

PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET

February 7, 2007

PROJECT: Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway System Study

DESCRIPTION: Canada and the United States are partnering a supplemental reconnaissance study effort that formally began in 2003. Bi-national Project Delivery Teams are evaluating the engineering, economic and environmental conditions of the waterway to establish the baseline condition for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway. This information will determine the requirements to maintain the integrity of the navigation system and environmental sustainability of the waterway for the next fifty years. It's anticipated the study will also look at how other factors such as modal integration, trade facilitation, congestion mitigation and overall sustainable transportation might affect future commercial navigation on the system.

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Senators Carl Levin (D-MI), Richard J. Durbin (D-IL), George V. Voinovich (R-OH), Hillary R. Clinton (D-NY), and Representatives Peter D. Visclosky (D: IN-1), James L. Oberstar (D: MN-8) and John McHugh (R: NY-23)

LOCATION MAP & PICTURE:



NON-FEDERAL PROJECT SPONSOR: Not Applicable

PROJECT AUTHORITY: Section 456 of WRDA 1999 (PL 106-53), as amended by the E&W Development Appropriations Act, 2003 (of H.J. Resolution 2, Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003) (PL 108-7)

FUNDING:

	<u>Federal</u>
Current Working Estimate	\$ 8,027,700 /1
Funds allocated prior to FY07	\$ 5,995,700
Funds allocated in FY07	\$ 1,232,000
FY08 Budget	\$ 800,000
Funds that could be used in FY08	\$ 800,000
Funds required to complete (>FY08)	\$ 0

/1 U.S. Funds - Canada is participating as a partner in the study effort. Canadian funding (approx. C\$5M through FY06) for their involvement in the study has been proceeding at a level commensurate with that of the USACE.

STATUS: The initial Reconnaissance Report was approved as a basis for further study efforts to support a Federal decision to proceed with feasibility phase studies. A supplement to this report is being prepared to provide a baseline for the without project conditions for the environment, engineering features and economic conditions of the system. A series of regional stakeholder meetings were conducted in 2004 to provide information on the study effort and to listen to concerns from interested parties. Engineering investigations of the locks on the system have been completed, and development of engineering/economic models has begun. Bi-national environmental teams are in the process of characterizing key resources and researching navigation related impacts. FY07 funding will be used to complete integration of the engineering and economic model outputs, develop future operation and maintenance scenarios and costs, and assess the environmental implications associated with these scenarios. A final, bi-national summary report will be completed by Spring 2007. The study results will be shared with stakeholders throughout the region. FY08 funds will be used to complete the supplemental reconnaissance report which will build upon the bi-national system assessment to revisit the various navigation improvements identified in the original reconnaissance report. A final determination will be made as to the Federal interest in proceeding with any feasibility efforts, including the formalization of the scope and cost sharing requirements of any follow-on efforts.

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