

# Storms, Flooding & Sea Level Defense 2025

November 19

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**WATERWAYS**  
COUNCIL, INC.

“Status of Inland Waterways, Lock & Dam Repairs & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Funding Projections”



# WATERWAYS

COUNCIL, INC.

WCI advocates through a coalition of members for a modern, efficient, reliable inland waterways transportation system. WCI is the only national organization exclusively focused upon issues related to navigation infrastructure (locks and dams) modernization on the inland waterways.

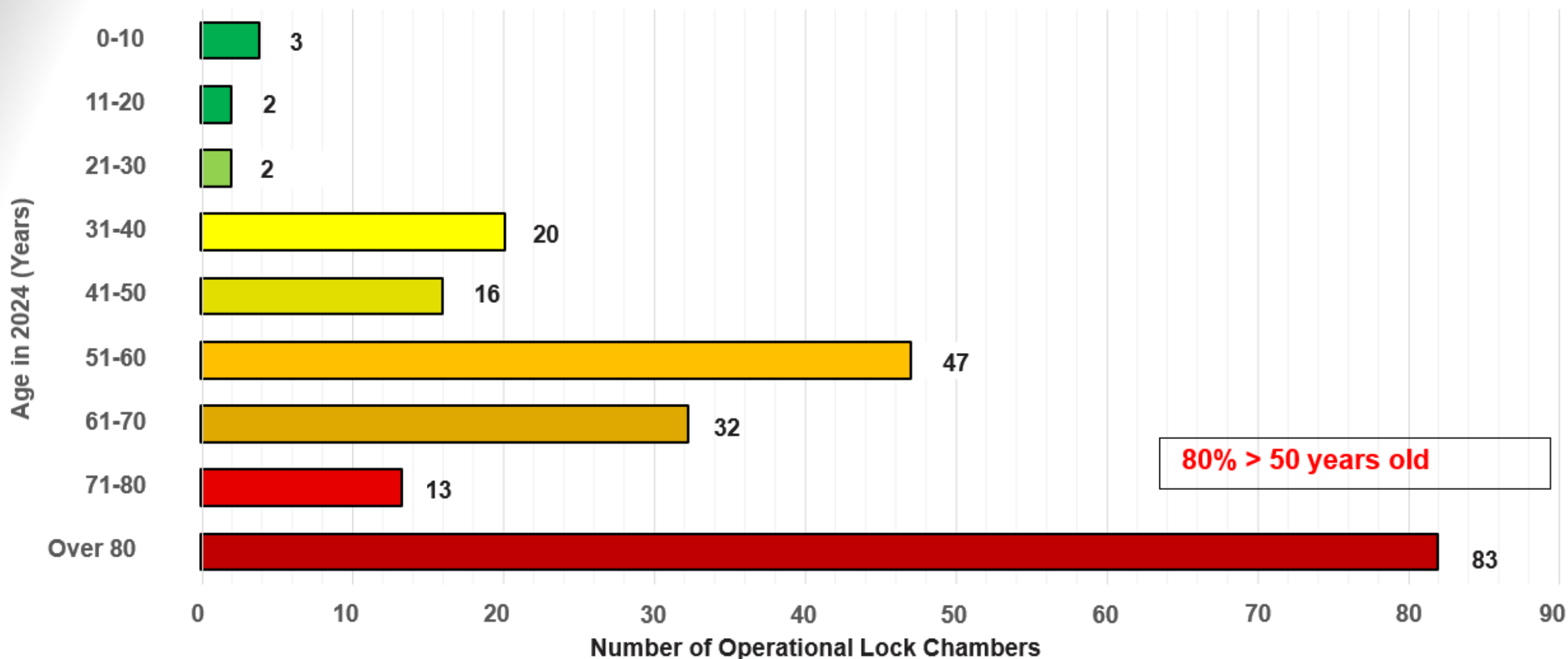
- Towboat operators
- Agriculture producers
- Manufacturers
- Energy providers
- Other Shippers (chemicals, aggregates, large cargoes, etc.)
- Organized Labor
- Conservation members
- Ports





U.S. ARMY

# Corps Locks – Age in 2024\*



\*Includes all operational inland and coastal Corps and TVA navigation locks; excludes control structures.

