1. Administrative Details

Proposal Name: Kansas River Basin Study

by Agency: Kansas Water Office

Locations: KS

Date Submitted: 08/20/2018

Confirmation Number: 5cdc782e-e5fc-476d-9363-6285e2017864

Supporting Documents

File Name	Date Uploaded
ltr-KWO-Support-7001KansasRiverBasin-072018.pdf	08/20/2018
ltr-KWA-Support-7001KansasRiverBasin-072018.pdf	08/20/2018
ltr-Congressional-Delegation-Support-7001KansasRiverBasin-081718.pdf	08/20/2018
ltr-Governor-Colyer-Support-7001KansasRiverBasin-082018.pdf	08/20/2018
KS-River-Basin-Study-Map.pdf	08/20/2018

2. Provide the name of the primary sponsor and all non-Federal interests that have contributed or are expected to contribute toward the non-Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification.

Sponsor	**Letter of Support**
Kansas Water Office(Primary)	The Kansas Water Office (KWO) was established in 1981 as the water planning, policy, coordination and marketing agency for the State of Kansas. The primary function of th e KWO is the development and implementation of the Kan sas Water Plan. The State Water Plan lists ensuring a reli able water supply for each citizen, securing, protecting, and restoring Kansas reservoirs, and reducing vulnerability to e xtreme events as guiding principles. Given the importance of the Kansas River Basin to the people of Kansas and the goals of the KWO, the KWO eagerly offers its support and financial resources for this critical study.
Kansas Water Authority	The Kansas Water Authority (KWA) was established in 19 81 within and as part of the Kansas Water Office. The K WA consists of 13 voting members appointed by the Gover nor or Legislature that provide leadership to ensure that w ater policies and programs address the needs of all Kansans. To protect the people of Kansas and preserve a resource vit al to the State, the KWA supports this study to address cu rrent issues related to flood and drought preparedness, sedi mentation, and harmful algal blooms in the Kansas River Basin.
Kansas Governor's Office	Attached
Kansas Congressional Delegation	Attached

3. State if this proposal is for a feasibility study, a modification to an authorized USACE feasibility study or a modification to an authorized USACE project. If it is a proposal for a modification, provide the authorized water resources development feasibility study or project name.

[x] Feasibility Study

4. Clearly articulate the specific project purpose(s) of the proposed study or modification. Demonstrate that the proposal is related to USACE mission and authorities and specifically address why additional or new authorization is needed.

The Kansas River Basin Study will promote integrated water resources management and result in a holistic plan and strategies to address the needs of the Kansas River Basin watershed. The study would include eval uation of significant flood risk in the Kansas River Basin, river_stream_wetland degradation, severe drought response and preparedness, federal infrastructure resilience, and water supply availability and sustainment. The scope of the study includes the evaluation of the Kansas River Basin system operating plan, lake operati ons and manuals, lake facilities and features, conditions upstream and downstream, infrastructure, and other related needs in the system. The plan will also seek sustainable water resources management, taking into con sideration environmental protection, economic development, and social well-being. The study area include s the Kansas River Basin and tributaries, which drain approximately 60,000 square miles through a diversity of climates in eastern Colorado, northern Kansas, and south-central Nebraska. There are 18 federal reservoir s within the basin, operated by either the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) or the Bureau of Reclamati on (BoR) for multiple purposes, with the Corps managing flood control operations. The basin contains signifi cant Kansas cities including Manhattan, Kansas City, Topeka, and Lawrence, and comprises over 40 percent of the population of Kansas. There are flood risk management (FRM) projects in several locations within the basin, with Corps projects in design and construction in Topeka, Kansas City and Manhattan. Even wit h these projects, there are areas unprotected by levees that remain at risk and require this study to evaluate. This basin-wide watershed study will be a comprehensive evaluation, recommending integrated improvement s leveraging diverse resources to best realize benefits to the authorized purposes and infrastructure resiliency while potentially reducing future funding burdens for the Corps.

5. To the extent practicable, provide an estimate of the total cost, and the Federal and non-Federal share of those costs, of the proposed study and, separately, an estimate of the cost of construction or modification.

