FY23 FPMS INTERAGENCY NONSTRUCTURAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS

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US Army Corps of Engineers®

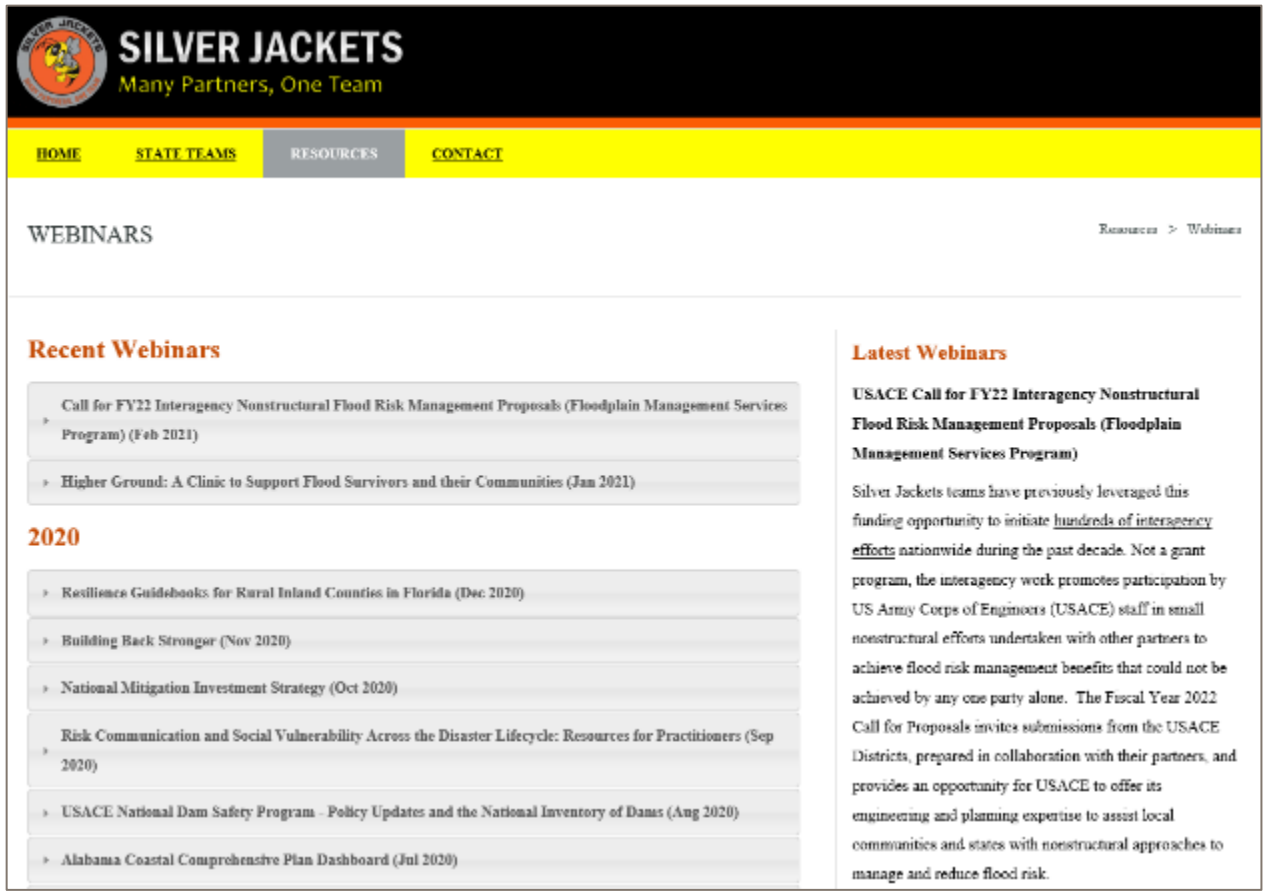
PURPOSE

Review opportunities and limitations of Flood Plain Management Services Program (FPMS) and its set-aside for interagency nonstructural projects

– **For internal USACE audience**
– What can the program do?
– Who can take advantage of it?

Review FY23 proposal process
– Why a proposal process?
– Pulling together a proposal
– Review and evaluation
– Notification and funding
– Tips and cautions
– Timelines

Answer questions (Q&A at end)



Materials from 8 Feb 2022 Webinar held for **external partners**:
https://silverjackets.nfrmp.us/Resources/Webinars

FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICES PROGRAM

Flood Plain Management Services (FPMS)
Authority: Section 206 of Flood Control Act of 1960

