

Federal Flood Risk Management Standard

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US Army Corps of Engineers
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E.O. 13690: Establishing a FFRMS

- The President signed Executive Order 13690 on 30 January
- Amends the existing Executive Order 11988 on Floodplain Management to include the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS)
- Expands the area to which EO 11988 applies
- Includes 3 options to determine the expanded floodplain, and the level to which a federal action must be resilient
 - ▶ A climate-science approach, a freeboard approach, or the 500-year flood elevation
- Defines critical actions
- Allows for exceptions based on national security and maintains exceptions for emergency actions and related activities
- Encourages the use of natural and nature-based approaches

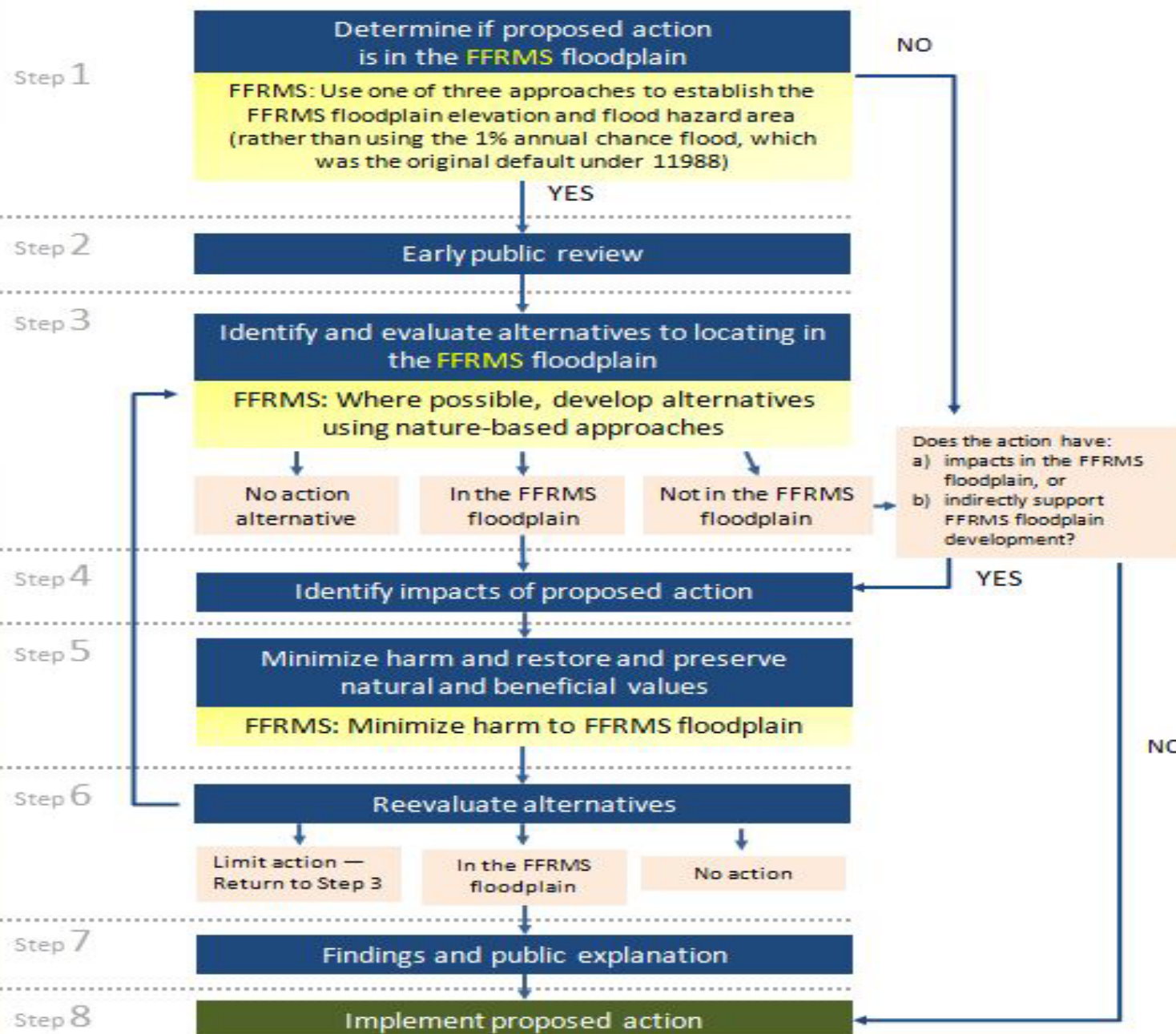


E.O. 13690: Establishing a FFRMS

- The FFRMS requires similar elevations to the industry developed standard by the American Society of Civil Engineers
- Higher standard was called for in the President's Climate Action Plan
- Builds on the work of the Sandy Task Force
- Consistent with findings and recommendations put forth in the recently released North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study (NACCS)
- Not expected to impact Public Law 84-99 or emergency actions
- Agencies will be required to update their existing guidance to implement the EO
- Mitigation Framework Leadership Group and Federal Interagency Floodplain Management Task Force will reassess the standard annually to determine if an update is needed



Eight-step Decision-making Process for EO 11988 incorporating FFRMS



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Implementing Guidelines

- Water Resources Council's 1978 EO 11988 interagency Implementing Guidelines were revised to include the FFRMS
- Guidelines are being used to gain stakeholder input as to how agencies should implement the new EO
- Draft Guidelines posted to the Federal Register and on FEMA's website to initiate a public comment period (**closing 6 May**)
 - ▶ <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/02/05/2015-02284/guidelines-for-implementing-executive-order-11988-floodplain-management-as-revised>
- Stakeholder sessions are being held in conjunction with the comment period
- Input is being solicited on the draft Implementing Guidelines only; the FFRMS has been issued as final through EO 13690

