

## ABOUT THE STUDY PROCESS

### What is a Feasibility Study?

All major federal resource projects evaluate the practicality of proposed solutions to problems. This process analyzes engineering, economic, environmental, cost, as well as impacts and other aspects of proposed solutions and alternatives.

A Feasibility Study consists of six major steps that identify the most practical and valuable proposal to the economy and environment. It is consistent with protecting the nation's environment and follows principles and guidelines in federal water resource law and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulations.

### Where are we in the study process?

The Study Team is currently developing a revised plan based on the input received following the public review and comment period for the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS) released in fall 2018. A revised Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (not integrated) will be released together for a second public review and comment period (including virtual public meetings) in fall 2020 following a series of public open houses that were held in February 2020.

Following the second public review and comment period, the Study Team will review and address the input received from the public, resource agencies, and the USACE and Texas General Land Office (GLO) leadership to produce the

### USACE Six Step Planning Process

1. Identify problems and opportunities
2. Inventory and forecast conditions
3. Formulate alternatives
4. Evaluate alternatives
5. Compare alternatives
6. Select recommended plan

final report. It is anticipated that the Final Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement will be published in March 2021.

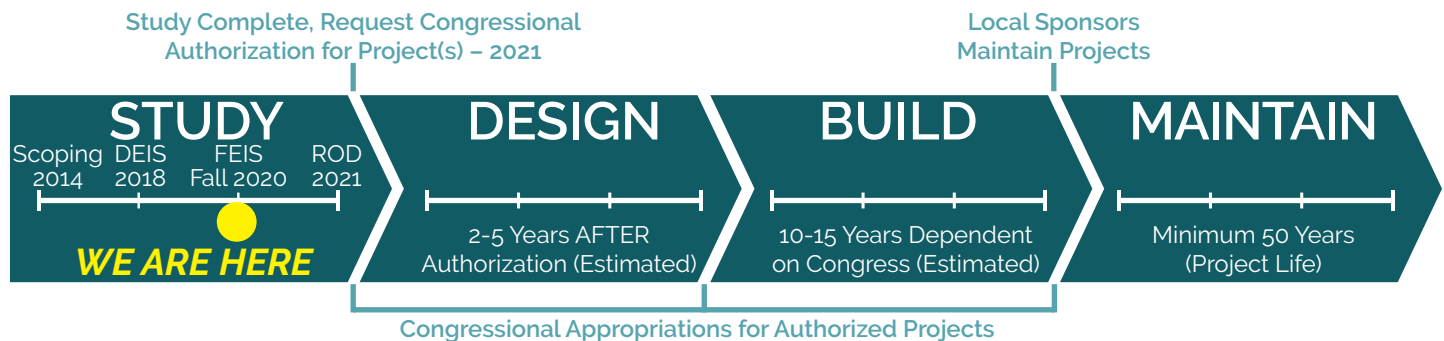
### What will happen next in the study process?

After the Study Phase, a Recommended Plan will be proposed for congressional authorization and funding. Construction of the Recommended Plan is dependent upon congressional approval and funding.

If approved and funded, the Recommended Plan described in the Feasibility Report would be designed and constructed over a period of 10 to 15 years, depending on congressional authorization and appropriations and Non-Federal partnerships. The project would be maintained after construction by a local sponsor.

**See back for Study Milestones** ➔

## ESTIMATED PROJECT SCHEDULE



DEIS: Draft Environmental Impact Statement | FEIS: Final Environmental Impact Statement | ROD: Record of Decision



Members of the public attend the public meetings held in December 2018

## STUDY MILESTONES

### Initial Assessment

Approval to begin feasibility stage of study

November 2015

### Alternative Evaluation Analysis

Identify viable projects for consideration, evaluation and comparison

June 2016

Identify projects for feasibility analysis. Draft Tentatively Selected Plan

May 2018

Release draft integrated feasibility report and environmental impact statement (DIFR-EIS) for public input

October 2018

Formal public meetings held by the USACE and the GLO

November – December 2018

### Feasibility Analysis

Public Open Houses to provide study updates

February 2020

Further refinement of the Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement based on public feedback, in-depth environmental and engineering analyses and evaluation for USACE endorsement

February 2019 – Summer 2020

Release revised Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement for second public review and comment period (including virtual public meetings)

Fall 2020

Final Feasibility Report released for review by the Texas Governor's Office, federal, state and local elected officials in the affected areas, state and federal resource agencies, and tribes

March 2021

Chief's Report submittal to Congress

May 2021

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