



Program Fact Sheet PLANNING ASSISTANCE TO STATES

Section 22 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1974, as amended

Authority and Scope: Section 22 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1974, as amended, authorizes the Planning Assistance to States (PAS) Program. The PAS Program allows the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to provide planning assistance for the development, utilization, and conservation of water and related land resources. The PAS Program allows the Corps to partner with states, groups of states, Federally-recognized territories or tribes, local governments, and other non-Federal entities. Under this program, the Corps offers two types of planning assistance: comprehensive water resources planning or technical assistance. All assistance is limited to planning, and studies conducted under the PAS Program cannot include detailed design for construction.

Types of Assistance:

- **Comprehensive Water Resources Planning:**
 - Planning for development, utilization, and conservation of water and water-related resources of drainage basins, watersheds, or ecosystems located within the boundaries of that state(s)
 - **Cost Share Requirements:** 50% Federal, 50 % nonfederal
 - In-kind services can be accepted to meet cost-share requirements
 - Volunteer labor cannot be used to meet cost-share requirements
 - Cost-share waiver for tribes and territories (up to \$665,000 for Fiscal Year 2023)
 - Cost-share waiver for economically disadvantaged communities as defined by Section 160 of WRDA 2020

- **Technical Assistance:**
 - Technical support of planning efforts related to the management of state water resources
 - **Cost Share Requirements:** 50% Federal, 50% nonfederal
 - In-kind services cannot be accepted to meet cost-share requirements.
 - Cost-share waiver for tribes and territories (up to \$665,000 for Fiscal Year 2023)
 - Cost-share waiver for economically disadvantaged communities as defined by Section 160 of WRDA 2020

Capabilities may include, but are not limited to:

Floodplain Management	Community Planning	Environmental Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flood inundation mapping - Floodplain modeling - Flood risk management measure development - Loss avoidance studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stormwater management plans - GIS-based planning tools for sediment and coastal management - Nature-based solutions for coastal erosion - Decision support tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wetland resource identification - Stream quality assessment - Watershed management plans - Identification of priority areas for restoration or conservation

Funding:

The PAS Program is funded annually by Congress. Funds are distributed among Corps Districts nationwide. No more than \$5 million in Federal funds for PAS comprehensive planning efforts may be expended in a state per fiscal year.

For further information, please contact: Jen Brancho, Biologist/Program Manager, at Jennie.M.Brancho@usace.army.mil or (216)598-3463.

**SAMPLE LETTER OF REQUEST
FOR A SECTION 22 STUDY
TECHNICAL SESRVICES**

Lieutenant Colonel Colby K. Krug
District Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Buffalo District
478 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14202

ATTN: Planning Branch – Jennie.M.Brancho@usace.army.mil

Dear Colonel Krug:

This is in reference to the Corps of Engineer's Planning Assistance to States Program. We understand that the provisions of Section 22 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1974, (Public Law 93-251), as amended, provides authority for the Corps to assist in the preparation of technical services for the development, utilization, and conservation of water and related land resources. The **[name of state, eligible Indian nation, local government, non-federal public body, or nonprofit entity]** requests planning assistance for **[briefly describe problem or need, including if appropriate, the name of waterbody, city, county, and state]**.

We understand that upon receipt of this letter requesting assistance, the Corps of Engineers will prepare a Scope of Work and a cost estimate for a study. If an agreement is executed to work on a Section 22 study, we understand we will be responsible for 50 percent of study costs.

[For non-profit entities: Enclosed please find the letter of support from the local governmental agency where the work is being performed, required when a non-profit entity submits a letter of request. The letter of support from the local government states that they are supportive of the proposed work, the non-profit entity has the capability and authority to perform the work, and the local government can pay for any work not performed, if desired.]

[Please add any additional information or discussion desired.]

We would like to discuss the availability of information, required schedule, and level of effort required in order to negotiate the appropriate cost sharing agreement to initiate a Section 22 study. Please contact **[name, title, and contact information]** to arrange a future meeting to discuss this agreement.

Signature of Cooperating Agency

**SAMPLE LETTER OF REQUEST
FOR A SECTION 22 STUDY
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING**

Lieutenant Colonel Colby K. Krug
District Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Buffalo District
478 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14202

ATTN: Planning Branch - Jennie.M.Brancho@usace.army.mil

Dear Colonel Krug:

This is in reference to the Corps of Engineer's Planning Assistance to States and Tribes Program. We understand that the provisions of Section 22 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1974, (Public Law 93-251), as amended, provides authority for the Corps to assist in the preparation of comprehensive plans for the development, utilization, and conservation of water and related land resources. **[name of state, eligible Indian nation, local government, non-federal public body, or nonprofit entity]** requests planning assistance **[briefly describe problem or need, including the name and location of waterbody].**

We understand that upon receipt of this letter requesting assistance, the Corps of Engineers will prepare a Scope of Work and a cost estimate for a comprehensive study. If we enter into an agreement to work on a Section 22 study, it is understood these studies are cost shared on a 50% basis.

[For requests for a comprehensive study by an entity other than the respective state or Indian Nation: Enclosed please find a letter from the state acknowledging that the non-Federal entity has been in coordination with the state and that the state supports the requested work.]

[For requests from a non-profit entity: Enclosed please find an additional letter of support submitted by the local government entity where the work is being performed. The letter of support from the local government states that they are supportive of the proposed work, the non-profit entity has the capability and authority to perform the work, and that local government can pay for any work not performed, if desired.]

[Please add any additional information or discussion desired.]

We would like to discuss the availability of information, required schedule, and level of effort required in order to negotiate the appropriate cost sharing agreement to initiate a Section 22 study. Please contact **[name, title, and contact information]** to arrange a future meeting.

Signature of Cooperating Agency