	Federal	**Non-Federal**	**Total**
Study	$1,500,000	$1,500,000	$3,000,000
Construction	$0	$0	$0

Explanation (if necessary)

The Letter of Intent supporting this study was signed on 15 March 2018 by the State of Kansas via the Direc tor of the Kansas Water Office, the non-federal sponsor. The Feasibility Cost Sharing agreement is schedule d to be signed in August 2019 or whenever study funding is made available. A project management plan for the feasibility phase will be developed after the FCSA is executed, and will include a detailed breakdown of c osts by fiscal year and any identified sponsor work-in-kind.

6. To the extent practicable, describe the anticipated monetary and nonmonetary benefits of the proposal including benefits to the protection of human life and property; improvement to transportation; the national economy; the environment; or the national security interests of the United States.

Investment is currently being made at the federal, state, and local levels to implement best practices through out the Kansas River Basin. However, these efforts, while beneficial in individual situations, are likely not re aching a maximum benefit due to the absence of a comprehensive, holistic look at the basin and system need s. The Kansas River Basin is a large river system with no reservoirs, locks, or dams on the main stem of the river. With the high level of impact reservoirs have on flow in times of both flood and drought, careful consi deration of all conditions and options must be studied. In the 1951 Flood of Record, 36 lives were lost in t he Kansas River Basin, and damages exceeded $9 billion in current dollars in major cities throughout the bas in. Since the construction of the 7 reservoirs, 11 Bureau of Reclamation lakes with flood protection managed by USACE, and levee systems in the Kansas River Basin, $44.9 billion in current dollars of cumulative flood damages have been averted. However, loss of life remains a concern in the basin with an estimated populatio n at risk of 100,000, critical infrastructure located downstream of federal projects, a flood depth average of 8 feet, and a warning time of only 36 hours. 60 percent of the state's water supply needs depend upon Corp s reservoirs, with particular reliance in drought periods. During the 2012 drought, 80 percent of flow in the l ower Kansas River came from federal reservoirs, and Kansas is currently in a well-publicized Moderate to Ex treme Drought condition. Sedimentation is reducing critical storage, lowering capacity by more than 40 perc ent in Tuttle Creek Lake, needed to sustain water supply and provide flood protection throughout the basin. Recurring harmful blue green algae blooms also threaten reservoirs by reducing water quality, endangering t he public and wildlife, preventing recreational use, and lowering economic value. Milford Lake exceeded 100 HAB-impacted days in 3 of the last 4 years.

7. Does local support exist? If 'Yes', describe the local support for the proposal.

[x] Yes

Local Support Description

Yes, as part of A Long-Term Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas and the state water planning process, Regional Advisory Committees made up of local stakeholders in the Kansas basin have identified bo th near-term and long-term projects and goals, and wholeheartedly support the study to address critical issue s such as sediment management and reservoir operations. Many of these issues identified align with the Chief of Engineer's emphasis on proactive drought preparedness in an era of increasing climate uncertainty, and th e previous ASA-CW's recommendation that the state pursue a study of this type to address their water reso urce issues.

8. Does the primary sponsor named in (2.) above have the financial ability to provide for the required cost share?

[x] Yes

Primary Sponsor Letter of Support

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ltr_KWO_Support_7001KansasRiverBasin_072018.pdf

STATE OF KANSAS

KANSAS WATER OFFICE
900 SW JACKSON. SUITE 404
TOPEKA, KS 66612

PHONE: 785-296-3185
FAX: 785-296-0878
www.kwo.ks.gov

GOVERNOR JEFF COLYER, M.D.
TRACY STREETER, DIRECTOR

July 20, 2018

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District
601 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

Subject: Support for the "Kansas River Basin Study" WRRDA 7001 Proposal

The Kansas Water Office (KWO) supports the Kansas River Basin Study to investigate water resources problems and opportunities within the Kansas River Basin and recommend comprehensive, long-term solutions. There is significant need and opportunities existing in the areas of flood risk management, water supply availability and sustainment, including sediment management, drought preparedness, habitat restoration, and other related purposes.

