

Ecosystem Restoration Program & Budgeting Development



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Webinar Objectives



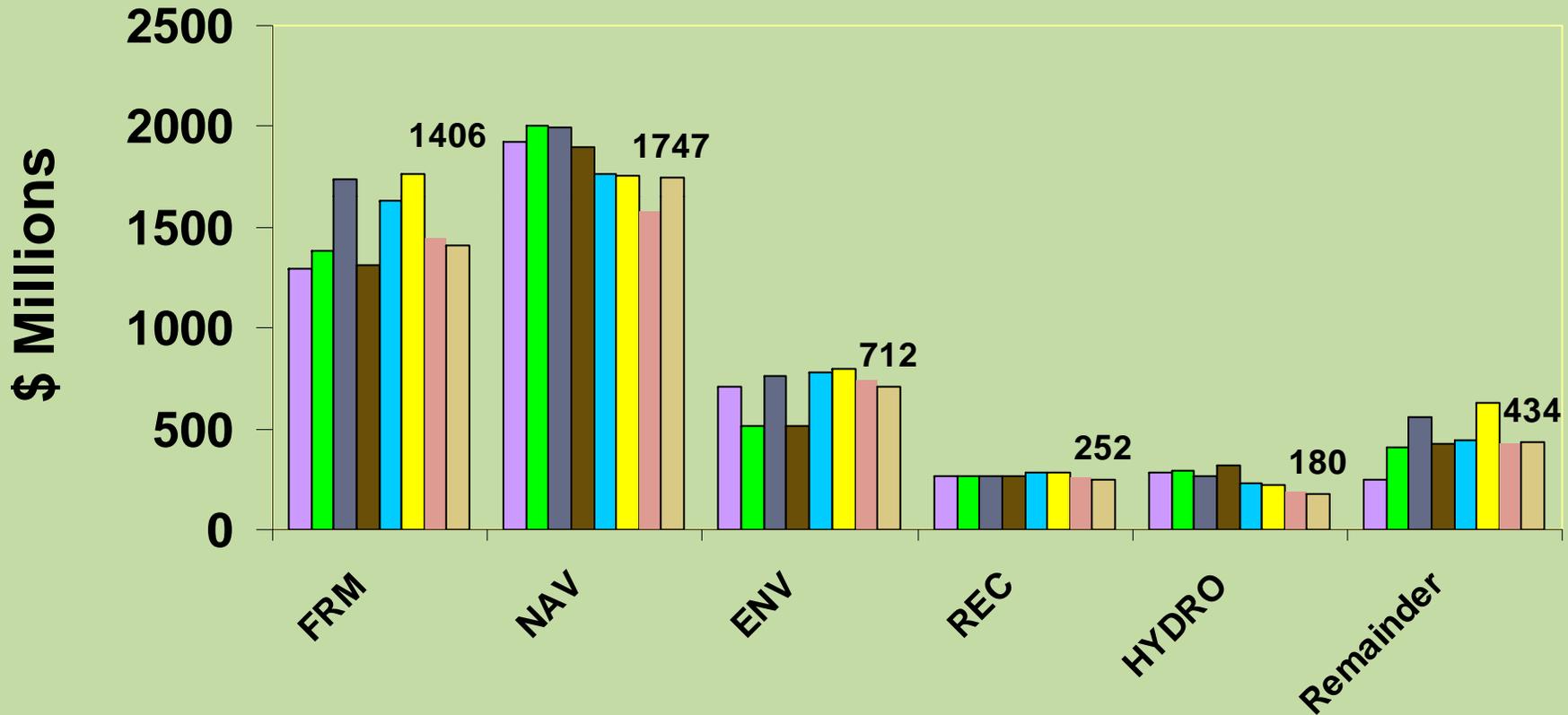
- **Discuss the ENR Program**
- **Explain the ENR Budget Development Process**
- **Discuss how PDT and team members help develop better ENR projects and project justifications**

Business Program Structure (Business Lines)



- **Navigation – Deep Draft and Inland**
- **Flood Risk Reduction – Riverine and Coastal**
- **Environment**
 - Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration
 - Environmental Stewardship
 - Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)
- **Hydropower**
- **Recreation**
- **Water Supply**
- **Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies**
- **Regulatory Program**

Funding by Business Program



Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Business Line

- Comprises 70-75% of the total Environmental Budget*
- ~ 10-12% of the Corps Budget*
- Within the ENR Budget (President's Budget FY13)
 - 512M (10.8%)
 - ✦ 31M for Investigations (6%)
 - ✦ 464M for Construction (91%)
 - ✦ 14M for O&M (3%)
 - ✦ 2M MR&T (<1%)