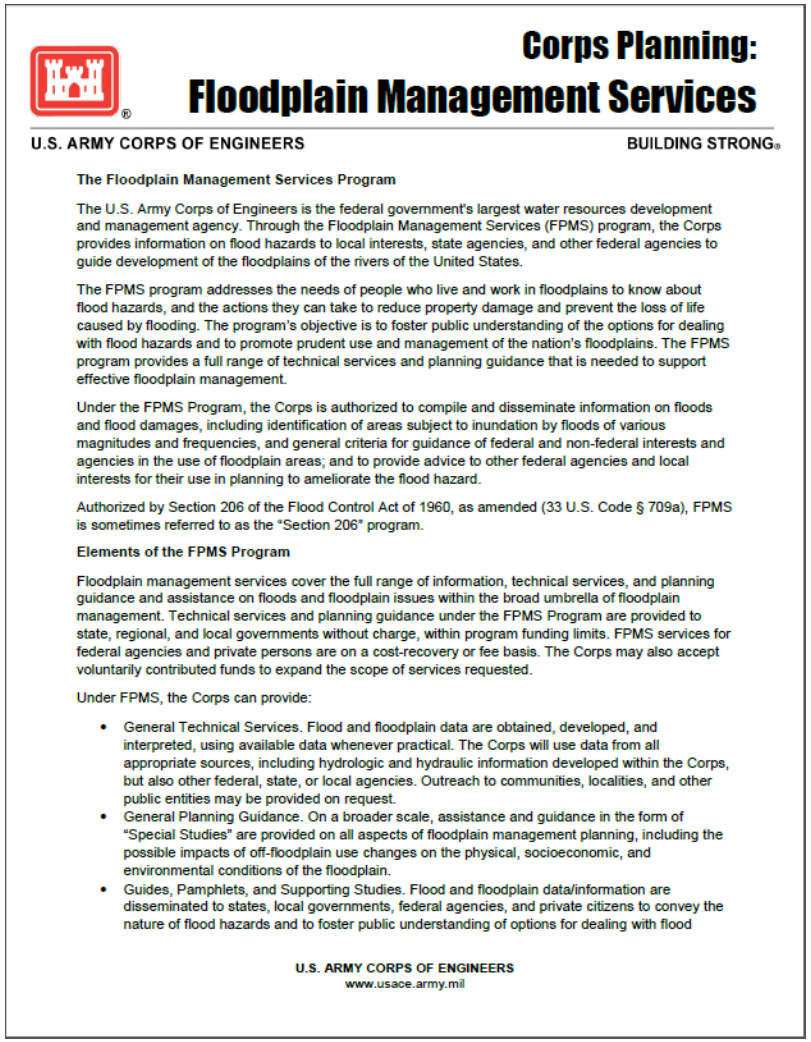
Advises, recommends, educates, informs, and provides technical support in response to state, regional or local governments; other non-Federal public agencies and Indian tribes

Provides USACE expertise to address flood plain and off flood plain use changes, flood risk and flood hazards

Full Federal cost (but cost-recovery basis for other Federal agencies or private persons), with potential for additional voluntary contributions

Excludes:

- USACE execution of FPMS outputs
- Detailed planning, design and economic analysis
- Detailed and extensive mapping



Corps Planning:
Floodplain Management Services

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The Floodplain Management Services Program

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the federal government's largest water resources development and management agency. Through the Floodplain Management Services (FPMS) program, the Corps provides information on flood hazards to local interests, state agencies, and other federal agencies to guide development of the floodplains of the rivers of the United States.

The FPMS program addresses the needs of people who live and work in floodplains to know about flood hazards, and the actions they can take to reduce property damage and prevent the loss of life caused by flooding. The program's objective is to foster public understanding of the options for dealing with flood hazards and to promote prudent use and management of the nation's floodplains. The FPMS program provides a full range of technical services and planning guidance that is needed to support effective floodplain management.

Under the FPMS Program, the Corps is authorized to compile and disseminate information on floods and flood damages, including identification of areas subject to inundation by floods of various magnitudes and frequencies, and general criteria for guidance of federal and non-federal interests and agencies in the use of floodplain areas; and to provide advice to other federal agencies and local interests for their use in planning to ameliorate the flood hazard.

Authorized by Section 206 of the Flood Control Act of 1960, as amended (33 U.S. Code § 709a), FPMS is sometimes referred to as the "Section 206" program.

Elements of the FPMS Program

Floodplain management services cover the full range of information, technical services, and planning guidance and assistance on floods and floodplain issues within the broad umbrella of floodplain management. Technical services and planning guidance under the FPMS Program are provided to state, regional, and local governments without charge, within program funding limits. FPMS services for federal agencies and private persons are on a cost-recovery or fee basis. The Corps may also accept voluntarily contributed funds to expand the scope of services requested.

Under FPMS, the Corps can provide:

- General Technical Services. Flood and floodplain data are obtained, developed, and interpreted, using available data whenever practical. The Corps will use data from all appropriate sources, including hydrologic and hydraulic information developed within the Corps, but also other federal, state, or local agencies. Outreach to communities, localities, and other public entities may be provided on request.
- General Planning Guidance. On a broader scale, assistance and guidance in the form of "Special Studies" are provided on all aspects of floodplain management planning, including the possible impacts of off-floodplain use changes on the physical, socioeconomic, and environmental conditions of the floodplain.
- Guides, Pamphlets, and Supporting Studies. Flood and floodplain data/information are disseminated to states, local governments, federal agencies, and private citizens to convey the nature of flood hazards and to foster public understanding of options for dealing with flood

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www.usace.army.mil

https://planning.erdc.dren.mil/toolbox/library/FactSheets/fpmsfactsheet_June2017.pdf

WHAT FPMS OFFERS

General Technical Services
– Obtain, develop, and interpret flood and floodplain data
– Outreach to public entities upon request

General Planning Guidance
– Undertake “special studies” on all aspects of floodplain management planning
– Includes physical, socioeconomic, and environmental conditions of floodplain

