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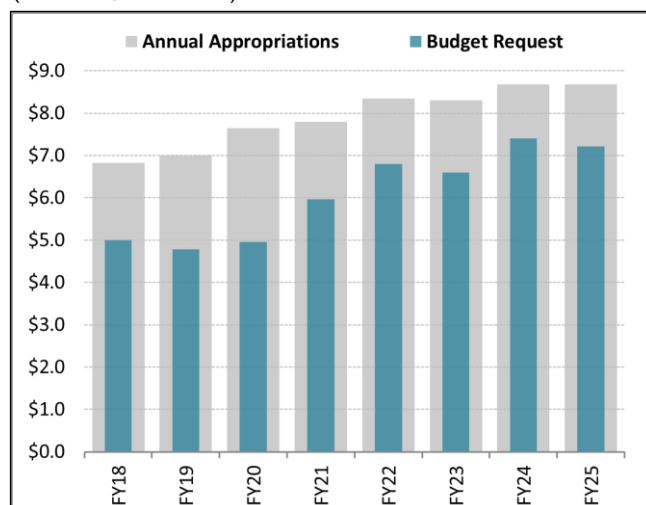
# U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: FY2025 Appropriations

Congress generally funds the civil works activities of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in annual Energy and Water Development appropriations acts. These activities primarily include the planning and construction of authorized water resource projects and the operation and maintenance (O&M) of infrastructure and navigation improvements managed by USACE. USACE uses most of its appropriations for work on specific studies and projects authorized by Congress. Nonfederal project sponsors or users often share in project costs. For more on USACE appropriations, see CRS Report R46320, *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Annual Appropriations Process*.

For USACE civil works, President Biden requested \$7.22 billion for FY2025 (**Figure 1**). The House Appropriations Committee reported its FY2025 Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (H.R. 8997) on July 9, 2024, which would have appropriated \$9.96 billion for USACE. On August 1, 2024, the Senate Appropriations Committee reported its FY2025 measure (S. 4927), which would have appropriated \$10.34 billion. Following short-term continuing resolutions, the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (P.L. 119-4), was signed into law on March 15, 2025, to fund USACE at the FY2024 appropriated level (**Figure 1**). Division D, Title 1, of P.L. 118-42 provided USACE with FY2024 annual appropriations of \$8.70 billion and rescinded \$22 million from prior-year appropriations.

**Figure 1. Annual USACE Budget Requests and Appropriations, FY2018-FY2025**

(nominal \$, in billions)



**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on appropriations laws and USACE budget requests.

**Notes:** Does not reflect supplemental appropriations or redirection of prior-year appropriations.

In addition to annual discretionary appropriations, Congress has provided supplemental funding to USACE in some fiscal years. For example, the American Relief Act, 2025 (P.L. 118-158), provided \$1.52 billion in FY2025 emergency supplemental funds. Other supplemental funds were made available in prior fiscal years, and USACE is still obligating and expending some of these funds in FY2025. In addition, P.L. 118-42 directed that USACE use \$1.43 billion of unobligated and unallocated Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA; P.L. 117-58) Construction monies to fund construction projects listed in the explanatory statement accompanying P.L. 118-42. For information on USACE supplemental funding, see CRS In Focus IF11945, *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Supplemental Appropriations*.

## USACE FY2025 Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Funding

P.L. 119-4 provides the same appropriations levels for USACE accounts as P.L. 118-42 did for FY2024 (**Table 1**). The O&M account, which funds maintenance of existing USACE infrastructure, makes up 64% of USACE's FY2025 annual appropriations. In addition, most provisions, such as how much funding is to be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (\$2.77 billion), are retained. Under P.L. 119-4, the Construction account receives the same level of appropriations as in FY2024: \$1.85 billion. However, P.L. 119-4 excludes a P.L. 118-42 provision regarding the use of \$1.43 billion in prior-year unobligated and unallocated IIJA Construction funds. Therefore, P.L. 119-4 provides new funding for USACE's Construction activities in FY2025 in an amount that is 44% less than the amount directed by Congress to fund FY2024 construction activities listed in the explanatory statement accompanying P.L. 118-42.

## Community Project Funding and Congressionally Directed Spending

The 112<sup>th</sup> through 116<sup>th</sup> Congresses did not allow for congressionally directed funding of site-specific studies and projects, sometimes referred to as *earmarks*. In annual appropriations acts, the 117<sup>th</sup> and 118<sup>th</sup> Congresses included *community project funding* (CPF) and *congressionally directed spending* (CDS) requested by Representatives and Senators, respectively, for site-specific studies and projects.

For FY2025, the House and Senate Appropriations committees invited Members of Congress to request CPF and CDS items, respectively, for authorized studies and projects under the accounts listed in **Table 1**. The FY2025 House committee report (H.Rept. 118-580) recommended funding 95 CPF items totaling \$890 million for USACE activities. The FY2025 Senate committee report (S.Rept.

