



Section 103: Hurricane & Storm Damage Reduction

Section 103 of the 1962 River and Harbor Act gives the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers the authority to plan, design and construct measures to provide protection to properties against damages caused by storm driven waves and ocean currents. Section 103 projects cannot be undertaken on private beaches or where no public access to the beach exists.

Who can apply?

Any non-Federal government entity can serve as the Sponsor for a Section 103 project. Project initiation requires letter to the District office requesting Corps assistance.

What does it cost?

- The initial \$100,000 of any Section 103 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 work in kind for their share.
- The Sponsor shall provide all necessary lands, easements, rights-of-way, and any relocation of utilities necessary for project construction and subsequent operation and maintenance of the project. Costs associated with these items may be creditable towards the non-Federal cash contribution for the project.
- The Design and Implementation Phase is cost shared 65% Federal and 35% Non-Federal.
- There is a spending cap of \$10 million of Federal expenditure per Section 103 project.
- Annual Federal program limit is \$ 37.5 million.

How long does it take?

Section 103 feasibility studies can take approximately 24 to 30 months and include two major milestones. The first milestone is a Federal Interest Determination document to be accomplished with the first \$100,000. The second milestone is a Major Subordinate Command Decision Milestone (MDM) to discuss the selected alternatives for a potential construction project. The outcome of the MDM and the feasibility study will be a Detailed Project Report. The feasibility study includes all alternatives analysis, design work, NEPA compliance, and benefit-cost analysis. Construction time varies depending on the project being implemented.

Contact us

To learn more, visit www.sac.usace.army.mil/partnerships.

Questions? Email cesac-planning@usace.army.mil or call (843) 329-8050.

District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, SC 29403

Dear Sir or Madam,

This letter is to request the assistance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under Section 103 of the River and Harbor Act of 1962, as amended, in reducing the risk from coastal storm damage in (CITY OR TOWN, AND SPECIFIC LOCATION).

(BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE CAUSE OF THE EROSION AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FACILITY OR INFRASTRUCTURE AT RISK).

responsible for 50 percent of feasibility study costs exceeding \$100,000 in Federal expenditures and 35 percent of project design and construction costs, if a feasible plan is identified. We acknowledge that the cost share contribution can be in the form of "in-kind" services that contribute a direct component to the study, cash, or a combination. Our cost share obligation would include provision of all lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, and dredged material disposal areas required for the project. We intend to pursue budgetary actions so that funds are available to meet our cost sharing requirements. We would assume responsibility for operation and maintenance of the project upon completion.

The (NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR) is aware that this letter constitutes an expression of intent to initiate a study partnership to address the specified water resources problems and is not a contractual obligation. We understand that work on the study cannot commence until it is chosen to be included in the Administration's budget. It is understood that we or USACE may opt to discontinue the study at any time after the feasibility study cost sharing agreement is signed but will commit to work together as partners from the scoping phase, and subsequent decision points throughout the feasibility study, on providing the necessary support to risk-informed decision making. If it is determined that additional time or funding is necessary to support decisions to be made to complete the study, our agency will work with USACE to determine the appropriate course of action.

The (NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR) has designated (NAME /PHONE NUMBER) as the point of contact for this project.

Sincerely,
(NAME / TITLE OF OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO REQUEST STUDY)