Guides, Pamphlets, Supporting Studies
– Disseminate flood and floodplain data to foster public understanding of hazards and options

National Flood Insurance Program Support (on reimbursable basis)

Some FPMS Activities & Products
Floodplain delineation
Flood hazard evaluation
Hurricane evacuation
Flood warning / preparedness
Comprehensive floodplain management
Flood risk reduction
Urbanization impacts
Storm water management
Flood proofing
Inventory of flood-prone structures
Workshops
Guides and Pamphlets / Risk Communication
Tabletop exercises
Emergency Action Plan / Floodplain Management Plan Assistance
Natural and nature-based solutions
Assessment tools and processes

Studies / guidance / assistance for non-Federal governments at full Federal cost; ability to accept contributions to achieve greater outcomes

INTERAGENCY NONSTRUCTURAL SPECIAL STUDIES

Set-aside under FPMS (CCS 251)

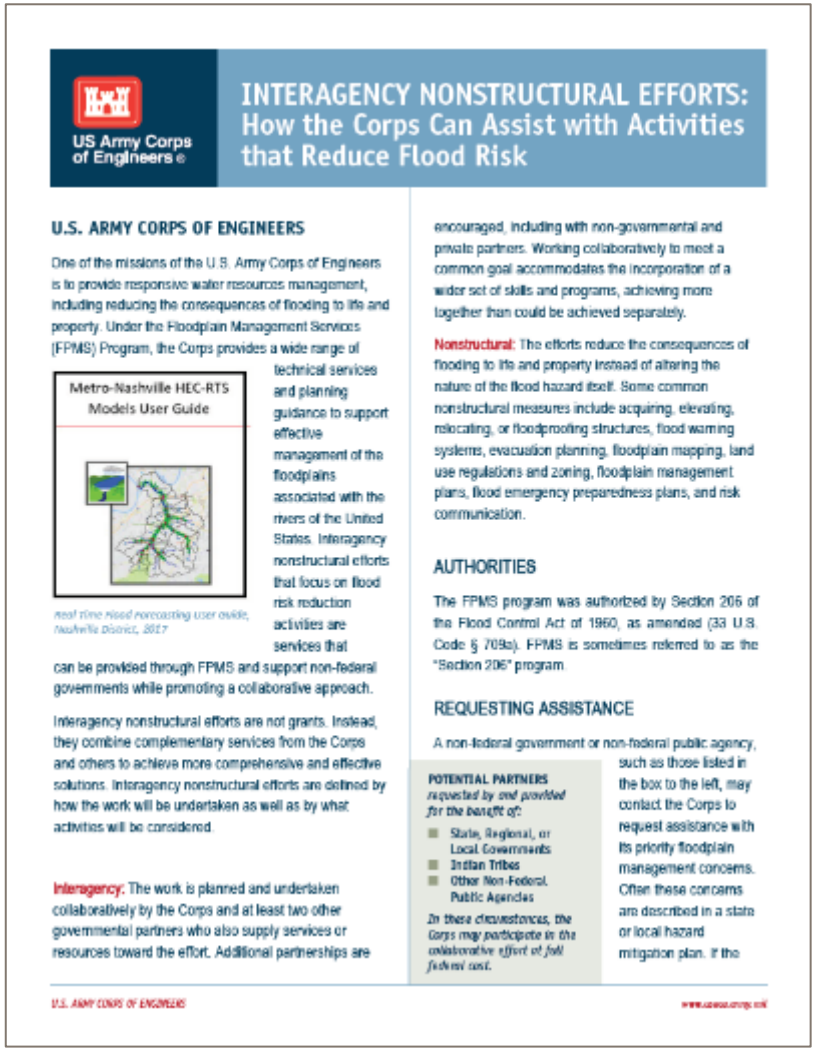
– Interagency
  - At least 2 governmental partners beyond USACE
  - Other partners as helpful; not limited to governmental

– Nonstructural
  - Seek to reduce flood risk through nonstructural means
  - Reduce flood consequences (as opposed to altering nature or extent of flood hazard)

Goals:

– Collaborative work with partners
– Integrated solutions
– Outcomes: include or enable flood risk management action

Unlike other parts of FPMS, annual proposal process to allocate funds to Districts, typically for USACE labor



US Army Corps of Engineers

INTERAGENCY NONSTRUCTURAL EFFORTS: How the Corps Can Assist with Activities that Reduce Flood Risk

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

One of the missions of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is to provide responsive water resources management, including reducing the consequences of flooding to life and property. Under the Floodplain Management Services (FPMS) Program, the Corps provides a wide range of technical services and planning guidance to support effective management of the floodplains associated with the rivers of the United States. Interagency nonstructural efforts that focus on flood risk reduction activities are services that can be provided through FPMS and support non-federal governments while promoting a collaborative approach.

Metro-Nashville HEC-RTS Models User Guide

real time flood forecasting user guide, Nashville District, 2017

Interagency nonstructural efforts are not grants. Instead, they combine complementary services from the Corps and others to achieve more comprehensive and effective solutions. Interagency nonstructural efforts are defined by how the work will be undertaken as well as by what activities will be considered.