# Cost Overruns and Schedule Slippages

| Project                | Year Authorized | Authorized Cost | 1 <sup>st</sup> Year of Construction \$ | Current Estimated Cost | Percentage Increase | Date Operational |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Lower Mon 2,3, 4       | 1992            | \$556.4 million | FY 1995                                 | \$1.23 billion         | 121.6%              | December, 2024   |
| Kentucky Lock          | 1996            | \$393.2 million | FY 1999                                 | \$1.56 billion         | 297%                | July, 2029       |
| Chickamauga Lock       | 2003            | \$267.2 million | FY 2004                                 | \$954.4 million        | 257.2%              | November, 2027   |
| MKARNS 12-Foot Channel | 2004            | \$158.4 million | FY 2009                                 | \$1.02 Billion         | 543.9%              | TBD              |
| L/D 25                 | 2007            | \$626 million   | FY 22 (IIJA)                            | \$2.26 Billion         | 261%                | October, 2034    |
| Montgomery             | 2016            | \$782.2 million | FY 22 (IIJA)                            | \$1.69 billion         | 116.1%              | October, 2032    |
| Three Rivers           | 2018            | \$184.4 million | FY 22 (IIJA)                            | \$333.7 million        | 80.9%               | September, 2026  |
| GIWW – Brazos          | 2020            | \$158.1 million | TBD                                     | \$260 million*         | 64%                 | TBD              |

