



# Revolutionize USACE Civil Works Partner Update

February 2 and 5, 2021

## Revolutionize USACE Civil Works Partner Update Webinars

The Revolutionize U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works (USACE CW) team strives to proactively engage with external partners through webinars and other means of communication and engagement. On February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the team hosted webinars highlighting the latest actions of Revolutionize USACE Civil Works. Frequent engagements provide our external partners an opportunity to stay abreast of our latest efforts and provide a platform for them to share lessons learned, provide feedback and offer suggestions for improvement.

### Partner Comment Highlights

- 1.** Improve the dissemination of information and updates to our partners
- 2.** Update USACE guidance and improve how guidance is posted and shared
- 3.** Implement the Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program
- 4.** Ensure full analysis of all project benefits and project justifications should include social benefits
- 5.** Incorporate climate change and resiliency in USACE projects
- 6.** Implementation of Water Resources Development Act of 2020 and recent Executive Orders



**160 external partners attended** these webinars representing a variety of agencies and industries.

### Summary of Partner Comments

#### General Comments:

- Guidance:
  - o Need to make guidance easier to search and locate on USACE websites.
  - o Develop “What’s New” section on the Civil Works pages showing new documents.
  - o Guidance needs to be easier to read and understand.
- Benefit Cost Analysis:
  - o Planning process should include an evaluation of all project benefits and potential costs such as lost ecosystem services.
  - o Social benefits should be included in project justifications to address equity concerns.
  - o Improve integration of natural solutions in planning process and develop more multipurpose projects.
- Disposition Studies:
  - o Improve transparency and update guidance included in WRDA 2020.

#### Accelerate Project Delivery:

- Continuing Authorities Program (CAP):
  - o Improve transparency and communication on the process and timing of funding of CAP projects.
- USACE Technical Support:
  - o Educate and inform others about the technical support USACE can provide to communities through Planning Assistance to States and Tribes, Floodplain Management Services, etc.
- Partnerships:
  - o Develop closer partnership with FEMA to implement an integrated systems approach to flood risk.
  - o Utilize Sustainable Rivers Program and its concepts to modernize USACE operations.



# Revolutionize USACE Civil Works Partner Update (continued...)

## Innovative Financing and Budgeting

- Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program (CWIFP)
  - o Significant interest in this program.
  - o Support for expanding CWIFP in the future to other projects beyond dam safety.

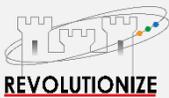
## Regulatory:

- Clean Water Act Section 404 Assumable Waters
  - o Guidance on what waters are assumable by States was helpful.
  - o Further clarification on the assumption regulations is desired.
- Information Sharing
  - o Permit finder website should be displayed on all district regulatory web sites and improvements to the functionality of the permit finder site were noted.
  - o Additional guidance on the implementation of the Navigable Waters Protection Rule (NWPR) would be helpful.
  - o Consider using Regulations.gov as a clear and easy tool to share and comment on regulations.

## Communication:

- Improve USACE Outreach:
  - o Better synchronization of external communication across HQ functional areas and vertically between district, MSC, & HQ within USACE is needed.
  - o Improve dissemination of information to external audiences.
  - o Partners have noticed improvements with USACE Civil Works communication, including the Director of Civil Works quarterly newsletter.

## Important References:



### Revolutionize USACE Civil Works Website

<https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Infrastructure/revolutionize/>



### Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program Website

<https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Infrastructure/revolutionize/CWIFP/>



### Corps Public-Private Partnership Website

[https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Infrastructure/Infra\\_P3\\_program/](https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Infrastructure/Infra_P3_program/)



### Inside the Castle Podcast

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/inside-the-castle/id1539014668>



### Corps Regulatory Program Website

<https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/>



Contact the Revolutionize Team by email at [CW.Infrastructure.Team@usace.army.mil](mailto:CW.Infrastructure.Team@usace.army.mil).