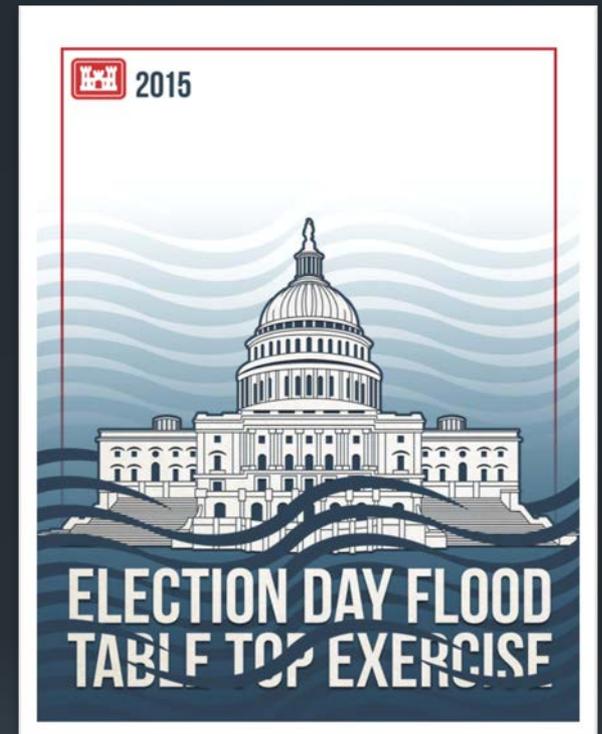


# Washington, D.C. Flood Fighting Exercise



Link between Project Benefits and Partners' Resources in Reducing Flood Risk



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# Election Day Flood Tabletop Exercise

## DC Silver Jackets Interagency Project

- Numerous regional, federal, state, local agencies have roles and responsibilities during a flood event in Washington, D.C.
- 2006 DC Flood Emergency Manual is being updated with new information related to levee systems and emergency closures; actions by each agency; flood inundation maps; agency Points of Contact.
- Flood Fighting Exercise was a one-day event, where agencies walked through a planned storm scenario and determined what actions they would take.
- The Exercise was held in DC EOC on November 3, 2015.
- The Exercise used a draft form of the first interagency DC Silver Jackets Flood Inundation Maps.



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# Partners and Partner Resources

- Key agencies who planned, developed and executed the Exercise using their own resources:
  - USACE
  - NPS
  - NWS
  - FEMA
  - DOEE
  - DC HSEMA
- 58 participants from 18 regional, federal, state, District agencies attended the Exercise



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# Project Goal and Objectives

- Examine the revised DC Flood Emergency Manual with the intent to evaluate its execution and overall effectiveness in reducing flood risk in Washington, D.C.
- Evaluate coordination and integration of various interagency flood related response plans
- Evaluate coordination and collaboration between flood response agencies
- Evaluate the process for activation of the Manual and validate the initiating triggers



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# Feedback from Participants

- “We knew of our responsibilities; however, the exercise provided a granular understanding of interagency complexities.”
- “Great opportunity to meet partners and better understand strengths and challenges of a flood event from their perspective.”
- “I thought we had a good emergency plan in place; after this exercise, I don’t think our current plan is adequate.” - JBAB
- “I am not aware of flood risk at JBAB; we have four critical facilities on site.” – GSA
- “I feel better prepared to discuss with my Director, and understand better the impact on residents around the Ft. McNair closure.” – DC DPW
- “This will help inform our climate adaptation planning by illustrating the potential scale of consequences to infrastructure, facilities, and operations.” - DOEE



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**Flood Inundation Map  
Stage 26.9**

**Federal Triangle**

**The White House**

**U.S. Capitol**

**Jefferson Memorial**

# Project Benefits

As a result of the Exercise and the flood inundation maps:

- Agencies better understand their flood risk;
- Participants will update their flood-related actions accordingly in the DC Flood Emergency Manual and their own agency's response plans, leading to reduced future flood risk; and
- Participants will inform agency leaders of flood risk, so that agency can be more proactive in the future and better prepare themselves for flood events.



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# Key Project Success Factors

- Understanding flood risks and members' benefits
- Building on a strong partnership
- Engaging with diverse partners to solve complex issues
- Having a well-organized, knowledgeable, and adaptive planning team



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# Understanding DC Flood Risk

- Washington, DC is at risk of three different types of flooding:
  1. Riverine (floodplain)
  2. Tidal/Storm Surge (floodplain)
  3. Interior (Non-floodplain)
- The effects of climate change: sea level rise, frequent storm surge, and extreme precipitation events will increase the risk of flooding.
- Reducing Flood Risk in DC is a Shared Responsibility.



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# DC Silver Jackets



October 20, 2015 at NCPIC



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## Current Five Task Groups

1. Flood Inundation Mapping: USACE, DOEE, NWS, USGS, NCPC, HSEMA, FEMA
2. Levee: NPS, FEMA, USACE
3. Flood Emergency Planning: USACE, NPS, FEMA, DOEE, HSEMA, U.S Army (MDW), U.S. Navy (NDW, JBAB)
4. Communications: DOEE, NCPC, USACE, OP
5. Interior Flooding: WMATA, NCPC, OP, DOEE, DC Water, DDOT, HSEMA



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# Planning/Supporting Agencies



FEMA



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# Contact Information

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