



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers ®
Charleston District

Section 204 – Beneficial Use of Dredged Material

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What is it?

Section 204 gives the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers the authority to implement projects for the protection, restoration and creation of aquatic and ecologically related habitats in connection with the construction or maintenance dredging of an authorized navigation project.

Who can apply?

Any non-Federal government entity can serve as the Sponsor for a Section 204 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 with you and let you know if you qualify for the program.

What does it cost?

- All feasibility phase expenditures, including plans and specifications, are initially funded at Federal expense, but are recouped at the beginning of construction at a cost shared rate of 75% Federal, 25% Sponsor. The Sponsor may contribute 100% of their share of the feasibility costs as in-kind services.
- For projects with an estimated Federal cost of less than \$5 million, Corps divisions have approval authority. Corps headquarters approves larger projects. There is a program cap of \$15 million annually.

How long does it take?

From the beginning of the feasibility phase until project approval takes up to three years. Construction time varies depending on the project being implemented.