Interagency: The work is planned and undertaken collaboratively by the Corps and at least two other governmental partners who also supply services or resources toward the effort. Additional partnerships are encouraged, including with non-governmental and private partners. Working collaboratively to meet a common goal accommodates the incorporation of a wider set of skills and programs, achieving more together than could be achieved separately.

Nonstructural: The efforts reduce the consequences of flooding to life and property instead of altering the nature of the flood hazard itself. Some common nonstructural measures include acquiring, elevating, relocating, or floodproofing structures, flood warning systems, evacuation planning, floodplain mapping, land use regulations and zoning, floodplain management plans, flood emergency preparedness plans, and risk communication.

AUTHORITIES

The FPMS program was authorized by Section 206 of the Flood Control Act of 1960, as amended (33 U.S. Code § 709a). FPMS is sometimes referred to as the "Section 206" program.

REQUESTING ASSISTANCE

A non-federal government or non-federal public agency, such as those listed in the box to the left, may contact the Corps to request assistance with its priority floodplain management concerns. Often these concerns are described in a state or local hazard mitigation plan. If the

POTENTIAL PARTNERS
requested by and provided for the benefit of:
- State, Regional, or Local Governments
- Indian Tribes
- Other Non-Federal Public Agencies

In these circumstances, the Corps may participate in the collaborative effort at full federal cost.

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Fact sheet: https://planning.erdc.dren.mil/toolbox/library/FactSheets/USACE_InteragencyNonStructEfforts_FactSheet_April2020.pdf

EXAMPLES RECENTLY FUNDED

Emergency Evacuation Planning: Cherokee Lake
Partners: FEMA, NOAA-NWS, State, Local
$50,500 budget (SWL)

Tule River Tribe Hydrologic Assessment
Partners: FEMA, NRCS, Tribe, State, Local
$145,000 budget (SPK)

H&H Support for Interagency Recovery
Partners: EPA, NPS, NRCS, State, Local, University, other
$105,000 budget (SAJ)

Middle Mississippi Floodprone Structure Inventory
Partners: State, Local
$85,000 budget (MVS)

City of Laurel Flood Warning Tool
Partners: NOAA-NWS, State, Local
$27,000 budget (NAB)

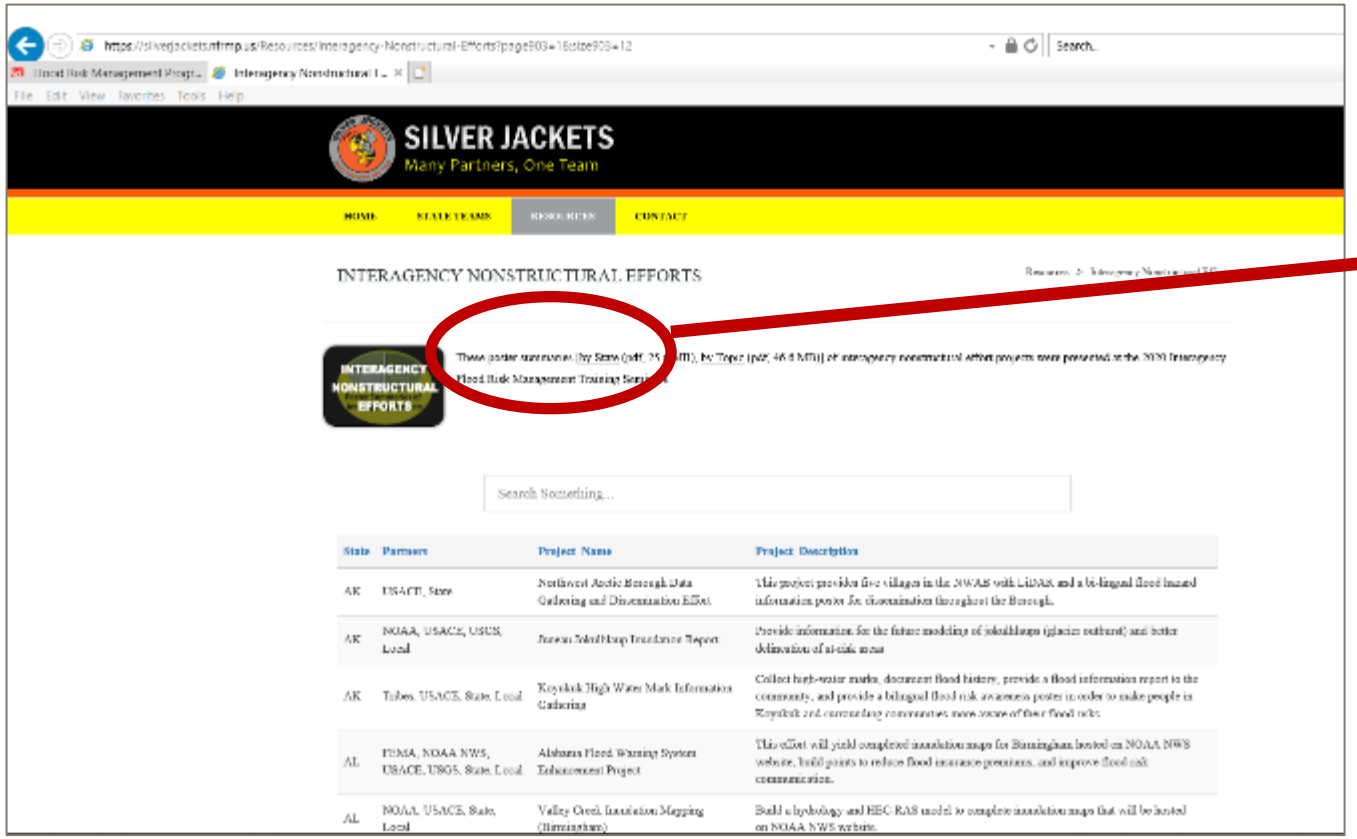
Improving Access to Relative Sea Level Change Guidance in Alaska
Partners: NOAA-OCM, State, Private
$49,000 budget (POA)

