



**2014 Interagency Flood Risk Management  
Project Workshop  
August 19-21, 2014  
Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center  
14 Mechanic Street  
Southbridge, MA**



**Meeting Objectives**

- Share successes and lessons learned from past and ongoing Silver Jackets and other interagency flood risk management projects
- Identify common challenges and opportunities to improve how projects are identified and developed by teams for successful implementation through timely completion
- Assess interagency project outcome metrics for communicating program accomplishments
- Assess trends and drivers that will impact future projects
- Share information that will enhance project collaboration and encourage leveraging of participant resources, to include the USACE FPMS program

**Agenda** (\* denotes sessions also offered as live webinar)

**Monday August 18, 2014**

**6:00-8:00pm Sign-In**

**Tuesday August 19, 2014**

**7:30 – 8:30 Sign-In**

**8:30 – 8:50 Welcome and Leadership Opening Remarks\***

*Presenter: Ms. Karen Durham-Aguilera, P.E., SES, Director of Contingency Operations, Homeland Security, and Northwestern Division/Pacific Ocean Division RIT Leader*

Ms. Karen Durham-Aguilera will welcome workshop participants and provide opening remarks that highlight current activities within flood risk management.

**8:50-9:00 Agenda Review\***

*Facilitator: Pat Tallarico, The Council Oak*

## **Tuesday August 19, 2014**

### **9:00 – 10:15 Silver Jackets Teams and Interagency Projects: Federal Agency Benefits\***

*Moderator: Mark Roupas, HQUSACE, Deputy for Homeland Security*

*Speakers: Laurie Hogan, NOAA/NWS; Scott Morlock, USGS; Laura Algeo, FEMA Region IV; Luis Laracuente, NRCS*

Representatives from FEMA, NOAA/NWS, NRCS and USGS will share how their agencies have benefited from involvement in Silver Jackets and other interagency flood risk management efforts, how this involvement supports their agencies' missions, and how this involvement translates to success on the ground. The moderator will then engage panelists in a question and answer session.

### **10:15-10:45 Break**

### **10:45- 12:00 Reducing Flood Risk: Interagency Projects\***

*Moderators: Jennifer Dunn, USACE IWR and Lisa Bourget, USACE IWR*

*Speakers: Terry Zien, USACE St Paul District; Tony Krause, USACE Omaha District; Travis Ball, USACE Seattle District*

Ms. Jennifer Dunn will provide an overview of the Silver Jackets interagency flood risk management projects and highlight how projects are assessing, informing and reducing flood risk. District project leads will briefly present how their project partnerships and products directly contribute to shared responsibility in flood risk management. Participants (in diads then in the full group) will briefly discuss their initial thoughts about the questions below, which will be revisited at the end of the meeting:

- How have projects had the most impact on flood risk? Where are those projects in the FRM life-cycle?
- Are our projects focused where and when we can have the biggest impact on flood risk? If not, how should we refocus our efforts?

In conclusion, Ms. Lisa Bourget will orient workshop participants to the poster display and “BINGO” card, inviting participants to peruse posters at breaks and during the scheduled poster sessions.

### **12:00 – 1:15 Lunch on Your Own (Served from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM)**

## **Tuesday August 19, 2014**

### **1:15 – 2:45 Trends, Drivers and Developments**

*Moderator: Jeff Jensen, USACE IWR Deputy Director, National Flood Risk Management Program*

Many emerging trends, drivers and developments will influence the implementation and success of future interagency projects. A panel of subject matter experts will introduce the following topics, followed by facilitated discussion of participants' questions and insights.

- PL 84-99, Funding: *Jeff Jensen, USACE IWR*
- Coastal Risk Reduction: *Adrienne Harrison, NOAA*
- Research and Development: *Bill Curtis, USACE ERDC*
- Nonstructural: *Randy Behm, USACE Omaha District*
- Levee Safety: *Tammy Conforti, USACE HQ*
- NFIP Reform: *Bob Desaulniers, FEMA Region 1*

### **2:45 – 3:15 Break**

### **3:15 – 5:00 Successful Project Starts\***

*Moderator: Ellen Berggren, USACE Walla Walla District*

*Speakers: Christine Shirley, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development; Michael Hall, North Dakota Department of Emergency Services/North Dakota State Water Commission; Terry Lunn, Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Office of Homeland Security; Carey Johnson, Kentucky Division of Water (invited)*

State agency representatives from Silver Jackets teams will discuss how their team identifies and initiates interagency projects. The panelists will share their state team experiences and lessons learned related to prioritizing needs, framing projects for implementation success, and how their team defines success. Afterwards, participants will continue the discussion in small groups, focusing on ongoing challenges and possible solutions to project initiation.

