

# Project Update

US Army Corps of Engineers<sub>®</sub>

Little Rock District

March 2013

**BUILDING STRONG®** 



• Plans begin for Greers Ferry Dam's golden anniversary

• Little Rock District's website gets makeover

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## Corps continues updating Table Rock Lake master plan



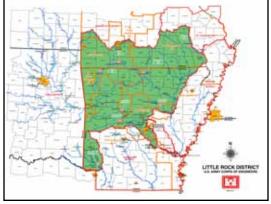


# Project to celebrate golden anniversary



## On the cover

Local photographer Tim Zimmerman combined six photos to create this amazing image of a barge navigating the MKARNS between Little Rock and North Little Rock at sunset ......Cover



Little Rock District map

# Little Rock Key Projects



Project Update highlights top Little Rock District issues in Missouri and Arkansas. If you have questions, contact Randy Hathaway, Little Rock District Deputy District Engineer for Project Management, at (501) 324-5053. For more information, visit out web site at www.swl.usace.army.mil.

# Table Rock Lake scoping report complete, progress continues on master plan update



Table Rock Dam near Branson, Missouri.

The Army Corps of Engineers Little Rock District recently completed the Table Rock Lake Master Plan scoping report compiled from comments received during the public comment period and from workshops held in late 2012.

"The scoping report captures all the public comments received during the scoping process," Project Manager Dana Coburn said. "The report also provides an analysis of the comments and we will use this information to help draft the new master plan."

The report is available for the public to view at:

http://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/TableRockMasterPlanUpdate.aspx

The Corps' will continue to work on the draft master plan through the spring and early summer.

"Our next step will be to hold focus group meetings to see if the draft master plan captures the comments and opinions of the public, partners and stakeholders in conjunction with the missions, guidelines and regulations of the Corps," Coburn said.

Part of the master plan revision process has been educational.

"Many interested people were not clear of the difference between a master plan and a shoreline management plan," Coburn said. "We hope that our public workshops and outreach have helped people understand that the master plan provides the vision for how the lake should look in the future."

Development of the revised Master Plan will include consideration of:

- Regional and ecosystem needs
- Project resource capabilities and suitability for various purposes
- Public interests and desires

The Table Rock Lake Master Plan's update main objectives are:

- Make maximum use of the resources of the lake within the current policies and guidelines of the Corps of Engineers
- Accommodate current and projected use patterns with maximum efficiency
- Identify and protect cultural and natural resources
- Attract maximum participation by the general public and local government in project development

"The current master plan envisioned that Table Rock Lake would yearly host 2 million visitors by 2020 but we are already currently hosting 4 to 5 million," Coburn said. "Throughout the process we are trying to determine if there are enough public recreation opportunities around the lake?

Are the parks in the right location? Do we have enough public access points around the lake? What will the future needs be?"

The team will also look at land designation around the lake.

"All the Corps land surrounding Table Rock Lake is in several land use categories," Coburn added. "Is the mix of these categories right? Are there enough places for commercial activities? Are sensitive natural areas protected appropriately?"

The master plan does not address the details of how and where shoreline use permits may be issued, however, it does set the stage for implementation of the shoreline management program. For that reason, the moratorium on shoreline management requests will remain in place until the master plan revision is completed by the end of 2013.



Workshop attendance was larger than anticipated.

"After the master plan is revised, the shoreline management plan would be revised when funding becomes available to be consistent with the goals identified in the master plan," Coburn said.

The draft master plan and environmental assessment should be complete by late July.

"Once these draft documents are complete, we will hold public workshops around the lake to again let the public provide input," Coburn said. "We had tremendous interest by the public when we began the process and we hope that will continue throughout the process."

For more information about the Table RockLakeMasterPlanRevisionprojectvisit http://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/TableRockMasterPlanUpdate.aspx.

# Preparations begin for celebrating 50th Anniversary of Greers Ferry Dam

Join us at 1 p.m. October 3 in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Greers Ferry Dam Dedication at the JFK Overlook in Heber Springs, Ark. The dedication ceremony was President John F. Kennedy's last dedication and one of his final public appearances before his assassination in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963.

The Greers Ferry Project is vital to the region with an extensive history starting with the Oct. 3, 1963 dedication of the dam by President John F. Kennedy. Greers Ferry Lake is consistently one of the Corps top three visited lakes in the nation for recreation with more than seven million visitors annually. The dam accounts for more than \$1 million in flood damage reductions each year, provides drinking water to more than 135,000 households, and generates electricity to local cooperatives with revenue of more than \$7.3 million annually.

A planning committee has been established and the current sponsors of the ceremony include: Army Corps of Engineers; Arkansas National Guard; Arkansas Parks and Tourism; Heber Springs Chamber of Commerce; Clinton Chamber of Commerce; Greers Ferry Chamber of Commerce; Greers Ferry Lake Little Red River Association; Save Greers Ferry Lake, Inc; Arkansas State University – Heber Springs; Boy Scouts of America; Arkansas State Police and Cleburne County Sheriff's Office.

Current exhibitors include: Army Corps of Engineers; Arkansas National Guard; Southwestern Power Administration; Arkansas Park and Tourism; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission; GAR-BRO Engineering Services and the U.S. Postal Service.

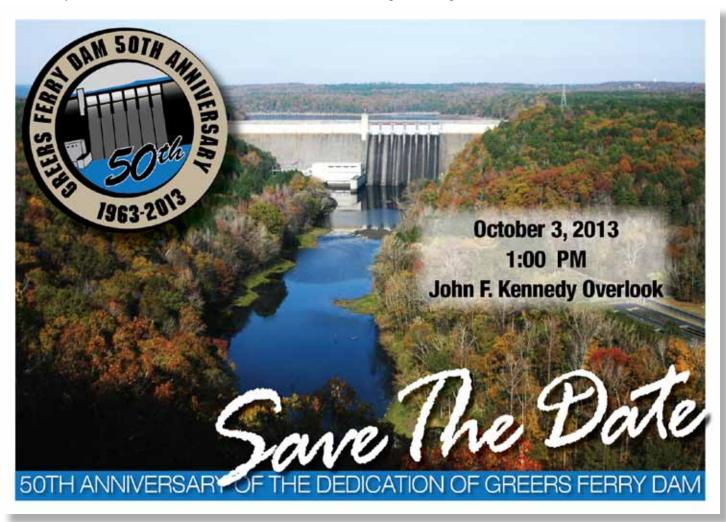
This event is free and open to the pub-

lic. Organizers encourage area schools to attend the celebration as many of the displays will be emphasizing education and the vibrant history of the Greers Ferry Dam.