**12,000 MILES  
IN 28 STATES**

219 LOCKS AT 176 SITES

ABOUT  
**500 MILLION  
ANNUAL TONS**

VALUED AT \$186 BILLION

**65% OF  
GRAIN EXPORTS**

MOVE ON OUR RIVER SYSTEM

# **TODAY'S U.S. INLAND WATERWAYS SYSTEM**

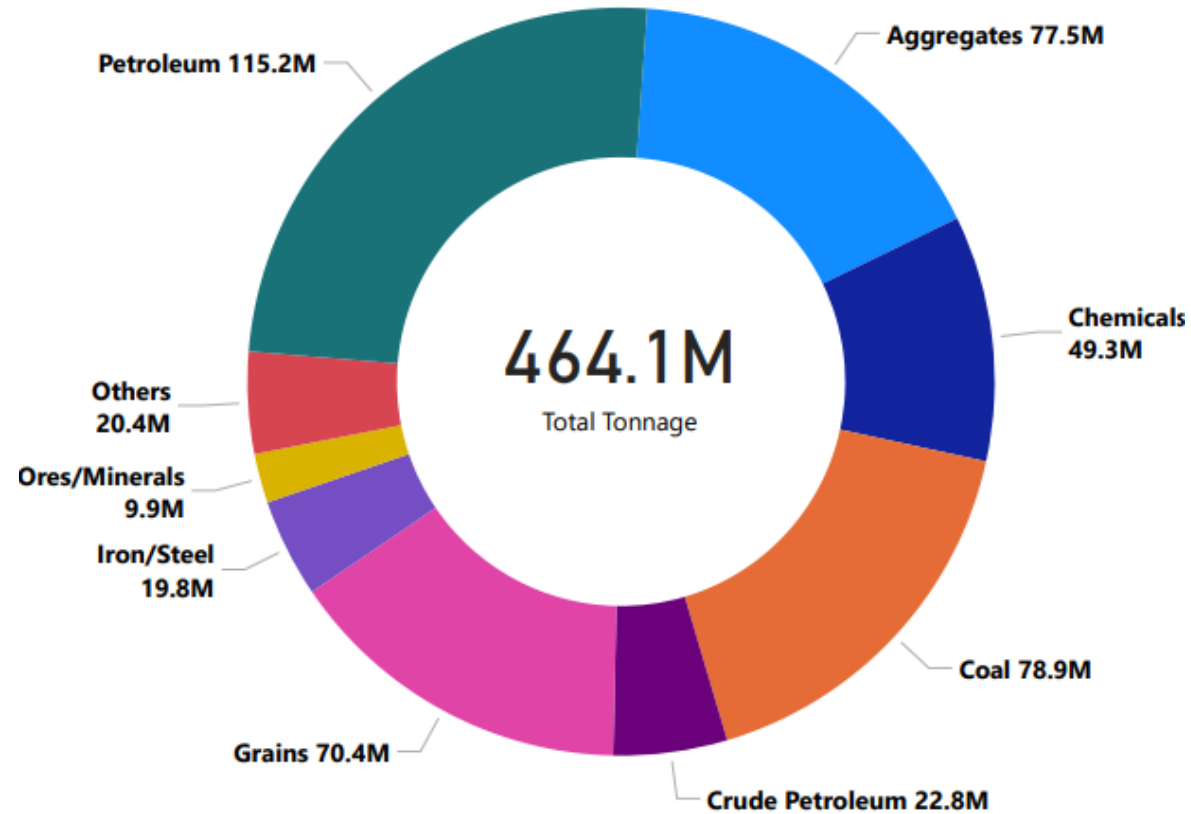
**A CRITICAL PART OF THE TRANSPORTATION SUPPLY CHAIN**

AS MANY AS  
