

PCOP WEBINAR

Role of Planning in Silver Jackets and NFRMP Teams



U.S. ARMY



US Army Corps
of Engineers





AGENDA AND OBJECTIVES

Agenda:

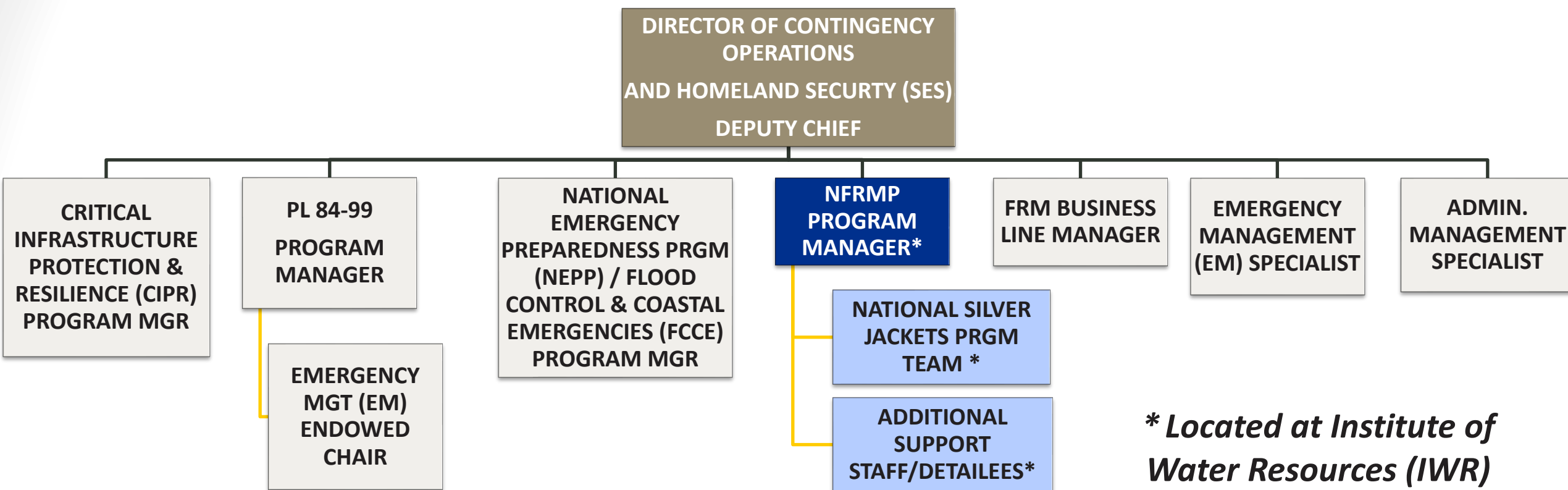
- ☐ Overview of Silver Jackets and NFRMP Teams
- ☐ USACE Technical Assistance Authorities Descriptions
- ☐ Project Examples of FRM & EM Collaboration
- ☐ Leveraging Internal and External Resources





HQ OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY ORG CHART

NFRMP Team Represented by Green Boxes

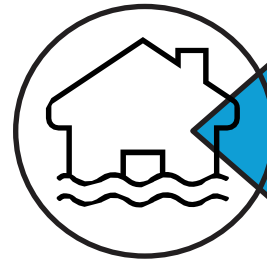
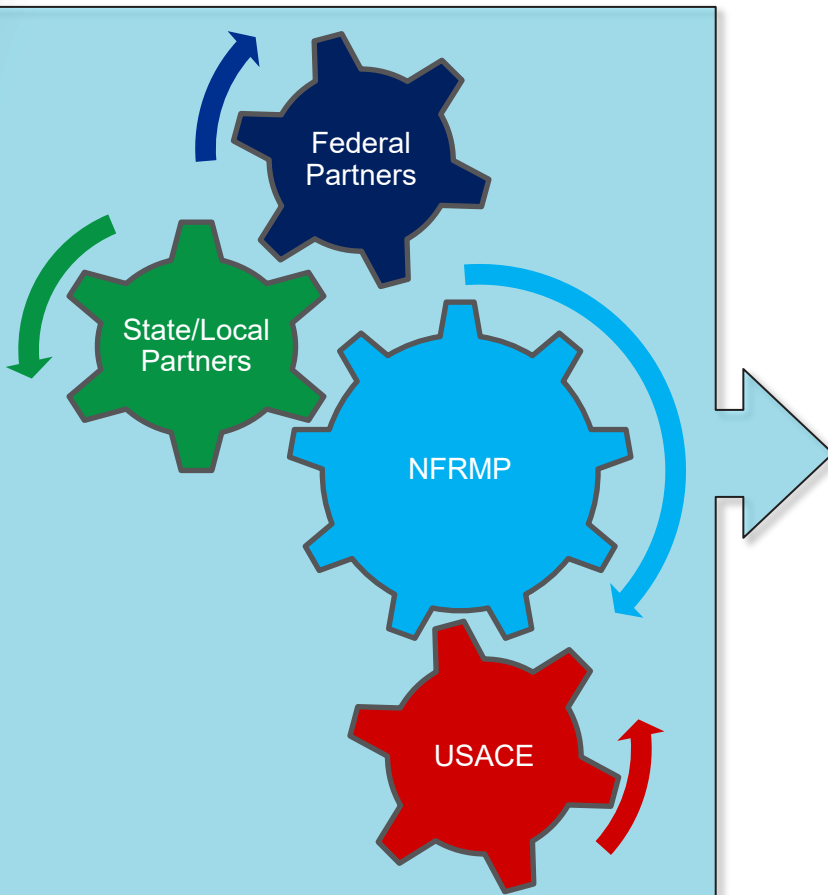




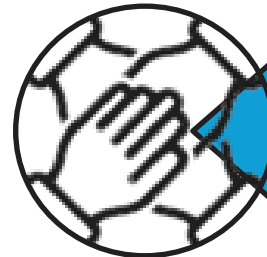
NATIONAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM & SILVER JACKETS

NFRMP GOALS

- ✓ **Integrating** FRM Goals between Federal Missions and State Priorities
- ✓ **Engagement and Outreach** to Support and Identify State Priorities
- ✓ Bring USACE **Expertise** to Federal and State Partners
- ✓ Focus on **Efficient and Collaborative** Flood Risk Management



Enhances how USACE manages flood risk.



Strengthens USACE support to others who are managing flood risk.



Promotes linkages between flood risk management and other water resources challenges and opportunities.



NATIONAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM & SILVER JACKETS

SILVER JACKETS FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

- ✓ **Efficiency:** Leverage Programs, Authorities, and Resources
- ✓ **State and Local Roles:** Collaborative Solutions on State Led Priorities
- ✓ **Shared Responsibility:** Enhance Local Risk-Informed Decisions through Combined Missions



PARTICIPATION

Federal: USACE, FEMA, NWS, USGS, EPA, NRCS, USDA

State: Emergency Management, National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), Water Resources, Natural Resources, Transportation, Historical Preservation

Regional: River basin commissions

Local: Counties and municipalities

Tribal Nations

Other: Universities, non-profit organizations





2025-2026: CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

- **First pilot Silver Jackets teams: Ohio (2005) and Indiana (2006)**
 - Listen to our 2025 webinar featuring the first state partners
 - 2025 USACE Inside the Castle Podcast
“Partnership in Action: Silver Jackets” – featuring early SJ team members
- **Historical footnotes**
 - FEMA was one of the founding federal member of teams, alongside USACE
 - Originally conceived to have EM focus





WHAT IS “SILVER JACKETS?”

Emphasizes state and local leadership

- Focused on state-identified flood risk priorities
- Promotes a shared responsibility of flood risk management

Facilitates interagency collaboration and activities

- Collaborative approach with all participating agencies
- Each agency interagency coordination; leveraging technical capabilities and programs
- Creates efficiencies and reduces duplication of effort

Promotes integrated flood risk management solutions

- Emphasizes shared risk management within a life-cycle framework
- Achieves a progression of outcomes:
Risk Identification → Risk Communication → Risk Management



SILVER JACKETS...WHAT'S THE CORPS ROLE

- Coordinators are funded through NFRMP to coordinate internally and externally to support the **State** Silver Jackets Team
- Build and sustains partnerships with Federal and other partners
- Provide USACE expertise and resources to partners
- Reduce duplicative efforts and develop complete solutions.
- Coordinate internally in USACE to address partners' needs
- Share partners' perspectives and needs within USACE to improve USACE awareness of challenges and partnership opportunities.

EVERY DISTRICT HAS ONE OR MORE SILVER JACKETS COORDINATORS.

THESE COORDINATORS CAN PROVIDE KEY LINKAGES TO PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS



[Reach out to your District Jackets Coordinator!](#)

If you have any trouble, let us know.



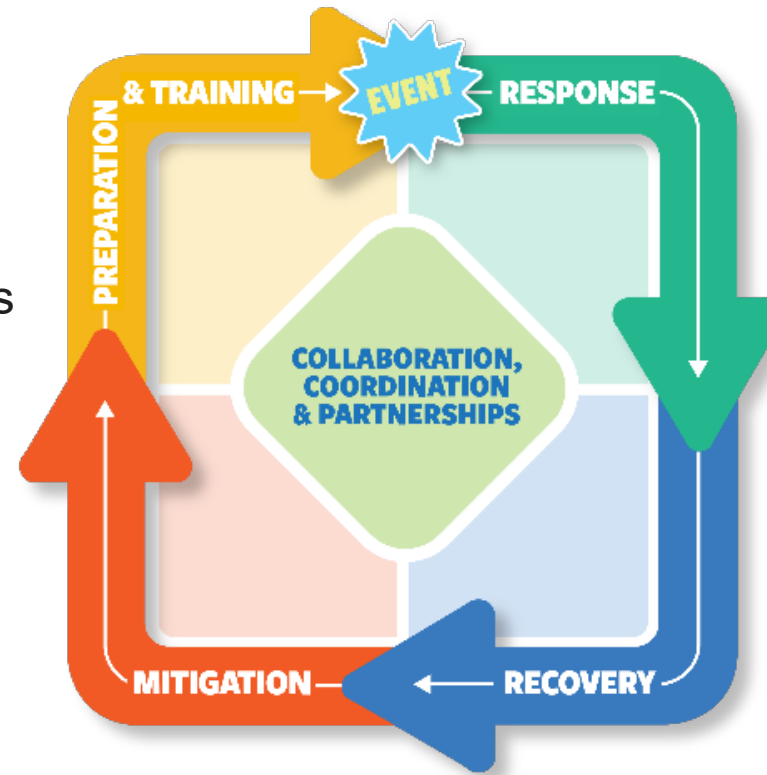
WHAT DO SILVER JACKETS TEAMS DO?

Preparation/Training:

- Flood Exercises
- Workshops
- Public Outreach Campaigns
- Flood Season Coordination Mtgs

Mitigation:

- Evacuation Plans
- Nature Based Solutions
- Inundation Mapping
- Hazard Mitigation Planning
- Watershed Assessments
- Comprehensive Planning

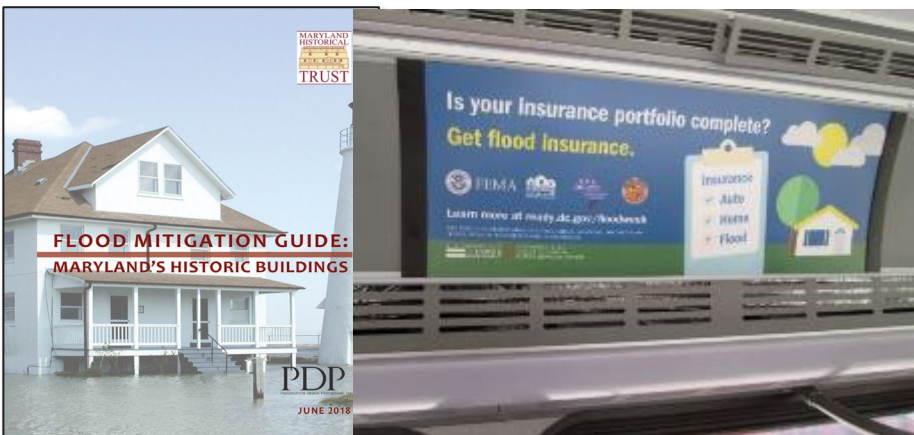


Response:

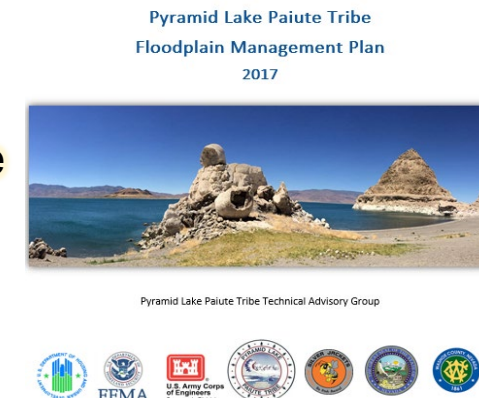
- Emergency Management support
- Public Outreach
- Inundation Mapping
- Produce/Update EAPs
- Emergency Warning Systems

Recovery:

