

Great Lakes & Ohio River Division

ORSANCO
Water Resources Committee
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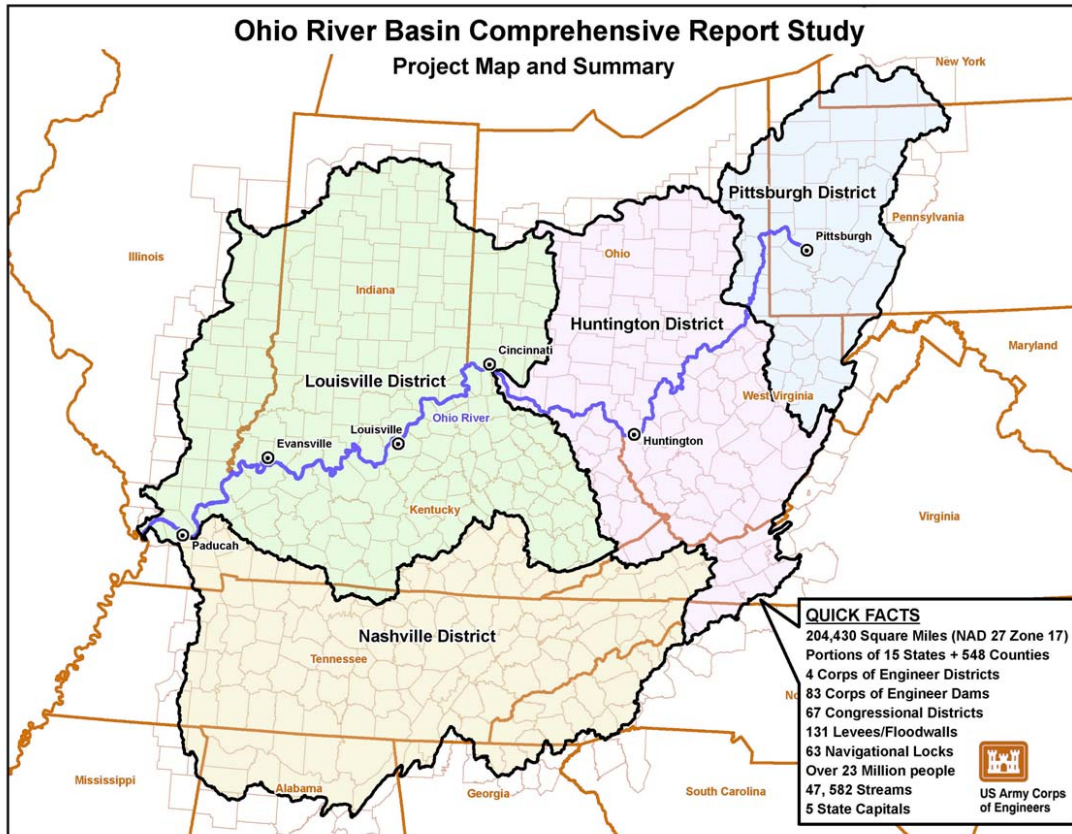


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Ohio River Basin Climate Change Pilot Study



- The Ohio River Basin Climate Change Pilot Study addresses potential threats to water resources management and infrastructure posed by CC.
- The Corps study partners with the ORB Alliance through joint formulation of mitigation and adaptation strategies.
- A permanent CC working group will be established in the ORB Alliance during the study.
- NOAA, USGS, USEPA, USACE, Battelle, TNC, UC, UNH and MU are represented on the 18 person team.



ORB Climate Change Pilot Study Status

- Current study status:
 - ▶ USACE/Alliance Kickoff Mtg. - August 16th in Columbus, Ohio.
 - ▶ Meeting outputs:
 - Confirmed study scope and anticipated study outputs.
 - Defined study objectives (confirmed objectives from proposal)
 - Assigned study work tasks to team members.
 - Determined study schedule & arranged for study funds distribution.
 - Reviewed ongoing basin climate trends for progress report to IWR.
 - ▶ Lessons learned from meeting:
 - ORB Alliance collaboration provides excellent platform for assessing CC affects, developing adaptation measures and educating public on CC.
 - Ecosystems already stressed – CC will exacerbate those stressors.
 - Recent trends in basin climate show increases in temperatures and slight increases in precipitation in late summer and early fall.



Future Uses of Study Findings

- Establishment of permanent working group in the ORB Alliance to assist water management agencies in further understanding of climate change effects and implementing adaptation strategies
- Increased general knowledge of the potential effects of climate changes on ecological systems and infrastructure used for flood control, water supply, hydropower, navigation and aquatic species enhancement.
- Identify opportunities for modifications to flood control structures that address adaptation to climate change effects during planned rehabilitation for Dam Safety issues.
- Raising public awareness of climate change effects and potential future operational changes in water management needed to mitigate for or adapt to impacts.