Idaho Post-Wildfire Flood Workshops
Partners: NOAA-NWS, FEMA, USGS, NRCS, USBR, State
$35,000 budget (NWW)

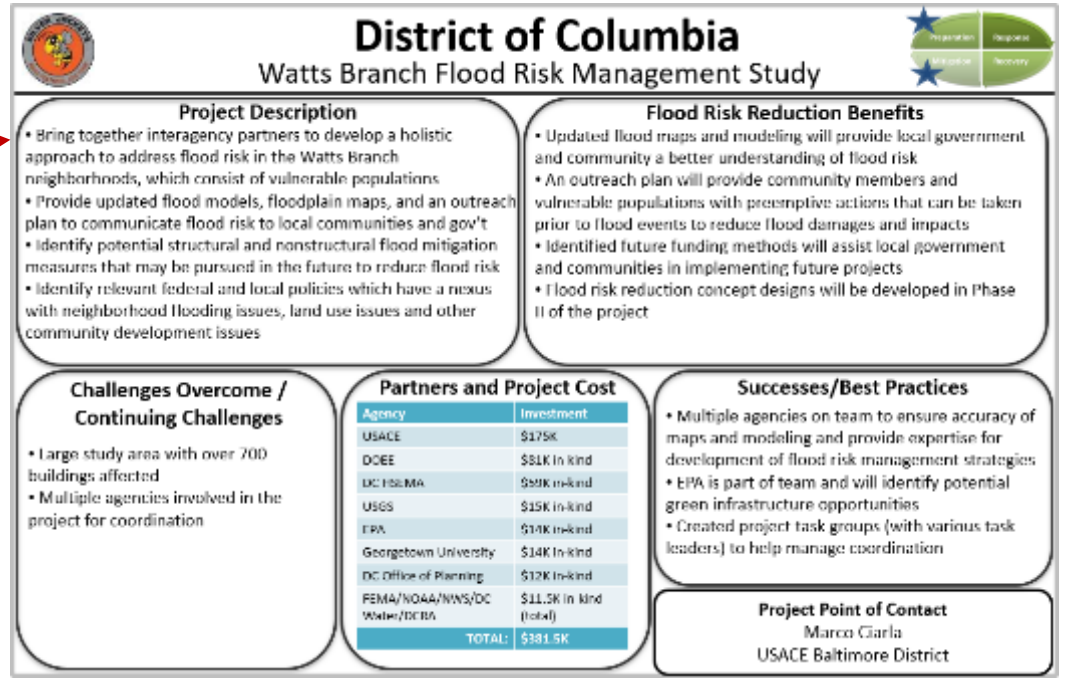
Green Infrastructure & Open Space Analysis
Partners: FEMA, State, Local, Private
$110,000 budget (LRL)

MORE EXAMPLES ONLINE

Searchable project table



Example Project Summary Poster



https://silverjackets.nfrmp.us/Resources/Interagency-Projects

POLL

Have you previously been involved in preparing FPMS Interagency Nonstructural proposal(s)?

a) No, never

b) Yes, in a supporting role only

c) Yes, once or twice

d) Yes, lots of times

CALL FOR FY23 PROPOSALS

Details: See 19 Nov email from Mark Roupas *(attached to this webinar's calendar invitation)*

