



USACE Water Storage for Water Supply

The Flood Control Act of 1944 and the Water Supply Act of 1958 authorize a role for the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in water supply, based on the recognition that States and non-Federal entities have the primary responsibility in the development and management of their water supplies. USACE may participate in developing water supplies in connection with water resource improvements of Federal reservoir projects when certain conditions of non-Federal participation are met, such as bearing the full financial responsibility of water supply. As one of the nation’s largest water management agencies, USACE plays an important role in helping States and local interests ensure that Americans have enough water to meet their needs. For many years, USACE has provided water supply storage space in its multi-purpose reservoirs to State and local interests, who repay the costs associated with that storage to the U.S. Treasury.

Funding

The President’s Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) includes \$4.827 billion in gross discretionary funding for the Civil Works program of USACE. This Budget provides \$6.8 million for the Water Storage for Water Supply Program to support priority operation and maintenance work, to manage, bill, and collect the costs to provide the storage, and to examine potential reallocations of storage to water supply. Currently, there are 136 USACE reservoirs with Municipal & Industrial water supply storage in 25 states. These reservoirs contain 9.8 million acre-feet of authorized water supply storage which can yield 6.9 billion gallons per day – an amount sufficient for the daily household needs of 101 million people. The costs for this storage are paid through water supply agreements.

In addition, the Budget proposes to divest the Federal Government of the Washington Aqueduct (Aqueduct), which is the wholesale water supply system for Washington, D.C.; Arlington County, Virginia; the City of Falls Church, Virginia; and parts of Fairfax County, Virginia. The Aqueduct is the only local water supply system in the Nation owned and operated by the Corps. Eliminating the Corps’ ownership and operation of this system, and increasing the State, local, or private sector’s role, would encourage a more efficient allocation of economic resources and mitigate risk to taxpayers.

Program Objective

- Work in partnership with non-Federal water management plans and consistent with law and policy, to manage USACE reservoirs to provide municipal and industrial (M&I) water supply storage in a cost-efficient and environmentally and socially responsible manner.

Key Messages	Facts & Figures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USACE reservoirs provide safe and reliable water storage for large populations and can be a key component in State and local plans to meet current and future water demands. • Water storage at USACE multi-purpose reservoirs can provide an alternative to the development of new single-purpose water supply reservoirs. • The President’s FY20 Budget includes \$6.8 million for USACE to continue funding the highest-priority operations and maintenance activities that enable USACE to assist State and local entities in meeting their responsibilities with respect to water supplies. • The Budget also proposes to divest the Federal Government of the Washington Aqueduct. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USACE has 136 reservoirs with M&I water supply storage in 25 states - a total of 9.8 million acre-feet of authorized water supply storage. • The yield from this storage can provide 6.9 billion gallons per day, which is sufficient for the daily household needs of 101 million people. • The costs for this storage are paid by local interests through water supply agreements.