
- Modifying the definition of "rehabilitation" under the National Levee Safety Program to include levee improvements to increase resilience to extreme weather events.
- Allowing USACE to increase the resilience or effectiveness of a federally-authorized hurricane or shore protection project when performing emergency repair or restoration work.

### **Spurs innovation to better address national water resources objectives by:**

- Authorizing for the first time a dedicated USACE research and development account.
- Providing USACE with contracting flexibility in undertaking R&D activities (other transactional authority).
- Directing USACE to support science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education and recruit individuals for careers at the Agency.