- HMGP's
- ID and Implement Nonstructural measures
- Flood Risk Mgmt training & Education
- Nonstructural workshops for Community officials & Public



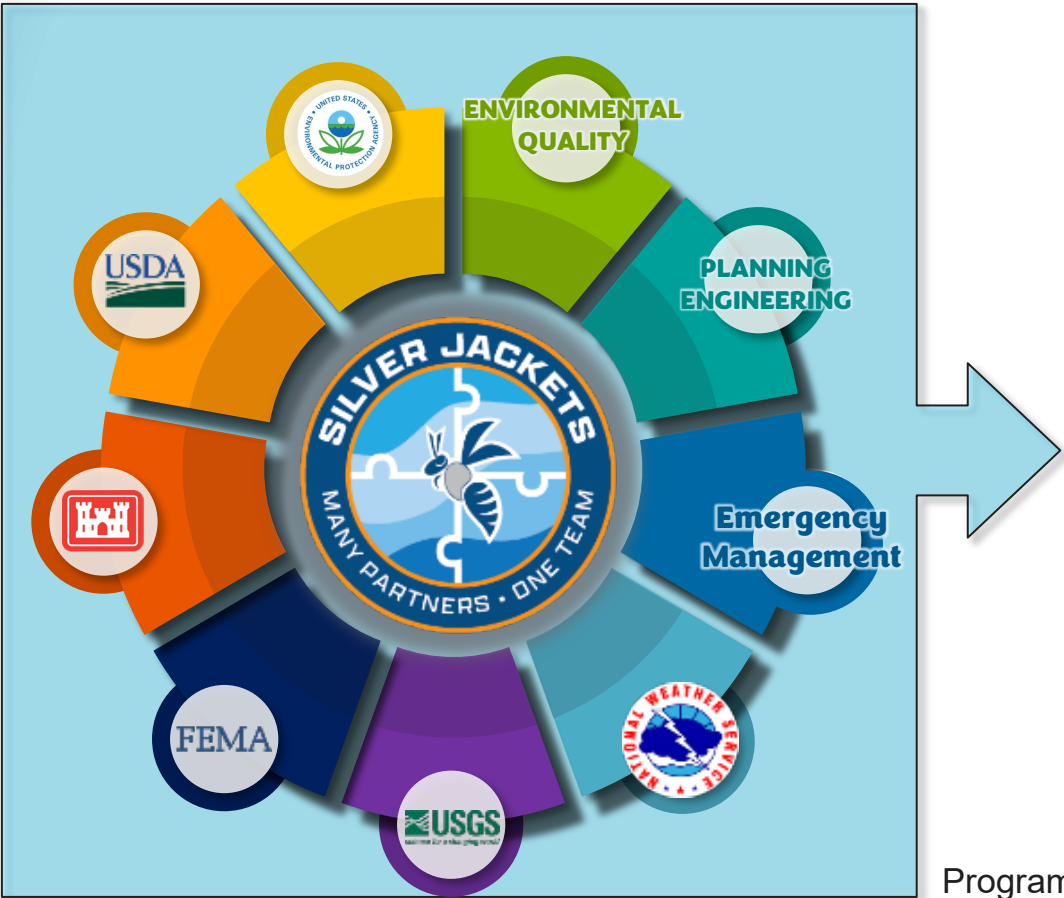
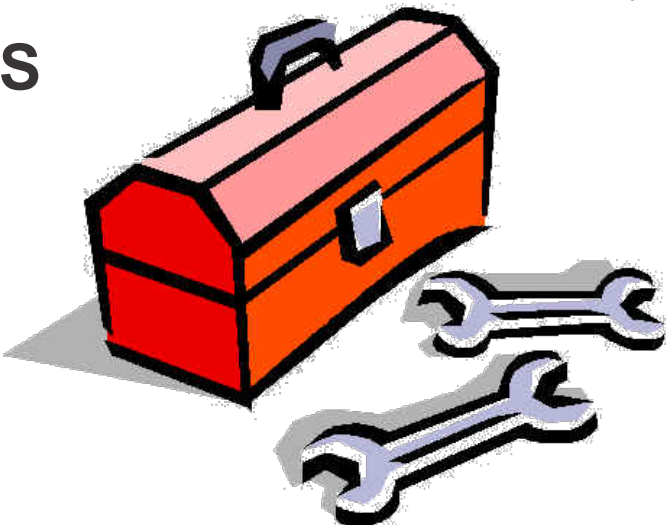
- ✓ Identify and Assess infrastructure hazards
- ✓ Provide current & accurate flood risk information
- ✓ Public Awareness & Understanding





COORDINATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TOOLS

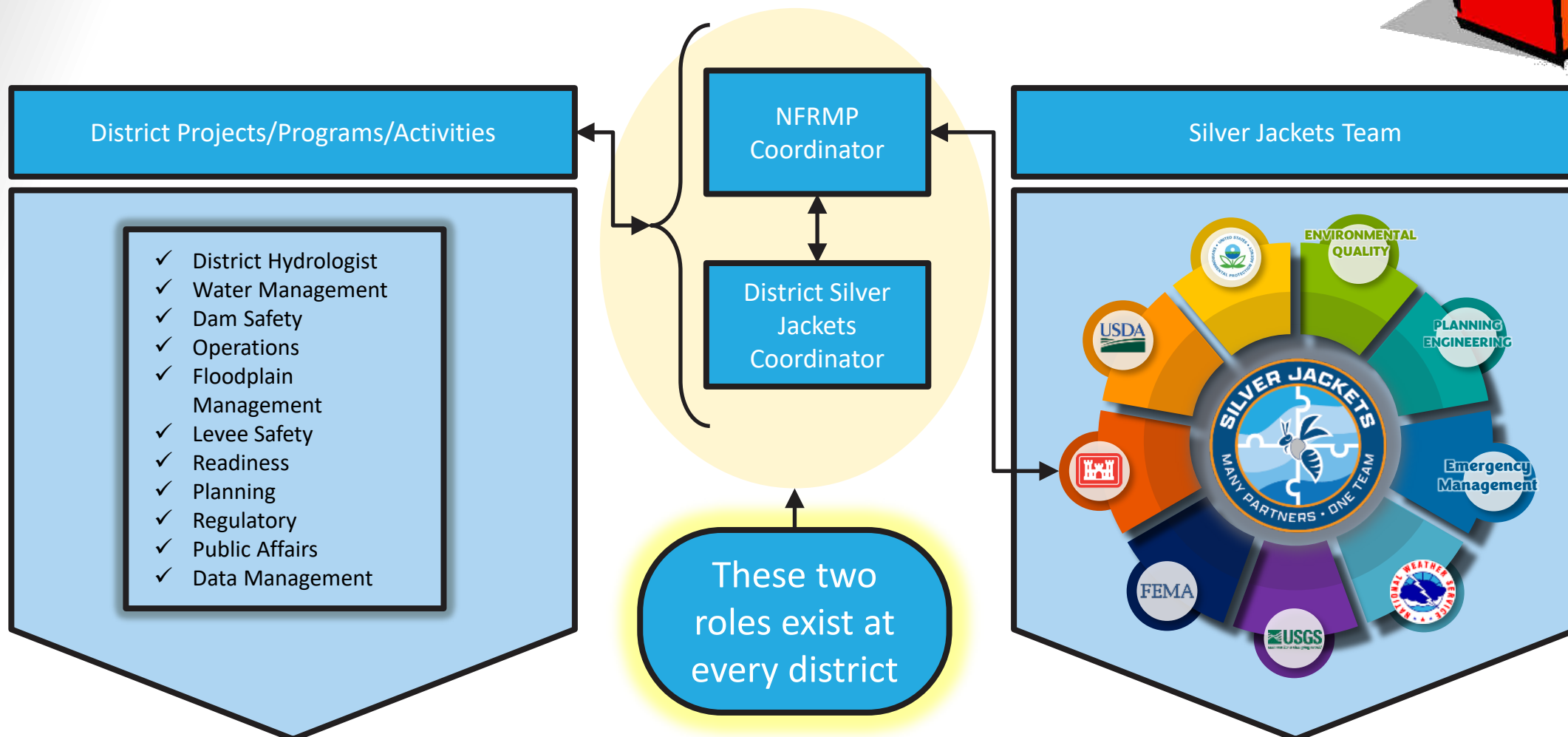
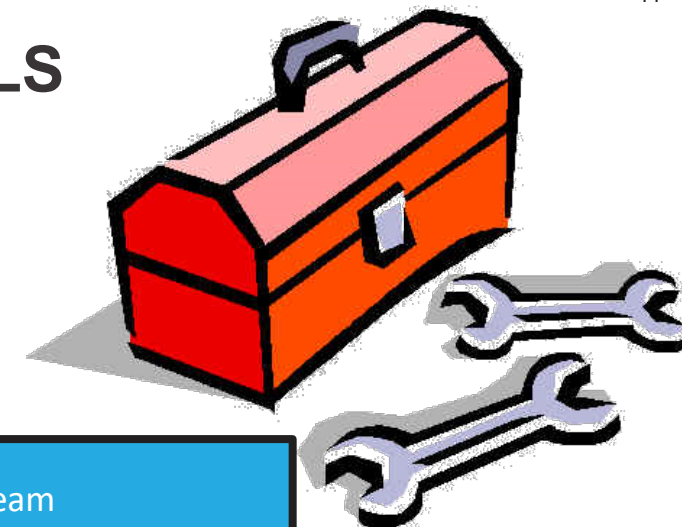
Some common programs used to support our partners through coordination activities, outreach, or planning and technical assistance.



National Flood Risk Management Program (NFRMP)
Planning Assistance to States Program (PAS)
Continuing Authorities Program (CAP)
Floodplain Management Services Program (FPMS)
Emergency Management and PL 84-99
Other Federal and State Programs

