GREAT LAKES AND MISSISSIPPI RIVER INTERBASIN STUDY

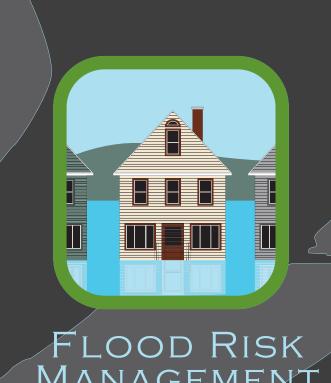


SPECIES





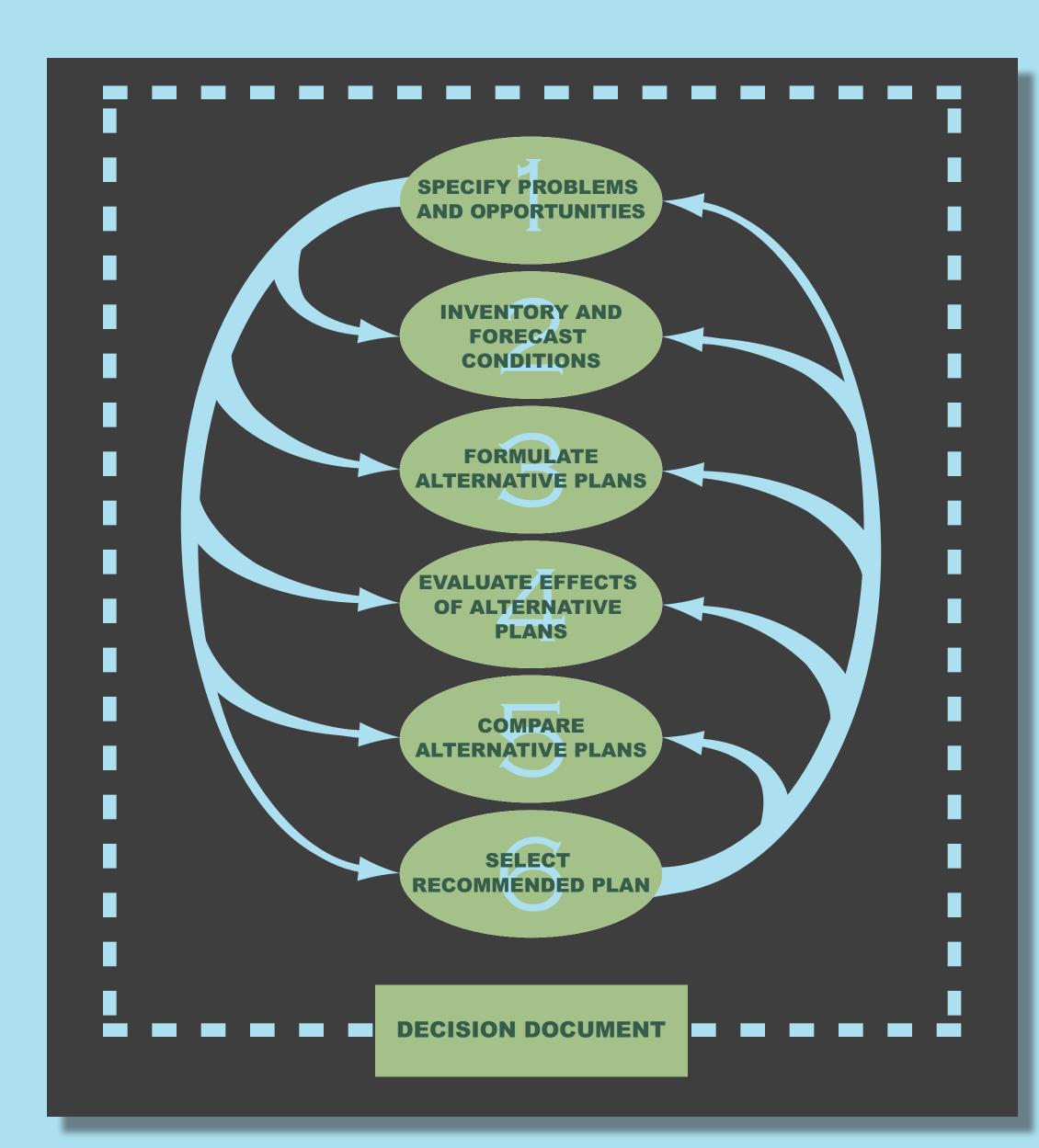






## Principles and Guidelines

GLMRIS follows the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Planning Process - a six-step iterative process defined in the Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies, U.S. Water Resources



Council, 1983. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers planning process is a structured approach to problem-solving and provides a rational framework for sound decision-making.

## Multi-purpose Evaluation Process

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will evaluate the benefits, costs, and impacts of alternative plans. Evaluation of alternative plans will utilize economic, environmental, and social metrics.

### Revisions to Principles and Guidelines

Principles and Guidelines may be revised during this study based on direction from the Water Resource Development Act of 2007, Section 2031. Therefore, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers planning policy and guidelines may change during the course of the study.

### NEPA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to:

Inventory environmental resources; and

Evaluate and compare project alternatives to determine the impacts to significant natural resources.

GLMRIS will integrate the NEPA process with the USACE six-step planning process.

#### **GLMRIS GLMRIS** NEPA ENVIRONMENTAL FEASIBILITY REPORT **IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) Initiate Feasibility Notice of Intent** (Federal Register) Report **Public Scoping Public Scoping Establish Problems Establish Purpose** Concurrent \_ & Opportunities Action & Need **Determine Affected Determine Existing** Environment Conditions **Identify Future Without** Identify "No Action" **Project Conditions** Plan Formulate Formulate Alternative Plans Alternative Plans Perform Impact Analysis Analyze **Alternative Plans** of Alternative Plans **Identify & Justify** Identify Recommended Plan Recommended Plan **Draft EIS Draft Feasibility** Concurrent Stakeholder, Public Report & Agency Review Final EIS Final Feasibility Concurrent Report & Agency Review **Chief of Engineers** Record of Decision Report (ROD) (Recommendation to Congress) Implement | **Congressional Action Congressional Action** Projects

# Public Involvement Opportunities

Public involvement is an integral and essential part of the GLMRIS process. Throughout the study, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will use a variety of communication tools to ensure interested parties are kept informed of GLMRIS activities. The public will have formal opportunities to provide their input during NEPA scoping and the draft Environmental Impact Statement review.