REIMBURSABLE SUPPORT

US Army Corps of Engineers

OVERVIEW:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is authorized by Congress to provide reimbursable assistance to Native American governments as well as other Federal agencies, state/local/territorial governments, private firms and international organizations. Under this program the Corps manages approximately $700,000,000 of work each year by providing quality engineering, environmental, construction management, real estate, research and development and related services.

Customers or sponsors provide full funding for the effort, and retain control and legal responsibility for their program. The Corps executes within the terms of a mutually agreed scope of work, while helping to ensure timely project completion within budget.

Supporting others enables the Corps to maintain and enhance its capabilities. The diversity of work allows us to apply design and construction expertise in new and innovative ways.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) recognizes the value of the work performed by the Corps and supports the program by providing full-time-equivalent (FTE) resourcing specifically for this mission. The Administration considers this program an example of a business-like practice and supports it in the National Performance Review with the recommendation to "maximize the use of the Corps planning, engineering and contract management capabilities in support of other Federal agency programs."

GOALS:

The goal of the program is to apply Corps capabilities to assist others in the execution of their missions, not to take away their work. Many agencies do not possess technical expertise to fulfill the in-house engineering needs of their programs. Furthermore, many do not have the staff to effectively manage environmental, engineering or construction work being conducted by private firms under contract. The Corps can fill that void.

The Corps commits to support a customer only after making certain that adequate resources and technical skills are available to ensure absolute customer satisfaction.

The Corps negotiates an interagency agreement (IA) or memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the customer before starting work. Customer's needs are the main focus in developing and tailoring the agreements and executing the work. Additionally, customers have no obligation to provide work to the Corps. The customer decides whether or not to use the Corps and to what extent. This provides extra incentive for the Corps to provide quality service.

One of the main goals is to conduct this program in partnership, not in competition, with the private sector. The Corps relies heavily on the talents of private firms to execute this mission. While relying on the private sector for technical expertise, the Corps functions as an extension of the agency's staff providing expert government presence and oversight to protect the customer's interests. This capability relieves the agency of the burden of hiring and training specialists to perform these functions. As a result, the customer gains the Corps proven contract management experience and effectiveness in the execution of their missions while saving them money and work force.

More information about this program is available from the regional Corps District office.

INDIVIDUALLY AUTHORIZED STUDIES AND PROJECTS

US Army Corps of Engineers

PLANNING AND AUTHORIZATION PROCESS FOR WATER RESOURCES PROJECTS:

Water resources activities are initiated by local interests, authorized by Congress, funded by Federal and non-Federal sources, and constructed by the Corps under the Civil Works Program. The Water Resources Development Act of 1986 made numerous changes in the way potential new water resource projects are studied, evaluated, and funded.

When governments believe a need exists for improved navigation, flood protection, or other water resources development, they may petition their representatives in Congress. A Congressional committee resolution or an Act of Congress may then authorize the Corps of Engineers to investigate the problems and submit a report. Water resources studies, except those concerning the inland waterway navigation system, are conducted in partnership with a non-Federal sponsor, with the Corps and the sponsor jointly funding and managing the study.

For inland navigation and waterway projects, which are by their nature not "local," Congress established, in the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, an Inland Waterway Users Board comprised of waterway transportation companies and shippers of major commodities. This Board advises the Secretary of the Army and makes recommendations on priorities for new navigation projects (e.g., locks and dams, channel improvements, etc.). Such projects are funded in part from the Inland Waterway Trust Fund, which in turn is fed by waterway fuel taxes.

Normally, the study process for a water resource problem will include public meetings to determine the views of local interests on the extent and type of improvements believed necessary. The desires of local interests and the views of Federal, State, Tribal, and other agencies receive full consideration during the planning process.

Considerations that enter into recommendations to Congress for project authorization include determinations that (1) the benefits will exceed costs and (2)the engineering design of the project is sound, best serves the needs of the people concerned and makes the wisest possible use of the natural resources involved. A report, along with a final National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document is then submitted to higher authority for review and recommendations. After review and coordination with all interested Federal agencies and Governors of affected States and Tribes, the Chief of Engineers forwards the report and environmental statement to the Secretary of the Army, who obtains the views of the Office of Management and Budget before transmitting these documents to Congress.