**540,000 JOBS**

DEPEND ON INLAND NAVIGATION

**SAFEST, MOST  
ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY  
AND ENERGY-EFFICIENT**

MODE OF SURFACE TRANSPORTATION



# What's Moving on the Inland Waterways?

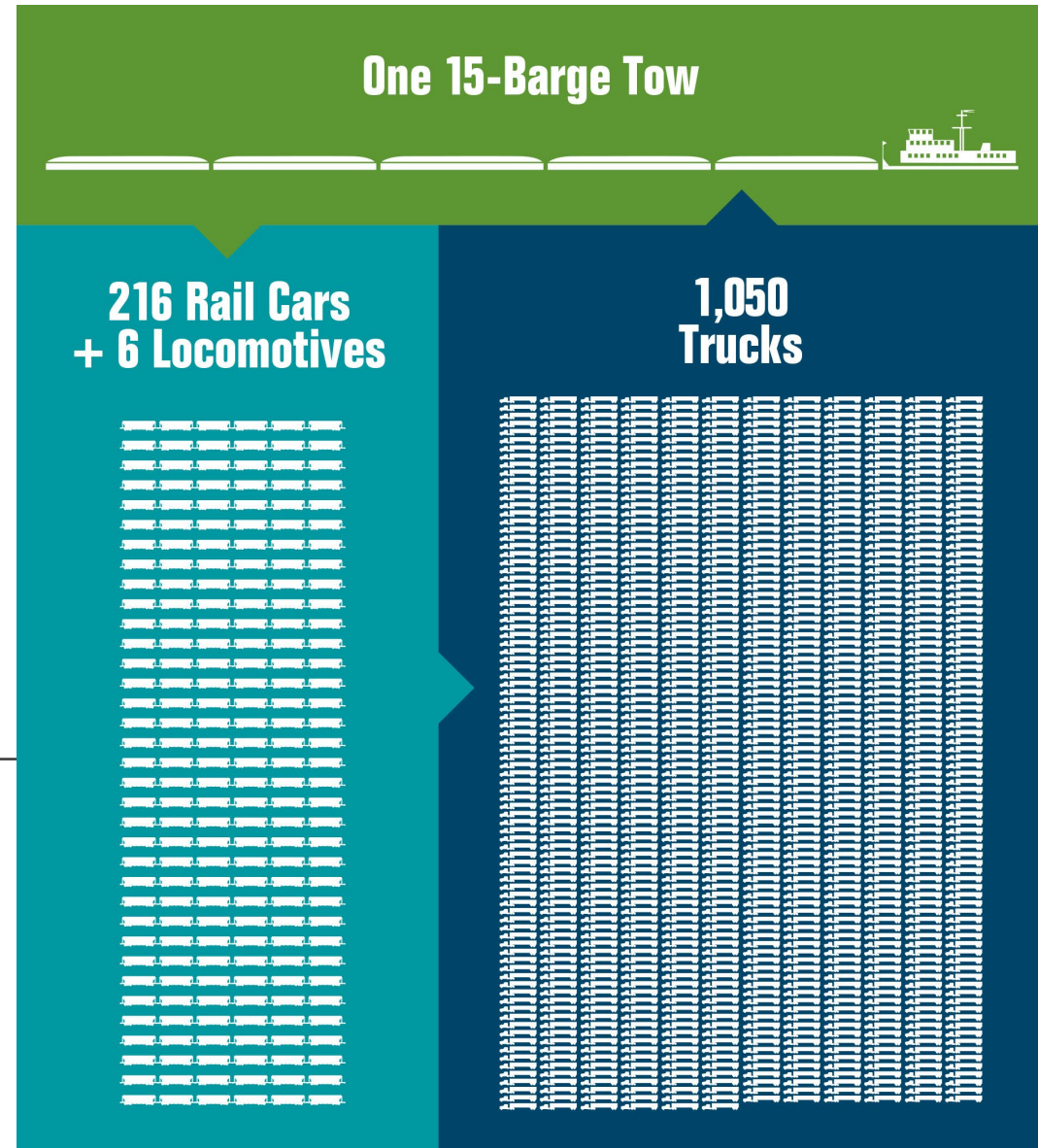
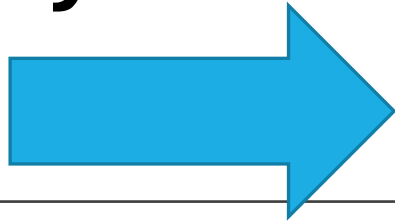
# Nashville Petroleum Trend

