OVERVIEW OF USACE FLOOD FIGHT AUTHORITIES
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
OMAHA DISTRICT

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USACE RESPONSE AUTHORITIES

- Legislation
  - Public Law 84-99
    - Discretionary authority given to the Corps by Congress to act and react to emergencies caused by floods, contaminated water sources, and drought
  - Public Law 93-288 - Robert T. Stafford Act Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
    - Authorizes the President to provide financial and other assistance to State and Local governments, certain private nonprofit organizations, and individuals to support response, recovery, and mitigation efforts following presidentially declared major disasters and emergencies.
    - FEMA Mission Assignments

- USACE Operating Projects

- Regulatory Support
Program Authority

- Public Law 84-99 provides an emergency fund to be expended for:
  - Preparation for emergency responses to any natural disaster
  - Flood fighting
  - Repair & restoration of flood control works and hurricane shore protection (coastal storm damage projects)
- Executed through the Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (FCCE) appropriation

Program Activities:

- Preparedness
- Response
  - Advance Measures
  - Emergency Operations
  - Water Assistance
- Rehabilitation
- Hazard Mitigation
PL 84-99 – THE USACE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Preparedness

- Planning for Quick and Effective Response
- Emergency Management Organization
- Disaster Planning
- Training
- Exercises
- Stockpiling Supplies and Critical Flood Fight Materials
- Public Assistance Including Liaison, Coordination, and Inspections

Flood Fight Training for Levee Sponsors
Response

- Assistance is Always Supplemental to state, tribe, and local efforts
- Field Investigation & Reconnaissance of Flood Potential
- Flood Fighting (temporary measures)
- Technical and/or Direct Assistance
- Contracting for Emergency Construction
- Assist in Rescue Operations
- Post Flood Response
  - Emergency Debris Removal
- After Action Review & Reporting
PL 84-99 – THE USACE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
HOW TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE

- Activation of Federal Resources
  1. County/City
  2. State or Tribe
  3. Federal

- Advanced Measures (forecasted above flood stage) and Emergency Operations (at or above flood stage)
  - Technical Assistance (Request needed from State EM or Tribe)
  - Direct Assistance (Request needed from Governor or Tribe)
    - Advanced Measures – Direct Assistance project needs to be economically justified and approved by HQUSACE
PL 84-99 – THE USACE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
ADVANCED MEASURES– DIRECT ASSISTANCE
PL 84-99 – THE USACE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS – DIRECT ASSISTANCE

Main Ditch 6, Hamburg, IA

R-616 – Bellevue, NE

L-624-627 – Council Bluffs, IA

Pierre, SD
Technical Assistance for Ice Jams
  • Dusting Locations
  • Locations for Charges
  • Recommendations on Mechanical Removal of Ice

Note: Technical Assistance Only. **USACE cannot provide direct assistance for the ice jam itself.**
Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL)
  - Research lab operated by USACE
  - Contacted for all ice jam problem areas
  - Database maintained and available
  - Increase knowledge and causes of Ice Jams
  - Effective methods to reduce occurrence and effects
  - Omaha District POC: Roger Kay (Hydraulics)

http://icejams.crrel.usace.army.mil/
Northwestern Division
Missouri River Region Water Management Office

- Ice Conditions
- Missouri River Forecast Data
- Press Releases

http://www.nwd-mr.usace.army.mil/rcc

National Weather Service – Missouri Basin River Forecast Center

http://www.weather.gov/mbrfc/
Greybull, WY (Federal)

Clear Creek Levee, Ashland, NE

Glendive, MT (Non-Fed)
PL 84-99 – THE USACE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS OF LOCAL APPLICANTS

• Depleted all available resources (physical and fiscal)
• Sign Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA)
• Loaned supplies and equipment must be returned in the same condition as it was when lent, replaced in kind, or reimbursement made to USACE.
• Furnish all lands, easements, right-of-ways.
• Provide borrow and disposal sites.
• Make all necessary relocations.
• Provide traffic control during construction.
• Provide monitoring for levees and pumping operations.
• Hold harmless the U.S. Federal Government free from damages.
• Physically and fiscally responsible for removal of all temporary risk reduction measures at the end of the event.
PL 84-99 – THE USACE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Rehabilitation

- Only “Active” flood risk management projects eligible for repair
- Non-structural alternatives can be considered
- Repair any Federally constructed coastal storm damage reduction projects
- Non-Federal Projects repaired at 80% Federal and 20% Non-Federal cost
- Sponsor can provide their cost-share in Cash, Work in Kind, or Combination of Both
- Federal Projects repaired at 100% Federal cost
- Repair to the level of protection provided by the structure prior to the flood.
- Communities/Sponsors responsibilities

Damages must be flood related and exceed $15k in estimated cost to repair.
LEVEES
177 Total Segments
- 151 Federal, 592 Miles
- 26 Non-Fed, 57 Miles

151 Total Levee Systems

8 CHANNEL-ONLY PROJECTS
- 27.5 Miles

6 DRY DAM PROJECTS
PL 84-99 LEVEE REHABILITATION

- Little Papio near NFM
- Hawarden, IA
- Little Sioux near Onawa, IA
- Mosquito Creek, Council Bluffs, IA
PL 84-99 – THE USACE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Hazard Mitigation

- Levee Safety Program
- Identify Mitigation Opportunities
- Establish Framework for Recovery
- Silver Jackets Program Coordination
- Interagency Levee Task Force/NSA
- Participate on FEMA/State Hazard Mitigation Teams
- Our authorities for implementing strategies for mitigation of other hazards is limited.
**Life Safety is Paramount**

- Reduce risk through…
  - Dedicated Levee Safety Officer and Levee Safety Program Manager
  - Levee Inspections (Federal – Annually, Non-Federal – Every Two Years)
    - Routine
    - Periodic
  - Section 408 Alterations (within Federal project right of way)
  - Technical Reviews (outside right of way, but within critical area)
  - Technical Assistance
  - Levee Risk Screening and Communication
  - Interim Risk Reduction Measures (IRRM)
LEVEE SAFETY ALTERATION REVIEWS

• Levee Safety reviews proposed alterations through:
  • Section 408 Reviews – within Project ROW
    • Engineering Circular (EC) – 1165-2-216
  • Technical Reviews - 300 feet riverward or 500 feet landward
  • Technical Assistance

• Levee Safety Alterations Manager, Jennifer Gitt, Omaha District
• Omaha District Section 408 Website: http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/Emergency-Management/Alterations-to-Flood-Risk-Reduction-Projects/
• HQ USACE Section 408 Website: http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Section408/

• Reviews ensure alterations or upgrades to the flood risk reduction projects (FRRP) in the PL84-99 Rehabilitation Program will not be injurious to the public interest and affect the USACE project’s ability to meet its authorized purpose.

• Local Sponsors request the reviews, often on behalf of a third party requesting the alteration to the FRRP.

• Section 408 and FEMA Certification Relationship
  • Non-Federal sponsors modifying Federal Levees to attain FEMA Accreditation for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) will likely require USACE Section 408 Approval.
OTHER USACE AUTHORITIES

- **Technical Assistance Programs**
  - Section 22 – Planning Assistance to the States and Tribes.
  - Floodplain Management Services Program (FPMS)

- **Continuing Authorities Program (CAP)**
  - Section 14: Streambank and Shoreline Protection
  - Section 205: Small Flood Risk Management
  - Section 206: Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration
  - Section 1135: Mods for Improvement of the Environment

- **Project Specific Planning, Design, and Construction Programs**
  - General Investigations Program (GI)

**Contact**

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QUESTIONS?
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Points of Contact

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