This is a unique opportunity for a partnership between the State of Kansas and the Corps of Engineers that reduces the future risk to life and property, economic hardships, and environmental degradation in the Kansas River Basin. The 18 federal reservoirs in the Kansas River Basin provide critical flood protection and water supply to over 40 percent of the population of Kansas. During the 2012 drought, 80 percent of flow in the lower Kansas River came from these reservoirs, and Kansas is currently in a well-publicized Moderate to Extreme drought condition. Additionally, continued filling of these reservoirs with sediment exacerbates storage issues, and recurring toxic algal blooms pose ongoing threats to health and recreation, adding to the pressing need for this study.

The State of Kansas' comprehensive 50-year Long-Term Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas provides a foundation for an even more robust partnership. As part of the Vision and state water planning process, Regional Advisory Committees made up of local stakeholders in the Kansas basin have identified both near-term and long-term projects and goals, and wholeheartedly support the study to address critical issues such as sediment management and reservoir operations. Many of these issues identified align with the Chief of Engineer's emphasis on proactive drought preparedness in an era of increasing climate uncertainty, and the previous ASA-CW's recommendation that the state pursue a study of this type to address their water resource issues. This basin-wide watershed study will be a comprehensive evaluation, recommending integrated improvements that leverage diverse resources to best realize benefits to the authorized purposes and infrastructure resiliency while potentially reducing future funding burdens for the Corps.

STATE OF KANSAS

KANSAS WATER OFFICE
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GOVERNOR JEFF COLYER, M.D.
TRACY STREETER, DIRECTOR

With all this in mind, the KWO supports the WRRDA 7001 proposal for the Kansas River Basin Study and looks forward to the prospect of future water planning discussions.

Sincerely,

Tracy Streeter

Tracy Streeter, Director
Kansas Water Office

Other Non-Federal Sponsors Letter(s) of Support

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ltr_KWA_Support_7001KansasRiverBasin_072018.pdf

STATE OF KANSAS

KANSAS WATER AUTHORITY
900 SW JACKSON. SUITE 404
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GOVERNOR JEFF COLYER, M.D.
GARY HARSHBERGER, CHAIRMAN

July 20, 2018

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District
601 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

Subject: Support for the "Kansas River Basin Study" WRRDA 7001 Proposal

I am writing to express support for the Kansas River Basin Study to investigate water resources problems and opportunities within the Kansas River Basin and recommend comprehensive, long-term solutions. I know that there is significant need and opportunities existing in the areas of flood risk management, water supply availability and sustainment, including sediment management, drought preparedness, habitat restoration, and other related purposes.

This is a unique opportunity for a partnership between the State of Kansas and the Corps of Engineers that reduces the future risk to life and property, economic hardships, and environmental degradation in the Kansas River Basin. The 18 federal reservoirs in the Kansas River Basin provide critical flood protection and water supply to over 40 percent of the population of Kansas. During the 2012 drought, 80 percent of flow in the lower Kansas River came from these reservoirs, and Kansas is currently in a well-publicized Moderate to Extreme drought condition. Additionally, continued filling of these reservoirs with sediment exacerbates storage issues, and recurring harmful algal blooms pose ongoing threats to health and recreation, adding to the pressing need for this study.

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to the authorized purposes and infrastructure resiliency while potentially reducing future funding burdens for the Corps.

With all this in mind, I support the Kansas Water Office's WRRDA 7001 proposal for the Kansas River Basin Study and look forward to the prospect of future water planning discussions.

Sincerely,

Gary Harshberger, Chairman
Kansas Water Authority

Other Non-Federal Sponsors Letter(s) of Support

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ltr_Congressional_Delegation_Support_7001KansasRiver-Basin_081718.pdf

LYNN JENKINS, CPA
2ND DISTRICT, KANSAS
HTTP://LYNNJENKINS.HOUSE.GOV

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1602

ASSISTANT WHIP
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

August 17, 2018

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District
601 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

Subject: Support for the "Kansas River Basin Study" WRRDA 7001 Proposal

I am writing to express support for the Kansas River Basin Study to investigate water resources problems and opportunities within the Kansas River Basin and recommend comprehensive, long-term solutions. I have expressed support in the past and continue to support such an effort based on the significant need and opportunities existing in the areas of flood risk management, water supply availability and sustainment, including sediment management, drought preparedness, habitat restoration, and other related purposes.

