

## **U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

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**FACT SHEET as of 06 February 2012** 

**AUTHORIZATION:** Section 107 of the River and Harbors Act of 1960, as amended.

**TYPE OF PROJECT**: Continuing Authorities Program (CAP)

**PROJECT PHASE:** Feasibility

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Senators Pryor (AR) and Boozman (AR); Representative

Womack (AR-03)

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR: Western Arkansas Regional Intermodal Transportation Authority

(RITA)

BACKGROUND: The local sponsor, the Western Arkansas Regional Intermodal Transportation Authority, requested a study to determine the need for a slack water harbor on the right descending bank of the Arkansas River, referred to as the Vache Grasse Port Site at Navigation Mile 288.5 or the left bank of the Arkansas River at Navigation Mile 297 referred to as the Crawford County Levee Port Site. Vache Grasse Creek is located in Lavaca, which is about 10 miles east of Fort Smith, Arkansas, in Sebastian County. The Port Authority understands their cost sharing requirements and local responsibilities. Four alternatives were evaluated and all sites are located along the Arkansas River between Fort Smith, AR, and Ozark, AR. One site is at N.M. 297 on the left bank and is referred to as the Crawford County Levee Port Site, another site is between N.M. 291.1 and N.M. 290.5 on the right bank and is referred to as the Fort Chaffee Port Site, another site is at N.M. 288.5 on the right bank and is referred to as the Vache Grasse Park Port Site, and another site is at N.M. 258 on the left bank and is referred to as the Ozark Port Site. All alternatives are well within the navigation servitude.

**STATUS:** Funding is required to proceed with the feasibility phase, and if warranted, sign a Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement (FCSA).

**ISSUES:** The project is not included in the FY 2013 President's budget. Remaining project funds were revoked in FY 2011. The feasibility phase cannot proceed unless funding is provided.

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1/ Funds in the amount of \$19,165 were revoked to fund the \$100M rescission required in the FY2011 full year CR and to fund high priority projects.

## **SCHEDULE:**

FY 2012 Scheduled Work: Project is not included in the President's FY 2012 budget.

<u>FY 2013 Budget</u>: Project is not included in the President's FY 2013 budget. Funds in the amount of \$119,000 could be used to sign the FCSA and complete the phase.

**COMPLETION:** With optimum funding, the study completion date is 2014.

**For more information** regarding the Lavaca Port project contact: Ms. Renee S. Wright, Project Manager, Planning and Environmental Division, at (501) 324-6139 or Renee.S.Wright@usace.army.mil.

