



Wright's Creek, Dorchester County, MD

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

FACT SHEET as of February 1, 2015

AUTHORIZATION: Continuing Authorities Program (CAP), Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996, as amended

TYPE OF PROJECT: Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration

CONTRIBUTION TO CHESAPEAKE BAY: Directly contributes to achieving protection and restoration goals established by the 2009 Executive Order 13508 and the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Program Agreement by restoring clean water, recovering habitat, and sustaining fish and wildlife.

PROJECT PHASE: Feasibility

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Senators **Mikulski** and **Cardin (MD)**; Congressman **Harris (MD-01)**

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR: Maryland Eastern Shore Resource Conservation & Development Council, Incorporated (ESRCDC)

BACKGROUND: Wright's Creek is a tributary of the Choptank River located in Dorchester County on Maryland's Eastern Shore. The project area is located seven miles east of Cambridge, Maryland. The estuary portion of Wright's Creek is approximately one mile long and the watershed encompasses about two square miles of drainage area.

The project objective is to restore approximately 6 to 8 acres of wetlands at multiple locations within Wright's Creek from its confluence with the Choptank River to the upstream limits of tidal influence. To meet this objective, creek sediments will be removed, stable river bottom habitat will be restored, littoral shelf areas and small islands will be re-vegetated with the appropriate marsh vegetation, and a jetty or revetment will be constructed to decrease wave action impacts.

The feasibility study was discontinued in March 2004 due to nation-wide funding shortfalls in the Section 206 program. The project was funded in fiscal 2009 and these funds were used to restart the feasibility study and to award an end of year contract for the preparation of preliminary feasibility level design alternatives and costs. Upon gathering further input from resource agencies the project has been scaled back significantly. In 2013, USACE reformulated the feasibility-level design alternatives.

STATUS: 35% designs have been completed and submitted to the non-Federal sponsor. Due to Continuing Authority Program (CAP) Process Improvements, all non-cost shared feasibility studies stopped all work (Sept. 09, 2013) to negotiate and execute a Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement (FSCA). The Baltimore District is waiting to hear back from the non-Federal sponsor if they are financially able to enter into the FCSA in fiscal 2015.



Western shore of Wright's Creek, Dorchester County, MD near the mouth.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – BALTIMORE DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, MD 21203

<http://www.nab.usace.army.mil>

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BUDGET (\$):ConstructionFeasibility

<u>Total Estimated Cost</u>	\$687,820
Federal Cost Estimate	\$687,820
Non-Federal Cost Estimate	\$0

<u>Federal Funds Data</u>	
Allocations thru FY 2013	\$759,070
Allocation for FY 2014	\$(71,250)
President Budget FY 2015 ¹	\$0
Allocation for FY 2015 ²	\$0
Balance to Complete	\$0

NOTES:

¹ The President typically sends the budget to Congress in February each year. Upon release, budget amounts for the USACE Civil Works programs and specified projects are posted online at the HQUSACE website in a Program Budget Press Book at <http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Budget.aspx>.

² The final FY 2015 allocation amounts will be made available upon final approval pursuant to the Energy and Water Appropriations Act's continuing funding requirements.

SCHEDULE:

FY 2014 Completed Work: None.

FY 2015 Scheduled Work: Determine if the non-Federal sponsor is financially able to continue. If they are able to continue, the Baltimore District will negotiate and execute a FCSA in fiscal 2015. If they are unable to continue the project will be suspended or possibly terminated.

Completion: With optimum non-Federal funding the feasibility phase can be completed in fiscal 2016.

For more information: regarding the Wright's Creek feasibility study, contact Mr. Anthony A. Clark, CENAB-PL-P, (410)962-3413, or e-mail anthony.a.clark@usace.army.mil.

