



USACE Navigation – Meeting America’s Maritime Transportation Needs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) navigation program helps facilitate commercial navigation by providing support for safe, reliable, highly cost-effective, and environmentally sustainable waterborne transportation. The program seeks to meet this responsibility through a combination of capital improvements and the operation and maintenance of existing navigation projects.

Funding

The President’s Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) includes \$4.827 billion in gross discretionary funding for the Civil Works Program. This Budget provides \$2.308 billion for the USACE Navigation Program, including \$852 million for inland navigation mostly from the Operation and Maintenance account, which is focused on maintaining reliable service at high use waterways that include the Mississippi River, Ohio River, Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Illinois Waterway, Tennessee River, Black Warrior Tombigbee Waterway and the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System. The Budget for coastal navigation provides \$1.455 billion, mostly for project operations and maintenance to facilitate the movement of commercial cargo by water, including \$965 million that is financed from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund. Funding includes \$92 million to maintain navigation for the Mississippi River, Baton Rouge to the Gulf project. Construction funds are provided to: the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project (\$130.3 million), Boston Harbor (\$34.8 million), Charleston Harbor deepening (\$138.0 million), the Corpus Christi Ship Channel (\$53.3 million), the Poplar Island Environmental Restoration (\$17.3 million) project, construction of a new lock at Sault Sainte Marie (\$75.3 million), continues major rehabilitation of the jetties for the Columbia River at the Mouth (\$36 million) and includes funding to complete the Locks and Dams 2, 3 and 4, Monongahela River, PA of \$111 million of which \$55.5 million is derived from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. This Budget was developed using a risk management approach, which entails establishing priorities and focusing the available funding on the highest priority construction, operation, maintenance, and investigation activities.

The Budget proposes to reform the laws governing the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, including establishing an annual fee to increase the amount paid by commercial navigation users of the inland waterways. The additional revenue would support infrastructure investment by helping finance the users’ share of future capital investments, as well as 10 percent of the operations and maintenance cost of these inland waterways. The current tax on diesel fuel used in inland waterways commerce is insufficient to support the users’ share of these costs.

The Nation’s coastal channels and inland waterways are part of a larger transportation network that includes 25,000 miles of navigable channels and related infrastructure maintained by USACE, as well as publicly and privately-owned marine terminals, intermodal connections, shipyards and repair facilities. Coastal channels and inland waterways maintained by USACE support the Nation’s economy, as well as contributing to both state and local government economic development, including job creation efforts. Approximately 98 percent of the overseas trade, by weight, with a value of \$1.47 trillion, move through Corps projects. The Nation’s harbors, channels, and waterways handle almost 2.4 billion tons of commerce annually. Over 70 percent of imported oil and more than 48 percent of goods purchased by American consumers come through our ports. Dredging of Federal navigation channels can also provide environmental benefits in some cases, where the dredged material is used beneficially to create and restore wetlands as well as other valuable habitat.

Program Objectives

- Maintain inland waterways and coastal channels, with emphasis on those with a high or moderate level of commercial use.
- Support investment that would provide a high return to the Nation.



- The USACE navigation program provides an economic return to the Nation.
 - USACE's navigation program helps facilitate commercial navigation by providing support for safe, reliable, highly cost-effective, and environmentally-sustainable waterborne transportation systems.
 - This Budget focuses funding on the highest priority capital investments and maintenance activities.
 - The Budget proposes establishing an annual fee to help finance future capital investments and a portion of operation and maintenance of the inland waterways.
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- USACE maintains 12,000 miles of inland and intracoastal waterways with 218 lock chambers at 176 sites; and 1,067 coastal, Great Lakes, and inland channels and harbors comprising 13,000 miles of channels and 23 locks.
 - USACE dredges over 210 million cubic yards of material annually, which helps meet commercial shipping needs.
 - For more information about USACE's navigation program, visit <http://www.usace.army.mil/>.