### **5:00 Closing Announcements**

### **5:00 – 6:00 Poster Session (Meeting Room 4)**

## **Wednesday August 20, 2014**

- 8:00 – 8:20**    **USGS Funding for LIDAR Projects (Meeting Room 3)**  
(Optional)    *Speaker: Lin Neifert, USGS*  
In this early-bird session, a representative from USGS will share information about funds available through USGS to pay for projects that need LIDAR support.
- 8:30 – 8:45**    **Recap of Day 1, Day 2 Agenda Review**
- 8:45 – 9:15**    **Awards**
- 9:15- 12:00**    **Communicating Our Project Implementation Success (including break)**  
*Facilitator: Pat Tallarico, The Council Oak*
- Drawing on project poster observations and BINGO cards, participants will discuss successes, challenges, significant outcomes, and best practices.
- Participants will then choose one of three groups focused either on Nonstructural, Levee Safety, or General Flood Risk Management. Each group will consider how to measure project success – both what we are doing currently and what we should be doing to better capture and communicate project success.
- Participants will reconvene in plenary session to summarize observations and to assess current interagency project outcome metrics in comparison. Ms. Lisa Bourget and Ms. Ellen Berggren will demonstrate a newly developed online tool for sharing best practices and project outcomes, the Silver Jackets ‘Playbook’.
- 12:00 – 1:00**    **Lunch on Your Own (Served from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM)**
- 1:00 – 2:00**    **Agency Resource Roundtable\***  
*Moderator: Jeff Jensen, USACE IWR Deputy Director, National Flood Risk Management Program*  
*Speakers: Jason Hunter, FEMA Region IV; Beth Held, HUD Region 1; Jane Downing, EPA Region 1; Kevin Farmer, USDA/NRCS*
- A panel of four agency representatives will each highlight one or more programs or resources that are new or otherwise not widely recognized by project teams. Agency representatives will discuss how these programs or resources could benefit an interagency project and share thoughts on other ways their agency may support team efforts.
- 2:00 – 2:30**    **Break**

**Wednesday August 20, 2014**

**2:30 – 3:30 Addressing Obstacles and Challenges – PART 1: A Few Known Challenges**

*Facilitator: Pat Tallarico, The Council Oak*

Through facilitated discussion, participants will generate a short list of key project challenges, including those identified through the pre-workshop survey, below, and those identified on ‘BINGO’ cards.

- Identifying definitive interagency partner resources within varying funding cycles and funding constraints
- Implementing interagency projects when USACE funding is not awarded
- Developing nonstructural measures in a structural culture
- Identifying a shared goal among local, state and Federal partners that will be acted upon at project conclusion
- Drive to capture intangible and long-term outcomes at project completion.

**3:30 – 5:00 Addressing Obstacles and Challenges – PART 2: Finding Solutions**

*Facilitator: Pat Tallarico, The Council Oak*

Following small group discussion of potential solutions to identified challenges, the plenary group will reconvene to report out and prioritize the most critical challenges.

**5:00 Closing Announcements**

**5:00 – 6:00 Poster Session (Meeting Room 4)**

**Thursday August 21, 2014**

**8:00 – 8:15 Recap and Overview of the Day (including Departure Logistics)**

**8:15 -9:15 Maximizing Our Collective Impact on Flood Risk: Strengthening Complementary Partnerships and Projects\***

*Facilitator: Pat Tallarico, The Council Oak*

Considering the multitude of factors that contribute to successful interagency projects, participants will strategize how to move flood risk management projects forward, through facilitated discussion of the following questions:

- How can we increase our impact on flood risk?
- How can we move projects beyond assessment and information sharing to prompting actions that reduce flood risk?
- How can we build on each other's programs and take coordinated action to achieve more effective and efficient flood risk management outcomes?

**9:15 -10:30 Maximizing Our Collective Impact on Flood Risk: Spreading the Word**

*Facilitator: Pat Tallarico, The Council Oak*

Working within regions, participants will develop their communication strategies, including key messages and information, key partners to be engaged, and key methods and materials to communicate the best practices identified during the workshop.

**10:30 – 11:00 Closing Plenary and Key Action Items**

*Speaker: Mark Roupas, HQUSACE, Deputy for Homeland Security*