



Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Peter A. DeFazio
Chair

Katherine W. Dedrick, Staff Director

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Ranking Member

Paul J. Sass, Republican Staff Director

March 14, 2022

SUMMARY OF SUBJECT MATTER

TO: Members, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment
FROM: Staff, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment
RE: Subcommittee Hearing on “Proposals for a Water Resources Development Act of 2022: Members’ Day Hearing”

PURPOSE

The Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment will meet on Wednesday, March 16, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. EDT in 2167 Rayburn House Office Building and by video conferencing via Zoom to receive Member testimony related to the development of a new water resources development act (WRDA). The purpose of this hearing is to provide Members with an opportunity to testify before the Subcommittee on their WRDA priorities related to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). This testimony will help to inform the drafting of a new WRDA for 2022, which the committee expects to approve this year.

BACKGROUND

The Corps is the federal government's largest water resources development and management agency.¹ The Corps’ primary missions are riverine and coastal navigation, the reduction of flood damage risks along inland and coastal waters, and projects to restore and protect the environment. The Corps also participates in the generation of hydropower, provides water storage opportunities to cities and agricultural and industrial interests, participates in the construction of environmental infrastructure projects, assists in national emergencies, and manages a recreation program. To achieve its mission, the Corps plans, designs, and constructs water resources development projects which are authorized through biennial WRDA legislation, the last of which was enacted in 2020.²

A WRDA is the authorizing vehicle for Corps’ policy, studies, and construction of projects. To date, Congress has received 15 Reports from the Chief of Engineers and three Director’s Reports for projects. The Corps also submitted its 7001 Annual Report to Congress on Future Water Resources Development for 2021 in November 2021. The 7001 Annual Report for 2022, due in February of this year, has not yet been received. Access to these reports can be found on the Committee website.³

¹ See generally, <https://www.usace.army.mil/missions>.

² Division AA of Pub. L. 116-260.

³ <https://transportation.house.gov/committee-activity/issue/water-resources-development-act-of-2022>.