Additional information about the event can be found at: http://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Lakes/GreersFerryLake/50thAnniversayofGreersFerryDam.aspx. Follow our posting of photos on our Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/littlerockusace.



Dedication in 1963.



# Little Rock District website gets makeover

The Little Rock District recently wrapped up a month-long project to enhance the district's public website.

During November, an 18-member web migration team transferred more than 1,200 pages of data from the old district webpage administered by ACE-IT to the current web platform managed by the Defense Media Activity.

The DMA platform, called the American Forces Public Information Management System, creates a consistent look and feel, streamlines the content management process and offers increased security and fast delivery of content to users of Corps of Engineer websites. AFPIMS is also used by the Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps.

"The new web design allows the 'boots on the ground' to provide information that the public needs and wants," said Brooke Kervin, natural resource specialist and web content provider for Millwood Lake. "It also allows the project offices to communicate better with the public and stakeholders."

As part of the migration, local control of the district website transferred from ACE-IT to the Public Affairs Office so changes no longer require a help ticket. Under the AFPIMS system, the web content provider (the person responsible for a certain section of the website) is able to make changes to their own page. After the change has been processed an email is sent to the content manager (public affairs) requesting approval of the changes. Once the changes have been approved the Little Rock Engineer District Deputy Com-

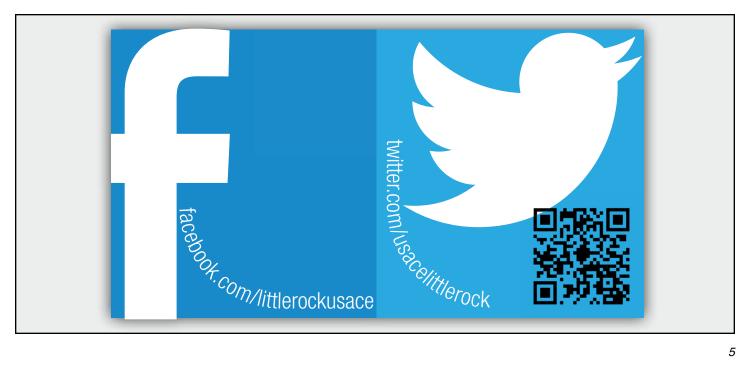


webpage is updated within minutes.

"Since each office is responsible for maintaining their own pages we have seen a marked improvement of the content on our website," said Lt. Col. Craig Guth,

"The migration has also streamlined the work flow and the annual cost of operating the site," added Guth.

The new, revamped public website can be seen at www.swl.usace.army.mil.



# Little Rock District projects, issues

## **Arkansas River Basin**

#### **Ozark Powerhouse Major Rehabilitation**

The contract for the replacement of the five hydroelectric turbines is ongoing. The first unit is fully assembled and is currently being readied for operation. In the meantime, the contractor is re-assembling the second unit, which is scheduled for completion in mid-2013, and is disassembling the third unit. Fabrication of the major components for all five units are either completed or in the final stages of completion. Non-federal funding in the amount of \$12.8 million was approved in FY12 through a memorandum of agreement between the city of Jonesboro, Southwestern Power Administration and the Corps to continue with project execution. The receipt of these funds will keep the project on the most efficient schedule. This \$125 million major rehabilitation project will improve the continual maintenance problems at Ozark Powerhouse, which resulted in more than \$10 million lost power in FY11.

## McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System, 12-Foot Channel

There are no remaining funds on this project and all work has ceased. In addition, work will not resume until the project receives (1) a "new start" designation, (2) construction general funds, and (3) cost shared funding (50/50) from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. This project was not included in the fiscal year 2013 appropriations. The total project cost is currently estimated at \$188.8 million. However, the work can be funded and accomplished in \$10 million increments. The existing 445-mile long McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System consists of 18 locks and dams, providing nine-foot depth inland navigation from the Mississippi River to Catoosa, Okla. This project would deepen the navigation channel to a minimum depth of 12-feet throughout the system.

#### **Montgomery Point Lock and Dam repairs**

In December 2012, the Little Rock District completed repair of two lock gates at Montgomery Point Lock and Dam in Desha County, Arkansas. The gate hinge pins were found to be damaged in FY12 and failure will halt navigation at this critical entry point to the McClellan-Kerr navigation system. The lock was unwatered in December 2012, and the gate mechanisms were repaired on two of the worst of the four gates. High water and weather conditions prevented the team from repairing all four gates. Additional funding will be required to complete the job.



Montgomery Point lock repair.

### **Three Rivers Study, Southeast Arkansas**

A "new start" and funding of \$100,000 is needed to complete a 905(b) reconnaissance study of the water resource problems in SE Arkansas where the Arkansas, Mississippi, and White Rivers converge. The study will determine potential solutions, scope, further federal participation, and identify nonfederal sponsors to provide a comprehensive watershed analysis of basin conditions and alternatives. The study is authorized by Section 216 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1970.

The study is needed to investigate serious hydrologic and hydraulic problems that are threatening navigation, aquatic ecosystem habitat, Ark/White Cutoff Structure, recreation, flood damage reduction and watershed protection. Long-term solutions were evaluated in a previous Ark/White Cutoff Study to address the navigation reliability problem, but the National Economic Development alternative plan was not environmentally acceptable because extensions of levees would require use of U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service land that was deemed incompatible with the refuge purpose. Therefore, the study result was to continue maintaining existing structures and construct new structures to maintain navigation reliability – a band-aid approach.

However, the Ark/White Cutoff Study confirmed that the problems and solutions are interconnected and interdependent throughout the entire region. The study location is at the confluence of the Mississippi, White, and Arkansas Rivers in Desha and Arkansas counties,

Ark. The study area is in three Corps districts (Little Rock, Memphis, and Vicksburg) and two Corps divisions (Southwestern and Mississippi Valley). This area is the starting point for the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System that begins at the mouth of the White River and runs 445 navigable miles to Catoosa, Oklahoma. The watershed of these three rivers is home to the White River National Wildlife Refuge and over 100,000 acres of critical bottomland hardwoods.

