

The Fertilizer Institute Policy Asks

- Support biennial Water Resources Development Acts (WRDA), legislation authorizing Corps of Engineers' work on locks and dams, dredging and other water resources projects critical to the nation
- Support the highest funding levels for the Corps of Engineers' Civil Works mission to modernize our waterways system that benefits the agricultural supply chain and the nation.

THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR INLAND WATERWAYS

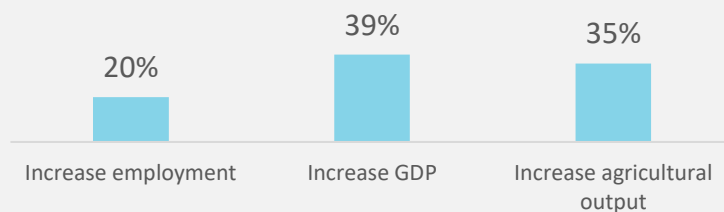


The delivery of fertilizer to farmers exactly **when** and **where** they need it so they can grow the food, fuel and fiber our growing world needs is **highly dependent** on an **effective and efficient inland water transit system**. But the aging infrastructure of our nation's waterways and ports is cause for increasing concern. Unreliable lock operations and repairs cause **bottlenecks** and **delays** which can prevent the timely delivery of essential crop nutrients that must be applied at an opportune time. Nearly a quarter of all fertilizer moves via waterway. In 2018, that amounted to nearly 14 million tons of crop nutrients. What is needed is a **fully functional inland waterways system** for the transport of fertilizer, as well as other agricultural products.

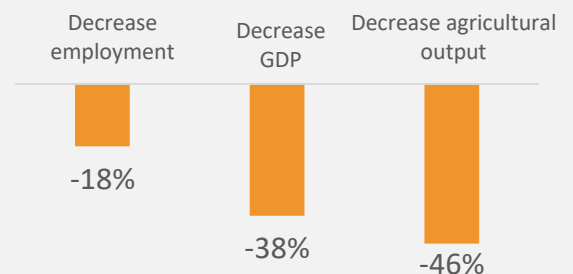
U.S. AGRICULTURE'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS TIED TO INLAND WATERWAYS

It is not just about getting fertilizer to farmers, but also **getting crops from the farm to market**. Our nation's inland waterways are a vital component of the **food supply chain** and investment in inland waterways systems is critical to the agriculture economy. **Deferred maintenance** and **impending catastrophic failures** within the system have the ability to cripple the **global competitiveness** of America's agricultural economy.

According to a report by the United States Department of Agriculture*, increased investment to construct authorized projects, rehabilitate existing locks and perform routine maintenance will:



The same report concluded that decreased investment will:



*Importance of Inland Waterways to U.S. Agriculture: Analyzing Three Investment Scenarios. United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/ImportanceofInlandWaterwaystoUSAgricultureFullReport.pdf>

EFFICIENCY OF INLAND WATERWAYS

Barge transportation moves America's agricultural products at the **lowest cost**, the **lowest carbon footprint** and the **most safely**, thereby protecting our nation's environment and communities.

- One barge = 1,750 tons: *Equal to 70 tractor trailers or 16 train cars*
- 578 million tons are moved annually by barge: *Equal to 23.1 million tractor trailers or 5.3 million train cars*