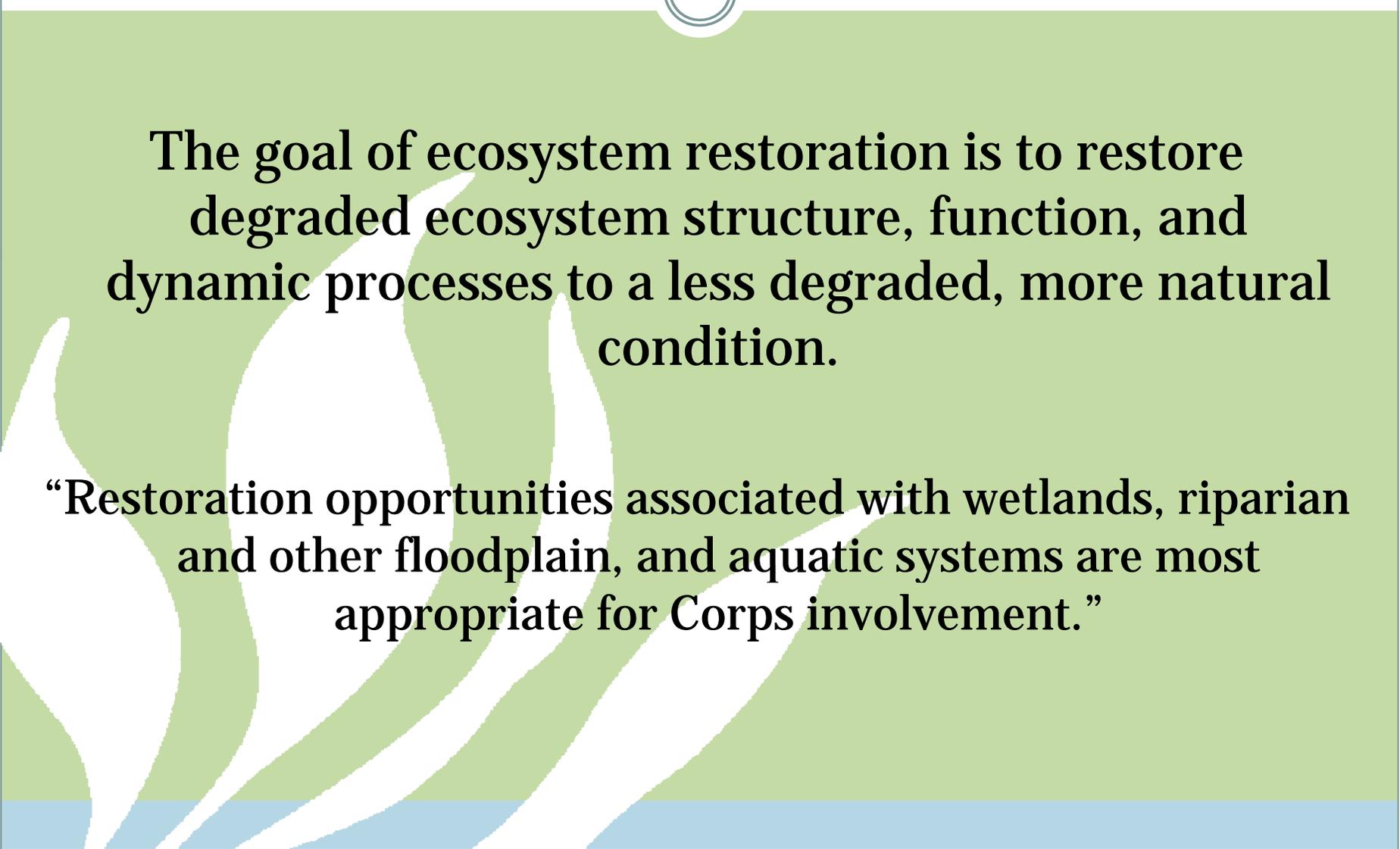
* Using President's Budget FY12 and FY13

Ecosystem Restoration Goal



The goal of ecosystem restoration is to restore degraded ecosystem structure, function, and dynamic processes to a less degraded, more natural condition.

“Restoration opportunities associated with wetlands, riparian and other floodplain, and aquatic systems are most appropriate for Corps involvement.”



Performance Based Budgeting



- 1993 - Government Performance and Results Act
- 2001 - President's Management Agenda
- 2003 – OMB Guidance
- Limited resources
- Maximize benefit to the Nation

Program Development Concepts



- **TRADITIONAL APPROACH:**

- By account (GI, CG, O&M)
- Geographic balance considered
- Funding shortages spread across nearly all activities

- **BUDGETING BY PERFORMANCE:**

- By business program (nav, flood, env, etc.)
- Funding distributed based on outcomes
- Highest priority work funded at an efficient rate
- Lower priority work may be deferred, even if already started

Budget Guidance



- **EC 11-2-202**
 - Primary ecosystem restoration guidance: Appendix C, Sub-Appendix C-2
 - Ecosystem Restoration Spread Sheet: Illustration C-2-1

<https://corpsinfo.usace.army.mil/cw/ec/ec.htm>

For now it can be found at

http://140.194.76.129/publications/eng-circulars/EC_11-2-202/

Ecosystem Restoration Performance Criteria

- Scored Criteria
 - **Habitat Scarcity**
 - **Connectivity**
 - **Special Status Species**
 - Hydrologic Character
 - Geomorphic Condition
 - **Plan Recognition**
 - Self-Sustaining
- To show National Significance projects must have the maximum score for Habitat Scarcity, Connectivity, and Special Status Species and at least 2nd highest score for Plan Recognition
- To show Regional Significance projects must have at least 2nd highest score for Habitat Scarcity, Connectivity, Special Status Species, and Plan Recognition

