

Water Resources Development Acts

Agencies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Citation: [33 U.S.C. §§ 2201 et seq.](#)

Enacted as: the “Water Resources Development Act”

Summary:

The Water Resources Development Acts (WRDA) are passed, recurrently, as omnibus legislation. The WRDA is normally addressed every two years, although Congress does not always do so. The first WRDA was passed in 1974 while the most recent WRDA was passed by [Public Law 110-114](#) on November 8, 2007. The WRDA authorizes the Secretary of the Army to study and/or implement various projects and programs for improvements to rivers and harbors of the U.S. and for other purposes. A number of sections from these Acts pertain to specific projects or studies for environmental purposes. While not technically environmental laws, a number of the WRDA contain general environmental provisions pertinent to the Civil Works water resources development program or to the management of environmental resources. The WRDA of 1990, for example, establishes environmental protection as a primary mission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in planning, constructing, operating, and maintaining water resources projects.

Source: [33 U.S.C. §§ 2201 et seq.](#)

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