If Congress includes the project in an authorization bill, enactment of the bill constitutes authorization of the project. Before construction can get under-way, however, both the Federal government and the local project sponsor must provide funds and meet other requirements of local cooperation. Budget recommendations are based on evidence of support by the State and by the ability and willingness of non-Federal sponsors to provide their share of the project cost.

Appropriation of money to build a particular project is usually included in the annual Energy and Water Development Appropriation Bill which must be approved by both Houses of the Congress and the President.

CONTINUING AUTHORITIES

US Army Corps of Engineers

OVERVIEW:

Congress has provided the Corps with six standing authorities to study and build water resource projects for specific purposes and with specified limits on how much Federal money can be spent for a project. The process and rules, such as cost sharing, that apply to individually authorized studies and projects also apply to this Program, except that individual Congressional authorizations are not needed. This saves development and approval time, and permits quicker responses.

Emergency Streambank and Shoreline Erosion: Authorized by Section 14 of the 1946 Flood Control Act, as amended; the Federal share may not exceed $1,000,000 for each project. This authority allows emergency streambank and shoreline protection for public facilities, such as roads, bridges, hospitals, schools, and water/sewage treatment plants, that are in imminent danger of failing.

PLANNING ASSISTANCE TO THE STATES AND INDIAN TRIBES

US Army Corps of Engineers

OVERVIEW:

The Planning Assistance to States (and Indian Tribes) Program, also known as the Section 22 Program, is authorized by Section 22 of the 1974 Water Resources Development Act. This program authorizes the Corps to use its technical expertise in management of water and related land resources to help States and Indian Tribes deal with their water resource problems. Upon request, the Corps of Engineers will cooperate with States and Indian Tribes in the preparation of plans for the development, utilization, and conservation of water and related land resources located within the boundaries of the State or reservation. Assistance is given within the limits of available appropriations, however, $500,000 is the maximum available annually to any State or Indian Tribe. Studies must be cost shared 50-50 with one (or more) non-Federal sponsor and are usually completed within 12 months from the initiation of the study (or sooner if negotiated with the sponsor(s). Larger studies may be divided into phases, with each phase completed within 12 months or less.

OBJECTIVES:

The objective of the Planning Assistance to States (and Indian Tribes) Program is to support the states and tribes in their comprehensive planning for the development, utilization and conservation of water and related land resources. The program can also be used to assist States and Tribes in developing or revising a State or Tribal Water Plan. The State's or Tribe's annual request for assistance in addressing these resource problems is used to develop the Corps study program for that year. A State's or Tribe's eligibility for planning assistance is determined by comparing the requested work items to the State's or Tribe's water and related land resources plan.

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES:

Typical activities studied under this Program are flood damage reduction, flood warning plans, water quality, water supply, erosion, hydropower, backwater restoration, wetlands analysis, recreation, and navigation. Studies vary in scope from environmental investigations for an individual reservoir to a comprehensive study to establish a State or Tribal Water Budget.

STUDY PROCEDURES:

1. Mutually understood goals for a work item and conformance to State or Tribal plan are agreed upon before the Corps begins planning assistance. The State or Tribe participates in developing the scope of work, cost estimate, and coordinates state and local agency involvement in accomplishing work items.

2. A State or Tribal work request should be regional and comprehensive in scope or be a part of a larger study being performed by the State or Tribe.

3. Planning assistance may include review and update of information from authorized studies not currently funded, provided the assistance conforms to the State or Tribal plan. The assistance may not be used to further ongoing or pending Corps programs, such as comprehensive studies, feasibility studies, or small projects under continuing authorities. If a study identifies a potential construction project with Federal interest, the study will be transferred to the appropriate Corps program.

