

AMERICA & WATER

With each passing day, the inability of our nation's aging infrastructure to meet the needs of our growing population further threatens our economy and environmental quality of life. America's water resources system is critical to the nation's well-being.

Ports and waterways are key to the transport of domestic and international cargo. Flood control projects protect lives and prevent property damage. Hydroelectric plants provide a renewable source of power. Coastal nourishment projects help to save lives and reduce property damages while providing critical public recreation as well as environmental habitat. In addition, projects for water supply, habitat protection, irrigation, and water-based recreation provide significant benefits, as well as environmental habitat.

COALITION GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- Promote sound water resources policy founded on appropriate Federal, State, and local government roles.
- Promote increased investment in water resources infrastructure.
- Partner with and support the Federal water agencies and their programs.
- Be an industry resource for Federal decision making.
- Be a resource to congressional staff.
- Be a resource to coalition members, industry, and conservation interests.

ACTIVITIES

- Continuously inform and educate coalition members on legislative and agency activities.
- Develop policy positions on legislative and agency proposals.
- Build working relationships with policy makers, budget drafters, and appropriators.
- Build, maintain and expand a powerful network of water resources interests.
- Develop and pursue a vigorous communications strategy.

CONGRESS

The nation's legislative leaders have long played a critical role in water resource policy and management at the national, state, and local levels.

One of Congress' earliest acts to set national water quality, navigation, and protection standards was with the passage of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. That law set the precedence for the Clean Water Act of 1972 and the current biennial Water Resources Development Act, which are both now the most important water policy making measures affecting the economic, environmental, and public health of our nation.

How laws are amended, reauthorized and drafted directly affect the members of the Coalition. Working closely with Members of Congress and over a dozen congressional committees, the Water Resources Coalition ensures that policy changes reflect a balanced approach that will preserve and improve the water resources infrastructure as well as protect natural habitat.

Just as all other major infrastructure sectors of our nation require adequate funding to operate effectively, so too does our water resources infrastructure.

TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- Biennial Water Resources Development Acts.
- Annual Energy & Water, Supplemental and other related Appropriations legislation.
- Contemporary policy for integrated management of our nation's water resources including ports, navigation, flood risk management, water supply and environmental restoration.

The Coalition has highlighted the need to increase federal investment in water resources infrastructure as a top priority.

We are committed to providing Members of Congress the informational tools and public support they need to increase the overall funding for water infrastructure. While many in Congress understand the need to provide sufficient funding, the Coalition will continue to push for more robust annual appropriations to maintain and improve the water resources infrastructure of America.

WHERE WATER MATTERS

On a national level, Congress and a variety of federal agencies determine the current and future course of the nation's water resources. As a group with a diverse membership, the Water Resources Coalition has the flexibility and knowledge base to act as both a partner and constructive critic of these two branches of government.

FEDERAL AGENCIES

Their interpretation of legislation and implementation of regulations and programs gives federal agencies tremendous power over the way water resources are managed.

The Coalition is focused on helping these agencies design regulations and programs that are practical, constructive, and in the interest of the American people.

The Coalition closely monitors the activities of a variety of federal agencies and organizations, such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The Coalition provides input and assistance to all federal agencies as they implement programs and policies that affect the nation's water resources.

COALITION ORGANIZATION

The Coalition formed in 2007 to unite the interests and goals of a variety of advocacy groups behind the need to invest more money and resources in our nation's water resources.

Membership is open to organizations representing state and local government, engineering and construction, ports, waterways, transportation services and conservation organizations that have an interest in a comprehensive national water resources policy.

The members of the Coalition have a variety of interests, ranging from impact by the federal government upon local and regional matters, to national policies that influence all levels of the public and private sectors. The members share legislative and policy goals and concerns, and as a group can act to address issues via congressional and grassroots lobbying, regulatory comment, federal agency advocacy, and public/media affairs.

The Coalition has regular membership meetings and is led by an active steering committee. For more information, a current list of members, and membership info, please visit: www.waterresourcescoalition.org

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improve, prevent, save



The Water Resources Coalition works to ensure a comprehensive national water resources policy is developed, implemented, and funded to provide a sustainable, productive economy; a healthy aquatic ecology; and public health and safety