



Operation Watershed Responding to the Historic Mississippi River Flood of 2011



RECOVERY OPERATIONS Interagency Recovery Task Force DRAFT Meeting Minutes, 22 February 2012

Purpose. This document provides a summary of the IRTF meeting held in Memphis, TN on 22 February 2012 to include a list of participants and state and federal agency perspectives.

Background. Interagency Recovery Task Force (IRTF) was launched to develop solutions to restore the Mississippi River Basin's flood risk management systems damaged by recent flood events. The collaborative task force, initiated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mississippi Valley Division, aims to ensure effective communication and collaboration across the many federal and state agencies that will be engaged in the recovery effort. State partners include representatives from the states of Missouri, Illinois, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana. In addition to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, federal agency task force representatives include FEMA, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Maritime Administration. The task force continues to share expertise and keep each other apprised of what each other is doing, so as not to duplicate efforts. Our February meeting marked our 6th Task Force meeting. This meeting had a total of 30 participants with representatives from 3 states: Missouri, Illinois, and Mississippi; and 6 agencies: NWS, FEMA, USGS, USCG, MARAD, and USFWS.

Introduction and Overview. MG John Peabody welcomed the team and touched on the supplemental appropriations. He continues to emphasize a vulnerable system as we head into the spring flood season.

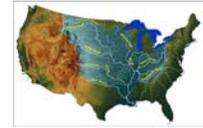
Welcome from Col Reichling. The group was greeted by Col Reichling, Commander for the Memphis District.

Review and Status of Operation Watershed Components.

- Many of our flood control and navigation systems remain in a state of vulnerability and risk due to damages incurred in 2011 historic flooding.
- The coming flood season will require extra vigilance and advance preparedness to ensure the safety and security of our citizens, infrastructure and industry.
- \$179 million (MVD specific) made available in 2011 by reprioritization of available Corps funding, this allowed repairs on a few dozen of our most severely damaged areas with immediate human life/safety concerns.
- \$1.724 billion (nationwide) recently approved Disaster Relief Appropriations Act funds will be used to aggressively repair and restore hundreds of damaged flood control and navigation system components.
- Careful assessment and evaluation of this historic event and system response continues and is expected to serve as a valuable guide for possible refinements to Corps policy, process and communication across the full life cycle of flood risk management (mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery)



Operation Watershed Responding to the Historic Mississippi River Flood of 2011



RECOVERY OPERATIONS

- Implementation and acquisition strategy for supplemental funded projects is being determined by each District. The FY12 workplan should be well established and ready for IRTF distribution and review in the late March.

State Perspective and comments

- State of IL – How can states weigh in on Post Flood Report (e.g. operational aspects and consequences of BPNM)? Provided hardcopy of ILDNR-Office of Water Resources Draft report entitled “Report of Flood Damages Alexander County Illinois Flood of 2011” dated 21 Feb 2012.
- State of MO believes there is sensitivity to sequence of events in restoring the system. There are perception issues.
- All IRTF members want to have input to the Post Flood Report

Federal Perspective and comments

- NWS announced a 16-day forecast which will be translated to gaging information and will include snowmelt and rain forecasts.
- MARAD would like a conference call with the Corps, at a District level with our stakeholders. What is the architecture to select non-critical items? District PMs need to talk to port commissioners.
- FEMA wanted to know if the FRAGO classifications were used in the MO River Valley. Was it used Corps-wide? How much (funds) will go to the MO River area?

Messages from the CG:

- It is a delicate dance to execute funds to restore the system without causing a weakness to another area. These are engineering decisions we are weighing very carefully.
- The Corps finds challenges in making decisions – we tend not to satisfy everyone. We don't want a minority report. We will allow states input and are committed to full range of expression from addressing several concerns.
- IL, MO, and KY will be included in alternative analysis of floodways
- What are our limits of authorities and capabilities? New policy recommendations? How can we push the limits?

Action Items.

- Bob Holmes, USGS, will brief the MRC on the Motor Vessel Mississippi during the High Water public meetings. Proponent: Chuck Shadie, MVD
- MARAD suggested the Corps Districts have a conference call with Navigation stakeholders, ports, and harbors on the selection of non-critical items and the dredging schedules. Proponent: Scott Whitney, MVD
- Updates to CorpsMap to include the latest information papers and construction fact sheets. Proponent: Scott Whitney, MVD
- Update the breakdown of critical repair projects by state to reconcile with latest funding received, projects, and schedules for FY12. Proponent: Scott Whitney, MVD
- Share the interim post flood report. Proponent: Hank DeHaan, MVR
- Share alternative analysis of the floodway. Proponent: Scott Whitney, MVD



