

# ENGINEER CIRCULAR 1165-2-218 LEVEE SAFETY PROGRAM

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US Army Corps  
of Engineers®



# AGENDA

- 1 Guidance overview
- 2 What's new
- 3 What we've heard
- 4 Timeline and next steps
- 5 Opportunities to continue the conversation
- 6 Questions/comments in chat





# GUIDANCE OVERVIEW



## Program Intent

Understand, monitor, and manage flood risk associated with levees over time, and adapt activities and actions based on the dynamic nature of flood risk.



# GUIDANCE OVERVIEW



## Volume I

Describes levee safety  
Defines key terms  
Describes types of levees in the  
Levee Safety Program

Levee Safety Program oversight  
Basic Program implementation  
requirements and activities

## Volume III

## Volume II

Levee sponsor roles and activities  
overview  
How USACE integrates with those  
activities

How USACE uses Levee Safety  
Program information  
How Levee Safety Program  
information can be used by others

## Volume IV



# WHAT'S NEW



## Being Better Partners

Reinforced commitment to transparency and partnering



## Inspections

- A change in the type and frequency of USACE levee inspections
- No longer assigning overall levee system and segment ratings



## Levee Risk Management Summary

Using the Levee Risk Management Summary to benchmark and track changes in individual levee risk over time



# PARTNERSHIP



## Intent

- Sponsors are our partners in implementation
- USACE committed to open communication and coordination
- Continued conversation about what is or is not working, and adapting

## What we heard

- Support for a program based on strong partnerships
- A desire for USACE to continue to recognize the uniqueness of each levee
- Request for transparency, clarity, and training

## What we need

- Your continued engagement
- Advice on changes needed to the document that improve its clarity and our transparency
- Information on the types of training that would be most helpful to you



# IMPACTS TO OTHER PROGRAMS

## Intent

- Provide guidance for the Levee Safety Program
- Communicate connections to other programs
- Describe how and when Levee Safety Program information will be used by others

## What we heard

- Not enough detail about how this EC impacts the PL 84-99 Rehabilitation Program, Section 408, and the NFIP, administered by FEMA

## What we need

- Information on what parts are not clear and where more detail is needed
- Recommended edits or additions to the EC
- Thoughts on supplemental guidance or resources that might help



# ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



## Intent

- Describe sponsor responsibilities for managing levees
- Detail how USACE will work with and support sponsors

## What we heard

- It's not clear
- There will be added burden or new work
- Concern about liabilities
- Sponsor authorities vary
- Many owner-operators do not have responsibilities in the area behind the levee

## What we need

- Help us identify words and phrasing that should be changed to better reflect our intent
- Help us describe levee sponsors' varying authorities and associated responsibilities



# INFORMATION AND TRANSPARENCY



## Intent

- Describe how Levee Safety Program information is collected and used
- Make levee information accessible
- Support sharing levee information with others with responsibility and authority in the area behind the levee

## What we heard

- Desire for transparency
- Support for/concern about risk assessments
- Questions about who can do a risk assessment
- How FEMA uses risk assessment info
- Request for guidance on O&M Manuals

## What we need

- Help us make the NLD a better tool
- Recommendations for making risk assessments clearer and more useful to you (LRMS)
- Identify resources and training, or revisions to the EC that would help



# WHAT WE PLAN TO DO



**Continue to listen and learn**  
Your input and engagement is key to our partnered success



**Share what we learned**  
Posting a document summarizing feedback



**Use your feedback**

- Update the guidance
- Update products/tools (NLD/LRMS)
- Identify training/resources
- Identify areas to test during the two-year implementation



**Schedule in-person public sessions**  
To have a dialogue about challenges and solutions



**Check in**  
So we can learn through implementation and continue to improve

We remain committed to meeting in-person prior to finalizing the guidance. Until it is safe to host large, in-person sessions, we plan to offer meetings for smaller groups. Information on how to request a small group session will be available on our website and by emailing us: [EC218@usace.army.mil](mailto:EC218@usace.army.mil).

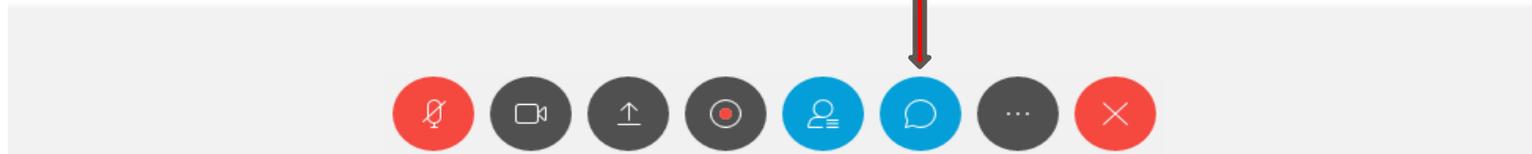


# QUESTIONS?

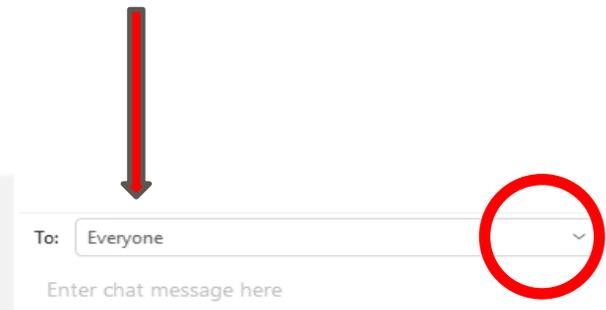
- Please type your questions in the chat window.
- Open the Chat by clicking the “speech bubble” icon.
- Please make sure to change the chat to “Everyone”



Select to show chat panel



Send your chat message to “Everyone”





# REMINDERS

- Comment period closes July 27, 2020
- Submit comments using the Federal Register:  
<https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=COE-2020-0003>
- Email us: [EC218@usace.army.mil](mailto:EC218@usace.army.mil)



# RESOURCES



- Levee Safety Program Website: <https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Levee-Safety-Program/>
- Levee Safety Engineer Circular: <https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/getfile/collection/p16021coll9/id/1568>
- Levee Safety Engineer Circular Fact Sheet: <https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/getfile/collection/p16021coll9/id/1576>
- Key Facts: Levee Safety Program and PL 84-99 Rehabilitation Program Fact Sheet: <https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/getfile/collection/p16021coll11/id/4638>
- The Sponsor's Guide to the USACE Levee Safety Program: [https://www.publications.usace.army.mil/Portals/76/Users/227/19/2019/EP\\_1105-1-1.pdf?ver=2018-11-01-072651-603](https://www.publications.usace.army.mil/Portals/76/Users/227/19/2019/EP_1105-1-1.pdf?ver=2018-11-01-072651-603)