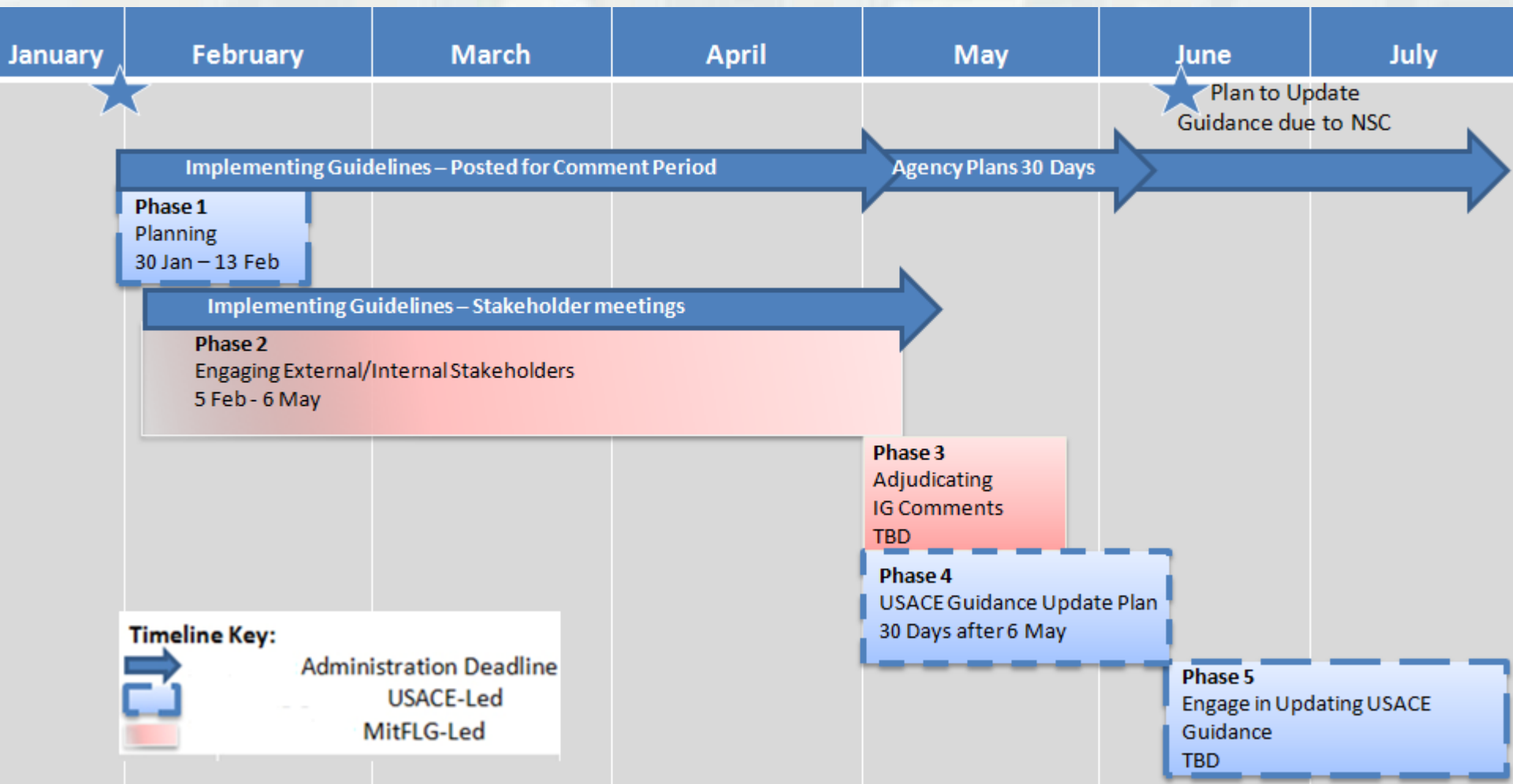


Federal Process and Next Steps

- Comment period on interagency Guidelines initiated 5 February – **open through 6 May**
 - ▶ NOTE: No agency will implement the FFRMS and EO until public engagement has taken place
- Federal Register notices issued to announce stakeholder engagement sessions
- Feedback will be considered and incorporated into the Implementing Guidelines through an interagency process (MitFLG)
- Water Resources Council will issue final interagency Guidelines
- Agencies must submit plans for updating agency specific guidance to the National Security Council 30 days after the public comment period closes
- Agencies will update policies to implement the EO and FFRMS prior to implementing



Timeline



■ Phase 1

- ▶ Develop initial USACE communication materials
- ▶ Notify stakeholders
- ▶ Engage with HQ management team
- ▶ Establish PDT to manage USACE policy/guidance revisions

■ Phase 2

- ▶ Participate in FEMA-led stakeholder sessions (externally led)
- ▶ Engage internally and externally for stakeholder sessions, and to initiate efforts to update USACE policy
- ▶ Hold webinar to answer internal questions (25 February and 6 March)
- ▶ Track comments received to inform USACE policy update
- ▶ HQ will support interagency process (via MitFLG) to revise Implementing Guidelines



Phase 2 – Stakeholder Session Participation

Date	Time	City	State	Venue
3-Mar	3-5:30pm CST	Ames	IA	Iowa Water Conference
5-Mar	9am-12pm CST	Biloxi	MS	MS Recovery Office
11-Mar	2-5pm PST	Sacramento	CA	CA Office of Emergency Services
11-Mar	9am-12pm EST	Hampton Roads	VA	Old Dominion University