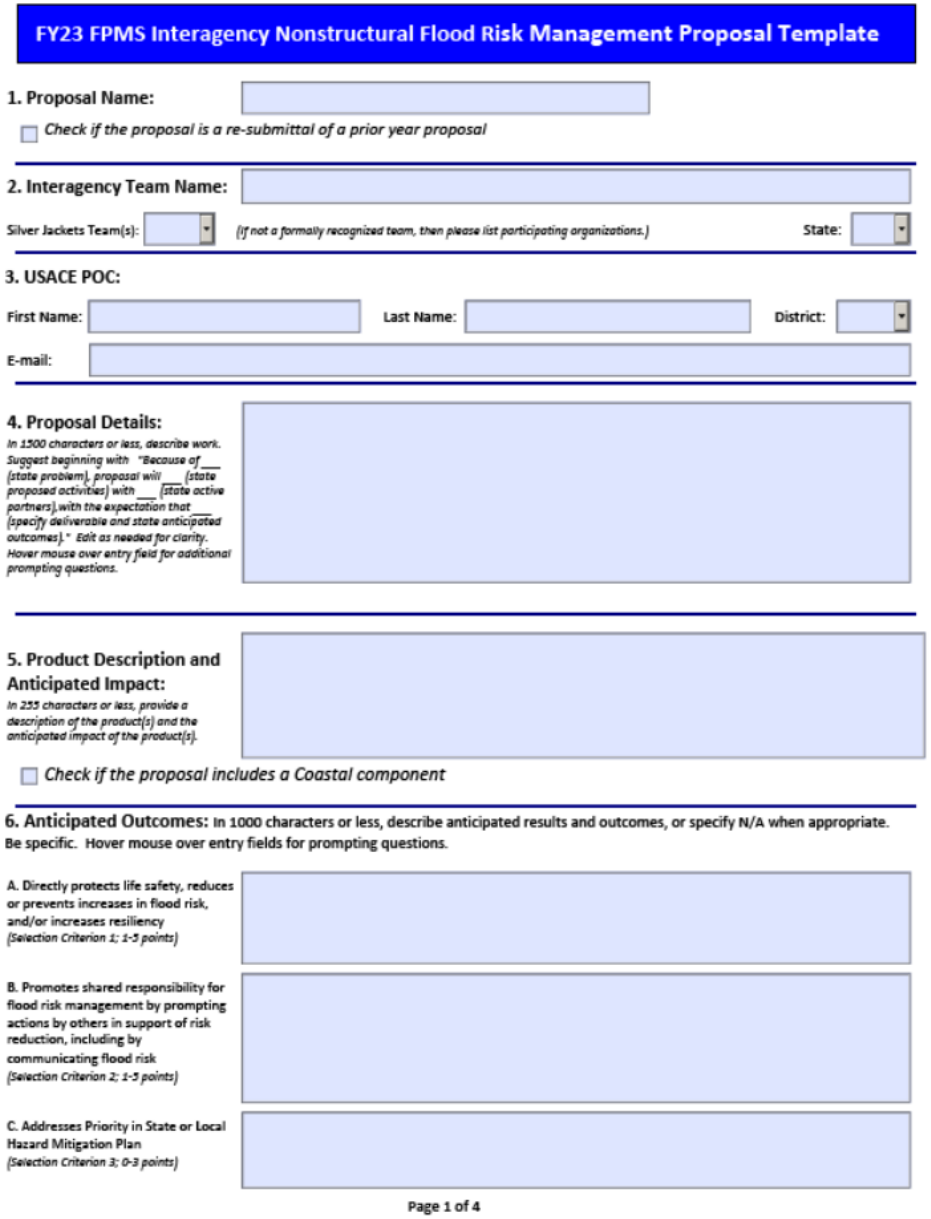
Timeline:

- District proposals to SharePoint by 31 March
  (template + attachments in single file posted to SharePoint);
- MSCs review and work issues with Districts in April
- Interdisciplinary committee + MSCs rank proposals in May & June
  - *Questions for District POC input are critical opportunity to influence ranking*
- Selected efforts notified mid-July

Prior to submission:

- Coordinate proposal with partners; reflect in template
- Obtain documented support from one non-federal governmental partner
  - How proposal helps achieve partner goals
  - Partner role in conducting proposed effort
  - Partner commitment to long-term outcomes
- Coordinate proposal internally within USACE; reflect contact in template

FY23 PROPOSAL TEMPLATE



FY23 FPMS Interagency Nonstructural Flood Risk Management Proposal Template

1. Proposal Name:

☐ *Check if the proposal is a re-submittal of a prior year proposal*

2. Interagency Team Name:

Silver Jackets Team(s): *(If not a formally recognized team, then please list participating organizations.)* State:

3. USACE POC:

First Name: Last Name: District:

E-mail:

4. Proposal Details:

In 1500 characters or less, describe work. Suggest beginning with "Because of ___ (state problem), proposal will ___ (state proposed activities) with ___ (state active partners),with the expectation that ___ (specify deliverable and state anticipated outcomes)." Edit as needed for clarity. Hover mouse over entry field for additional prompting questions.

5. Product Description and Anticipated Impact:

In 255 characters or less, provide a description of the product(s) and the anticipated impact of the product(s).

☐ *Check if the proposal includes a Coastal component*

6. Anticipated Outcomes: In 1000 characters or less, describe anticipated results and outcomes, or specify N/A when appropriate. Be specific. Hover mouse over entry fields for prompting questions.

A. Directly protects life safety, reduces or prevents increases in flood risk, and/or increases resiliency *(Selection Criterion 1; 1-5 points)*

B. Promotes shared responsibility for flood risk management by prompting actions by others in support of risk reduction, including by communicating flood risk *(Selection Criterion 2; 1-5 points)*

C. Addresses Priority in State or Local Hazard Mitigation Plan *(Selection Criterion 3; 0-3 points)*

Page 1 of 4

Advised: proposal requesting $100k or less and able to be completed in one year

Check box if proposal is a re-submittal

Describe proposed project and anticipated outcomes/impact

Check box if proposal includes a Coastal component

Note references to selection criteria and points – reviewers' evaluation criteria included in Call for Proposals Enclosure 2

Describe each partner's tasks or scope description and date coordinated– what is its specific role in collaborative execution?

