

United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service



# Importance of Inland Waterways to U.S. Agriculture

Analyzing Three Investment Scenarios

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Barge tow on Chain of Rocks Canal of Mississippi River above St. Louis

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# America's Heartland Requires a Reliable Transportation Corridor



Density of U.S. Corn and Soybean Production Areas in Proximity to the Navigable Waterways on the Mississippi River System Depicted in Map



# U.S. Agriculture's Competitiveness Depends on Inland Waterways

Infrastructure is critical to competitiveness of U.S. farmers

#### INADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE

Leads to lower effective transportation capacity

#### REDUCED TRANSPORTATION CAPACITY

Leads to higher freight rates; more dependency on truck and rail

#### HIGHER FREIGHT RATES

Leads to lower farm income; more road congestion; more rail service problems

## LOWER FARM

Leads to lower U.S. economic activity

#### LOSS OF GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

Without infrastructure investment, the farmer is less competitive globally

The background photo depicts broken wickets at Locks and Dam 52 along the Ohio River. The Corps of Engineers replaced Locks and Dam 52 and 53 with Olmsted Locks and Dam in 2018. At the time of this photo the wickets exceeded their lifespan by nearly 40 years.

# Inland Waterway Investment Grows American Economy

### **STATUS QUO INVESTMENT**

Current funding trends continue to 2045 for new construction, major rehabilitation and performing routine maintenance (totaling \$29.6B).

#### **Total Cumulative Economic Impact to 2045**



#### **INCREASED INVESTMENT**

Increased funding to construct all authorized projects (\$6.3B) in 10 years, including increased funding to 2045 to rehabilitate existing locks and perform routine maintenance (totaling \$35.9B).

Increase Over Status Quo: **\$6.3 Billion** 

#### **REDUCED INVESTMENT**

Gradually decreasing funding through 2045 for operation and maintenance, leading to decreased reliability. No construction of authorized projects (totaling \$15.3B).

Decrease From Status Quo: \$\$\sqrt{\$14.3 Billion}\$\$\$

### **Total Cumulative Economic Impact to 2045**



#### **Total Cumulative Economic Impact to 2045**



## More Investment = More Farm Exports Less Investment = Less Farm Exports

## FARM PRODUCT VOLUME

The inland navigable waterways are essential to moving farm products to grain export elevators along the Gulf. **Total Cumulative Volume Impact to 2045** (Million Tons)



### MARKET VALUE

U.S. corn and soybean farmers are the most efficient in the world. Our country's waterways and multimodal transportation network provides a competitive edge in global markets.

#### **Total Cumulative Market Value Impact to 2045**



## Increased Investment Enhances Competitiveness by Reducing Shipping Costs

SOYBEAN COST TO SHANGHAI, CHINA



Infrastructure Investment is critical for competitiveness of the U.S. farmer. Infrastructure investment leads to higher transportation capacity; higher transportation capacity leads to lower freight rates; lower freight rates lead to higher farmer returns. Without infrastructure investment, both the U.S. farmer and the American economy lose to global competitors.

# Will the U.S. Retain its Competitive Advantage?

#### SOYBEAN TRANSPORTATION COSTS TO CHINA: U.S. vs. BRAZIL



## **RECENT NEWS HEADLINES**

## China investment in Brazil hit seven-year high in 2017

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-chinainvestment/china-investment-in-brazil-hit-sevenyear-high-in-2017-idUSKBN1F7387

## Brazil wants China to invest in its infrastructure

https://finance.yahoo.com/news/brazil-wantschina-invest-infrastructure-194842132.html

#### China to invest \$50bn in Brazil infrastructure

https://www.bbc.com/news/business-32747454

## AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE IMPERATIVE

- Higher and consistent inland waterway investment is needed to ensure the longterm prosperity of U.S. agriculture
- The Navigation & Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP) is essential for the competitiveness of the heartland corridor – its Pre-construction Engineering & Design (PED) funding is necessary before construction can begin. Pending PED funding for NESP is timesensitive.

