



Flood Risk Management Program

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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SUMMARY

The Army Corps of Engineers is transitioning to a broader focus on flood risk management defined as managing both floodwaters to reduce the probability of flooding and floodplains to reduce the consequences of flooding. The Flood Risk Management Program of the Army Corps of Engineers was formalized with implementation guidance to the field in October 2009.

The NFRMP's objective is to foster open and collaborative mitigation planning, response, and recovery efforts both with the USACE programs, activities, and initiatives and externally with our federal, state, local, and tribal partners. This will be achieved by providing the public and decision makers with current and accurate flood risk information at the national, watershed, state, tribal, and local levees, identifying and assessing all flood risk reduction infrastructure hazards, and improving public awareness and understanding of flood related hazards and risk.



The NFRMP establishes points of contact in each district, division and headquarters.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Silver Jackets Program – The program establishes an interagency team in each state with a representative from FEMA, the Corps, the state National Flood Insurance Program coordination office, and the state hazard mitigation office. The program supplements, strengthens and establishes relationships focused on the needs of the state to reduce hazards and flood risk. There are currently 50 states in various stages of implementing the Silver Jackets program.

Federal Interagency Floodplain Management Task Force –The Administration's emphasis on consistent, collaborative and effective government programs and the need to respond to new economic and environmental challenges has renewed effort to unify the Government's approach to floodplain management. The Task Force is co-chaired by Ms. Jo-Ellen Darcy, ASA for Civil Works, and Mr. Craig Fugate, FEMA Administrator. The purpose is "to enhance the health, safety, and welfare of the public by reducing flood losses and protecting the natural environment".

Intergovernmental Flood Risk Management Committee – The Intergovernmental Flood Risk Management Committee (IFRMC) is a national level group with representatives from the Corps, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and three associations to share information regarding floodplain and flood risk management, identify areas of alignment or misalignment among federal and state programs.

Regional Flood Risk Management Team - After the 2008 mid-west floods, there was extensive flood damage in the Upper Mississippi watershed. FEMA, USACE, and other federal agencies used traditional authorities to respond to the event. The RFMT works towards watershed goals with all the agencies. Future events would be an opportunity to improve the resiliency of the watershed.

International Flood Risk Management Activities – The Corps is now participating in several activities with other governments to learn best practices. An international workshop was held from November 30 - December 1, 2010 in Washington, D.C. The Corps is participating in the 5th International Conference on Flood Management (ICFM5) at the end of September 2011 in Tokyo-Japan. The Corps has been working helping with the development of an international levee handbook.