



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®

Sacramento District

Tribal Partnership Program

Section 203

(Water Resources Development Act of 2000 as amended by
Section 2011, WRDA 2007 & Section 1031 of WRRDA 2014)

At a Glance:

- Projects for flood risk management, environmental restoration and protection, and preservation of cultural and natural resources;
- Watershed assessments and planning activities; and
- Other projects as the Secretary, in cooperation with Indian tribes and the heads of other Federal agencies, determines to be appropriate.
- From Sec 1031, WRRDA 14: cooperative agreements to carry out authorized activities of the Corps to protect fish, wildlife, water quality and cultural resources
- Cost Sharing: 50% / 50% Feasibility Studies; 75% / 25% for Watershed Assessments

The Authority. Section 203 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2000, as amended by Section 2011 of WRDA 2007 and Section 1301 of WRRDA 2014, provides authority for the Corps, in cooperation with Indian Tribes and heads of other Federal agencies, to study and determine the feasibility of projects that will substantially benefit Indian tribes. The Tribal Partnership Program provides an opportunity to study typical problems and opportunities related to: flood risk management, water supply, erosion or sedimentation control, ecosystem restoration, water quality, watershed planning, dam safety, community infrastructure, emergency management and preparedness, recreation, cultural resources protection, and environmental resources management primarily located within tribal lands.

The Process. To start the process, a Tribe submits a letter of request to the Corps, describing the purpose of the study. The Corps evaluates the request and seeks Federal funding for studies that fit the authority. Once funding is obtained, a study is initiated where costs are shared with the sponsor (Tribe) according to a negotiated Feasibility or Watershed Assessment Cost Sharing Agreement. During the study, water

resources related problems and potential solutions are identified, and recommendations are made for addressing the problems in the study area.

A Watershed Study would produce a Watershed Plan. The Corps sends the completed Watershed Plan to Congress and the Office of Management and Budget for information only. Additional study authority is needed to pursue recommended actions.

A Feasibility Study would analyze the costs, benefits and environmental impacts of potential solutions, and recommend a project for construction. The Corps submits the completed Feasibility Report to Congress for authorization and appropriation of the recommended plan. Cost share can be in the form of 100% work-in-kind for the feasibility study phase, and depending on the type of project to be developed, different cost sharing responsibilities for the Tribe and Federal government will apply during the implementation phase.

Detailed design for construction is not included in a feasibility or watershed study. The study can provide Tribes with the technical data and analyses needed to prepare plans and specifications for future implementation.

How to Request a Study. Please contact the Sacramento District. The Tribal Outreach Coordinator will be happy to meet with you to determine whether or not the proposed study fits within our authority.

For more information please contact:

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