4. The Planning Assistance To States and Indian Tribes Program may help States or Tribes in support of the Coastal Zone Management Act or the Flood Plain Management Services Program when the primary purpose is to supplement basin-wide or regional State or Tribal planning for the coastal zone or flood plains.

REQUEST FOR PLANNING ASSISTANCE:

Local and regional officials who are interested in assistance for their communities and who are willing to share the study costs should contact their State or Tribal water resources agency. All requests must be requested through the State or Tribal coordinator for the program. The coordinator compiles the requests in accordance with Corps guidance for the yearly submission. The Corps District then accommodates as many studies as possible within the funding allotment and negotiates agreements including arrangements for 50 percent of the study cost with the non-Federal sponsors requesting the assistance.

REIMBURSABLE SUPPORT PROGRAM

US Army Corps of Engineers

OVERVIEW:

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Supporting others enables the Corps to maintain and enhance its capabilities. The diversity of work allows us to apply design and construction expertise in new and innovative ways.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) recognizes the value of the work performed by the Corps and supports the program by providing full-time-equivalent (FTE) resourcing specifically for this mission. The Administration considers this program an example of a business-like practice and supports it in the National Performance Review with the recommendation to "maximize the use of the Corps planning, engineering and contract management capabilities in support of other Federal agency programs."

GOALS:

The goal of the program is to apply Corps capabilities to assist others in the execution of their missions, not to take away their work. Many agencies do not possess technical expertise to fulfill the in-house engineering needs of their programs. Furthermore, many do not have the staff to effectively manage environmental, engineering or construction work being conducted by private firms under contract. The Corps can fill that void.

The Corps commits to support a customer only after making certain that adequate resources and technical skills are available to ensure absolute customer satisfaction.

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More information about this program is available from the regional Corps District office.

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

US Army Corps of Engineers

AUTHORITIES:

Section 1135: Project Modifications for Improvement of the Environment, Section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, as amended. This authority allows the Corps to make modifications in the structures and operations of water resources projects constructed by the Corps of Engineers to improve the quality of the environment. It also allows the Corps to undertake measures for ecosystem restoration in areas where a Corps project has contributed to the degradation. A non-Federal sponsor is required to contribute 25 percent of the total project cost. Each separate project is limited to a Federal cost of not more than $5 million, including studies, plans and specifications, and construction.

Section 206: Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration, Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996. This authority allows the Corps to carry out aquatic ecosystem restoration projects that will improve the quality of the environment, are in the public interest, and are cost-effective. A non-Federal sponsor is required to contribute 35 percent of the total project cost. Each separate project is limited to a Federal cost of not more than $5 million.

QUALIFYING CRITERIA COMMON TO BOTH PROGRAMS:

Projects must be justified - that is, the monetary and non-monetary benefits resulting from constructing the project must justify the cost of the project. The project also must be environmentally acceptable and complete within itself. The goal of these projects is ecosystem restoration.

STUDY PROCESS:

The study process is identical for both programs. The Corps regional district prepares a Preliminary Restoration Plan which describes the basic project features, justification and cost. Upon approval of this plan a feasibility study is initiated. This study phase involves all of the planning and engineering activities required to reach a conclusion on Federal participation in construction of the restoration project. The report produced is the basis for project construction approval. For projects with a Federal cost of $300,000 or less, a report is not required. Instead the district may combine planning, including environmental compliance documentation, with preparation of plans and specifications.

The feasibility study and preparation of plans and specifications are initially Federally funded. Prior to advertisement of the first construction contract, the non-Federal sponsor and the Corps will sign a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) which specifies all of the non-Federal responsibilities and estimated costs. The non-Federal sponsor may receive credit for required real estate.

The non-Federal sponsor may also receive credit for work-in-kind for work accomplished after signing the PCA. The work of volunteers will reduce the total project cost and will not be credited solely to the non-Federal sponsor's share of the cost.

LOCAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

Before a project is implemented a PCA is signed which provides formal assurances of local cooperation by the non-Federal sponsor empowered with sufficient legal and financial authority to comply with all assurance items. Typically, the non-Federal sponsor must agree to the following:

1. Provide all lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, and suitable borrow and dredged or excavated material disposal areas required for the project modification.

