

14. COST SHARING AND FINANCING

14.1 Management Plan Studies

The cost associated with Management Plan studies for continued maintenance of existing Federal navigation projects are O&M costs and shall be 100% Federally funded. Project sponsors, port authorities, and other project users, are partners in dredged material management and must pay the costs of their own participation in the dredged material management studies including participation in meetings, providing information and other coordination activities.

Budgeting priorities for the navigation purpose is limited to the Base Plan. Therefore, the cost for any component of a management plan study attributable to meeting local or state requirements of Federal laws and regulations shall be a non-Federal cost. The COE does not anticipate any additional costs will be incurred beyond those associated with the execution of the base plan related to compliance with any required local or state laws and regulations. Study activities related to dredged material management for the Federal project but not required for continued maintenance dredging and dredged material disposal, will not be funded by the Federal Government and will not be included in the dredged material management studies unless funded by others.

Studies of project modifications needing congressional authorization, including dredged material management requirements related to the modification, will be pursued as cost shared feasibility studies with General Investigations funding. Where the need for such modifications are identified as part of dredged material management studies, O&M funding for the study of the modification should be terminated and a new feasibility study start sought through the budget process under the authority of Section 216 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1970.

The costs of studies associated with beneficial uses that are consistent with, and part of, the Base Plan are Federal O&M costs. However, study costs for beneficial uses which are not part of the Base Plan, beyond those reconnaissance level studies needed to identify these potential uses as part of management plan studies, are either a non-Federal responsibility or are a shared Federal and non-Federal responsibility, depending on the type of beneficial use.

The incremental costs of studies beyond those required for the Base Plan for the use of dredged material to restore and protect environmental resources, pursuant to Section 1135 of the 1986 WRDA, as amended, and/or Section 204 of the 1992 WRDA, are not navigation O&M. If a potential restoration project exceeds the cost limitations of Section 1135 or Section 204, it may be pursued as a cost shared feasibility study leading to specific authorizations. The non-Federal incremental cost for these authorities is 25%. Section 1135 is an authority that provides for project modification in the interest of fish and wildlife habitat restoration. Section 204 is an authority that allows for protection, restoration, and creation of aquatic and ecologically related habitats, including wetlands, using dredged material from Corps navigation projects.

14.2 Implementation

Costs for implementing Management Plans for existing projects are O&M costs and shall be shared in accordance with navigation O&M cost sharing provisions applicable to the project as authorized. The cost for any component of a Management Plan attributable solely to meeting state water quality standards (which are generally more restrictive than those satisfying the Base Plan) will be a non-Federal cost.