



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Institute for Water Resources

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Flood Risk Reduction Standard for Sandy Rebuilding Projects Engineering and Construction Bulletin Available

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has posted a new Engineering and Construction Bulletin (ECB) 2013-33, "Application of Flood Risk Reduction Standard for Sandy Rebuilding Projects." The ECB provides information on how to apply the April 2013 Flood Risk Reduction Standard (FRRS) for Sandy Rebuilding Projects.

The ECB outlines a procedure to establish applicability, determine best available base flood elevation (BFE), and calculate the minimum flood risk reduction elevation required. IWR's Global and Climate Change team developed a web tool to facilitate this process.

The guidance requires all Sandy related vertical construction infrastructure and nonstructural mitigation projects funded by Public Law 113-2 to:

- Establish whether the project is located within or outside the applicable geographic area of the Sandy recovery area containing projects funded by Public Law 113-2.
- Determine best available base flood elevation (BFE) for the project location and the nearest acceptable long-term tide gauge.
- Determine the minimum FRRS elevation.
- Identify whether the applicable local minimum flood risk reduction standard is more restrictive.
- Determine the minimum elevation of the first floor of vertical infrastructure for rebuilding or incorporating nonstructural retrofits to existing structures.

The ECB contains an appendix with instructions for establishing applicability of the FRRS, including an example.

The point of contact for the ECB is Dr. Kate White, PE, Senior Lead, Global and Climate Change team.

Learn More

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