

USACE

Great Lakes & Ohio River Division

Water Management

ORSANCO
Technical Committee
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Ohio River Basin Climate Change Pilot Project

- Funded by the Institute for Water Resources (IWR) Responses to Climate Change (RCC) Program.
- Goal: Assess the impacts of future climate change on operation and maintenance and future rehabilitation of water resources infrastructure and the management of ecosystems directly or indirectly affected by those operating systems.



Ohio River Basin Climate Change Pilot Project

- Product: A list of suggested adaptation and mitigation strategies that could attenuate identified climate change impacts and could be instrumental in revising Federal water resources policy addressing climatic impacts in this basin



Ohio River Basin Climate Change Pilot Project

- Status:
 - ▶ Modeling has been completed
 - ▶ Basin water managers engaged
 - ▶ Awaiting input from water managers
 - Determine the current state of infrastructure and institutional capability and readiness to address anticipated CC impacts identified by the modeling efforts



Civil Works – Future Identity Initiative

- The Institute for Water Resources Future Directions Initiative focuses on long-term issues for the Corps
- LRD was tasked with engaging regional stakeholders on existing, persistent, regional issues that require improved management integration in order to achieve effective water resource solutions.



Civil Works – Future Identity Initiative

- Regional Stakeholder Workshops
 - ▶ ORBA
 - ▶ ORSANCO Water Resources Committee
 - ▶ NAV Industry
 - ▶ Hydropower Industry
 - ▶ The Nature Conservancy
 - ▶ NOAA/USGS/NWS



Civil Works – Future Identity Initiative

- Final Report:
 - ▶ Stakeholders are interested in achieving Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)
 - ▶ An imminent crisis was not identified.
 - ▶ A pilot exercise similar to a Shared Vision Planning Process that focuses on an area of common interest such as Drought Preparedness presents an opportunity to move towards and test IWRM practices in the Ohio River Basin.
 - ▶ Applicable to Watershed-Based Budgeting



Chemical Spill

- CASCADE flow files provided to ORSANCO in support of efforts to provide time-of-travel estimates.
- Huntington District was prepared to make releases from reservoirs to aide in dilution.
- Water Quality crews were prepared to provide on-river support and assisted WV DEP with sampling efforts at the Winfield L&D.
- ORSANCO and USACE should jointly prepare a summary of possible USACE actions in response to spills.



Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs)

- USACE is working with the appropriate agencies within each state to develop collaborative approaches for sampling and properly advising the public of the risks associated with HABs.
- In states where the state agencies have not developed procedures for addressing HABs, the districts are following the LRD HAB Response Plan developed in 2012.



Questions?