This is the largest stand of bottomland hardwoods on any tributary to the Mississippi River. Head cutting and significant erosion is causing the loss of large areas of bottomland hardwoods. The refuge and the surrounding area are habitat for numerous threatened and endangered species, including the Bald Eagle, Interior Least Tern, Pallid Sturgeon, and Ivory-billed Woodpecker.

The head cutting in the watershed is also a serious threat to navigation, recreation, and flood risk management. The Montgomery Point Lock and Dam, located on the Arkansas River, became operational in FY05. The dam, located at navigation mile 0.5, is potentially at risk of the severe head cutting that is continually under repair between navigation miles 3 and 8 on the White River. If a full breach were to occur, navigation could be impacted for more than 100 days, at a cost of nearly \$300 million and thousands of acres of wetlands and pristine hardwoods would be lost. Possible solutions include passive weirs or gated structure that would regulate the flow of water and reduce erosive action. The State of Arkansas understands the cost-sharing requirements and would be the local sponsor.

## **White River Basin**

#### Clearwater Dam Major Rehabilitation, Missouri

The contractor completed the cutoff wall construction for this high priority dam on Dec. 6, 2011. The remaining on-going work is installation of the clay blanket and repair of overflow spillway damages, which was caused by construction of the haul road and will be completed in spring 2013. A ribbon cutting ceremony is tentatively scheduled for May.

Pool restrictions and other interim risk reduction measures will remain in place through the end of calendar year 2013 to allow for completion of the remaining work and to ensure the modifications are performing as designed.

#### **White River Minimum Flows**

The federally-funded work at the Norfork Dam includes the construction of a bulkhead and siphon. Construction of the bulkhead and siphon is continuing, and is scheduled for completion in June 2013. The Corps began capturing water for minimum flows in January.

The federal portion of the work at Bull Shoals Lake involves modifications to the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system, which will allow minimum flow releases. The work at Bull Shoals is scheduled to be completed by May 2013, with storage being captured beginning in April 2013. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission is responsible for lakeside facility modifications/relocations at Bull Shoals and Norfork Lakes.

A Project Partnership Agreement between the AGFC and the Corps of Engineers for the work at Norfork Lake was signed March 2010. On June 18, 2010, the Corps awarded a \$6.7 million contract to install the siphon. A separate \$3.7 million contract was awarded for construction of the bulkhead using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds.

A Project Partnership Agreement between the AGFC and the Corps of Engineers for the work at Bull Shoals Lake was signed January 2012. On Oct. 3, 2012, the Corps awarded a task order to modify the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition equipment.

The White River Minimum Flows project will help support trout habitat in the White River downstream of Norfork and Bull Shoals Dams. The dams were not originally designed to make the smaller releases needed to increase the wetted perimeter and dissolved oxygen levels.

## **White River Water Control Plan**

The district has received requests to initiate a study of the water control plan for the White River System of reservoirs. An extremely



wet weather pattern in 2008 through summer 2011 resulted in high lake levels as well as extended periods of high river stages contributing to renewed interest in a revision to the water control plan. However, extreme drought conditions and sustained above average high temperatures in 2012 resulted in low lake levels and extremely low river levels generating additional interest

in system operation.

Stakeholders have actively engaged their elected officials to seek changes to the White River Water Control Plan that would benefit their specific interests. The Little Rock District last implemented a revised water control master plan for its lakes on the White River in December 1998. The 1998 plan "fine tuned" the existing 1963 plan by calling for seasonal adjustments to the regulating stage at Newport and Georgetown, Ark., when evacuating flood storage from the lakes. The 1998 plan regulating stage was slightly lower than the 1963 plan during the agricultural season and slightly higher during the non-agricultural season. No changes to the authorized lake levels were proposed or considered. Initiating a review of the plan would require extensive public coordination, engineering, environmental and economic analyses, and more than \$20 million in funding. Also, any change to benefit one group or interest will result in a decrease to another group or interest.

## Water Supply

## Southwest Arkansas Water District and Tri-Lakes Water District

The Little Rock District in consultation with the Southwestern Division has resolved concerns over the payback period for the water supply storage on Millwood Lake. Pursuant to the language of the water storage

agreement, Southwest Arkansas Water District can activate the remaining future use storage under the agreement beyond September 2016 (50 years after the project's first use for water supply). These activations may be negotiated and amortized up to 50 years in consecutive annual installments. There is 87,118 acre-feet remaining, categorized as future use storage. The United States of America entered into a water storage agreement with the Southwest Arkansas Water District on March 27, 1961, to provide 150,000 acre-feet of storage from Millwood Lake for municipal and industrial water supply purposes.

SAWD has expressed interest in making principle and interest payments on the remaining inactivated storage with the caveat that they would not be required to pay annual operations and maintenance payments until use of the storage. Little Rock District determined through discussions with the Corps' Water Supply Center of Expertise and the Little Rock District's Office of Counsel that this complies with Corps' national policy. This will reduce operation and maintenance payments for the water district, while also reducing interest payments. SAWD is drafting a letter to formally request approval and the Corps will complete a legal review with headquarters at that time.

Tri-Lakes Water District also has contracts that include future use storage to be activated at some point during the life of the project not to exceed 50 years from the effective date of the contract. The effective date for TWD's contracts is 1976. To date, TWD pays principal and interest on only the portion of storage that has been activated. Therefore, the remaining principal and interest for the remaining storage under the contract for TWD will be due in full in the year 2026. The Little Rock District is currently reviewing these contracts to determine TWD's requirements concerning activation and payment of the remaining future use storage.

TWD also has a substantial amount of future storage remaining. TWD has activated only 190 acre-feet of its 10,100 acre-feet of storage leaving 9,910 acre-feet remaining at Dierks Lake; TWD has activated 323 acrefeet of its 20,600 acre-feet of storage leaving 20,277 acre-feet remaining at Gillham Lake.