This is a unique opportunity for a partnership between the State of Kansas and the Corps of Engineers that reduces the future risk to life and property, economic hardships, and environmental degradation in the Kansas River Basin. The 18 federal reservoirs in the Kansas River Basin provide critical flood protection and water supply to over 40 percent of the population of Kansas. During the 2012 drought, 80 percent of flow in the lower Kansas River came from these reservoirs, and Kansas is currently in a well-publicized Moderate to Extreme drought condition. Additionally, continued filling of these reservoirs with sediment exacerbates storage issues, and recurring harmful algal blooms pose ongoing threats to health and recreation, adding to the pressing need for this study.

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With all this in mind, I support the Kansas Water Office's WRRDA 7001 proposal for the Kansas River Basin Study and look forward to the prospect of future water planning discussions.

Sincerely,

Lynn Jenkins

Lynn Jenkins, CPA
Member of Congress

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550 SW 5TH STREET
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FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–1603

August 17, 2018

Colonel Douglas B. Guttormsen
Commander, Kansas City District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
601 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

I am writing to express support for the Kansas River Basin Study to investigate water resources problems and opportunities within the Kansas River Basin and recommend comprehensive, long-term solutions. I have expressed my support in the past and continue to support such an effort based on the significant need and opportunities existing in the areas of flood risk management, water supply availability and sustainment, including sediment management, drought preparedness, habitat restoration, and other related purposes.

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With all this in mind, I fully support the Kansas Water Office's WRRDA 7001 proposal for the Kansas River Basin Study and look forward to the prospect of future water planning discussions.

Sincerely,

Kevin Yoder

Kevin Yoder
Member of Congress

Other Non-Federal Sponsors Letter(s) of Support

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STATE OF KANSAS

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GOVERNOR JEFF COLYER, M.D.

August 20, 2018

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District
601 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

Subject: Support for the "Kansas River Basin Study" WRRDA 7001 Proposal

I am writing to express support for the Kansas River Basin Study to investigate water resources problems and opportunities within the Kansas River Basin and recommend comprehensive solutions. I know there are significant needs and opportunities in the areas of flood risk management, water supply, sediment management, drought preparedness, habitat restoration, and other related purposes.

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Our 50-year Long-Term Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas provides a foundation for an even more robust partnership. As part of the Vision and state water planning process, Regional Advisory Committees have identified both near- and long-term goals, and wholeheartedly support the study. Many of the issues identified align with the Chief of Engineer's emphasis on proactive drought preparedness, and the previous ASA-CW's recommendation that the state pursue a study to address water resource issues. This will be a comprehensive evaluation, recommending integrated improvements that leverage diverse resources to best realize benefits to authorized purposes and infrastructure resiliency while potentially reducing future funding burdens for the Corps.

With all this in mind, I support the Kansas Water Office's WRRDA 7001 proposal for the Kansas River Basin Study and look forward to the prospect of future water planning discussions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Colyer, M.D.
Governor

JERRY MORAN
KANSAS

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United States Senate

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BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

August 20, 2018

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District
601 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

Subject: Support for the "Kansas River Basin Study" WRRDA 7001 Proposal

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With all this in mind, I support the Kansas Water Office's WRRDA 7001 proposal for the Kansas River Basin Study and look forward to the prospect of future water planning discussions.

Yours truly,

Jerry Moran

U.S. Senator Jerry Moran

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HAYS, KS 67601

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SUITE 210
MANHATTAN, KS 66502

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SUITE 201
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306 N. BROADWAY STREET
SUITE 125
PITTSBURG, KS 66762

WICHITA OFFICE
100 N. BROADWAY
SUITE 210
WICHITA, KS 67202

Map Document

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KS_River_Basin_Study_Map.pdf

Kansas River Basin Study Area