24-Mar	9am- 12pm EST	Washington	DC	George Mason University Fairfax, VA Campus
25-Mar	3:00- 6:00 EST	Virtual	Virtual	Teleconference/webinar
27 - Mar	2:00-5:00 EST	New York City	NY	Columbia Law School
TBD	TBD	Dallas	TX	TBD
TBD	TBD	Seattle	WA	TBD



■ Phase 3

- ▶ FEMA to consolidate all comments received
- ▶ HQ team participate in interagency sessions to adjudicate all comments received on Implementing Guidelines
- ▶ MitFLG will submit recommended revisions to Water Resources Council to issue final interagency guidance
- ▶ Revisions and changes to the interagency Guidelines will inform USACE policy revisions
- ▶ USACE PDT (HQ-level team) to facilitate updates to agency specific guidance



■ **Phase 4**

- ▶ Draft plan with milestones and timeline to update USACE regulations/policies due to NSC
- ▶ Plan not to exceed 5 pages (MitFLG template)
- ▶ Submit outline to NSC after leadership review and approval 30 days after 6 May
- ▶ Initiate USACE efforts to incorporate the final interagency Guidelines into USACE policy as needed

■ **Phase 5**

- ▶ To be completed after interagency process
- ▶ PDT (FRM-led) will coordinate revisions to all relevant USACE policies and initiate stakeholder engagement activity
- ▶ Significant stakeholder engagement to take place to inform USACE policy revisions



Questions?

FEMA's website:

www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/FFRMS

Federal Register notice:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/02/05/2015-02284/guidelines-for-implementing-executive-order-11988-floodplain-management-as-revised#h-6>

Questions/comments/concerns:

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