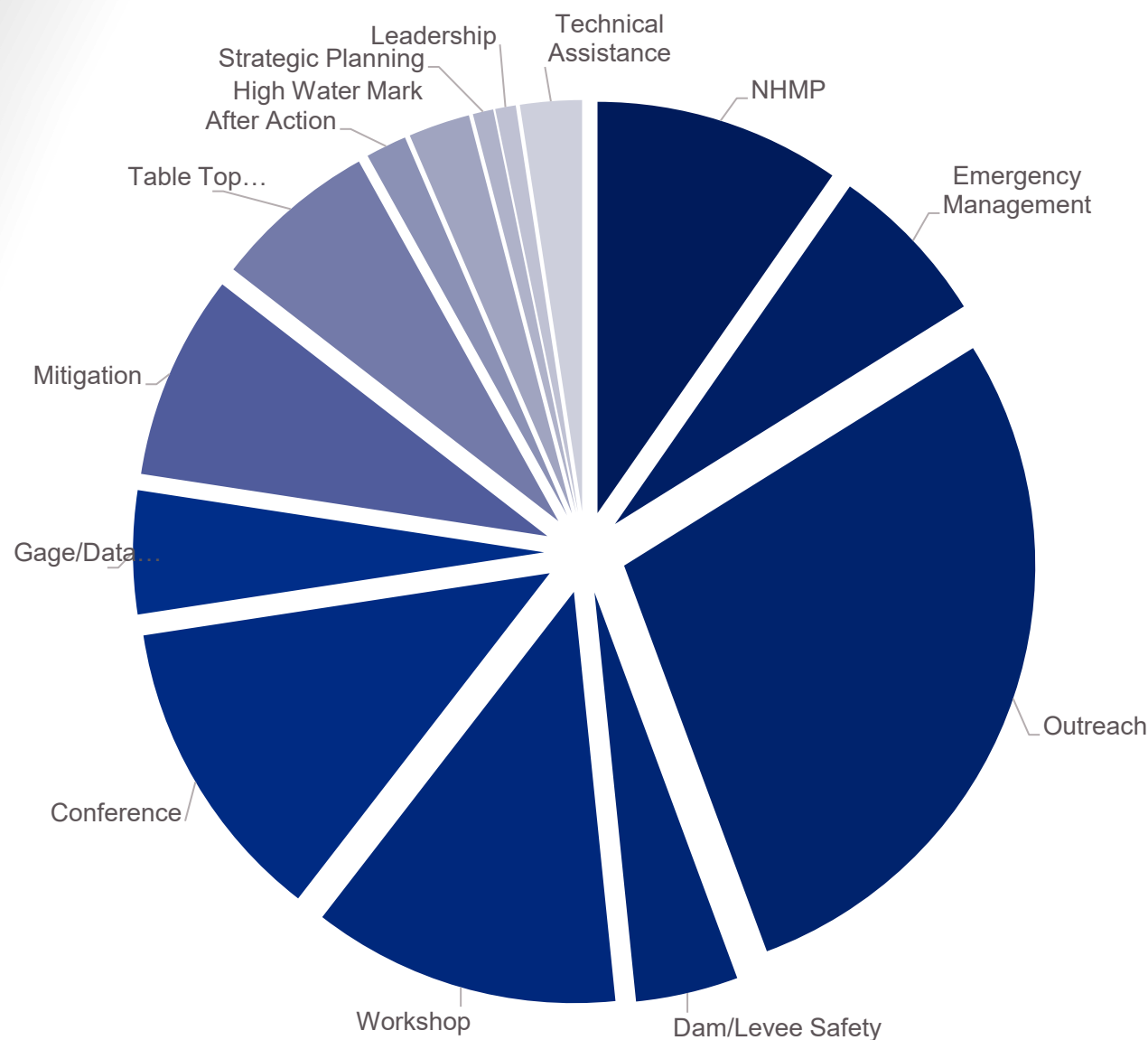


COORDINATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TOOLS





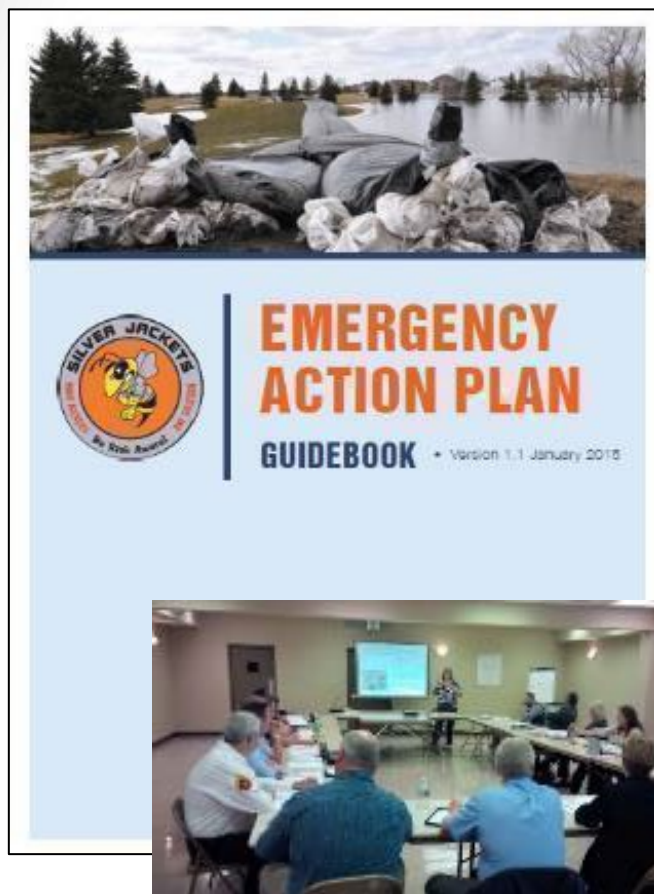
Categories of Silver Jackets Activities (FY 2026)



- Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning
- Technical Assistance (H&H)
- Dam/Levee Safety
- Planning Studies
- Risk Assessment
- Assessment of Gaging
- Emergency Action Planning
- Table Top Exercises
- High Water Mark Collection
- After Action Reports



FPMS INTERAGENCY: MN/ND SILVER JACKETS EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN GUIDEBOOK AND WORKSHOPS



- Step-by-step instructions
- Forms or samples
 - *After Action Review Input*
 - *Contacts –Personnel List*
 - *Critical Facilities*
 - *Hazardous Materials*
 - *Record of Plan Distribution*
 - *Press Release Example*
 - *Organization Chart*
- Links to resources
- Local community workshops to assist with EAP development

Partners

- MN and ND Emergency Mgrs
- FEMA
- NOAA NWS
- USGS
- USACE

Guidebook:

https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Portals/57/docs/Operations%20Center/EAP_Combined_4_20Nov19w_cover.pdf



PL84-99: NAVAJO NATION INTERAGENCY SJ BIRD SPRINGS CHAPTER FLOOD RESPONSE

Problem: Chapter has experienced significant flooding along the Little Colorado River (LCR), associated with sedimentation accumulation at the N71 Bridge over the LCR

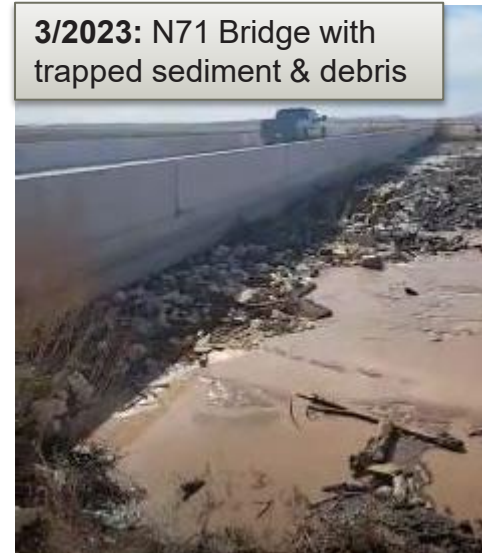
Interagency Efforts:

- USACE EM installation of HESCO barriers & sandbags (PL84-99)
- NN DOT work to fix washed out roads to reconnect communities
- BIA & County work to clear out sediment & debris from beneath bridge to prevent future flooding
- SJ to develop an EAP for flood response with TTX

10/2022: N71 Bridge over the LCR



3/2023: N71 Bridge with trapped sediment & debris



3/2023: Birdsprings Community installing HESCO barriers around homes

8/2023: N71 Bridge after BIA's clearing work



8/2023: N71 Bridge after BIA work & heavy storms



IOWA 3-DAY EVENT WITH LEVEE SAFETY

Iowa Silver Jackets Host 3-Day Event with National Levee Safety Program and Iowa Office of Levee Safety



- The three-day event, hosted by the Iowa Silver Jackets team
- The Iowa Office of Levee Safety, Iowa Silver Jackets partners, and state leadership in collaboration with the National Levee Safety Program.
- Support Iowa's levee goals and objectives.



