



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

CECW-HS

13 May 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR

COMMANDER, MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DIVISION
COMMANDER, NORTHWESTERN DIVISION
COMMANDER, GREAT LAKES AND OHIO RIVER DIVISION
COMMANDER, SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION

SUBJECT: Guidance for Establishing an Interagency Recovery Task Force (IRTF)

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance for establishing an IRTF that ensures common purpose and drives effective collaboration across agencies and organizations during recovery from the Mississippi River Basin flood event of 2011.
2. We have an outstanding example of the Regional Interagency Levee Task Force established for the Midwest Floods of June 2008. To address the current situations caused by the Spring Floods 2011, the MVD commander will establish an IRTF that effects short and long term recovery of damaged flood risk management systems in the Mississippi River Basin. This will require representation from appropriate Federal agencies and from the States of Missouri, Illinois, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana. NWD, LRD, and SWD will support MVD in establishing and engaging the IRTF. An IRTF Management Plan will be developed in the coming weeks to codify scope, intent, purpose, goals, strategy, operations, governance, quality assurance, and strategic communications.
3. The IRTF will establish a collaborative and holistic approach to recovering and rehabilitating flood risk management and floodplain management systems damaged by the Mississippi River Basin flooding of 2011 while also integrating solutions for long-term flood risk management.
4. Detailed policy guidance for the inspection, review, repair, and rehabilitation of projects damaged during the Mississippi River Basin flooding of 2011 will follow under separate correspondence.
5. Point of contact for this guidance is Mr. Alex Dornstauder at (202) 761-4714.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Durham-Aguilera".

KAREN DURHAM-AGUILERA, P.E., SES
Director of Contingency Operations
and Homeland Security

OPERATION WATERSHED - RECOVERY

Responding to the Historic Mississippi River Flood of 2011

Interagency Recovery Task Force (IRTF)

Purpose & Intent:

The Interagency Recovery Task Force (IRTF) is intended to create a mutual and holistic method of rehabilitating our flood risk management systems damaged by recent flood events, by collaborating and combining solutions for short and long-term restoration efforts. The Task Force will consist of lead agencies and state appointed members involved in the assessment, documentation, and repair of flood risk management, flood plain management and watershed management systems.

Background:

In the last 15 years, the Mississippi River Valley has experienced several flood events, which in turn have created collaborative working groups to address the many challenges associated with the recovery process. However, the Spring Mississippi River Basin Flood 2011 will need the assistance of multiple federal and state agencies to include the following states: Missouri, Illinois, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Goals & Objectives:

- Implement a collaborative and communicative approach across regional and state boundaries to prioritize our efforts and resources during the challenging recovery process.
- Create strong regional efforts to inspect, review, reset and restore our flood risk management system and adjacent projects.
- Create an IRTF management plan.
- Share responsibility for all flood plain management restoration initiatives, programs, and projects in order to reduce flood risks long term.
- Develop and implement an effective outreach program to communicate and educate the general public regarding participating agencies' responsibilities, programs and authorities, both short and long term to the public.
- Pursue all potential funding methods from federal and state resources.
- Give consideration to all structural and non-structural alternatives in repair and restoration.

Agenda

May 26, 2011

2:00-3:00 p.m. (CDT) Teleconference/Web Meeting

AUDIO/WEB CONFERENCE ACCESS INFORMATION:

USA Toll-Free: 888-684-8852

PARTICIPANT CODE: 1720303

Webmeeting Address: <https://www.webmeeting.att.com>

(To activate web meeting: Meeting #: 888-684-8852, Access Code: 1720303)

- Introductions (10 minutes)
- Purpose for Task Force - Operation Watershed - Recovery (20 minutes)
- Discussion (20 minutes)
- Closing (10 minutes)