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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (COE)
AND THE
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

I. Purposes

This memorandum of understanding establishes the participation of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) in the management of the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP). It reflects the mutual desire that the capabilities of the COE in their areas of expertise contribute to a coordinated effort toward protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay environment.

II. Understandings

A. COE Participation in CBP Coordinative Structure

COE will participate actively in the management structure of the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP). The Baltimore District will represent the COE on the Implementation Committee. Appropriate representatives will serve on the various subcommittees. COE personnel will participate in additional activities as needed to fulfill the COE's part in the Chesapeake Bay Program.

B. COE Participation in the Chesapeake Bay Program

EPA and COE will cooperate in those areas where there is a mutual interest. EPA recognizes the expertise of the COE in the planning, design, and construction of water resource development projects for flood control, navigation, water management, and erosion control devices. The COE also has expertise in development of models and monitoring programs.

CBP recognizes the role that the COE will play in a number of areas including:

1. COE will cooperate with states, EPA, NOAA, USDA, and Fish and Wildlife Service through participation on committees established by the CBP in assisting in the identification of priority research modeling and monitoring needs. Through this mechanism, the potential for joint funding of projects relative to the Bay clean-up effort will also be identified.
2. COE will cooperate with states, EPA, NOAA, USDA, and Fish and Wildlife Service to evaluate the District level programs and make recommendations for possible modifications to improve effectiveness within the existing national COE framework.
3. During the conduct of the recently authorized Chesapeake Bay Erosion Control Study, the COE will actively coordinate with the state and Federal agencies during development and execution of the study. It is recognized that there is currently available data on erosion in the form of aerial photography from other Federal agencies as well as the states.

Development of additional data will take full advantage of that which is presently available. In addition, data collection activities will be coordinated with other agencies.

4. The COE will continue to coordinate its annual maintenance dredging program with the state and federal agencies so as to develop disposal plans that are technically and environmentally acceptable.

5. COE will participate (in conjunction with other agencies) in public awareness programs to acquaint citizens with Chesapeake Bay-related issues.

C. COE recognizes the role of EPA as the lead agency for Federal participation in the CBP. The COE will assist in developing increased Federal participation in cooperative Chesapeake Bay activities, particularly those within the COE that are authorized and funded. The COE will provide other support to the extent that such activities do not hinder its Federally mandated responsibilities.

III. Authorities

Nothing in this memorandum of understanding alters the statutory authorities and responsibilities of the COE. It is intended to facilitate those authorities through the cooperative mechanisms of the CBP.


U.S. Environmental Protection Agency


U.S. Corps of Engineers

Date Nov 21 1984

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