



## USACE Flood and Storm Damage Reduction – Helping to Manage the Risk to American Lives and Property from Floods

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Flood and Storm Damage Reduction Program (Program) is a collaborative effort that integrates and synchronizes the flood and storm damage reduction projects, programs, and authorities of USACE with those of other Federal agencies, and State, regional, and local agencies. Through structural and non-structural measures, this USACE Program helps to reduce the risk of loss of life and property damage from riverine and coastal flooding, and increase the resilience of local communities.

### Funding

The President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) provides \$4.827 billion in gross discretionary funding for USACE, which includes roughly \$1.021 billion for the Flood and Storm Damage Reduction Program. The Budget funding will enable USACE to study, construct, operate, maintain, repair its projects, and to continue to improve the Civil Works approach to flood and storm damage reduction. The Program uses risk management principles to identify and prioritize investments for construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance activities.

The Budget includes \$220 million for three construction projects, multiple projects aimed at improving dam safety, and other projects as part of the Mississippi River and Tributaries system and smaller flood damage reduction projects. The Budget also includes approximately \$55 million to continue support of the Columbia River Treaty, advance six Dam Safety Modification Studies and two feasibility studies, while also completing the preliminary engineering design phase for another. Included within the above amounts is \$25 million to provide communities with tools, data, and technical and planning assistance to reduce their flood risks, including non-structural approaches, and to support sustainable and resilient communities. This investment also builds on successful programs such as the Silver Jackets, a critical link in helping the Corps partner with Federal, State, local, and Tribal communities to encourage a better understanding of and more comprehensive approach to addressing flood risks.

The budget provides \$635 million for operation and maintenance of 344 projects along with various important activities associated with ensuring flood risk reduction infrastructure in the USACE portfolio remains reliable, including \$19.5 million for levee safety efforts such as performing inspections and risks assessments across the 14,000 miles of levee within the USACE portfolio. The information provided through the levee safety program helps ensure risk reduction and management investments are made using the best available data and proven scientific methods. The budget also includes an additional \$106 million to operate and maintain flood damage reduction projects funded in the Mississippi River & Tributaries (MR&T) account.

USACE's FY20 Budget includes \$32 million for emergency management activities related to national preparedness, response, and recovery from flooding and other disasters.

### Program Objectives

- Operate and maintain the Corps infrastructure with emphasis on reducing the risk of life loss and property damage
- Identify, plan and design high-priority flood risk management projects, including looking at a variety of strategies (e.g., structural, non-structural, natural, and nature-based features) to reduce riverine and coastal flood risk
- Bring high performing projects and programs on line to achieve benefits
- Improve intergovernmental coordination to more effectively and efficiently manage flood risk
- Provide planning and technical expertise to local communities to help them manage flood risk

Over the years, the USACE role in flood and storm damage reduction (originally conceived as flood “control” or flood “prevention”) has evolved. This change reflects a greater appreciation for the complexity and dynamics of floods and flood plains – the interaction of natural forces and patterns of urban and rural development – as well as the role of Federal, State, local and individual partnerships to help manage the risks of flooding in a riverine or coastal setting. This shift in perspective also reflects USACE's commitment to these partnerships to encourage more effective flood plain and flood risk management practices at the State and local levels.



Key Messages	Facts & Figures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public safety is USACE's number one priority.</li><li>• The Program enables USACE to help reduce risk of loss of life and property damage in the event of floods.</li><li>• Flood and storm damage reduction is a shared responsibility.</li><li>• Communities should consider resilient and sustainable approaches to addressing their flood risks.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• USACE flood and storm damage infrastructure includes 715 dams and 4,100 miles of levees, which help reduce the risk of flood damage.</li><li>• For more information about USACE's efforts, visit <a href="http://www.usace.army.mil/">http://www.usace.army.mil/</a></li></ul>