



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
441 G STREET, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

CECW-P

FEB 16 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Implementation Guidance for Section 1206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 (WRDA 2016), Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers Flood Risk Study

1. Section 1206 of WRDA 2016 was completed and signed on 8 February 2018. The implementation guidance is posted in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers website: <http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/Legislative-Links/>.
2. Questions regarding this implementation guidance should be directed to John Lucyshyn, Program Manager, Mississippi Valley Division Regional Integration Team, at (202) 761-4515 or [John.Lucyshyn@usace.army.mil](mailto:John.Lucyshyn@usace.army.mil).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Dalton".

JAMES C. DALTON, P.E.  
Director of Civil Works

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
CIVIL WORKS  
108 ARMY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0108**

FEB - 8 2013

**MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDING GENERAL U.S. ARMY CORPS OF  
ENGINEERS**

**SUBJECT:** Implementation Guidance for Section 1206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 (WRDA 2016), Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers Flood Risk Study

1. Section 1206 of WRDA 2016 authorizes the Secretary to conduct a study of the riverine areas located within the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois River basins to identify risks and vulnerabilities of those areas to increased flood damages. Section 1206 requires the study to include a comprehensive analysis of flood risk management measures to maintain or enhance current levels of flood protection, identify risks and vulnerabilities in the areas affected by flooding, and develop a long-term strategy to lower risks and enhance resiliency in populated areas, areas of concentrated economic assets, and areas with vulnerable environmental resources. As part of the study a basin wide hydrologic and/or hydraulic models for the Upper Mississippi River System will be developed and improved analytical methods needed for scientifically-based recommendations and recommends specific measures and actions to address risks and vulnerabilities identified in comprehensive analysis will be developed. Further, the study is to be conducted in coordination with other federal agencies, governors of the states within the study area, local governments including levee and drainage districts, nonprofit organizations and other interested parties. Section 1206 includes a requirement to submit the study report to Congress and make the report publically available 4 years after date of enactment. Section 1206 of WRDA 2016 is enclosed.
2. The comprehensive study will be conducted in accordance with ER 1105-2-100 and other planning guidance applicable to watershed assessments and will be cost shared 75% federal and 25% non-federal. The normal budget process will be followed when requesting funds to initiate the comprehensive study.
3. Subject to the availability of funds, the district commanders for MVP, MVR, or MVS may enter into a cost-sharing agreement for the study with one or more qualified non-Federal sponsors. The agreement shall be based on the model agreement for watershed assessments with approval for all deviations necessary to reflect the study's specific authorization delegated to the MVD Commander.
4. The geographic extent of the study shall include the riverine areas of the Upper Mississippi and Illinois River basin, focusing on the main stem rivers and floodplain

CECW-MVD

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portions of the major tributaries. Hydrologic models and analytic tools developed will focus on producing scientifically based recommendations for improvements to flood risk management on the main stem rivers and floodplain portions of the major tributaries. This study will evaluate how structural and non-structural flood risk reduction measures and actions impact cities, towns and other populated areas, areas of concentrated economic assets, and areas with vulnerable environmental resources and identify a long term strategy for addressing increased flood damages and opportunities to enhance resiliency, increase sustainability, and lower risks in populated areas and areas with vulnerable environmental resources. In carrying out the study the lead district will coordinate with the other MVD districts and with representatives from federal agencies, governor offices of the states within the study area, state and local agencies, municipalities, levee and drainage districts, regional planning commissions, watershed management authorities, non-profit organizations, and other interested parties.

5. The district will establish a Project Delivery Team (PDT) and members of this team shall prepare a report, with integrated NEPA document as appropriate, summarizing vulnerabilities and recommendations for the study area. MVD is responsible for quality assurance and overall schedule performance management.

6. The study will conclude with a report which describes the results of the long-term strategy for addressing increased flood damages and identifying opportunities to lower risks and enhance resiliency. The report will be provided to the Headquarters Mississippi Valley Division Regional Integration Team for Headquarters review and processing to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA(CW)) for transmittal to Congress.

7. Questions regarding this implementation guidance may be directed to Gib Owen, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works at gib.a.owen.civ@mail.mil or 703-695-4641. Technical questions may be directed to John Lucyshyn, Program Manager, MVD-Regional Integration Team, at (202) 761-4515 or john.lucyshyn@usace.army.mil.



RYAN A. FISHER  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army  
Civil Works

Encl

SEC. 1206. UPPER MISSISSIPPI AND ILLINOIS RIVERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a study of the riverine areas located within the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois River basins to identify the risks and vulnerabilities of those areas to increased flood damages.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) conduct a comprehensive analysis of flood risk management measures to maintain or enhance current levels of protection;

(2) identify risks and vulnerabilities in the areas affected by flooding;

(3) recommend specific measures and actions to address the risks and vulnerabilities described in paragraph (2);

(4) coordinate with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, the Governors of the States within the Upper Mississippi and Illinois River basins, the appropriate levee and drainage districts, nonprofit organizations, and other interested parties;

(5) develop basinwide hydrologic models for the Upper Mississippi River System and improve analytical methods needed to produce scientifically based recommendations for improvements to flood risk management; and

(6) develop a long-term strategy for—

(A) addressing increased flood damages; and

(B) identifying opportunities to enhance resiliency, increase sustainability, and lower risks in—

(i) populated areas;

(ii) areas of concentrated economic development; and

(iii) areas with vulnerable environmental resources.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and make publicly available a report describing the results of the study conducted under subsection (b).