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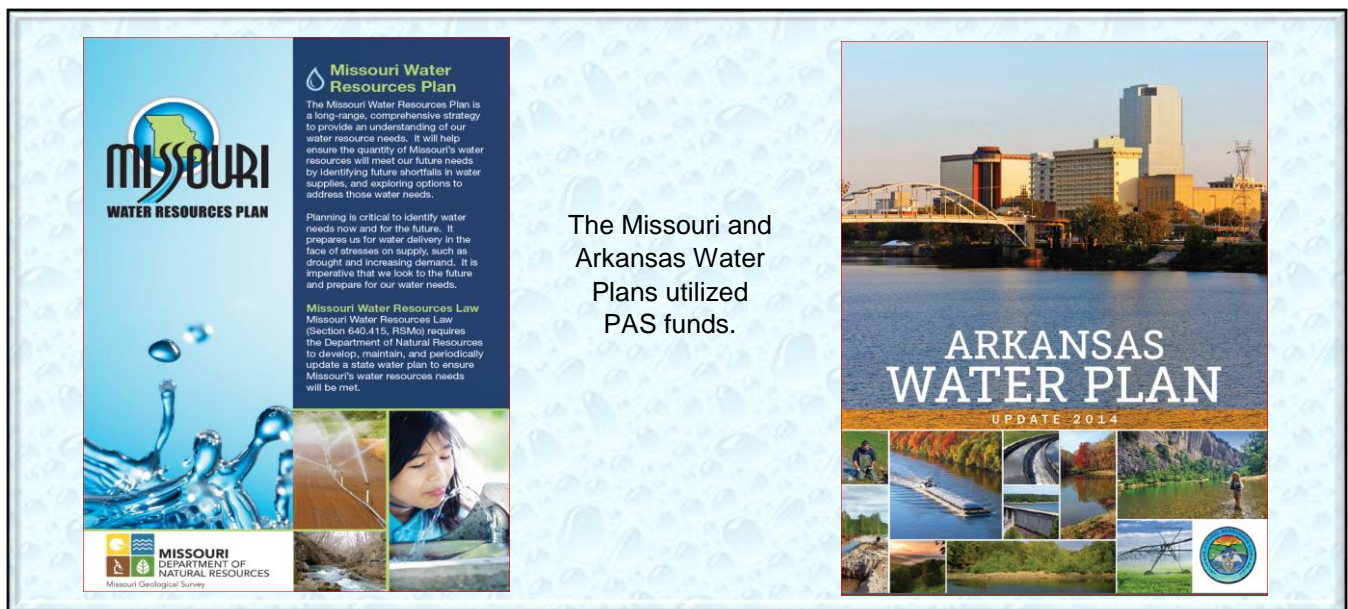
PLANNING ASSISTANCE to STATES

Little Rock District

The Planning Assistance to States Program (PAS) in the Little Rock District exists to assist non-federal sponsors, including federally recognized Tribes, with water resource planning and management. The PAS program is authorized by Section 22 of WRDA 1974, as amended (42 U.S.C. §1962d–16), and has been used in Arkansas and Missouri to conduct a wide range of water resource related studies and planning. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which is the Federal Government's largest water resources development and management agency, offers two types of planning assistance through the PAS program; Comprehensive Plans and Technical Assistance.

Comprehensive Water Resources Planning includes planning for the development, utilization, and conservation of the water and related resources of drainage basins, watersheds, or ecosystems located within the boundaries of that State, including plans to comprehensively address water resources challenges such as the state water plan.

Comprehensive plans can extend across state boundaries provided both States agree. Typical water resources problems and opportunities included in comprehensive state water resource planning efforts include: flood risk reduction, water supply, water conservation, environmental restoration, water quality, hydropower, erosion, navigation, fish and wildlife, cultural resources, and environmental resources. PAS studies cannot include detailed design for project construction, and implementation of the plan is the responsibility of the State, Tribe, or Territory. No more than \$5 million in Federal funds for PAS comprehensive planning efforts may be expended in a State per fiscal year. Comprehensive planning activities through the PAS program are cost shared 50-50 with the study partner, and voluntarily contributed funds in excess of cost share may be provided by the Sponsor. The sponsor's cost share for preparation of a state comprehensive water resources plan may be provided by funds or through the provision of services, materials, supplies, or other in-kind services.



Technical Assistance Supporting State Water Resources Management Plans provided through the PAS program includes support of planning efforts related to the management of state water resources, including the provision and integration of hydrologic, economic, or environmental data and analysis in support of the State's water resources management and related land resources development plans identified in the state water plan or other water resources management related state planning documents, such as state hazard mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery plans and plans associated with changing hydrologic conditions, climate change, long-term sustainability, and resilience.

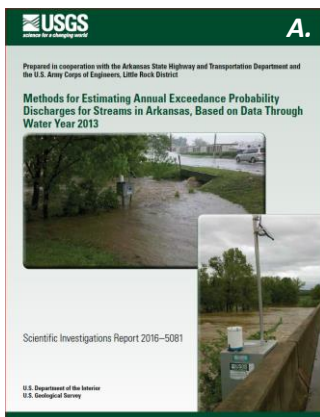


Figure A. USGS flood frequency report in Arkansas was funded through the PAS program.

Figure B. PAS funds can be used to collect important levee and dam information.

This technical assistance may not include the preparation of site-specific designs or construction. Technical assistance activities through the PAS program are cost shared 50-50 with the sponsor, and voluntarily contributed funds in excess of cost share may be provided by the sponsor. The cost-share for technical assistance must be provided by funds (in-kind is not allowed).

The PAS program can be used to help support a number of studies and investigations. Typical studies are only planning level of detail; they do not include detailed design for project construction. The process for PAS investigations begins after a state, local government agency or Native American Tribe requests Corps of Engineers assistance under the program. The Corps of Engineers will work with the requesting organization to develop a scope of work and assemble the appropriate study team for the effort being requested. Once a scope of work has been developed, a cost sharing agreement will be prepared and sent to the sponsor for their signature. Once both parties have signed the agreement, the study may begin, subject to the availability of both Federal and local funding.

Requesting assistance to begin a PAS study should be in the form of a letter that includes the location and nature of the problem to be investigated. The request can be emailed to the District PAS coordinator:

LRPAS@usace.army.mil