Habitat Scarcity



Scoring based upon trend information and relative abundance

- 25 points – Nationally scarce and becoming scarcer
- 18 points – Regionally scarce and becoming scarcer
- 10 points - Nationally scarce and important habitat; can include broad habitat classifications
- 5 points – Other declining habitat
- 0 points – Stable at natural levels or improving beyond natural levels

*Must be demonstrated by Federal, regional, state/tribal report or scientific publications

Connectivity



Scoring based upon connecting important habitat pockets to facilitate movement of native species

- 25 points – Makes critical direct physical connection between existing habitat areas or establishes a network of interconnected habitat
- 18 points – Creates a nodal connection between existing habitat areas
- 10 points – Restores suitability of existing connection; expands functional area within splintered migratory corridor or home range; provides as an important scarce habitat
- 5 points – Provides large expansion to existing habitat
- 0 points – Isolated unit

Special Status Species



Scoring based upon significant contribution to key life requisites for species of concern

- 10 points – Restores habitat within area of influence which completes or adds to life requisites for Federally listed or candidate T&E species
- 5 points - Restores habitat within area of influence which completes or adds to life requisites for species covered by international treaty
- 3 points - Provides habitat within area of influence which completes or adds to life requisites for State listed or candidate species
- 0 points – No contribution

Hydrologic Character



Scoring recognizes the importance of appropriate hydrology in maintaining the ecological functions or aquatic systems

- 20 points – Fully restores the natural hydrology
- 15 points – Partially restores the natural hydrology
- 10 points – Hydrologic impairment doesn't exist or already restored to best attainable condition, but remains a limiting factor
- 5 points – Some elements of the hydrology are restored, but most conditions for natural hydrology not attained
- 0 points – Does not address hydrologic restoration

Geomorphic Condition



Scoring relates to the establishment of suitable structure and physical processes for successful restoration

- 20 points – Fully restores the natural or attainable geomorphic processes/form including appropriate diversity and dynamics
- 15 points – Restores key geomorphic processes and system is expected to recover full ecological function
- 10 points – Geomorphic impairment does not exist or already restored to best attainable condition, but remains a limiting factor
- 5 points – Form is restored, but key processes remain degraded or non-functional
- 0 points – Does not address geomorphic restoration

Plan Recognition



Scores based upon contribution to watershed or basin plans

- 10 points – Contributes to multi-agency comprehensive watershed/basin plan which is Federal priority as demonstrated in laws or specifically authorized programs
- 5 points - Contributes to multi-agency regional watershed/basin plan
- 2 points - Contributes to State/Tribal or local watershed or basin plan
- 0 points – No contribution to any collaborative comprehensive watershed or basin plan

Self-Sustaining



Goal is self-sustaining ecosystem consisting of natural processes

Scored based upon cost of average annual O&M per acre

- 20 points – Average annual O&M < \$15
 - 10 points - \$15 < Average annual O&M < \$100
 - 0 points - Average annual O&M > \$100
-
- Required only for PED and construction phases

Other Considerations for Ranking



- National Priorities
- Physical scale of restoration
- Cost
- Phase – recon, feasibility, PED, construction, or O&M
- Relation to other project purposes if multipurpose
- Watershed Status
- Status of cost sharing agreements

Watershed Studies



- **Key Attributes -**
- **Study area is complete 8-digit HUC watershed**
- **Study is multi-objective/multi-purpose**
- **Expected result is watershed management plan – implementation is not substantially dependent on Congressional authorization**

The Road to the Budget



District PM



District BLM



Division BLM



HQ BLM



ASA



OMB



Telling Your Best Story



- The further you get away from your District the more folks rely on what they read vs. what they know
 - Good narratives are important
- Most Packages are put together by the PM
 - They don't always know the literature, or the tell the best story
- The best submissions usually involved the PDT in their development.
- J-sheets
 - Make sure your J sheets reflect your submission
 - Incorrect J-sheets can undermine your credibility
 - Worst case it gets your project kicked out

Building the Best Projects



- Start during the Planning Phase
- Understand the Budget Ranking Process
 - Get a recent copy of the Budget Guidance EC 11-2-202
 - <https://corpsinfo.usace.army.mil/cw/ec/ec.htm>
- Realize that eventually your project will compete with other projects for funding
- Budgets are largely based on significance criteria, H&H, and geomorphology – These are the same elements of most successful ER projects (and good planning documents)
- Consider the ranking criteria during plan formulation

Who are your Business Line Managers?



- Rennie Sherman - HQ
 - Hank Jarboe - LRD
 - Brian Johnson - MVD
 - Roselle Henn - NAD
 - Bob Willis - NWD
 - Helen Stupplebeen - POD
 - Mike Magley - SAD
 - Nedenia Kennedy - SPD
 - Ken Conley - SWD
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Questions?



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