



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®

St. Paul District

www.mvp.usace.army.mil

Public Affairs

Corps Facts

Planning Assistance to States

Jan. 11, 2008

FS-23

The Planning Assistance to States Program, also known as the Section 22 Program, is authorized by Section 22 of the 1974 Water Resources Development Act. The Corps of Engineers is authorized to use its technical expertise in water and related land resource management to help states and federally recognized Indian Tribes with their water resource problems.

Upon request, the Corps of Engineers will cooperate with these entities to prepare plans for the development, use and conservation of water and related land resources within their bounds.

Typical activities studied under the Section 22 Program are flood control, water supply, water conservation, water quality, hydropower, erosion, environmental evaluations and navigation. Activities that local units of government can accomplish through the program are watershed studies, inventories of flood-prone structures, hydrologic or hydraulic modeling, water supply investigations, wetland evaluations, cultural resources studies, lake nutrient levels, river spill response, public use planning, dam failure analysis and flood emergency plans. Studies vary in scope from evaluating a specific water resource problem to conducting a thorough, comprehensive type study.

Section 319 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1990 authorizes the government to collect fees from non-federal entities to recover 50 percent of the program cost in fiscal year 1993 and beyond. The maximum federal funds available annually to a state or tribe are \$500,000. The federal assistance provided may be further limited by the available appropriations.

Study Procedures

Initially, the Corps and the state or tribe agree on goals for a work request and its conformance with their comprehensive water plan. The state or tribe develops the scope of work and cost estimate, including essential coordination with other state or tribal offices, for submission to the Corps. The Corps prepares its scope of work, cost estimate and draft cost share agreement for negotiation with the state or tribe. When negotiation is complete and the state or tribe confirms the availability of funds in writing, the cost share agreement with agreed upon scope of work and cost estimate is transmitted to Corps' higher authority for approval. The district may begin work once (1) Corps' approval is granted, (2) federal funds are made available, (3) the state and the district engineer sign the agreement and (4) the state's share of the dollars are received.