

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2503

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Meramec River Basin Ecosystem Restoration Project in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the United States Army Corps of Engineers, located at 1222 Spruce Street St. Louis, Missouri 63103.

The funding would be used for the protection, enhancement, and restoration of degraded aquatic ecosystems along the Big River to improve habitat, reduce erosion, and enhance flood protection. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it enhances flood resilience, restores a critical fish and wildlife habitat, and protects water quality in one of Missouri's most ecological watersheds.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 401 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-260).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Bob Onder (MO-03)  
Member of Congress