Water supply is available on a regional scale.

#### **Water Supply Issues**

With performance-based budgeting, the district receives very little money through the operations and maintenance program to work on water supply studies and reports. The small amount of funding received is primarily used for monitoring existing contracts and continuing progress on existing reports.

## **Studies Funded by District Operation and Maintenance**

Beaver Lake: In July 2000, Benton - Washington Regional Public Water Authority (formerly Benton/Washington County Water Association) requested 8 million gallons per day. In July 2001, Carroll-Boone Water District requested 6 mgd from Beaver Lake, and Madison County

Regional Water District has requested 8 mgd. The water supply needs have been evaluated. All work is proceeding at a slow pace because of limited funding. An additional \$150,000 is needed to complete the study.

#### **Unfunded Reports:**

**Norfork Lake:** In September 2000, the city of Mountain Home requested 5 mgd from Norfork Lake. In September 2004, Baxter Counter Water Association requested 5.8 mgd from Norfork Lake. No funds were appropriated or available in FY13 or are anticipated in FY14 to complete the reallocation report and environmental assessment.

**Greers Ferry Lake:** In January 2007, Community Water System requested 2.5 mgd. In December 2004, Searcy County Regional Water District requested 5,000 acre-feet. In June 2006, the City of Clinton requested 2.5 mgd. No funds were appropriated or available in FY13 or are anticipated in FY14 to complete the reallocation report and environmental assessment.

**Table Rock Lake:** Tri-State Water Resource Coalition requested 50,000 acre-feet from Table Rock Lake in July 2007. The funding required to complete a reallocation report and environmental assessment is \$600,000. If public interest warrants, an environmental impact study will require an additional \$1 million. No funds were appropriated or available in FY13 or are anticipated in FY14 to complete the reallocation report and environmental assessment. However, from new guidance from amendments to Section 111 of the FY12 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, Tri-State Water Resource Coalition has indicated it will provide contributed funds to complete the reallocation report and environmental assessment.

The district completed a Phase I Regional Water Demand Study for Southwest Missouri in September 2012 under the Planning Assistance to State Program partnering with the Missouri Natural Resources Commission. The district currently has \$175,000 in funding to continue a Phase II PAS Study which includes evaluating the water supply of the sixteen county study area, comparing it with results of the phase I water demand analysis, and then performing a basic formulation of alternatives to address deficiencies through 2060. The PAS agreement was executed in FY2012 and phase II is scheduled for completion in September 2013. This information could also be used in a future reallocation report to expedite and reduce overall cost.

## **Completed but Unexecuted Agreements:**

Greers Ferry Lake, city of Heber Springs: This reallocation report was approved in 2007, but the water supply agreement was not executed because of a dispute over costs for water storage. The city disputed the water supply agreement determination by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, which included annual operation and maintenance costs. The city has recently contacted the Little Rock District showing interest in executing this agreement and agreeing to pay annual operation and maintenance costs. The Little Rock District is currently reviewing the agreement to ensure compliance with USACE policy and will move forward in executing the agreement if approved.

## **Issues and Other Topics**

## **Continuing Authorities Program Overview**

The Continuing Authorities Program is an essential pathway for communities in the district to partner with the Corps on small water resource projects. In FY12 we constructed two Section 14 Emergency Streambank Restoration Projects, both in Batesville (Southside), Ark.

In the third and fourth quarter of FY12 we signed the Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreements on two studies, Prairie Creek and Northwest Arkansas Port. The feasibility work is continuing on both of these studies. In the fourth quarter, we signed the project partnership agreement on Highway 58 and we are expecting a contract award by Oct. 30. Augusta's PPA was signed in September and we anticipate a contract award in March 2013 for construction. The Little Rock District is terminating

Fourche Creek/Coleman Creek, Grassy Lake and Old Grand Glaise at the request of the sponsors.

Federal Highways Administration is working to complete the environmental impact statement for Russellville's Intermodal Facility by April 2013. Funds in the amount of \$2.9 million are needed to complete the harbor design, execute the project partnership agreement and construct the project.

The increasing number of suspended projects with sponsors anxious to complete, adds to the burden of an unfortunate backlog of new projects needing funds and approval under many of these authorities.

## **Flood Supplemental Funding**

The Little Rock District received \$29.7 million in flood supplemental funding through the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. These funds are being used to restore Corps projects to pre-event (April – May 2011 flooding) conditions. Included in this funding is \$9.7 million for repair of the Melinda and Jim Smith structures in the Arkansas-White River Cutoff area and \$4.4 million for bank stabilization on the Arkansas portion of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System. Some funding was also set aside to complete repairs to impacted recreation areas throughout the district.



Little Rock Corps personnel inspecting a levee.

## **Levee Safety Program**

There are about 421 miles of levees within the Little Rock District that are divided into 63 separate levee segments. Each segment is owned by a local entity ("sponsor") who has on-going responsibilities for operations and maintenance. The majority of the levee segments are located along the Arkansas River, though several are also located along the Black and White Rivers. The district conducts annual inspections on these levee segments to determine their continued eligibility in the Corps Rehabilitation and Inspection Program. Maintaining an "active" status in this program allows a levee segment to be eligible for federal assistance under Public Law 84-99 in the event there is damage caused by a flood event.

In order to remain active, a levee segment must receive a rating of at least "minimally acceptable" during the annual inspection conducted by the Corps. Unfortunately, many sponsors have neglected maintenance on their levee segments for many years and currently only 25 of 63 segments are active in the program. The main deficiencies found on the "inactive" levees are things such as unwanted vegetation, inadequate closure systems, and damages caused by animals, to name just a few.

With the primary goal of public safety, the Corps continually seeks ways to assist sponsors in better understanding their levees, the risks they pose, and the responsibilities they have as levee owners. In the past, inactive levees were ineligible for any assistance until they were repaired and restored to an active status. However, the Corps recently initiated a system-wide improvement framework that could assist inactive levees in regaining their active status. Details of this program were communicated

to the appropriate levee sponsors. Only one of the inactive levee sponsors has submitted a letter of intent to regain active status.