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| Gasoline and Ethanol                        |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
|---------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                                             | CY<br>2014 | CY<br>2015 | CY<br>2016 | CY<br>2017 | CY<br>2018 | CY<br>2019 | CY<br>2021 | CY<br>2022 | CY<br>2023 | CY<br>2024 |
| Middle<br>TN<br>Market<br>Share by<br>Barge | <2%        | 2-<br>10%  | 10-<br>20% | >25%       | >40%       | >45%       | >40%       | >40%       | >55%       | >60%       |

Source of estimates: Corps of Engineers Lock Performance Monitoring System

**Inland waterways  
reduce congestion  
on our highways  
and railways....**



# INLAND WATERWAYS ARE CRITICAL TO AGRICULTURE

USDA study: “A Reliable Waterway System Is Important to Agriculture” (April 2025)

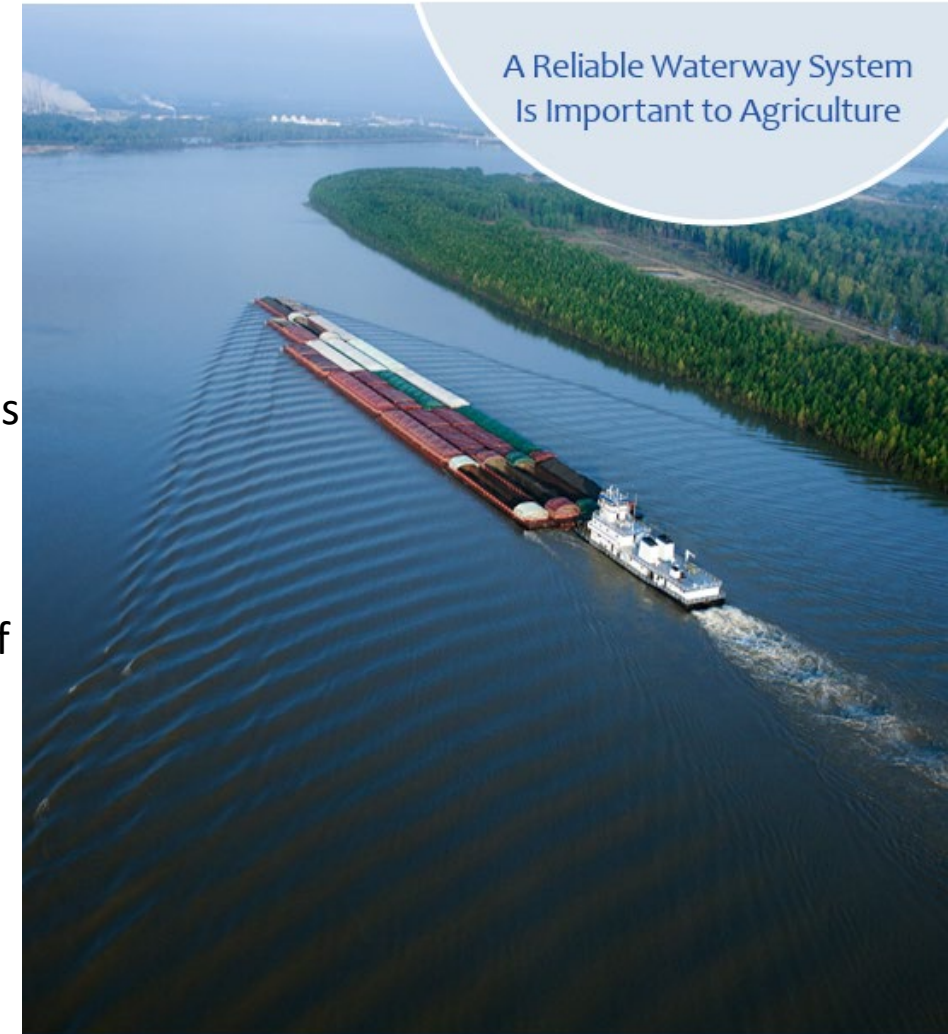
- In FY25, agricultural exports are forecast to reach \$170.5 billion; imports are forecast to reach \$219.5 billion.<sup>2</sup> In CY22, U.S. agricultural exports of \$197.4 billion generated an additional \$214.6 billion in economic activity, for a total of \$412.0 billion in economic output and supported 1.25 million jobs.
- This = 6,300 jobs for every \$1 billion of agricultural products exported.
- The farm sector’s share of the income supported by agricultural exports was 35.7 percent.<sup>3</sup> In 2024, 144.2 million metric tons (mmt) of agricultural exports, up 20 percent from 2023, and 63.1 mmt of agricultural imports, up 11 percent from 2023, were waterborne.

## USDA’s Transportation of U.S. Grain, A Modal Share Analysis, 1984-2022 Update shows:

- Barges moved 44% of grain exports in 2022, and railroads moved 45%.
- Barges moved 48% of corn, 48% of soybeans, and 32% of wheat destined for export.
- Railroads moved 44% of corn, 38% of soybeans, and 58% of wheat to all export locations.

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

A Reliable Waterway System  
Is Important to Agriculture

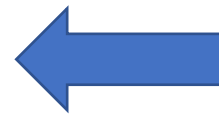


A publication of the Agricultural Marketing Service • [www.ams.usda.gov/services/transportation-analysis](http://www.ams.usda.gov/services/transportation-analysis) • APRIL 2025



