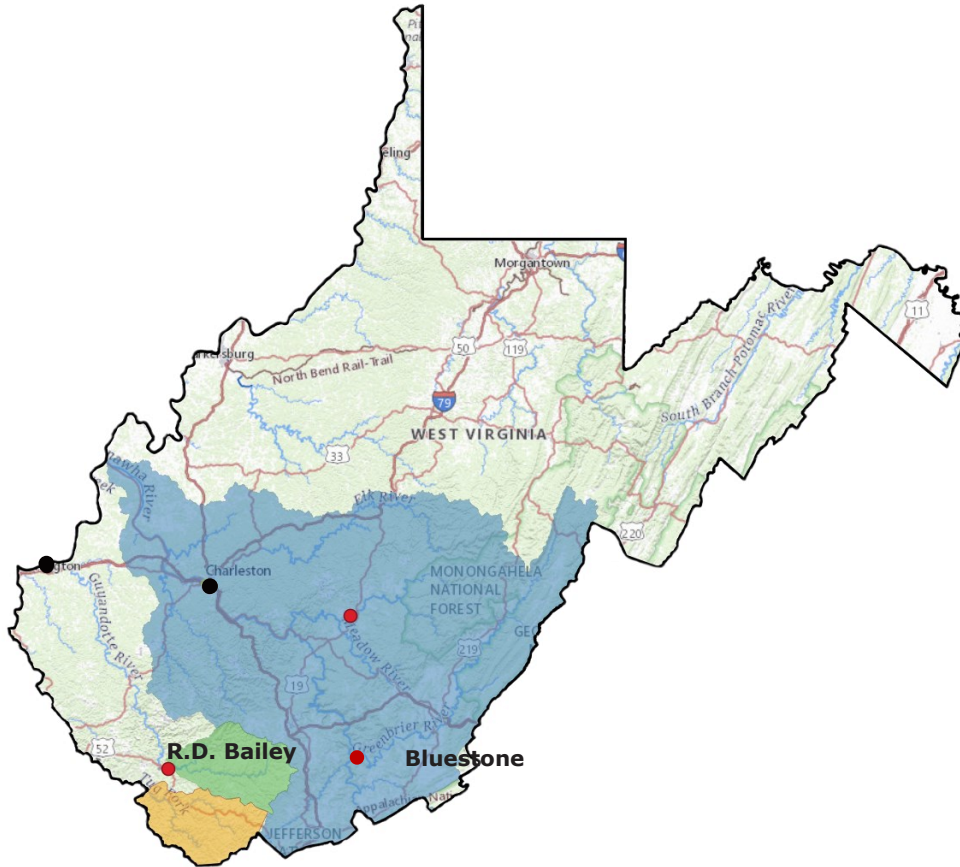




US Army Corps
of Engineers
Huntington District

Huntington District Projects of Interest



- Kanawha Basin
- Upper Guyandotte Basin
- McDowell County

- Projects
- Cities

Kanawha Feasibility Study



Clendenin, WV flood during 2016 event.
Photo Courtesy of WOWK-TV

Authorization

The Basin received 8-10" of rain in a 24-hour period in June 2016, resulting in major flooding, 21 deaths, and \$1.1B in property damage.

S.612 - WIIN Act (2015-2016)
(Sec. 1207) The Corps of Engineers must study the feasibility of implementing projects for **flood risk management, ecosystem restoration, navigation, water supply, recreation, and water resources** related purposes within the Kanawha River Basin in West Virginia, Virginia, and North Carolina.

WRDA 2022, Sec. 8202
SEC. 8202. **EXPEDITED COMPLETION.** 14 (a) FEASIBILITY STUDIES.—The Secretary shall expedite the completion of a feasibility study for each of the following projects, and if the Secretary determines that the project is justified in a completed report, may **proceed directly to preconstruction planning, engineering, and design** of the project

Kanawha River Basin Study Area

Limited study area to the portion of the basin in WV
Drainage area of 8,500 sq miles in WV

Major impoundments in the watershed:

- Claytor Lake (Virginia) on the New River
- Bluestone Lake on the New River
- Summersville Lake on the Gauley River
- Sutton Lake on the Elk River

