



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers ®
Charleston District

Section 205 – Flood Control

Point of Contact: Joseph Jones
Phone: 843-329-8160
E-mail: joseph.jones@usace.army.mil

What is it?

Section 205 gives the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers the authority to plan, design and construct flood control projects. These projects can be structural projects, such as modified channels, small reservoirs or small levees, or can be non-structural measures such as raising structures in place or removing them from the floodplain.

Who can apply?

Any non-Federal government entity can serve as the Sponsor for a Section 205 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. All Section 205 Sponsors must comply with the Federal flood insurance plan and prepare floodplain management plans within one year of initiating an approved project and implement the plan within one year of project completion.

What does it cost?

- The initial \$100,000 of any Section 205 Feasibility Study is paid 100% by the Federal Government.
- All additional feasibility expenditures are cost shared at a rate of 50% Federal, 50% Sponsor. The Sponsor may contribute 100% of their share as in-kind services.
- Plans and specifications costs and construction costs are cost shared 65% Federal, 35% Sponsor. Plans and specifications costs are recouped at the beginning of the construction period.
- There is a spending cap of \$7 million of Federal expenditure per Section 205 project.

How long does it take?

A typical Section 205 study has two main parts, the feasibility phase and the construction phase. The feasibility study includes all alternatives analysis, design work, NEPA compliance and benefit-cost analysis. From the beginning of the feasibility phase until project approval takes approximately 24 months, but can take up to 36 months in complex studies. Construction time varies depending on the solution being implemented.