The Little Rock District completed periodic inspections on all federal levee segments in 2011 and the results of these inspections were distributed to the sponsors for their use. These inspections are conducted every five to ten years and are intended to look at more than just maintenance issues. A new levee screening tool has also recently been employed by the Corps to help provide relative risk ratings to levee sponsors. This tool will help determine both the potential for failure as well as the associated consequences and will ultimately result in each segment being assigned a levee safety action class rating. The intent for this risk classification is to help local, state, and federal stakeholders in prioritizing funding for muchneeded repairs. Fully implementing this initiative and communicating the details to the sponsors will be a Little Rock District priority over the next several years as funding permits. The Little Rock District has screened ten levees through the national review process; nine of this ten has been reviewed by the Levee Senior Oversight Group and are waiting recommended levee safety action classifications. We have initiated eight additional screenings and are scheduled to screen a total of 19 levees through our Southwestern Division for review in FY13.

## McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System Levels of Service

A decreased budget with aging infrastructure has forced the Corps to find ways to "do more with less." A reduction in levels of service is one of many initiatives the Corps is utilizing in order to maintain reliable systems. The location and levels of reduction were determined based off of the 2010 commercial lockage data. Any locks with less than 1,000 commercial lockages in 2010 went to a designated reduction in levels of service.

Within the Little Rock District, Ozark Lock and Dam, at Ozark, Ark., and Trimble Lock and Dam, outside Fort Smith, Ark., met this qualification and began a daily four hour maintenance closure in October 2012. District personnel are using this four hour window to perform necessary backlog maintenance tasks. An annual reevaluation of each lock's level of service will begin in the summer of 2013. Little Rock and Tulsa Districts continue to analyze our operations and work with stakeholders on ways to increase maintenance opportunities.

## McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System Recreational Lockage Policy

The Little Rock District is developing a recreational lockage policy for the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System in an effort to improve effectiveness and efficiencies because of decrease in operations and maintenance funding. A draft policy was developed in October 2012 and released for public review and comment. Eight public workshops on the initial policy were held with federal and state agencies, recreational groups and stakeholders.

This revised policy reduces the operating hours of the locks; designating additional time to address maintenance of the facility. It also provides lockage for recreational vessels during traditionally high use periods while reducing the number of gate cycles, thus prolonging the life of the lock gates.

The revised policy was issued for public review and comment on March 5 with an implementation target date scheduled for mid-April 2013.

## **Ozark Mountain Regional Public Water Association**

Little Rock District's Regulatory Division administered a Class I Administrative Penalty for non-compliance issues related to Ozark Mountain Regional Public Water Association's Department of the Army Permit. The civil penalty was imposed upon OMRPWA for two primary reasons: 1. Failure to submit final plans for the construction of the intake structure and 2. Failure to implement appropriate erosion control methods on the construction site to reduce water quality impacts to Bull Shoals Lake. A hearing was held Nov. 14, 2012 and a penalty fine of \$12,000 was issued to OMRPWA. These funds were received on March 1 and will be forwarded to the U.S. Treasury.

### **Regional Planning & Environmental Production Center**

Beginning in October 2013, the four district planning programs in Southwestern Division will be integrated into a Regional Planning & Environmental Product Center under the responsibility of the Fort Worth District commander. Little Rock District will retain project management responsibilities. The Corps is radically changing our approach to Civil Works planning in efforts to complete a study in three years, under \$3 million dollars, and with three levels of vertical team integration among the Corps' district, division, and headquarters. Recognition of a declining general investigation program, modernization of the planning process and trying to retain technically competent have caused Southwestern Division to develop this new center and method of delivery for our Civil Works Planning Program.

#### **Real Estate Encroachments**

An encroachment is an unauthorized use of Government real estate interests. Examples are homes, buildings, roads and other structures built on Government property without approval or the authorization via a real estate instrument. Encroachments are unauthorized use of government property and results in a loss of income to the treasury and control of government land. With thousands of miles of boundary in Little Rock District, much of which is in remote areas, encroachments can easily go undetected for long periods of time. The longer an encroachment is in place, the harder it is to resolve as time erodes facts and circumstances associated with the encroachment as well as time for the ownership of the structure to have changed hands, in some cases, multiple times, which makes investigation and contact with the proper people very difficult and time consuming. Because of these issues, as well as having a limited number of personnel and funding, the district has about 300 backlogged encroachments.



Boat dock on Greers Ferry Lake.

## **Shoreline Management**

It is the policy of the Corps to protect and manage shorelines of all civil works water resource development projects under Corps jurisdiction in a manner which will promote the safe and healthful use of these shorelines by the public while maintaining environmental safeguards to ensure a quality resource for use by the entire public. The Little Rock District manages seven lakes with shoreline management programs. These programs encompass more than 3,000 miles of shoreline and include the management responsibilities for more than 5,100 private and community boat docks.

In 2009, Little Rock District spent \$1.6 million to execute the shoreline management program. The appropriation for that year was \$940,000; the remaining balance of \$610,000 was funded from other business lines

which cannot continue. In FY12, the appropriations remained basically the same, but the program costs continued to grow. The number of shoreline management requests for new boat docks, modifications to existing docks and new path permits continue to increase. The program, as currently funded, is not sustainable and changes must be made.

The district is currently reviewing and evaluating all aspects of the costs associated with the program (labor, equipment, etc.), and the service provided (inspections) within the program. The primary focal point is to determine and assess the best management practices in providing a balance between limited resources and private and public uses of government lands and waters.

#### Springfield, Missouri

The Little Rock District in conjunction with the City of Springfield completed a Draft Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement in early February. Concurrent public and policy ended on March 8.

The City of Springfield, Missouri, experiences damages from flash floods because of insufficient flow capacity along Jordan Creek. The area along Jordan Creek is heavily urbanized and includes extensive infrastructure associated with both commercial and industrial areas. A wide variety of management measures to address the flood risk were developed, evaluated and screened.

Fifteen plans were formulated for consideration, and in the final array two plans were closely compared for recommendation. The tentatively recommended plan includes detention basins in the upper reaches of the watershed and channel modification below the confluence with Wilsons Creek and Jordan Creek.