Specify timing of requested USACE funds by FY

Specify any planned use of USACE funds contracting or collection of new data – and read the caveats

Fill in internal coordination (at minimum required District)

Use "Additional Comments" as helpful – unlimited characters

AFTER SUBMISSION: FY23 SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Life Safety/Flood Risk/Resilience (5 pts)
2. Shared Responsibility (5 pts)
3. Addresses priority in State or Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (3 pts)
4. Leverages partner resources, collaborative execution (5 pts)
5. Extra point if proposal will: (1 pt if any/all apply)
   - (A) improve environmental function;
   - (B) result in non-monetary social benefits (beyond life safety, resilience, or raising flood risk awareness)
   - *(C) address climate change;*
   - *(D) address repetitive flooding; OR*
   - *(E) serve an economically disadvantaged community.*
6. Previous execution of District's FPMS Interagency NS efforts (1 bonus or penalty point)

Reviewers' Guidelines for Evaluating Proposals are included in Call for Proposals (Enclosure 2)

NOTABLE CHANGE TO CRITERION 6: DEMONSTRATED EXECUTION OF PRIOR DISTRICT EFFORTS

Bonus Point Guidelines:

a) District carried less than 10% of their CCS 251 funding into FY22 ;
b) 100% of all FY19 and earlier FPMS Interagency NS efforts closed out with zero unexpended balance and outcomes documented via the “closeout” template, as of 31 Mar 2022

Penalty Point Guidelines: Per 3011a,

a) at least 60% of all CCS 251 cumulative funds provided by 30 November 2021 are expended or less than $150k is unexpended in CCS 251; and
b) 100% of all FY19 and earlier CCS 251 funds are expended or returned (zero unexpended balance); and
c) efforts with a zero balance reflect a completion date (actual) and outcomes achieved, as documented via the “closeout” template in the FPMS Interagency Efforts Update/CloseOut System database.

31 Mar 2022: MSCs notified of any Districts not meeting criteria, Districts have all of third quarter to improve execution or return funds
1 July 2022: penalty point assigned to any Districts not meeting criteria

Exceptions may be considered for unusual circumstances; requests must be communicated by MSC to HQ/IWR by 3 June 2022.

TIPS AND CAUTIONS

General TIPS: Proposal Submission Process

Read the entire “Call for Proposals”

Consider priorities (state needs, tribal needs, MSC strategic plan, etc.) where an interagency nonstructural approach can afford progress

Brainstorm early with team(s), Silver Jackets or otherwise, to identify ideas

Focus on priority ideas for proposal development; engage partners

Resources:
– People often available for sanity checks, questions – other Districts, MSC, SJ, NNC, FPMS
– Overview webinars available online (SharePoint and/or web)

Plan out USACE and partner tasks (level of detail as appropriate) for scheduling & budgeting

Coordinate draft proposal with partners; get the single required partner support document, ideally written by the partner instead of USACE

Coordinate internally; get proposals concurrences at District (and possibly MSC) level

Need to explain? Use Section 12. Can also add attachments.

Post one file per proposal (include attachments but avoid “portfolio”) using naming convention

TIP: Identify initial partners, jointly consider who else could add value

Interagency: at least two governmental partners beyond USACE, with emphasis on collaborative execution of planned work (roles suited to expertise and authorities)

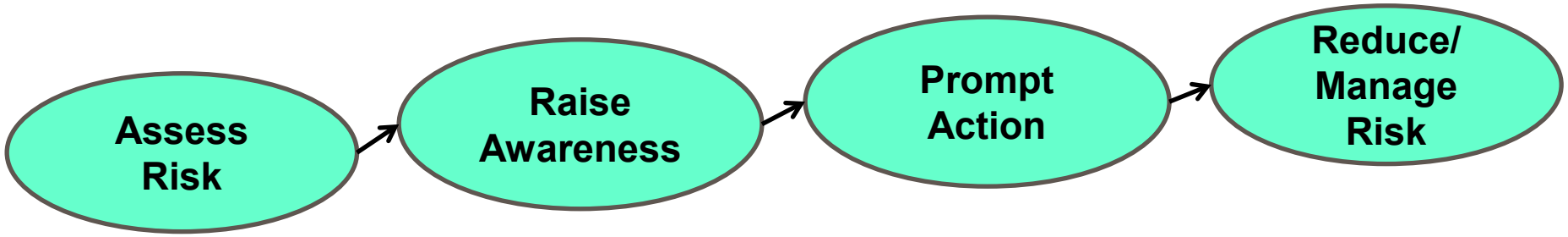
Partners: Tribal, Federal, State, Local, teams, task forces
Not limited to proposals developed by Silver Jackets teams.
Requires, but is not limited to, governmental partners.

Examples:
– Can FEMA assist in pursuing grants?
– Can NOAA/NWS involvement improve flood warning effectiveness?
– Does EPA have a complementary goal that can also be achieved?
– Can the state or community undertake outreach to businesses and public?

Resources:

1. **October 2019 Updated Special Edition Silver Jackets Newsletter**
   http://silverjackets.nfrmp.us/Resources/Newsletter
2. **Searchable Federal Flood Risk Management Programs Website (beta)**
   https://ffrmp.nfrmp.us

TIP: Consider what project-oriented actions will change flood risk



Progression: Who will take action? What will they do? How will that action affect flood risk?

