



*Water Resources Development Act

Sustaining Water Storage Capacities

Section 1179(a) of WRDA 2016 directs the Secretary of the Army to carry out a pilot program for the development and implementation of sediment management plans for reservoirs under the jurisdiction of the Secretary in the Upper Missouri River Basin, including the Missouri River watershed above Sioux City, Iowa.



Fact Sheet prepared by the Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition

Sediment Management Plans are needed for the Missouri River reservoirs.

What is a sediment management plan?

“... A plan for preventing sediment from reducing water storage capacity at a reservoir and increasing water storage capacity through sediment removal at a reservoir.”

The plans shall:

- Provide opportunities for project beneficiaries and other stakeholders to participate in sediment management decisions.
- Evaluate the volume of sediment in a reservoir and impacts on storage capacity.
- Identify preliminary sediment management options, including sediment dikes and dredging.
- Identify constraints.
- Assess technical feasibility, economic justification, and environmental impacts.
- Identify beneficial uses for sediment.
- Use, develop, & demonstrate innovative, cost-saving technologies, including structural and non-structural technologies & designs to manage sediment.

The Upper Missouri River Basin Corps' reservoirs are authorized for multiple purposes:



- flood risk management
- navigation
- irrigation
- hydropower
- recreation
- water supply
- fish & wildlife

The Secretary may accept funds from non-Federal interests and other Federal agencies to develop and implement a sediment management plan under this subsection.

Definitions

"non-federal interest"

a legally constituted public body including a federally recognized Tribe, a Native village, Regional Corporation and Village Corporation or a nonprofit entity with the consent of the affected local government, that has full authority and capability to perform the terms of its agreement and to pay damages, if necessary, in the event of failure to perform.

"project beneficiary"

means a non-federal interest that requests a sediment management plan under Section 1179(a) & that will receive benefits from implementation of the plan. Multiple beneficiaries may be involved with development & implementation of a sediment management plan.

"cost share"

The beneficiaries requesting a sediment management plan shall share in the cost of development and implementation of the plan and such cost shall be allocated among the beneficiaries in accordance with the benefits to be received.



Moving Forward

Each project beneficiary must submit a **Letter of Intent** and be prepared to sign a *study cost sharing agreement* prior to beginning a sediment management plan. The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA(CW)) may establish a sediment management pilot project upon the request of one or more project beneficiaries. **The study will be cost shared at 50 percent Federal and 50 percent non-Federal expense.** If implementation is recommended, then a report will be transmitted by the Director of Civil Works to the ASA(CW) for review and approval. The ASA(CW) may seek construction appropriations through normal appropriations processes.

Lewis & Clark Lake near Springfield



Not just another study.

MSAC believes a sediment management plan can provide a broad, holistic approach providing a framework to achieve reservoir sustainability.



Sedimentation problems at Gavins Point and Lewis and Clark Lake have been called the worst in the United States. Millions have already been spent studying sediment at the lake over the past decades.

Development of a sediment management plan at Lewis and Clark Lake is expected to cost significantly less than the max of \$3 million and take less than the allowed time of 3 years.

The opportunity is now ...



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MSAC encourages potential non-Federal interests to engage with each other in pursuit of a sediment management plan and to consult legal counsel for full understanding of role and obligations.