**Around 65% of U.S. export grain moves on the inland waterways**

# The inland waterways continue to play an important national defense role.

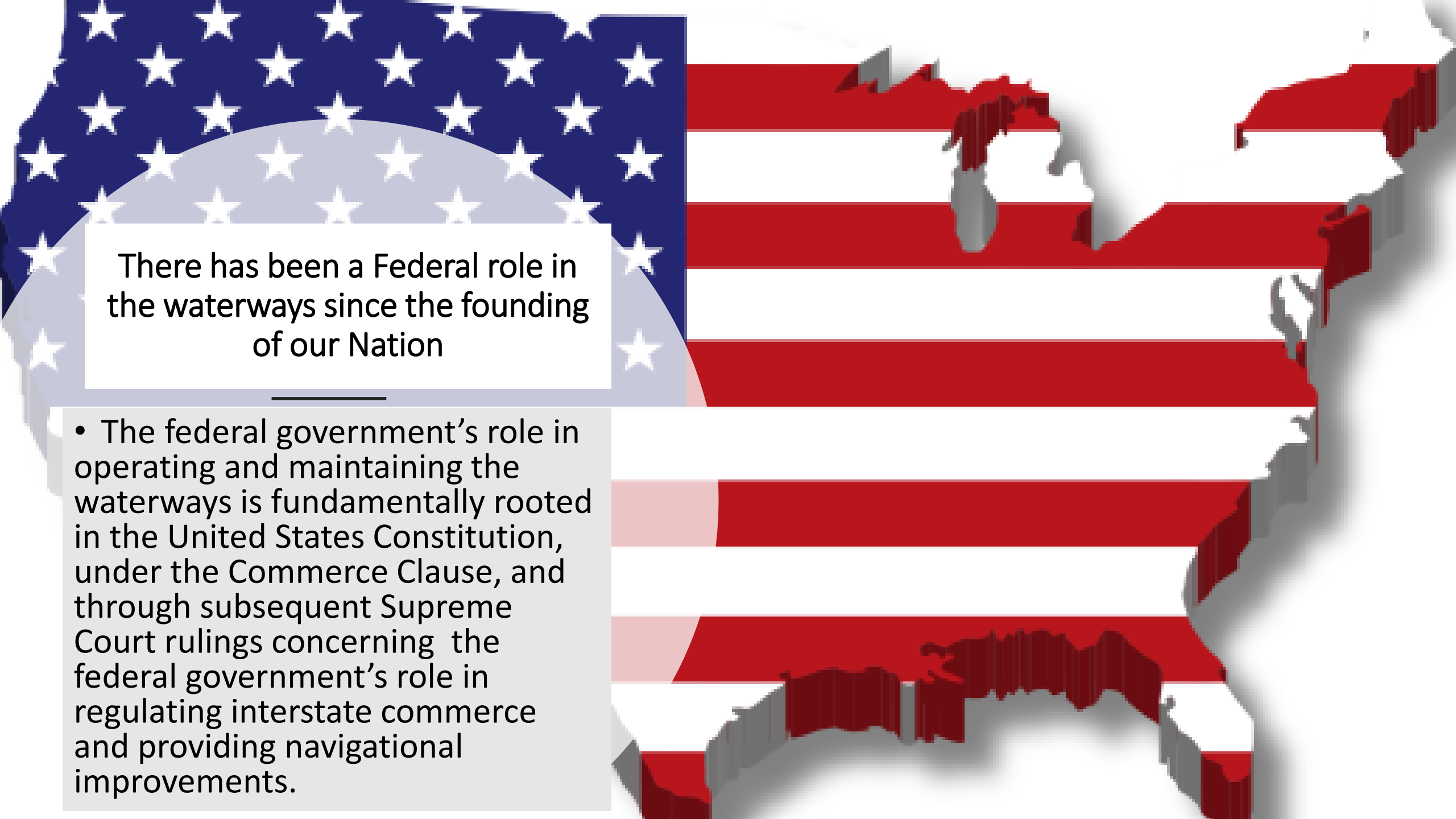


Illinois Army National Guard 1st Battalion, 106th Aviation Regiment deployment by barge from Peoria, Illinois to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana and return. 114 vehicles and aircraft support equipment were transported via the Illinois, Mississippi, and Red Rivers on 13 May 1999 and again on 15 Apr 2000. This was the largest known military movement by inland waterways on record since the Civil War.

