

NATIONAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

US Army Corps of Engineers FEMA asfpp nafsma



# Silver Jackets

Society of American Military Engineers  
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*Silver Jackets: Many Agencies, One Solution*

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## Pilot Team Experience

*“Silver Jackets allows the **State and Federal partners to work seamlessly...and anticipate needs during disaster events.***

*The Silver Jackets program **maximizes the funding** available...throughout the state and allows the team members to work together in a synergistic manner, tapping into one another's needs and capabilities, thus **creating...services that otherwise would not be available** to the local governmental entities or the citizens.*

*The program allows the partner agencies to look ahead and identify potential challenges and identify **solutions to address those challenges before they happen.**”*

*Manuela Johnson, Indiana Dept of Homeland Security*

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## Silver Jackets – An NFRMP Tool

- Silver Jackets is the **state-level** implementation of National Flood Risk Management Program
  - <http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/nfrmp/>
- SJ is a key mechanism for achieving the interagency coordination necessary to fulfill the goals of NFRMP:
  - Provide current and accurate floodplain information to the public and decision makers,
  - Identify and assess flood hazards posed by aging flood damage reduction infrastructure,
  - Improve public awareness and comprehension of flood hazards and risk,
  - Integrate flood damage and flood hazard reduction programs across local, state, and Federal agencies, and
  - Improve capabilities to collaboratively deliver and sustain flood damage reduction and flood hazard mitigation services to the nation.

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## Goals

- Create or supplement a **continuous** mechanism to **collaboratively** solve state-prioritized issues and **implement or recommend** those solutions
- Facilitate strategic **life-cycle** planning to reduce flood risk
- Improve and increase **flood risk communication** and outreach; present a unified interagency message

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## Approach

- Improve processes and identify gaps and counteractive programs
- Leverage resources and information - Learn about programs and how to combine, “patchwork quilt”

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## Approach

- Provide Federal assistance in implementing **state priorities**, such as high priority actions identified in states’ mitigation plans
  - **State-led** effort, with Federal support
- Not intended to duplicate similar efforts
  - Supplement successful teams
  - Strengthen existing relationships
  - Establish relationships where they don’t exist

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## Structure

- Typical Lead Facilitators:
  - USACE District, FEMA Region, State NFIP Coordinator, and State HMO
  - In States with multiple USACE Districts,
    - One District will lead for USACE, responsible for coordinating with other Districts and facilitating their participation.
    - Leads may change or rotate as priorities evolve.
- Membership may expand or contract as needed to benefit team goals
  - Charter signatories may be core team or broader group
  - Each team will be different and will evolve over time, as state priorities evolve

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### SILVER JACKETS PROGRAM STATUS


**Legend**

- Team is operating under fully signed charter
- Efforts to offer a team are underway
- Identified as initial state by Division

October 7, 2008

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### Team Status and Current Focal Areas

- Ohio – charter in 2005
  - Flood Risk Mapping
  - Federal/State joint analysis of Hazard Mitigation applications
  - R&D for web-based portal for state-wide data sharing
- Indiana – charter in 2006
  - Inundation Study
  - Risk Communication
  - Enhanced readiness during 2008 flooding
- Idaho – charter in 2009
  - Update to State Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan
  - Considering inundation study effort

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### Getting Started-Silver Jackets as Forum

- First We Need A Quilter – A Community Leader With Vision For Change
  - Silver Jackets is forum, but priorities are the state's
- A specific pattern, or plan must be formulated to guide flood risk reduction
- Piecing together implementation requires significant technical support
- How do you engage technical support?
- Where are resources found to bind it all together for long-term strength and endurance?

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## Examples of Corps Technical Assistance

- PL 84-99 Rehabilitation Assistance of Flood Control Works
- Section 216 Flood Control Act of 1970
  - Review of completed projects
- Section 22 WRDA 1974
  - Planning Assistance to States (PAS)
- Section 206 Flood Control Act of 1960
  - Flood Plain Management Services (FPMS)

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## Desired Outcomes

- Reduced flood risk
- Agencies better understand and leverage each other's programs
- Collaboration between various agencies, coordinated programs, cohesive solutions
- Multi-agency technical resource for state and local agencies
- Mechanism for establishing relationships to facilitate integrated solutions post-disaster

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Questions?

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