



FEDERAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STANDARD

- Executive Order 11988 as amended by Executive Order 13690 requires all future federal investments in and affecting floodplains to meet the level of resilience established by the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS).
- Existing U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) guidance for EO 11988 applies to planning, design, and construction of Civil Works projects, operations and maintenance activities, and real estate program activities. The USACE regulatory program also has guidance on the applicability of EO 11988.
- E.O. 11988 as amended by E.O. 13690 applies to federal actions. USACE will be evaluating existing guidance to determine which programs and activities EO 11988 as amended applies.
- Post Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Sandy, the USACE incorporates the best available science and data, including sea level rise projections and climate resilience, into our water resources project planning and design.
- USACE incorporates authorized levels of risk reduction, loading and factors of safety, and risk considerations beyond the criteria and options required by the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard.
- USACE complies with Executive Order 11988 to include its 8-step decision making process and will continue to use the FFRMS to inform our team's engineering and analysis expertise in developing flood risk management solutions.
- The FFRMS is not expected to impact Public Law 84-99 or emergency actions.
- The standard is not retroactive and will only apply to new federal actions in the floodplain that use federal funding.
- The FFRMS is consistent with findings and recommendations put forth in the recently released North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study (NACCS). Both the NACCS and the FFRMS aim to reduce risk and increase resilience of communities' abilities to withstand and rapidly recover from storm damages.
- Both the NACCS and FFRMS encourage the use of natural systems, ecosystem processes, and nature-based approaches. The recently issued Principles, Guidelines and Requirements reflect a similar recognition of these approaches and encourage considering a broader set of measures to reduce risk, and increase resilience.
- The NACCS was conducted by USACE over two years with collaboration from experts in coastal planning, engineering, and science from more than 90 governmental, academic, and non-governmental entities. As a result of the study's findings and broad collaboration, USACE continues to make advances in both coastal risk management and the development of resilient designs.
- The risk framework presented in the NACCS is a model that can be applied elsewhere and is consistent with the President's Climate Action Plan, the FFRMS and the draft interagency Implementing Guidelines.
- In the months ahead, USACE will seek public dialogue as the agency develops its Implementing Guidance for the FFRMS. We look forward to robust engagement with our stakeholders and will continue to share information, as it becomes available, about how can they participate in the listening sessions.
- We continue to remain engaged in development of the interagency Implementing Guidelines and will participate on the technical writing team.
- USACE has heard several comments from stakeholders regarding a desire to extend the 60-day timeframe for receiving public input on the Implementing Guidelines. USACE encourages this and other comments be provided to FEMA for consideration. USACE will consider all public comments regarding our implementation of the FFRMS.

**For More Information Visit: www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/FFRMS
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