*Photo by CW2 David Hammon*



***Military equipment transits  
Kentucky Lock, 2018***



There has been a Federal role in  
the waterways since the founding  
of our Nation

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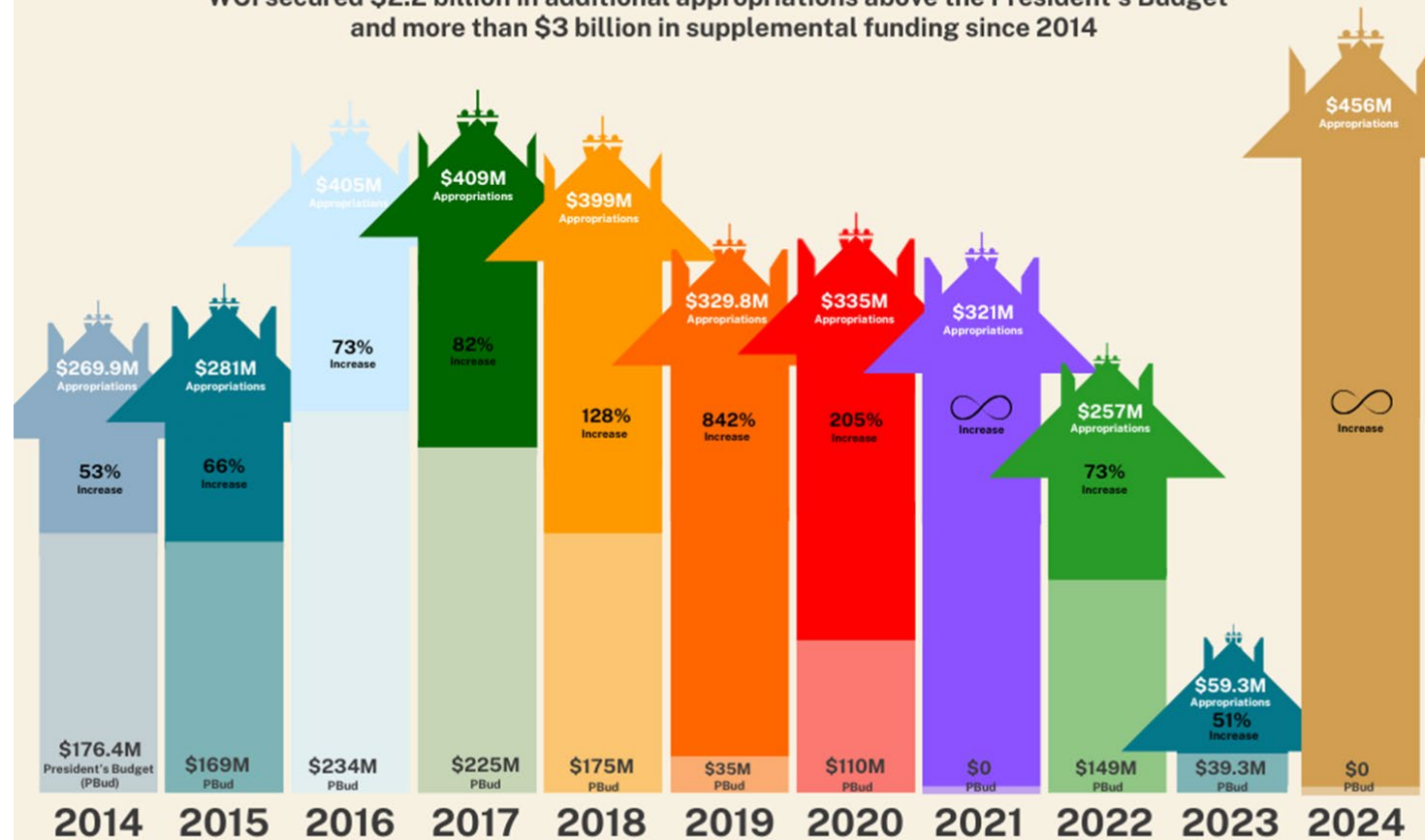
- The federal government's role in operating and maintaining the waterways is fundamentally rooted in the United States Constitution, under the Commerce Clause, and through subsequent Supreme Court rulings concerning the federal government's role in regulating interstate commerce and providing navigational improvements.