The fully funded total project cost is estimated to be \$20,527,000 with a sponsor contribution of \$7,477,700 and a federal contribution of \$13,049,260. The recommended plan has a benefit-to-cost ratio of 2.6 (at an interest rate of 3.75 percent). After evaluation of comments received, Final Report and Civil Works Review Board will occur on May 31. The Chief's Report which makes the final project recommendation to Congress will be August 29.

This study is a pilot study continues to search for ways to streamline the pre-authorization process for the sponsor and the Corps. This is the first draft feasibility report written with the new processes in mind.

## **Military Program**

## **Air Force Medical Mission**

The Little Rock District provides a 'one door to the Corps' support to the entire Air Force Medical Service's Medical Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization Program at worldwide Air Force medical clinics and hospitals. In FY12, we awarded 37 contracts totaling \$285 million. We are currently working 24 contract actions for FY13 totaling over \$240 million. The FY14 program is still under development.

#### **Little Rock Air Force Base**

Little Rock District manages the design and construction program at Little Rock Air Force Base. LRAFB is the premiere C-130 operational and training facility for the United States. A \$10.4 million Security Forces Operations Facility, which was awarded in July 2010, was completed in September 2012. Our program at the LRAFB currently exceeds \$33 million in design and new construction.

Currently in the construction phase are two projects added as a result of storm damage caused by an F2 tornado in April 2011. These projects are a \$2.4 million emergency permanent repair of C-130J aircraft Hangar 245, and a new \$1.4 million Pest Management Facility. The C-130J aircraft Hangar 245 repair project was awarded for construction in July 2012 and is projected to be completed in June 2013. The Pest Management Facility was awarded for construction in August 2012 and is projected to be completed in September 2013.

FY13 military construction projects in the design/solicitation phase include a new \$26 million C-130J Fuels Maintenance Hangar and a \$4

million C-130J Weapon System Trainer Flight Simulator Facility Addition. Construction contracts for these projects are currently planned for award during the third quarter of FY13.

### **Other DOD Medical Missions**

Initial Outfitting: Provides for planning, purchasing, and installation of new and reused furnishings and equipment required prior to occupancy of new and renovated/restored facilities. The initial outfitting program has been so successful that the Navy requested our services in FY11. Following the award of a \$39 million FY11 contract for Navy Hospital Okinawa, Japan, we awarded a \$33 million contract for IO at the Naval Hospital Guam in FY12. Because of the success associated with these two projects the remainder of the Navy has requested to use our program and have given us three more projects to execute: a medical clinic at the Gulfport, Miss.; the Great Lakes Lab at Chicago, Ill.; and a medical clinic at Annapolis Naval Academy.

Other pending FY13 awards include: A nationwide three year \$7 million dollar IDIQ contract for the Defense Contract Audit Agency. Typically, our program does not include Army medical projects. However, we have been asked to use our Initial Outfitting Program on Vilseck, Katterback and Stuggart, Germany projects planned for both FY13 and FY14 awards. The Joint Task Force in the National Capital Area has also requested to use our program for a small renovation project that should come out later in FY13.

#### **Pine Bluff Arsenal**

Little Rock District manages the design and construction program at Pine Bluff Arsenal. Presently, the district is administering a \$20.9 million ARRA-funded Steam Line Replacement project, awarded in May 2010. The project will provide infrastructure, demolition and remediation to accommodate replacement of central boilers and air compressor plants for more energy efficient systems. Construction is expected to be completed in spring 2013.

In January 2013, an \$18.5 million project was completed which upgraded 71 warehouses and brought them into compliance with security standards for storage of category II and IV armed ammunition and explosives.



Community Living Center Green Nursing Facility in Temple, Texas.

## **Department of Veterans Affairs**

The Little Rock District provides planning, design, and construction management for renovation and new construction for VA medical facilities in Texas (Veterans Integrated System Network 17). The current project portfolio consists of 56 projects at seven medical facilities with a total construction value of about \$125 million. One remaining project currently under construction will be completed during the 3rd quarter of FY13. A one-story Mental Health Patient Ward addition to the Dallas VA Medical Center (\$9 million) is being considered for advertisement in 2014. Additional master planning and design services are expected to support the VA programs in Texas.

## **Continued Authorities Program Roll-Up**

Green means the project is funded.

Yellow means the project is funded but has issues.

Red means the project has been terminated, suspended or there are no funds to start.

## Section 14 - Emergency Streambank and Shoreline Protection of Public Works Projects - Annual Statutory Limit \$15 Million

Project Name	District	FY 12 Funds <sup>1</sup>	FY 13 President's Budget <sup>2</sup>	Status / Issues
Highway 58, Guion, AR	AR-01	\$369,400	\$0	PPA signed July 9. 2012. Expected construction award date is Jan 25, 2013.
White River, Augusta, AR	AR-01	\$557,000	\$0	Plans and specs are being prepared. Construction funds have been received.

## Section 107 Small Navigation Improvement Projects - Annual Statutory Limit \$35 Million

Project Name	District	FY 12 Funds <sup>1</sup>	FY 13 President's Budget <sup>2</sup>	Status / Issues
Northwest AR Port, Arkansas River, AR	AR-03	\$40,000	\$0	Feasibility phase. FCSA executed on July 30, 2012. Work is continuing on the feasibility study.
Russellville Slack Water Harbor, Russellville, AR	AR-03	\$150,000	\$0	Plans, specs, and PPA are in process of being updated. FHWA scheduled to complete final EIS and ROD by March 2013.