Free-flowing rivers in the watershed:

- Greenbrier River
- Bluestone River
- Pocatalico River
- Coal River
- Meadow River
- Paint Creek

General Investigation Study

State of West Virginia is the Non-Federal Sponsor
Study requires a 50/50 Federal Cost-Share Agreement (FCSA)
Federal appropriation of \$1.5M received in FY22 BIL funding
FCSA provided to the State of WV in May 2022

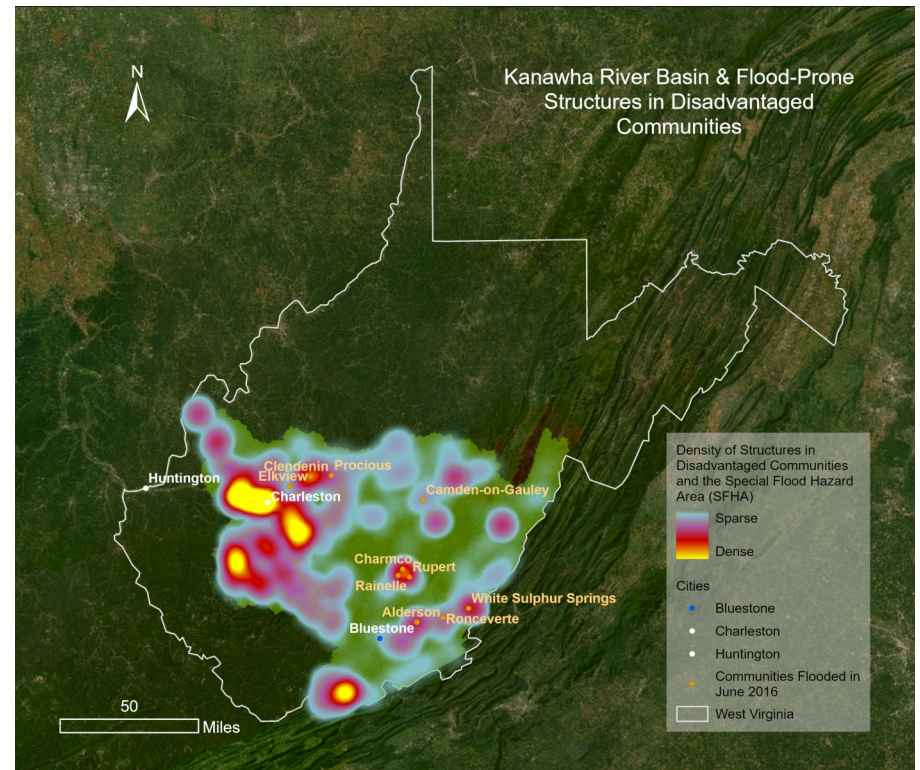
Challenges

- Anticipate FCSA being executed early Summer 2024.
- Very large (8500 sq mile) study area with complex hydrology.
- Diverse community densities across the study area, ranging from concentrated industrial river towns to small, disconnected communities with similar flood risks, largely due to residences in the flood plain.

Current Status

District received \$50K of BIL seed money in Feb 2024 to begin high-level scoping in advance of the FCSA being signed.

- \$50K Seed Fund activities:
 - Began coordination with NFS to sync on study priorities
 - Assign Project Delivery Team
 - Began early steps of the Planning process
 - Began inventorying existing and environmental conditions
 - Began developing multi-criteria decision matrix to aid in finalizing study scope:
 - Population
 - 2016 Flood Damage
 - Structures in the Special Flood Hazard Area
 - FEMA declared disasters



Next Steps

First 90 days following execution of the FCSA:

- Identify study area
- Identify study objectives
- NEPA scoping
- Inventory and forecast conditions
- Develop PMP
- Develop Review Plan
- Identify possible policy exemptions

Study milestones after FCSA:

- 90 days—Alternatives Milestone
- 12 months—Tentatively Selected Plan Milestone
- 18 months—Agency Decision Milestone
- 30 months—District Engineer transmits final report package
- 36 months—Signed Chief's report

NOTE: Strong Congressional interest in authorizing measures incrementally as the study progresses.