



USACE Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration and Environmental Stewardship – Restoring and Protecting America’s Natural Resources

USACE’s Civil Works environmental program focuses on two key areas: aquatic ecosystem restoration and stewardship of project lands. The purpose of the aquatic ecosystem restoration program, one of the Army Corps’ three core mission areas, is to restore degraded ecosystem structures, function and natural processes. The mission of the stewardship program is to manage, conserve and protect the natural and cultural resources at USACE-operated projects, consistent with project authorities.

Funding

The President’s Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) includes \$4.827 billion in gross discretionary funding for the Civil Works program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) including \$224 million for aquatic ecosystem restoration and \$124.4 million for the environmental stewardship program.

The budget for the aquatic ecosystem restoration program prioritizes studies or projects that support the cost-effective restoration of ecosystems. The Budget predominantly supports efforts in the California Bay Delta, Chesapeake Bay, Everglades, Great Lakes, and Upper Mississippi River watersheds as well as compliance with existing biological opinions for the Columbia-Snake system, Missouri River Basin, and the Mud Mountain Dam project on the White River in Washington State. USACE coordinates closely with other Federal agencies on these efforts to synchronize activities and best leverage the Federal investment.

The budget for the stewardship program will bring 25 master plans up to current standards, protect vulnerable and threatened cultural resources, and manage or control invasive plant and animal species on nearly 386,550 acres. The program supports the Veterans Curation Program, which by the end of FY20 is projected to have hired and trained approximately 661 returning Veterans since the inception of the program. Additionally, the stewardship program in FY20 will complete work to inspect and maintain approximately 17,000 miles of Federal property boundary line, address an estimated 4,300 encroachments and trespasses, process an estimated 4,500 total land use requests, and manage a shoreline program with 74,500 dock and vegetation permits.

Program Objectives

- Through proper land and water management, protection and conservation, ensure diverse and viable natural resources are available for future generations.
- Restore degraded ecosystem structure, function, and processes to a more natural condition.

Key Messages	Facts & Figures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The President’s FY20 Budget request maintains a strong commitment to the environment. • Complex environmental problems require long-term solutions developed in a collaborative environment. • All USACE programs are guided by the environmental operating principles. • Environmental Stewardship protects natural and cultural resources while sustaining project purposes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the period FY05 through FY17, USACE restored approximately 111,000 acres to a less degraded, more natural condition. • USACE is responsible for stewardship of about 12 million acres of project lands, manages over 340 species of concern, nearly 30,000 miles of federal boundary line, 47,000 cultural sites and 65,000 real estate outgrants • USACE has more than 450,000 acres of environmentally sensitive areas supporting unique ecosystems.



- For more information about USACE's environmental programs, visit: <http://cw-environment.usace.army.mil/>.