# Inland Waterways Funding

## More than \$5 Billion - Delivered.

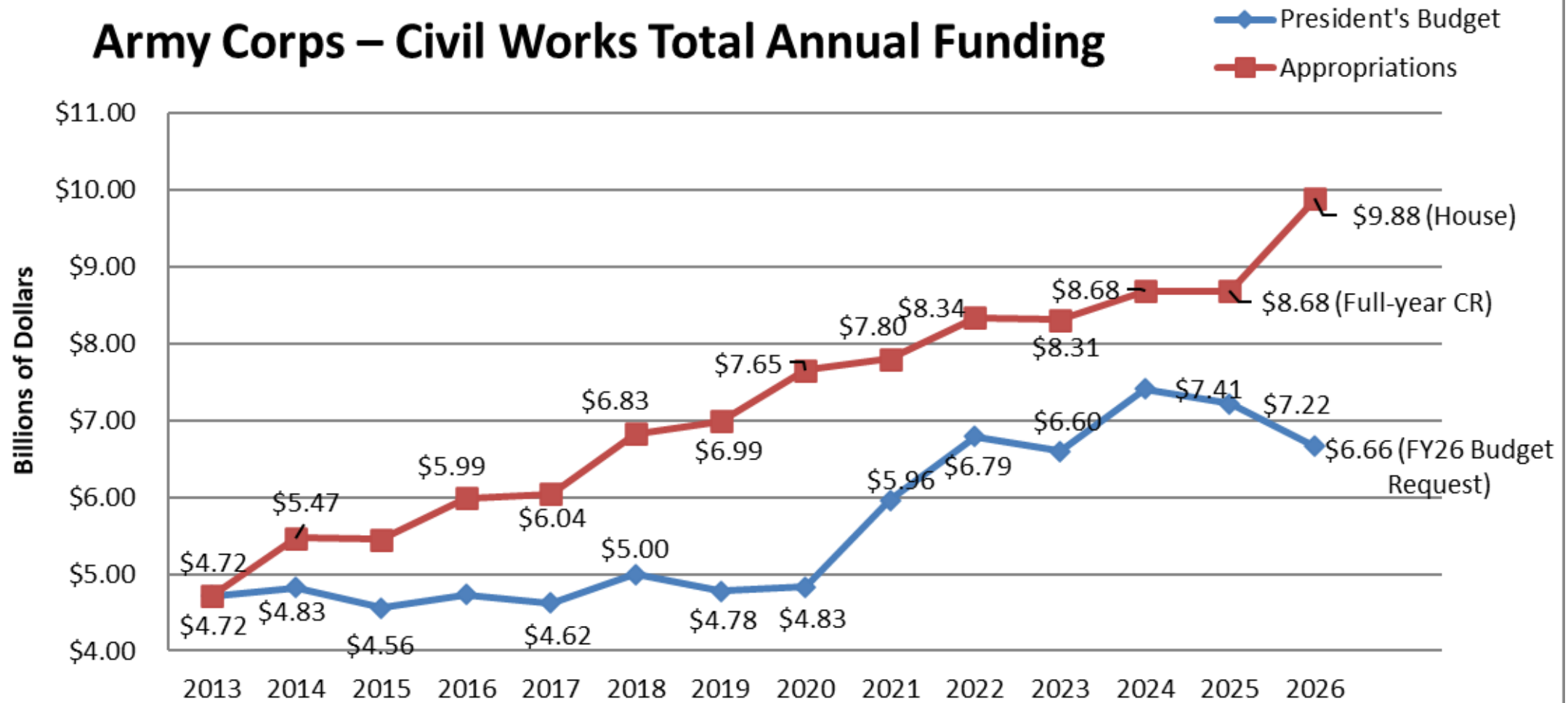
Annual Funding for Construction and Major Rehab Projects on Our Inland Waterways

WCI secured \$2.2 billion in additional appropriations above the President's Budget\* and more than \$3 billion in supplemental funding since 2014



\*Annual Energy & Water Appropriations, in millions of dollars

## Army Corps – Civil Works Total Annual Funding



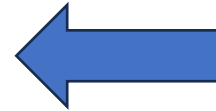
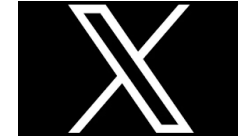


THANK YOU  
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COUNCIL, INC.

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**Text LOCKS to  
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