## Section 205 - Flood Damage Reduction Projects - Annual Statutory Limit \$55 Million

Project Name	District	FY 12 Funds <sup>1</sup>	FY 13 President's Budget <sup>2</sup>	Status / Issues
Prairie Creek, Russellville, AR	AR-02	\$100,000	\$0	Strong sponsor support. FCSA executed April 20, 2012. Work is continuing on the feasibility study.
Otter Creek, Shannon Hills, AR	AR-02	\$12,000	\$0	Will require cost-share agreement to complete feasibility.
Little Black River Watershed, Naylor, MO	MO-08	\$0	\$0	Backlog/new start. Awaiting federal funds to initiate feasibility study. Site visit and analysis in Oct 2005 indicated no economically justified project. Additional flooding in 2008 and 2009 warrant re-evaluation. Request – Jan 10
White River, Oil Trough, AR	AR-01	\$0	\$0	Backlog/new start. Awaiting federal funds. Request – 2005. Initial assessment \$100K
Crooked Creek, Alexander, AR	AR-02	\$0	\$0	Backlog/new start. Awaiting federal funds. Request – 2009. Initial assessment \$100K

## Continued Authorities Program Roll-Up (continued)

## Section 206 Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects - Annual Statutory Limit \$50 Million

Project Name	District	FY 12 Funds <sup>1</sup>	FY 13 President's Budget <sup>2</sup>	Status / Issues
Shirey Bay/Rainey Brake WMA	AR-1	\$0	\$0	Suspended. Feasibility phase. FY12 funds of \$25,000 are needed to complete milestone report and determined feasibility. An additional \$100,000 is needed to execute a FCSA and complete the feasibility phase in FY12. About \$500,000 is needed to execute PPA and complete construction.
Little Black Ditch, Naylor, AR	MO-08	\$0	\$0	Backlog/new start. Awaiting federal funds. Request - FY2006
Maumelle River, Maumelle Lake	AR-02	\$0	\$0	Backlog/new start. Awaiting federal funds. Request - FY2012
Maumelle River, Maumelle Lake	AR-02	\$0	\$0	Backlog/new start. Awaiting federal funds. Request - FY2012. Initial assessement \$100,000.

## Section 1135 Project Modification for Improvements to the Environment – Annual Statutory Limit \$40 Million

Project Name	District	FY 12 Funds <sup>1</sup>	FY 13 President's Budget <sup>2</sup>	Status / Issues
Grassy Lake, Millwood Lake, AR	AR-03	\$0	\$0	Will process request to use non-federal funds to complete the study.
Rock Creek, Boyle Park, Little Rock, AR	AR-02	\$0	\$0	Suspended. Feasibility phase. Federal funds of \$25,900 is needed to complete milestone report, and an additional \$100,000 is needed to complete the cost-share portion of the feasibility report.
Arkansas River Environmental Restoration	AR-02 AR-03 AR-04	\$0	\$0	Suspended. Feasibility phase. Federal funds of \$87,100 are needed to complete milestone report and determine feasibility of a solution.
Rockaway Beach, Rockaway, MO	MO-07	\$0	\$0	Backlog. Re-start. City of Rockaway Beach wants to re-evaluate the completed project because implemented solution not providing desired output.

₁Includes FY12 carryover funds

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>CAP program, not specific project funds are appropriated. FY13 workplan has not been released.

## **Investigations Program Roll-Up**

Green means the project is funded.

Yellow means the project is funded but has issues.

Red means the project has been terminated, suspended or there are no funds to start.

Project	Purpose	District	FY12 Funds	FY13 President's Budget	Status / Issues
Springfield	Flood risk reduction management	MO-07	\$0	\$0	National pilot study to modernize CW planning process Corps-wide. Feasibility study to be completed and approved by May 2013. Will execute project with previously added congressional funds into FY13.
Tri-State Water Coalition	To study regional water demands/supply through year 2060.	MO-07 MO-08	\$100,000	\$0	Phase 1 report completed in September 2012. Phase 2 work began in October 2012. This will include a water supply gap analysis and a basic formulation of alternatives that address deficiencies between demand and supply through 2060.
Southwest Arkansas	Develop comprehensive watershed plan to include ecosystem restoration, water supply and recreation opportunities.	AR-04	\$0	\$0	No sponsor; study is to be terminated.
Fourche Creek and Tributaries	Ecosystem restoration & flood reduction	AR-02	\$0	\$0	Funding of \$100,000 is required to initiate study.
May Branch	Flood risk reduction management	AR-04	\$0	\$0	Completing 60 percent design using accelerated use of sponsor's cash share under terms of amended design agreement. \$440,000 could be used in FY13 to complete plans. Sponsor desires credit to construct a portion of the project. Construction estimate is \$30.8 million.
Three Rivers	Navigation and ecosystem restoration	AR-01 AR-04	\$0	\$0	A "new start" and \$100,000 is required to complete a 905(b) reconnaissance study. Need to add ecosystem restoration and recreation as project purpose to MKARNS.
White River Comprehensive Study	Basin-wide comprehensive watershed study. Conducted by Little Rock and Memphis districts under Section 729, WRDA 86 authority	MO-07 MO-08 AR-01 AR-03	\$130,000	\$0	Currently using carryover project funds to complete minimal project goals on the White River, Cache River, and Bayou DeView. \$1.5 million could be used for the study of hydrologic and geomorphic impacts.

# **Construction General Program Roll-Up**

Project	Purpose	District	FY12 Funds	FY13 President's Budget	Status / Issues
Clearwater Dam Safety/Major Rehabilitation	Construct cutoff wall for dam safety	MO-08	\$0	\$0	The contractor completed the cutoff wall construction on Dec 6, 2011. Remaining work includes completing the clay blanket and repair of the overflow spillway damages, which was caused by construction of the haul road. Project is funded to completion.
White River Minimum Flows	To provide adequate trout habitat downstream of Norfork and Bull Shoals dams	AR-01 AR-03	\$0	\$0	The work at Norfork is scheduled for completion in Dec 2012. The work at Bull Shoals for the supervisory control and data acquisition system is scheduled to be complete in May 2013. No issues.
Ozark Powerhouse Major Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation of five turbines	AR-04	\$0	\$0	First unit is being commissioned for service; expect to be back in service in fiscal year 2013. The second unit is midway through reassembly and the third unit is being disassembled. The SWPA customers provided \$12.8 million for rehabilitation of the third unit. \$18 million is needed to complete the project.
Beaver Dam Trout Production Facility	Mitigation for reduced number of warm water fish that resulted from construction of Arkansas dams	AR-03	\$0	\$0	Submit Water Supply Storage Reallocation Report in March 2013 to SWD. O&M funds being used to complete the report. \$600,000 could be used for the project design and NEPA considerations.
Fourche Bayou Basin	Environmental preservation, flood control, and recreation	AR-02	\$0	\$0	HQ is drafting an agreement for signing with the City of Little Rock to use \$795,000 in Congressional add funds to acquire Fourche Creek hardwood bottomlands.
McClellan-Kerr / Arkansas River 12-foot channel	To deepen navigation channel to 12' minimum depth	AR-01 AR-02 AR-03 AR-04	\$0	\$0	Work on this project has ceased. The project will not resume until the project receives: (1) a "new start" decision, (2) construction general funds, and (3) cost-shared funding (50/50) from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund.