2. Hold and save the United States free from damages due to the construction works, not including damages

during construction, operation and maintenance that are due to the fault or negligence of the United States or its contractors.

3. Maintain, operate, repair, replace and rehabilitate the project after completion in accordance with procedures prescribed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

4. Provide the appropriate non-Federal share of the total project costs as required by the authority being used. This includes reimbursement for 25 percent of the study and design costs.

HOW TO REQUEST A STUDY:

The district may initiate a study at any time. The interested non-Federal sponsor should present its ideas to the district for consideration. If a Preliminary Restoration Plan is prepared the non-Federal sponsor will be requested to provide a letter of intent indicating that it understands the cost sharing requirements, the estimated cost of the project, and is willing and able to meet these potential commitments.

BENEFICIAL USES OF DREDGED MATERIAL

US Army Corps of Engineers

OVERVIEW:

Section 204 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992, as amended, gives the Secretary of the Army the authority to enter into cooperative projects with non-Federal sponsors to use dredged material from new or existing Federal navigation projects for the protection, restoration and creation of aquatic and ecologically related habitats, including wetlands. The environmental, economic, and social benefits, monetary and non-monetary, must justify the costs, and the project must not result in environmental degradation.

For example, the section 204 authority could be used for projects that use dredge material to create productive shallow water areas, artificial reefs or wetland habitat. This authority would be applied when the beneficial use project is not the least cost way of disposing of the dredged material consistent with engineering and environmental criteria. The additional costs for the beneficial use project would be shared 75 percent Federal and 25 percent non-Federal with the non-Federal sponsor also being responsible for any operation and maintenance cost for the completed project.

STUDY PROCESS:

The Corps district prepares an Initial Appraisal Report which describes the basic project features, justification and cost. Upon approval of this plan a feasibility study is initiated. This study phase involves all of the planning and engineering activities required to reach a conclusion on Federal participation in construction of the restoration project. The report produced is the basis for project construction approval. For projects with a Federal cost of $200,000 or less, a report is not required. Instead the district may combine planning, including environmental compliance documentation, with preparation of plans and specifications.

The feasibility study and preparation of plans and specifications are initially Federally funded. Prior to advertisement of the first construction contract, the non-Federal sponsor and the Corps will sign a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) which specifies all of the non-Federal responsibilities and estimated costs. The non-Federal sponsor may receive credit for required real estate.

HOW TO REQUEST A STUDY:

The district may initiate a study at any time. The interested non-Federal sponsor should present its ideas to the district for consideration. If an Initial Appraisal Report is prepared the non-Federal sponsor will be requested to provide a letter of intent indicating that it understands the cost sharing requirements, the estimated cost of the project, and is willing and able to meet these potential commitments.

REGULATORY PROGRAM

US Army Corps of Engineers

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

Numerous public laws, dating back to 1890, charge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with responsibility for regulating various activities that affect water resources. If a government sponsor, other public agency, private group, or individual proposes to undertake a regulated activity (listed below), they must apply to the Corps for a permit that will allow them to do so. The proposal will be reviewed, then a decision to permit or deny the project will be made. The decision is based on a full public interest review involving a balancing of the proposed activity's benefits against the activity's detrimental impacts. In addition to this balancing process, specific environmental standards must be met for dischargers of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. In most cases, permits are issued with conditions that describe additional actions that must be taken to protect the environment and otherwise make the proposal acceptable.

TYPES OF REGULATED ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

* Construction of other structures or work, including excavation, dredging, or disposal activity in waters of the United States. The term "structural" shall include without limitation, any pier, boat dock, boat ramp, wharf, dolphin, weir, boom, breakwater, bulkhead, revetment, riprap, jetty, artificial island, artificial reef, permanent mooring structure, power transmission line, permanently moored floating vessel, piling, aid to navigation, or any other obstacle or obstruction. The term "work" shall include without limitations, any dredging or disposal of dredge material, excavation, filling, or other modification of a navigable water of the United States.