Agreement Type: Technical Assistance

Partners: Metro Nashville, USGS, NWS

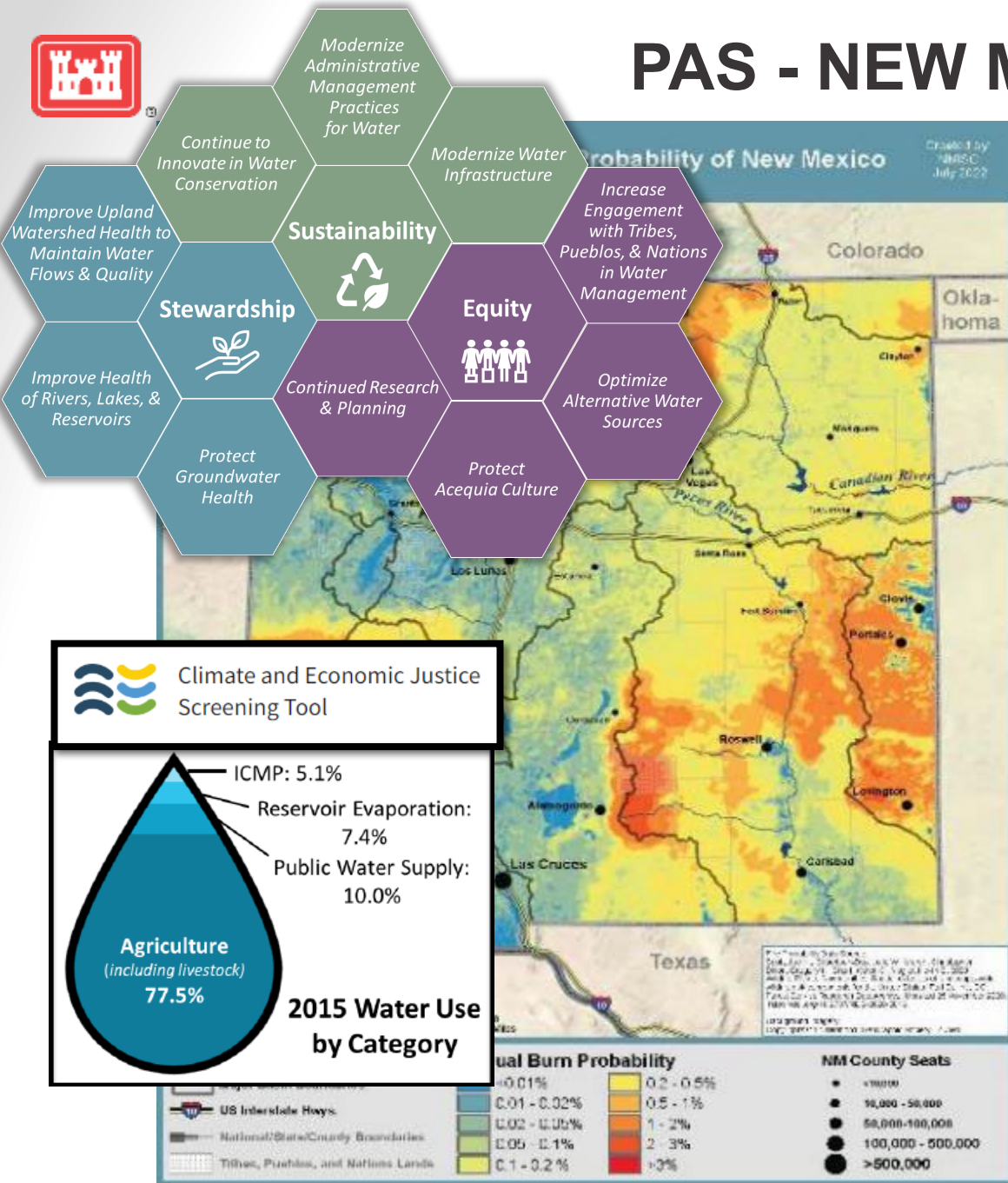
Project Description: After the historic flood in middle Tennessee Metro Nashville was determine to be more prepared for the next major flood event. Metro partnered with USACE through planning assistance to states along with support from USGS and NWS to develop modeling, plans and tools for flood preparedness.

Products:

- Modeled over 450 miles of streams which were submitted to FEMA for Flood Insurance Study updates (Zone AE).
- Built real time simulation models (RTS) models in the 5 major watersheds to help predict flood inundation based on predicted rainfall.
- Developed watershed advisory guides for each basin to inform action levels and flood preparedness planning.
- Situational Awareness for Flooding Events (SAFE) tool was developed to help with multiagency planning and response to flooding events.
- Multit agency table top exercise and trainings were held. This included coordinating with first responders on using the tools.



PAS - NEW MEXICO 50-YEAR WATER PLAN



Agreement Type: Comprehensive

Partners: NM Office of the State Engineer, Interstate Stream Commission (ISC)

Project Description: The NM 50-Year Water Plan (50YWP) builds off of the climate change science presented in the “NM Leap Ahead Report”. The 50YWP identifies water threats from climate change, identifies New Mexico communities’ water resilience to a changing climate, and provides a compilation of actionable recommendations for the state and local communities to pursue under Federal and State programs or local efforts. The 50YWP is meant to be a catalyst for future water planning in NM.

Objectives:

- ▶ Climate Change State of the Science for NM
- ▶ Potential impacts to water resources in the state by region
- ▶ Outreach for community assessment of resilience
- ▶ Potential projects, data gaps for future efforts

Total project costs: \$300K

Benefits to Partner: USACE will take the actionable recommendations from the 50YWP and cross reference with the CEJST to help the state better plan outreach across the state by region and need. The ISC also plans to base all future water planning reports (5 year cycles) on the findings and recommendations of the NM 50YWP.

Intended Outcome: The NM50YWP, Outreach Plan based on Equity Principals to inform future water plan actions

Albuquerque District



FLOOD MAPPING AND HYDRAULIC MODELING



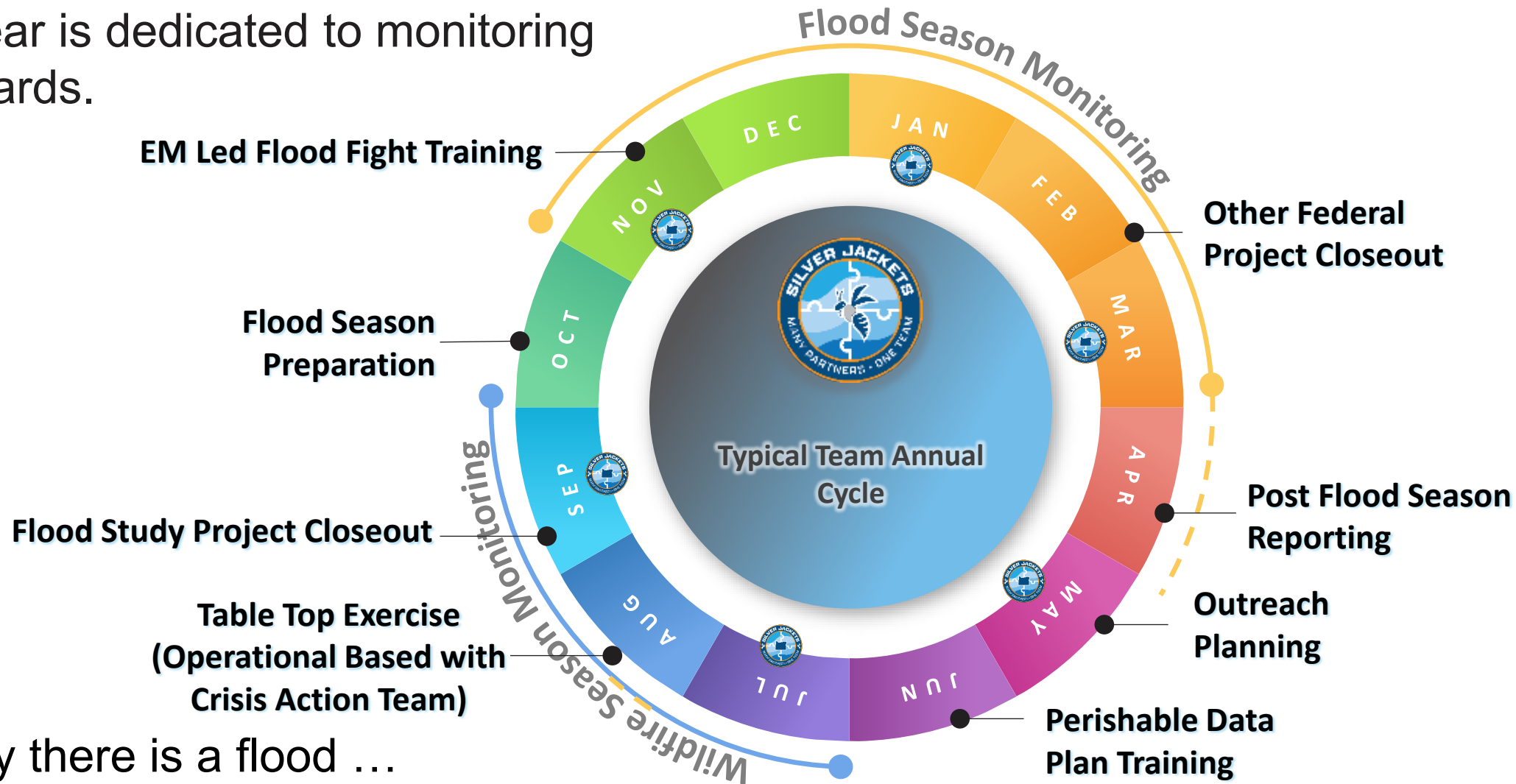
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER FLOOD INUNDATION MAPPING