# **Operation and Maintenance Unfunded Priorities**

Project	Purpose	District	Status / Issues
MKARNS – Upstream and downstream river wall gudgeon pin replacement at Montgomery Point L&D	Prevent catastrophic failure and extended unscheduled loss of navigation at intersection of MKARNS and the Mississippi River.	AR-01 AR-02 AR-03 AR-04	\$2.1 million needed to replace Montgomery Point Lock river wall miter gate gudgeon pins and bushings. Failure has already started on upstream riverwall pin. Temporary measures have been taken in effort to prolong complete failure. Both landwall pins were replaced in Dec 2012.
MKARNS – Structural rehabilitation and paint tainter gates at Mills Dam	Prevent accident or injury to employees or users of the locks and dams, loss of ability to lock boats	AR-01 AR-02 AR-03 AR-04	\$14.8 million needed for structural and skin plate repairs, including replacement of severely corroded members, side seals and cathodic protection. Expect replacement of gates will be required if rehabilitation deferred. Current leakage estimated at 3,000 cubic feet per second.
Dardanelle- Seal leaking monolith joints and back-up pump system	Prevent flooding of dam gallery and loss of either navigation pool or dam structure	AR-03 AR-04	\$1.4 million needed to seal leaking of monolith joints into service and purchase backup dam gallery pump system. Leakage is increasing and there is no room for additional pumps. Flooding of gallery results in loss of power to spillway gates and possible loss of navigation west of Dardanelle.
Dardanelle – Replace 5kV lock service feeder, dam gallery lighting and receptacles	Maintain power at lock and dam and Russellville Project Office and prevent unscheduled loss of navigation	AR-03 AR-04	\$1 million needed to replace current 30 year old feeder system. Failure would result in loss of power to Lock and Dam and Project Office, halts navigation, flooding of dam /powerhouse, and loss of data communication. Failure could result in loss of life if insulation fails/breaches.
MKARNS- Replacement of Lock Control Wiring	Prevent accident or injury to employees or users of the locks and dams, loss of ability to lock boats	AR-01 AR-02 AR-03 AR-04	\$1.3 million to replace wiring that is beyond its service life. All of these systems are currently experiencing intermediate failures and will not be able to be maintained in the future.
Bull Shoals – Repair/Replace Tainter Gate Side Seal Assemblies and Spot Paint Gates	Prevent gates from binding and becoming inoperative due to failing side seals.	AR-01 AR-03	\$11.5 million need to repair or replace side seal assemblies on remaining 14 of 17 gates, as well as spot paint gates. Seal assemblies are currently failing and could cause gates to bind and become unusable.
MKARNS, Ozark & Dardanelle  – Replacement of Dam  Control Wiring	Prevent accident or injury to employees or users of the locks and dams, loss of ability to maintain pool or lock boats	AR-01 AR-02 AR-03 AR-04	\$2.8 million to replace wiring that is beyond its service life. All of these systems are currently experiencing intermediate failures and will not be able to be maintained in the future.
MKARNS – Additional Down- stream Bulkhead Closure and Repair Embedded Sills at Toad Suck Lock & Dam	Prevent loss of ability to maintain navigation pools	AR-01 AR-02 AR-03 AR-04	\$2.5 million needed to fabricate closure structure to isolate tainter gate and embedded spillway sills to perform critical repairs. Bulkhead closure structure is reusable and can reduce significantly reduce costs for future embedded sill repairs.
MKARNS – Montgomery Point Lock & Dam Study to remove debris from lock chamber	Prevent damage to equipment and structural components that results in loss of navigation or control of pool.	AR-01 AR-02 AR-03 AR-04	\$400,000 study to develop cost-effective methods for reducing and removing sediment/debris. Repairs to the lock's tainter gate gudgeon pins were triggered by sediment and debris levels in and around the locks. These repairs have interrupted navigation during low water conditions and will cost an estimated \$3.7 million.
MKARNS & Dardanelle – Replacement of hydraulic, air and water piping	Prevent failure of equipment and unscheduled loss of navigation	AR-01 AR-02 AR-03 AR-04	\$1.5 million to complete the replacement of 40 year old piping that is corroded and failing. Piping is currently having minor failures and will not be able to be repaired with continued corrosion.
MKARNS, Ozark & Dardanelle  - Replace overhead lock lighting	Maintain a safe work environment at the locks during low light situations	AR-01 AR-02 AR-03 AR-04	\$4.8 million to replace lock lighting that illuminates the lock chambers, guide/guard walls, and parking areas. Failure would result in inadequate night visibility for navigating, operating, and rescue of man overboard. Existing lighting has deteriorated, consists of obsolete equipment that is no longer maintainable and in some cases requires floating plant to access.
Norfork, Table Rock, Beaver, Bull Shoals, Greer's Ferry, Nimrod, Millwood, Clearwater & Gillham Lakes – Develop Corps Water Management System Model (CWMS)	Maintain ability to maintain pool and avoiding possible property damage and loss of life	AR-01 AR-02 AR-03 AR-04 MO-07 MO-08	\$2 million to meet requirements stated in ER 1110-2-240. Failure to complete these models within 3 years will cause loss of ability to perform real time pool management, which could result in unnecessary property damage and claims against the COE with potential loss of life.
Table Rock – Remote operation of tainter gates during high water	Eliminate electrical shock hazard when operating tainter gates during high water events.	MO-07	\$600,000 to allow operators to safely operate tainter gates during high water situations (such as 2011) where the water can overtop the catwalk on the main spillway.
MKARNS, Dardanelle & Ozark  - Replacement of lock and dam power wiring	Prevent accident or injury to employees or users of the locks and dams, loss of ability to maintain pool or lock boats	AR-01 AR-02 AR-03 AR-04	\$13 million to replace power wiring that is beyond its service life. All of these systems are currently experiencing intermediate failures and will not be able to be maintained in the future.



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