Who: To affect flood risk, often action is required beyond what USACE can offer. Consider upfront scoping engagement, to include those with decision authority. Ensure proposal encompasses proposed nonstructural actions

Examples:

– Will the local government revise its ordinances or official plans?

– Will the local government install an automated flood warning system?

Resources: 1. National Nonstructural Committee website
https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/nfpc/

2. "Measurable Benefits" Prompts and Examples
https://team.usace.army.mil/sites/IWR/PDT/sj/Shared%20Documents/Projects

Caution: scrutinize any proposed contracting by USACE

FPMS makes USACE technical services and planning guidance and assistance available "within personnel and funding capabilities"

Program expectations: **FPMS funds support work by in-house (USACE) personnel**; while not categorically prohibited, use of FPMS funds for contracting is discouraged except under unusual circumstances

Tips if considering contracting:
– Does the needed expertise reside within USACE, perhaps at another District or Center?
– Can another partner provide the needed expertise within its authorities and resources?
– Can the proposed effort be framed to achieve valuable outcomes without contracting?

Proposal template includes check box for contracting with explanation

Resource: ER 1105-2-1000, Appendix G

Caution: limit proposed new data collection by USACE

FPMS guidance is to use available data from all sources whenever practical

Program expectations: **some small (overall and relatively), ancillary data collection may support provision of appropriate services**

Tips if considering data collection to be funded via FPMS:

– Why isn't existing data sufficient for the intended purposes?
– Is collection discrete or ongoing (e.g., gaging)?
– What size geographic area is being covered?
– How much of the cost is data processing vs data collection?
– USACE surveys of individual buildings can be problematic
– **Rule of thumb (not a goal): ≤ 35% of overall USACE cost** devoted to data collection, ***if*** necessary and ancillary

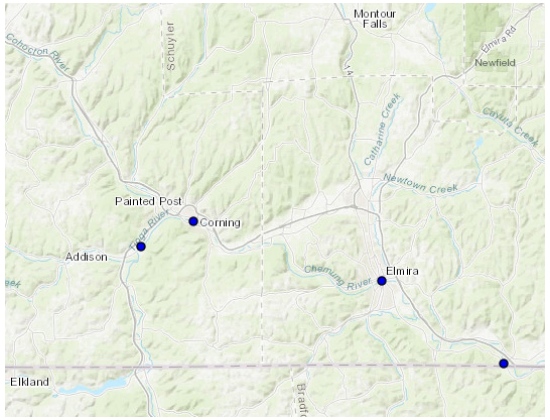
Proposal template includes check box for data collection with explanation

Resource: ER 1105-2-1000, Appendix G

Caution: sanity check floodplain mapping plans against Appendix G

FPMS guidance includes some restrictions regarding floodplain mapping

FPMS Program expectations: **provision of floodplain mapping is useful!** But it cannot substitute for other programs, should use or obtain information from others where feasible, and should not be overly extensive or detailed.



Tips for floodplain mapping:

– Consider whether existing floodplain mapping suffices
– USACE provides National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) support to FEMA on a cost-recovery basis; consider purpose (floodplain mapping under FPMS not a substitute for NFIP mapping but can be consistent with future NFIP use where reasonable and cost-appropriate)
– Encourage locality to be involved in floodplain mapping activities and reduce costs by furnishing field survey data, maps, historical flood information
– Use available data whenever practical
– Avoid extensive and detailed mapping; confine large-area long-reach delineation to non-Federal public and Tribal lands, areas not mapped in detail under NFIP
– Can assist with technical information that a community may subsequently use in FEMA map revisions; responsibility for revision process rests with community

Resource: ER 1105-2-1000, Appendix G

Caution: consider context of information dissemination

Consider scope, scale, expertise, and partners regarding information dissemination:

– **Guides, pamphlets, and supporting studies** may be disseminated to convey nature of flood hazards and to foster public understanding of options for dealing with flood hazards

– Within this context, **signage** is an acceptable means of conveying such information; however, expectation is that overall and relative cost is small; also, some partners may be well positioned to provide signage (e.g., DOT, recreation departments) and this can be explored

– Within this context, **websites** are an acceptable means of conveying such information; however, concerns can arise when significant development is needed raising question regarding in-house capability (e.g., is website development in our wheel house or is our expertise primarily with content?) and concerning ongoing hosting/maintenance costs (some partners may be well positioned to provide)

Caution: Miscellaneous Items

Avoid undertaking others' responsibilities; examples include:

– USACE can *assist,* but responsibility for developing a floodplain management plan rests with the community

– USACE can *assist a community* with community-oriented risk reduction efforts (e.g., evacuation planning), but responsibility for developing dam-oriented Emergency Action Plan rests with the dam owner

FPMS efforts for Federal agencies or private entities are on a reimbursable basis

Avoid augmenting efforts with a separate appropriation decision (e.g., cannot provide $4k/gage for NOAA AHPS)

Don't use FPMS in concert with, or as a deliberate lead-in, to a feasibility study

Don't use FPMS for USACE-funded detailed design or USACE-funded construction

Honor the spirit of this set-aside to promote nonstructural approaches to managing flood risk

Avoid appearance of USACE "endorsing" others' formal programs

Coordinate as needed to avoid getting ahead of the research curve

QUESTIONS?

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