Operation Watershed
Responding to the Historic Mississippi River Flood of 2011



RECOVERY OPERATIONS

- PDFs of presentations to IRTF Distribution. Proponent: Gloria Piazza, MVD
- Meeting minutes. Proponent: Gloria Piazza, MVD
- Next meeting details/logistics. Proponent: Gloria Piazza, MVD

Action Item Product	POC	Delivery Schedule	Status
USGS to brief MRC on High Water trip	Chuck Shadie	26 March	
Conference call with MARAD and Districts: Inform stakeholders, ports, and harbors	Scott Whitney	April	
Corps Map updates	Scott Whitney	April	
Update Critical Repairs, projects and schedules	Scott Whitney	April	
Share Draft Post Flood Report	Hank DeHaan	April	
Share Alternative Econ analysis for B:C	Scott Whitney		
Send PDF versions of presentations	Gloria Piazza	21 Feb	Posted to website before 22 Feb meeting
Meeting Minutes	Gloria Piazza	9 March	Emailed, 9 March
Next meeting details/logistics	Gloria Piazza	9 March	Emailed 9 March

Next Steps:

Our next meeting is scheduled for 3 April, as a web meeting /teleconference, from 0900 – 1200. Final Agenda and Read-Ahead package will be distributed to IRTF members by 30 Mar. The meeting can be accessed by logging in at: <https://www.webmeeting.att.com>. Meeting number/dial-in: 888-684-8852, and Access code: 1720303

The next face-to-face meeting will be held on 12 June, in Vicksburg, MS, at the Mississippi River Commission conference room, on the first floor, 1400 Walnut Street. Hotel accommodations will be sent by 30 March.

Gloria Piazza, Program Manager for Operation Watershed Recovery, will be on a developmental assignment at the Vicksburg District, beginning 26 March 2012. In the next few weeks, you will receive IRTF and Operation Watershed messages from a new PM. Your collaborative efforts and support are greatly appreciated.

Interagency Recovery Task Force Members 22 February 2012 Meeting

States				
Name	State	Address	Phone	Email
Bryan Hopkins	Missouri	P.O. 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102	573-751-3195	bryan.hopkins@dnr.mo.gov
Randy Scrivner	Missouri	P.O. Box 116, Jefferson City, MO 65102	573-526-9141	randy.scrivner@sema.dps.mo.gov
Arlan Juhl	Illinois	One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL	217-785-3334	arlan.juhl@illinois.gov
Joseph G. Klinger	Illinois	2200 S. Kirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703-4528	217-785-9868	joe.klinger@illinois.gov
Robert Latham	Mississippi	P.O. Box 5644, Pearl, MS 39288	601-933-6635	rlatham@mema.ms.gov

Agencies				
Name	Agency	Address	Phone	Email
Ben Weiger	NWS	819 Taylor St., Fort Worth, TX 76102	817-978-2674, x118	ben.weiger@noaa.gov
Frank Pagano	FEMA	Region 6		frank.pagano@fema.dhs.gov
Beth Freeman	FEMA		816-283-7060	beth.freeman@fema.gov
Bob Bissell	FEMA			
River Burteon	FEMA			river.burton@fema.dhs.gov
Bob Hainly	USGS	215 Limekiln Rd., New Cumberland, PA 17070	717-730-6971	rahainly@usgs.gov
CDR Tim Wendt	USCG	500 Poydras St., Room 1230, New Orleans, 70130	504-671-2115	timothy.j.wendt@uscg.mil
Paul Harfield	USFWS			
William Paape	MARAD	500 Poydras St., Room 1223, New Orleans, 70130	504-589-2000, ext. 229	james.murphy@dot.gov

Corps - MVD				
Name	Office	Address	Phone	Email
MG John W. Peabody	MVD	1400 Walnut St, Vicksburg, MS 39180	601-634-5753	john.w.peabody@usace.army.mil
Chuck Shadie	MVD	1400 Walnut St, Vicksburg, MS 39180	601-634-5917	charles.e.shadie@usace.army.mil
Carl Pigott	MVD	1400 Walnut St, Vicksburg, MS 39180	601-634-7306	carl.e.pigott@usace.army.mil
Scott Whitney	MVD	Clock Tower Bldg, 2nd Fl, Rock Island, IL 61204-2004	309-794-5386	scott.d.whitney@usace.army.mil
Gloria Piazza	MVD	1400 Walnut St, Vicksburg, MS 39180	601-634-5077	gloria.c.piazza@usace.army.mil
Alvin Lee	MVD	1400 Walnut St, Vicksburg, MS 39180	601-634-5901	alvin.b.lee2@usace.army.mil

Corps	
Name	Office
Tim Eagan	MVS
Hank DeHaan	MVR
Jeff Stamper	MVS
Joey Windham	MVK
Ben Stubbs	MVK
Bret Walters	MVM
Jason Allman	MVM