118-250) recommended funding 131 CDS items totaling \$1.03 billion.

**Table 1. Selected USACE Account Appropriations: FY2024 and FY2025 Enacted, FY2025 Requested, and FY2025 House and Senate Bills**

(nominal \$, in millions)

Account	FY2024 Annual	FY2024 IJA	FY2025 Requested	FY2025 House	FY2025 Senate	FY2025 Full-Year	FY2025 ARA
Investigations	\$143	—	\$111	\$159	\$308	\$143	\$20
Construction	\$1,855	\$1,485	\$1,958	\$3,010	\$2,979	\$1,855	\$700
MR&T	\$368	—	\$245	\$370	\$375	\$368	\$50
O&M	\$5,553	\$1,000	\$2,570	\$5,714	\$5,849	\$5,553	—

**Source:** CRS, based on appropriations laws, the FY2025 USACE budget request, H.R. 8997 (118<sup>th</sup> Congress), and S. 4927 (118<sup>th</sup> Congress).

**Notes:** ARA = American Relief Act, 2025 (P.L. 118-158); Full-Year = Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (P.L. 119-4); IJA = Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58); MR&T = Mississippi River and Tributaries; O&M = Operation and Maintenance. FY2024 Annual and FY2025 Full-Year amounts do not reflect rescissions from prior-year appropriations (\$22 million total across accounts in each fiscal year).

Section 1111 of P.L. 119-4 establishes that the act does not provide funding for the purposes of the FY2024 earmarks, and P.L. 119-4 does not incorporate the CPF/CDS items from the FY2025 committee reports.

### Work Plan

Section 1503(a) of P.L. 119-4 removes the requirement for the Secretary of the Army to allocate appropriated funds in accordance with the explanatory statement accompanying P.L. 118-42. Instead, Section 1503(b) directs USACE's Chief of Engineers to develop a work plan to allocate P.L. 119-4 funding and to deliver the work plan to the Senate and House Appropriations Committees no later than May 14, 2025. Once submitted, there are to be no deviations from the work plan aside from reprogramming authority as provided to USACE in P.L. 118-42.

*New starts* is a term describing USACE studies or projects selected to receive funding to initiate study or project work. For FY2025, the Biden Administration did not request and the House report (H.Rept. 118-580) did not recommend new starts, but the Senate report (S.Rept. 118-205) recommended new starts under the Investigations and the Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) accounts. P.L. 119-4 specifies that USACE is to allocate FY2025 funding under the Investigations, Construction, and MR&T accounts in the work plan only to active studies and projects. That is, Congress did not allow for any new starts using FY2025 annual appropriations under P.L. 119-4.

### USACE FY2025 Supplemental Funding

As previously mentioned, USACE received \$1.52 billion in supplemental funds for FY2025 (P.L. 118-158), with \$745 million for the Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (FCCE) account to cover disaster-related expenses. The MR&T account received \$50 million also for disaster related expenses, and the Investigations account received \$20 million for studies of flood risk reduction projects. In addition, the Construction account received \$700 million for various purposes. USACE received \$100 million to plan

and construct flood and storm damage reduction projects of limited scope and cost without project-specific authorizations through its Continuing Authorities Programs (see CRS In Focus IF12635, *Continuing Authorities Programs (CAPs) of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*). USACE received \$300 million for environmental infrastructure assistance projects, which are described further in CRS Report R47162, *Overview of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Environmental Infrastructure (EI) Assistance*. Another \$300 million is for completing projects already started by previous supplemental appropriations acts. As directed, the Chief of Engineers allocated the Investigations and Construction funding in work plans.

### Selected Issues for Congress

Many Members of Congress are particularly interested in federal funding of USACE studies and projects for their economic benefits, safety improvements, and environmental effects. Therefore, Congress is likely to be attentive to how P.L. 119-4 appropriations are allocated to studies and projects in the USACE work plan. The accounts in **Table 1** compose the majority of USACE appropriations. In recent fiscal years, most studies and projects that received funding from those accounts were CPF/CDS requests or were included in the President's Budget Request. The remaining studies and projects that received funding did so based on USACE discretion to allocate in work plans "additional funding" after enactment of appropriations. In the case of FY2025, USACE will have discretion in allocating the full appropriations for these accounts in the work plan among active, authorized studies and projects. This may result in funding active studies and projects outside of those recommended for funding in the reports accompanying the FY2025 House and Senate bills and included in the FY2024 work plans and the FY2025 budget request. In addition, fewer projects may receive Construction appropriations in FY2025 compared with FY2024. The work plan may also include less CAP or EI funding compared with both FY2024 enacted levels and the amounts in the FY2025 House and Senate reports, given the

supplemental funding provided by P.L. 118-158 for these activities. Congress may wish to influence development of the work plan through engagement with USACE and may aim to conduct oversight, such as through hearings, on how USACE implements P.L. 119-4 and P.L. 118-158 funding.

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