



Army Corps of Engineers Flood Control Civilian Advisory Council Act

Bill Highlights

- The bill creates an advisory council, appointed by the President in consultation with the Senate, with two members from each state in which the Missouri River flows.
- The advisory council will make recommendations to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on how to prioritize flood control and navigation in the master manual.
- The council must include representation from agriculture and other river commerce industries.
- The council will submit a report with their recommendations to the USACE and Congress after one year, and the council will be dissolved after their report is released.

Background

- The flooding in the Midwest this spring will total billions of dollars in damages to farms, homes, businesses, roadways and communities along the rivers.
- In 2004, the USACE began prioritizing wildlife protection and restoration over flood control. Changes included reopening historic chutes, increasing reservoir stage, endangered species releases, returning the river to a natural state to provide additional spawning and breeding areas for species.
- In March 2019, the U.S. Court of Federal claims found that the USACE is responsible for extensive property damage caused as a result of recurring floods along the Missouri River (Ideker Farms, inc. v The United States).