- Developed flood inundation mapping for 100 river miles based on 4 river gages
- Displays predicted extent and depth of flooding
- Used by local emergency managers and the public to make risk informed response decisions
- Also support decision making at State DOT's, county and local road departments
- Great interagency project as it uses our various agency expertise

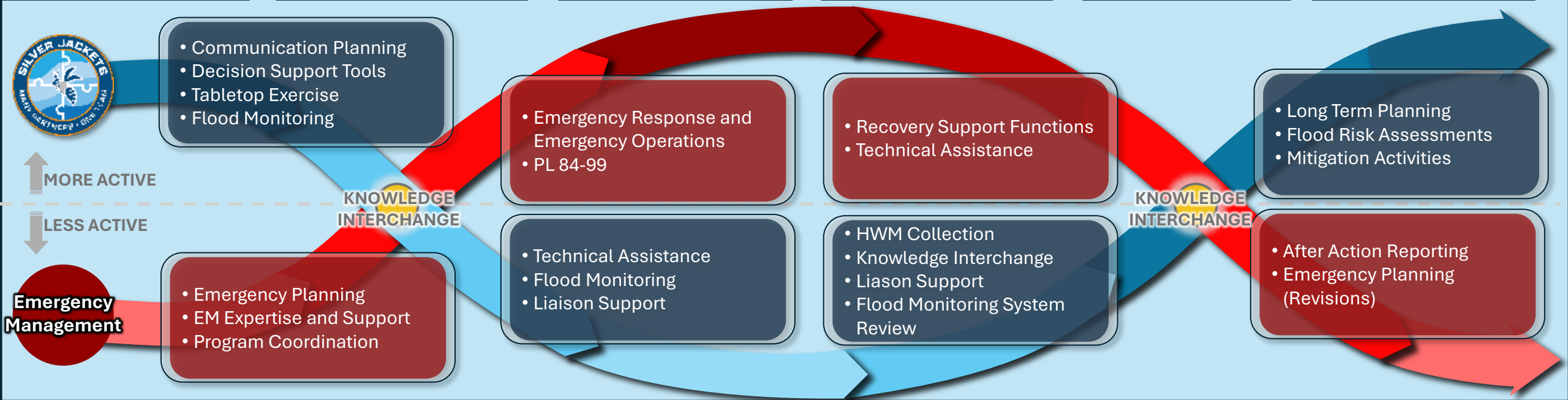


LET'S CONSIDER AN ANNUAL CYCLE

- Activities occur throughout the year
- Part of the year is dedicated to monitoring potential hazards.

