*Continuing Authorities Program.-*The various sections of the Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) provide a useful tool for the Corps to undertake small projects without the lengthy study and authorization process typical of most larger Corps projects. The agreement includes a total of $53,000,000 spread over eight CAP sections, rather than $29,000,000 spread over five CAP sections as proposed in the budget request. These funds should be expended for the purposes for which they were appropriated and should be executed as quickly as possible.

*Continuing Authorities Program Direction.-Management* of the Continuing Authorities Program should continue consistent with direction provided in fiscal year 2012. The direction is restated here for **convenience.**

For each CAP section, available funds shall be allocated utilizing this sequence of steps until the funds are exhausted:

---<capability-level funds for ongoing projects that have executed cost-sharing agreements for the applicable phase;

---<capability-level funds for projects that are ready for execution of new cost-sharing agreements for the applicable phase and for which Corps headquarters authorizes execution of the agreements; -funds, as permitted by Corps policies, for other projects previously funded for the applicable phase but not ready for execution of new cost-sharing agreements; and -funds, as permitted by Corps policies, for projects not previously funded for the applicable

phase.

Funds shall be allocated by headquarters to the appropriate Field Operating Agency (FOA) for projects requested by that FOA. If the FOA finds that the study/project for which funds were requested cannot go forward, the funds are to be returned to Corps headquarters to be reallocated based on the nationwide priority listing. In no case should the FOA retain these funds for use on a different project than the one for which the funds were requested without the explicit approval of the Corps' headquarters. Within the step at which available funds are exhausted for each CAP section, funds shall be allocated to the projects in that section that rank high according to the following factors: high overall performance based on outputs; high percent fiscally complete; and high unobligated carry-in. Section 14 funds shall be allocated to the projects that address the most significant risks and adverse consequences, irrespective of phase or previous funding history.

The Corps shall continue the ongoing process for suspending and terminating inactive projects. Suspended projects shall not be reactivated or funded unless the sponsor reaffirms in writing its support for the project and establishes its willingness and capability to execute its project responsibilities.

In order to provide a mix of studies, design, and construction within each CAP section, the Corps is directed to divide the funding generally 80/20 between the Design and Implementation and the Feasibility phases within each authority. The Chief of Engineers shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act detailing how funds will be distributed to the individual items in the various CAP sections for the fiscal year. The Chief shall also provide an annual report at the end of each fiscal year detailing the progress made on the backlog of projects. The report should include the completions and terminations as well as progress of ongoing work.

The Corps may initiate new continuing authorities projects in all sections as funding allows. New projects may be initiated after an assessment is made that such projects can be funded over time based on historical averages of the appropriation for that section and after prior approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.