



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

CECW-LRD

JUL 11 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, GREAT LAKES AND OHIO RIVER DIVISION

SUBJECT: Implementation Guidance for Section 1123 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 (WRDA 2016), Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration (GLFER)

1. References.

a. Letter, Office of Management and Budget, 15 June 2006.

b. Memorandum, OASA-CW, 17 July 2006. subject: Regional Continuing Authority-Type Ecosystem Restoration Reports, Section 514 WRDA 1999 and Sections 506 and 544 WRDA 2000.

2. Section 1123 of the WRDA 2016 directs the repeal of Section 506(g) of the WRDA 2000. Section 1123 and Section 506 are enclosed.

3. Paragraph 1 of Section 506(g) of WRDA 2000 provided the authority to appropriate \$300,000 for the development of a plan under subsection (c)(1) of WRDA 2000 for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) activities that support the management of the Great Lakes. The repeal of this paragraph has no effect because the support plan authorized by WRDA 2000 was completed in April 2006. The Office of Management and Budget (reference 1a) determined that a feasibility level comprehensive plan in accordance with direction from the ASA(CW) (reference 1b) should be developed for the GLFER program, in order to demonstrate that the projects implemented under the authority would cost-effectively contribute to the restoration of nationally or regionally significant aquatic ecosystems, utilize the engineering expertise of the Corps, or restore areas previously affected by Corps activities. LRD is directed to pursue funding for the completion of a feasibility-level comprehensive plan for the GLFER program in accordance with current budget guidance.

4. Paragraph 2 of Section 506(g) authorized \$100,000,000 to carry out paragraphs (2) and (3) of Section (c). Paragraph 2 of subsection (c) directs the planning, design and construction of projects to support the restoration of the fishery, ecosystem and beneficial uses of the Great Lakes. Paragraph 3 of subsection (c) authorizes the development of a program to evaluate the success of the projects carried out under paragraph 2. There is no longer a program limit on the amount of funds that can be

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appropriated to plan, design and construct projects or to develop the program to evaluate the success of the projects.

5. Questions regarding this implementation guidance should be directed to Janet Cote, Great Lakes and Ohio River Regional Integration Team, at (202) 761-4589 or Janet.Cote@usace.army.mil



JAMES C. DALTON, P.E.
Director of Civil Works

Encl

SEC. 1123. GREAT LAKES FISHERY AND ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION.

Section 506(g) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 1962d–22(g)) is repealed.

WRDA 2000 SEC. 506. GREAT LAKES FISHERY AND ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION.

(c) GREAT LAKES FISHERY AND ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION.—

(1) SUPPORT PLAN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop a plan for activities of the Corps of Engineers that support the management of Great Lakes fisheries.

(2) PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall plan, design, and construct projects to support the restoration of the fishery, ecosystem, and beneficial uses of the Great Lakes.

(3) EVALUATION PROGRAM.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop a program to evaluate the success of the projects carried out under paragraph (2) in meeting fishery and ecosystem restoration goals.

(B) STUDIES.—Evaluations under subparagraph (A) shall be conducted in consultation with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN.—There is authorized to be appropriated for development of the plan under subsection (c)(1) \$300,000.

(2) OTHER ACTIVITIES.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (c) \$100,000,000.