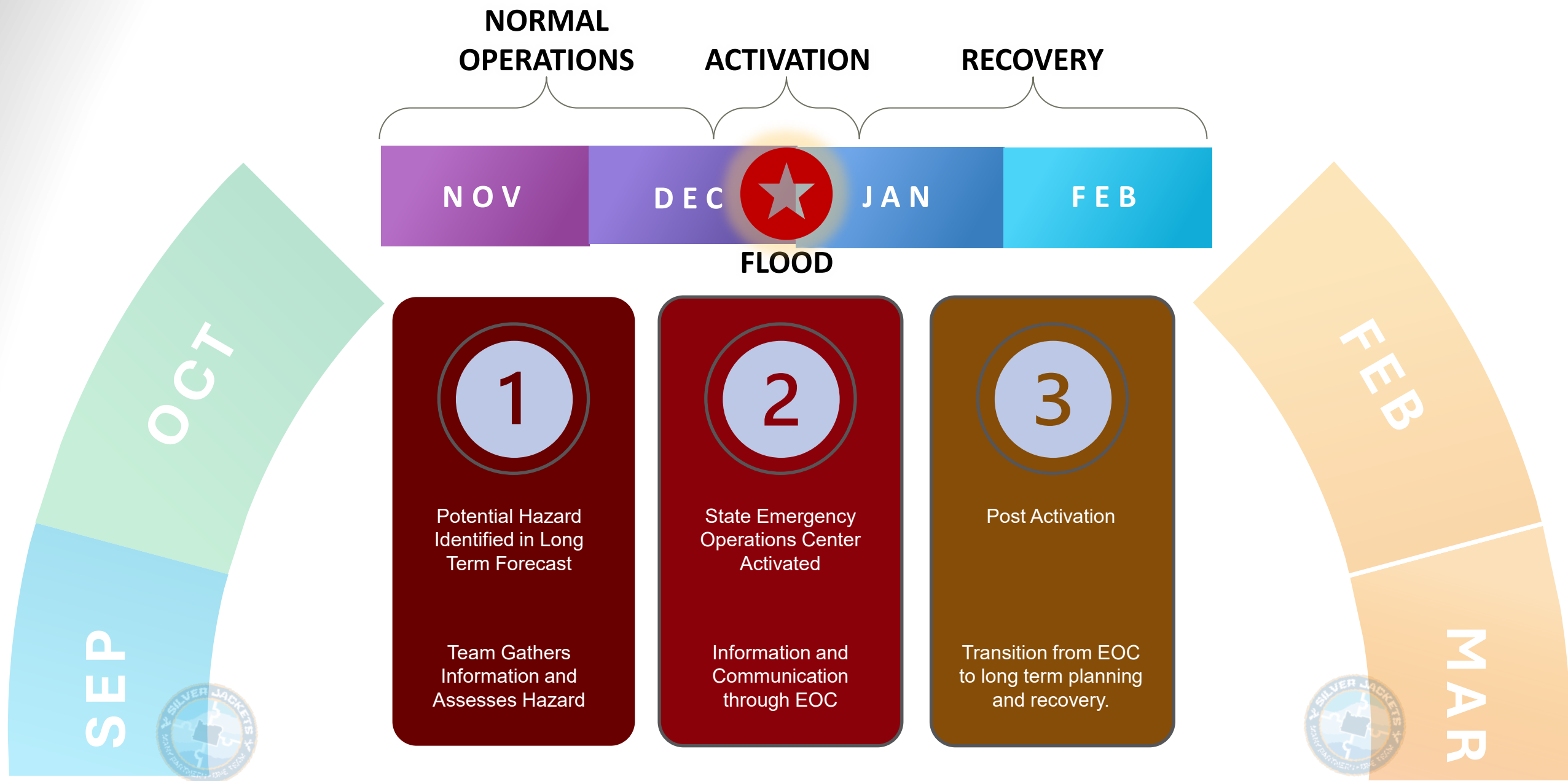


- Now lets say there is a flood ...





SILVER JACKETS THROUGH LIFECYCLE





SILVER JACKETS DURING RESPONSE/RECOVERY

Example 1: March 2025

Heavy snow in burned basins and continuous series of significant overlapping weather across the state, with impacts compounding with each storm.

1

- Coordinated Flood Maps
- Previous Flood Study Information
- Pre-Flood Coordination

2

- Individual Team Members Involved in Response
- Information Shared with EOC
- Flood Monitoring and HWM Survey

3

- Transition to Longer Term Planning
- Knowledge Transfer to Team
- Leverage Agencies to Support Recovery





SILVER JACKETS DURING RESPONSE/RECOVERY

Example 2: December 2025

Many river basins across northwest Oregon experienced their highest or second highest 7-day precipitation on record. Significant flooding and damage in Northwest Oregon.



1

- Forecast Risk Assessment
- Coordinated Monitoring Effort
- Pre-Flood Coordination

2

- Collaborative Tech Support (Landslide)
- Historic Knowledge/Relationships Lead to Enhanced Technical Support
- Flood Monitoring and HWM Survey

3

- Transition to Longer Term Planning
- Provide Tech Support for Damaged Areas
- Leverage Agencies to Support Recovery





VALUE THAT SILVER JACKETS CAN ADD

- ✓ Opportunities to align efforts, minimize duplication of effort, and help states find opportunities
- ✓ Leverage the Relationships & Networks that SJ Teams have **“Make a Friend Before you Need a Friend”**
- ✓ Lean on knowledge of team members and allows for bringing in more expertise as needed
- ✓ Projects may have a broader reach if Silver Jackets Team is engaged or aware
- ✓ Improve efficiency with community outreach.
- ✓ Help each other connect with resources, communities, & “share the burden”
- ✓ Whole of Government Approach



NATIONAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM MANAGERS



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Program Manager

Paul Sclafani
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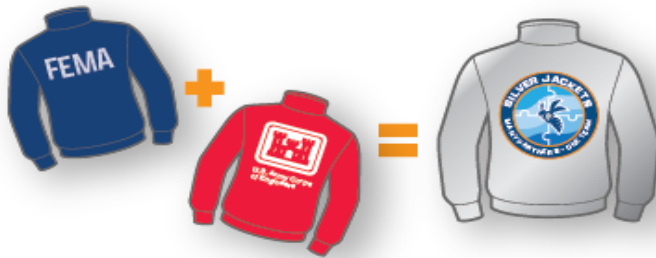
SILVER JACKETS

MANY PARTNERS • ONE TEAM

THE NAME

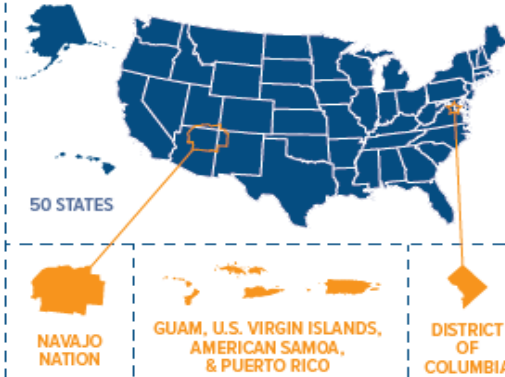
WHY THE NAME “SILVER JACKETS”?

During disaster response, agencies are often identified by the color jacket or shirt they wear. For example, FEMA typically wears blue and USACE wears red. The name “Silver Jackets” was coined to represent many agencies working together to achieve better outcomes by leveraging opportunities and expertise.



SILVER JACKETS NOW

TODAY there are **56 Silver Jackets Teams**: 50 states, four territories, the District of Columbia, and the Navajo Nation. The first pilot teams were formed in Ohio in 2005 and Indiana in 2006, and the Silver Jackets reach has grown from there.



HOW IT WORKS

NO SINGLE AGENCY HAS ALL THE ANSWERS, BUT EACH HAS A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE.

Leveraging the expertise, programs, and perspectives of multiple partners results in more comprehensive, collaborative, and sustainable solutions to flooding, drought, and other natural hazards.



THE TEAMS

INTERAGENCY SILVER JACKETS TEAMS facilitate cooperation and collaboration among partners, which is key to creating the innovative and effective solutions needed to make communities more resilient to flooding, drought, and other natural hazards. Each team is led by a state, tribe, or territory who is responsible for setting the team's priorities. Each member agency brings their own programs, resources, and expertise to bear on those priorities.

A SAMPLE OF FEDERAL PARTNERS



USACE ROLE

COORDINATION SUPPORT to every interagency Silver Jackets Team is provided by USACE staff, alongside the state, tribe, or territory team lead. They also provide “One door to the Corps” for flood risk expertise.

THE USACE NATIONAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (NFRMP) funds the participation of USACE staff on Silver Jackets Teams. The NFRMP supports the USACE mission by coordinating flood risk management programs and activities, both internally and with federal, state, and local agencies, mainly through support of Silver Jackets Teams.



SCAN FOR MORE SILVER JACKETS INFORMATION