# **Increased Investment Leads to Stronger Economy for Decades**

Potential Investments	River State	River Mile	Amount (\$Million)			
NAVIGATION & ECOSYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM (NESP) PROJECTS - AWAITING CONSTRUCTION						
LaGrange Lock	Illinois River/IL	80	\$361.3			
Peoria Lock	Illinois River/IL	158	\$362.5			
Upper Mississippi River Lock and Dam 20	Mississippi River/MO	343	\$326.3			
Upper Mississippi River Lock and Dam 21	Mississippi River/MO	325	\$454.2			
Upper Mississippi River Lock and Dam 22	Mississippi River/MO	301	\$376.6			
Upper Mississippi River Lock and Dam 24	Mississippi River/MO	273	\$438.3			
Upper Mississippi River Lock and Dam 25	Mississippi River/MO	241	\$548.5			
PROJECTS AWAITING CONSTRUCTION						
Brazos High Island	Gulf Intracoastal Waterway/TX		\$17.6			
Brazos River to Port O'Connor	Gulf Intracoastal Waterway/TX		\$22.2			
Calcasieu Lock	Gulf Intracoastal Waterway/TX	63	\$16.9			
Dashields Lock	Ohio River/PA	13	\$808.7			
Dredging Lower-Mississippi River to 50ft	Mississippi River/LA		\$159.1			
Emsworth Lock	Ohio River/PA	6	\$744.4			
Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Lock	Mississippi River/LA	63	\$1,009.9			
Montgomery Lock	Ohio River/PA	32	\$362.5			
MAJOR REHABILITATION PROJECTS						
Brandon Road Lock	Illinois River/IL	286	\$69.2			
Dresden Island	Illinois River/IL	271.5	\$50.5			
Greenup Lock	Ohio River/OH & KY	341	\$55.0			
J.T. Myers Lock	Ohio River/IN & KY	846	\$45.2			
Starved Rock	Illinois River/IL	231	\$30.3			
TJ O'Brien	Illinois River/IL	327	\$47.0			
TOTAL			\$6,306			

The projects and costs listed above are based on the USACE's 2016 Capital Investment Strategy

## Economic Impact of Corn and Soybean Exports by State



State Economic Impact of U.S. Corn and Soybean Production Destined to Export, in Proximity to the Navigable Waterways on the Mississippi River System, 2016 Depicted in Map

# Waterways Benefits by State

State	Commodity	Employment	GDP (\$ Million)	Sales (\$ Million)
Arkansas	Corn	1,171	49.1	154.8
	Soybean	7,805	746.4	1,433.4
	Total	8,976	795.6	1,588.2
Illinois	Corn	8,684	622.5	1,880.5
	Soybean	9,960	1,062.8	2,946.7
	Total	18,644	1,685.3	4,827.2
Indiana	Corn	1,654	96.8	291.6
	Soybean	4,377	454.8	1,036.7
	Total	6,031	551.6	1,328.3
lowa	Corn	812	68.5	221.8
	Soybean	10,137	1,408.0	3,038.2
	Total	10,949	1,476.6	3,260.0
Kentucky	Corn	2,599	80.8	271.7
	Soybean	4,604	294.5	708.7
	Total	7,203	375.3	980.3
Louisiana	Soybean	3,471	255.9	552.8
	Total	3,471	255.9	552.8
Minnesota	Corn	1,317	90.4	281.9
	Soybean	5,583	667.9	1,446.4
	Total	6,900	758.3	1,728.2
Mississippi	Corn	1,129	47.7	148.1
	Soybean	5,234	478.0	946.3
	Total	6,364	525.7	1,094.4
Missouri	Corn	1,267	50.4	171.3
	Soybean	8,280	566.6	1,564.9
	Total	9,547	617.0	1,736.3
Ohio	Corn	381	16.5	49.9
	Soybean	4,861	327.2	882.2
	Total	5,242	343.6	932.1
Tennessee	Corn	1,284	34.9	102.5
	Soybean	4,876	221.1	595.7
	Total	6,160	255.9	698.3
Wisconsin	Corn	72	3.7	11.0
	Soybean	4,097	387.7	830.8
	Total	4,170	391.3	841.7

State Economic Impact of U.S. Corn and Soybean Production Destined to Export, in Proximity to the Navigable Waterways on the Mississippi River System, 2016 Depicted in Table