

# Flood Risk Characterization Workshop

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US Army Corps of Engineers  
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# Workshop Purpose

- Explore with key internal (USACE) and federal external partners approaches being used to characterize existing and future flood risk
- Focus on national and regional flood risk using existing data
- Consider various possible risk classification approaches
- Understand and consider varying agencies' perspectives, interests and concerns
- Facilitate information sharing among federal partners



# Objectives

1. Overview various approaches for identifying current and future flood risk (as determined by flood hazard, system performance, exposure to hazard, vulnerability, and consequences) on national and regional basis (as opposed to a community or project basis); identify and document key differences, advantages, and limitations
2. Overview various measures of flood hazard, exposure, and vulnerability; review categorized list of existing data with national coverage that can be used in a risk characterization
3. Review high-cut components of flood risk currently in use by USACE and other federal agencies in national-level portrayals integrating various aspects of flood hazard, performance, exposure, and vulnerability; identify initial high-cut list of possible key components
4. Explore current approaches for documenting performance of flood hazard reduction projects (e.g., effects of dams, levees, floodwalls, channels, etc., on flood hazards), taking into account recent advances in dam and levee portfolio management and risk characterization; consider ability to move beyond USACE portfolio, consider ability to reflect environmental projects' effects on flood risk
5. Discuss how the determinants of flood risk (hazard, performance, exposure, vulnerability, consequence) could be characterized on a national scale with a common framework, with options for downscaling to the regional and watershed level



# Desired Outcomes

- Key federal players involved in identifying flood hazards and their effects (national scale) are aware of each others' efforts and any major distinctions in approaches (NOT that they agree on one approach)
- Key federal players are aware of relevant data layers, agree to share them (or explain what cannot be shared and why), and have contact information
- Participants can readily access any data "missing" to them (contact point, web link, etc., for data layers)
- Consideration has been given to a possible framework that can characterize flood risk on a national/regional scale in a manner consistent with project-oriented risk characterization but applicable to areas where risk is not influenced by structures, and the expected advantages, limitations, and potential use have been explored.
- Utility of proceeding with further USACE national flood risk characterization work has been clarified; intended purposes of proceeding and intended desired usage(s) have been clarified

