

**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

PLANNING BULLETIN

No. PB 2015-02

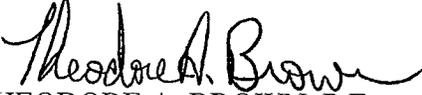
Issuing Office: CECW-P

Issued: 7 May 2015

Subject: Single Phase Planning Studies

Applicability: Additional Guidance

1. This Planning Bulletin provides additional guidance on the planning studies that must be conducted in a single phase, without a separate Federally funded reconnaissance or initial assessment phase. This Planning Bulletin incorporates guidance from the FY 2017 Civil Works Program Development Policy Guidance ([EC 11-2-208](#)).
2. Section 905(b) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (WRDA 1986) provided for a reconnaissance study of a water resources problem at full Federal expense prior to initiating a cost shared feasibility study. The full Federal reconnaissance phase or initial assessment authorized by Section 905(b) was applied to feasibility studies and also to other study efforts, including watershed assessments; comprehensive and basin-wide studies; and planning efforts under the Tribal Partnership Program, authorized by section 203 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, as amended.
3. Section 1002(a) of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 repealed section 905(b) of WRDA 1986. With repeal of section 905(b), there is no longer authorized a full Federal reconnaissance phase or initial assessment, and a single phase cost-shared study process applies to all study efforts described in paragraph 2.
4. No work may begin on these studies until execution of a cost sharing agreement for the study effort. Districts may use allocated Special Investigations funding to support budget development per the FY 2017 Civil Works Program Development Policy Guidance ([EC 11-2-208](#)). Once funds are allocated in a Statement of Managers or a cleared work plan for a study, a cost sharing agreement may be executed. Once an appropriate cost sharing agreement is executed, HQUSACE will release the funding to initiate the study.
5. This guidance does not apply to study efforts under the Continuing Authorities Program, which are governed by sections 905(c) and 105(a)(3) of WRDA 1986, as amended. These provisions provide that the first \$100,000 of the cost of a study under the Continuing Authorities Program is a Federal expense.
6. This guidance is effective immediately and will be incorporated into the Planning Guidance Notebook ([ER 1105-2-100](#)) upon the next revision.
7. Point of contact for Single Phase Planning Studies is Ms. Susan Hughes, 202-761-4121.


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