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[Omnibus agreement reached, expected to pass by end of week](#)

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Early this morning, Congress completed negotiations on the FY2016 omnibus bill, the [Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016](#). The bill, which provides \$5.989B to the Corps of Engineers, is expected to clear Congress by the end of the week. A short-term continuing resolution is expected between today and Friday, while the House Rules Committee looks at the bill and floor debate takes place prior to passage.

The Omnibus' \$5.989B for the Corps is \$534M over FY2015 enacted levels and \$1.257B over the President's FY2016 budget request. Specific account funding levels include \$1.862B for Construction General (CG), \$121M for General Investigations (GI), \$3.137B for Operations & Maintenance (O&M) and \$200M for the Corps' regulatory program. A total of \$2.6B was included for the Corps' Navigation Program, including full use of estimated Inland Waterways Trust Fund (IWTF) revenues and hitting WRRDA 2014's target of \$1.22B from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF).

With regard to [PNWA supported projects](#), each was funded at the same level we saw in the President's FY2016 budget request. We are very pleased to report that Congress included robust "additional funding" for deep-draft, inland and small ports. The Corps will have 60 days to put together a work plan allocating this additional funding, and PNWA will be working hard during that time to ensure Northwest projects receive as much funding as possible in this process. PNWA staff gathers information on the importance features of every project, and provides this information to the Corps. A comparison of the proposed amounts in the House and Senate bills as well as the final numbers in the Omnibus are as follows:

	House proposal	Senate proposal	Omnibus
O&M: Donor & Energy Transfer ports		\$50,000,000	\$25,000,000
O&M: Navigation Maintenance		\$33,346,000	\$25,529,000
O&M Deep Draft	\$234,000,000	\$135,000,000	\$250,000,000
O&M Inland Waterways	\$42,000,000	\$45,000,000	\$45,000,000
O&M Small Ports	\$45,500,000	\$50,000,000	\$48,000,000
O&M Other Authorized Purposes	\$35,100,000	\$20,000,000	\$35,100,000
GI: Navigation	\$4,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,304,000
GI: Deep Draft/Coastal		\$5,031,000	\$5,000,000
GI: Inland		\$1,000,000	\$5,000,000
GI: Small Ports		\$1,158,000	
GI: Flood & Storm Damage Reduction	\$6,500,000	\$2,000,000	\$5,000,000
GI: Flood Control		\$1,000,000	\$4,000,000
GI: Environmental Restoration or Compliance		\$500,000	\$1,500,000
GI: Other Authorized Purposes	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,340,000
CG: Navigation	\$49,500,000	\$112,305,000	\$211,200,000
CG IWTF Projects	\$108,000,000	\$108,600,000	\$55,000,000
CG: Flood & Storm Damage Reduction	\$136,117,000	\$60,000,000	\$185,118,000
CG: Flood Control	\$105,000,000	\$50,000,000	\$125,000,000
CG: Other Authorized Purposes	\$10,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$48,000,000

Other notable items in the Omnibus include:

- \$7M in funding for the Corps' Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) Section 107. This is an important account for those seeking additional stern buoys on the Lower Columbia River.
- Prohibited funding for instituting revisions to the Principles & Guidelines (P&Gs). Congress continues to express concern over the effort to revise the P&Gs, and requires continued use of the 1983 version of the document. The P&Gs guide Corps planning activity. PNWA has worked with the National Waterways Conference over the years to support continued use of the 1983 version of the P&Gs until the document is updated per the provisions included in WRDA 2007.
- \$500M for the TIGER Grant Program. This is equal to the FY2015 enacted levels, to support national infrastructure investments.
- \$50M for Diesel Emissions Reduction Grants (DERA), with 70% of the funds dedicated to improving air quality in areas with the highest levels of pollution.
- \$100M for the Department of Homeland Security's Port Security Grant Program.

PNWA is continuing to go through the legislation and will provide additional information as available. If you have any questions, please contact [Heather Stebbings](#).

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