CONTINUING ATUHORTIES – Section 206

US Army Corps of Engineers
Wilmington District

Section 206 - Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration

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What is it?

Section 206 of the Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) provides the Corps of Engineers the authority to carry out aquatic ecosystem restoration projects, provided the project improves environmental quality, is in the public's interest, and is cost effective. The improvement of water quality alone does not represent a valid project, and will not be considered. There must be an aquatic ecosystem benefit other than improved water quality.

Who can apply?

Any non-Federal government entity can serve as the sponsor for a Section 206 project. In some cases, non-government agencies may serve as sponsors. All it takes is a simple request to the local Corps office and a representative will discuss your problem and associated qualification requirements with you.

What does it cost?

- The initial $100,000 of any Section 206 is 100% Federally funded.
- The remainder of the feasibility phase is cost-shared 50/50% and requires a cost-sharing agreement.

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- The design and implementation phase is cost shared 65% Federal and 35% sponsor funds. The cost-sharing agreement is developed initially at 100% Federal cost not to exceed $100,000 and is cost-shared upon execution of the agreement.
- There is a spending cap of $10 million of Federal expenditures per Section 206 project.
- All projects are subject to the availability of Federal appropriations.

How long does it take?

The CAP feasibility study may take approximately 24 to 30 months and includes two major milestones. The first milestone is a Federal interest determination document to be accomplished with the first $15,000 in Federal funding. The second milestone is an MSC decision meeting (MDM) to discuss the selected alternatives for a potential construction project. The outcome of the MDM and the feasibility study will be a decision document. The feasibility study consists of alternatives analysis, design work, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance, and incremental cost analysis. Construction time varies depending on the project alternative being implemented.