* Discharges of dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States, including wetlands ; incidental discharge associated with land clearing and excavation activities.

TYPES OF PERMITS:

There are two general categories of permits: individual permits for a specific project; and general permits for certain classes of undertakings. There are 36 nation wide general permits and over 300 regional general permits.

FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICES PROGRAM

US Army Corps of Engineers

OVERVIEW:

The Corps of Engineers through its Flood Plain Management Services Program uses its technical expertise in flood plain management to help those outside the Corps to deal with floods and flood plain related matters. Section 206 of the Flood Control Act of 1960, as amended, provides the authority for this program. Upon request and without charge, the Corps of Engineers will furnish to States, Federally recognized Indian Tribes, counties, and cities the flood plain information and technical assistance that they need to plan for prudent use of land subject to flooding from streams, lakes, and oceans. Assistance is given within the limits of available appropriations, which have averaged around $8 million annually over the last five years. Assistance is also available to Federal agencies and private persons on a fully reimbursable basis.

OBJECTIVES:

The objective of the Flood Plain Management Services (FPMS) Program is to support comprehensive flood plain management planning with technical services and planning guidance at all appropriate Tribal, State, regional, and local governmental levels; and thereby, to encourage and to guide them toward prudent use of the Nation's flood plains for the benefit of the national economy and welfare. Adjustment of land use based on proper planning and employment of a variety of techniques for reducing flood damage potential constitutes a rational means by which the locational advantages and natural resources of flood plains can be balanced with the inevitable hazards which floods pose.

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES:

Upon request, the FPMS Program provides a full range of technical services and planning guidance on floods and flood plain issues within the broad umbrella of flood plain management. Involvement of requestors is encouraged. They may furnish field survey data, maps, historical flood information and the like. Such participation by requestors can help to reduce costs to the general public, to set work priorities, and to assure continued community interest. Activities under the Corps FPMS Program are described in the following paragraphs.

GENERAL TECHNICAL SERVICES:

Flood and flood plain related data are obtained or developed and interpreted. Topics include: flood formation and timing, flood depth or stage, floodwater velocity, extent of flooding, duration of flooding, flood frequency, obstruction to flood flows, "regulatory floodways," natural and cultural resource values of note, and flood loss potentials before and after employment of flood plain management measures.

GENERAL PLANNING GUIDANCE:

Planning assistance and guidance is provided for implementing or meeting requirements of: flood plain regulations; flood warning and flood emergency preparedness; hurricane evacuation planning; flood proofing measures (e.g., elevation, closures and seals, and anchorage); permanent evacuation and relocation; and the National Flood Insurance Program. The Corps assists in all aspects of flood plain management planning. This can range from helping a community identify the future of the flood plain and related problems (present or future), to a broad assessment of remedial measures (of both the flood modifying and occupance modifying varieties) that may be appropriate. Included are the possible impacts of off-flood plain land use changes on the physical, socio-economic and environmental conditions of the flood plain.

GUIDANCE, PAMPHLETS AND SUPPORTING STUDIES:

The Program includes studies to improve methods and procedures for mitigating flood damages and the preparation of guides and pamphlets on topics such as flood proofing, flood plain regulations, flood plain occupance, economics of flood plain regulations, and important natural flood plain resources. Guides and pamphlets are prepared for use by tribal, state and local governments in planning and in taking action to reduce flood damages or damage potentials as part of a flood plain management program.

TYPES OF STUDIES/ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED UNDER THE FPMS PROGRAM:

* Dam Break Analyses
* Flood Warning/Preparedness ans Forecast Studies
* Floodway and Floodway Impact Studies
* Flood Plain Delineation /Flood Hazard Evaluation Studies
* Flood Damage Reduction Studies (Local Implementation)
* Alluvial Fan Studies
* Stormwater Management Studies
* Flood Proofing Alternatives Studies
* Comprehensive Flood Plain Management Studies
* Computer Automated Flood Hazard Data

OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS

US Army Corps of Engineers

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers cleans up sites contaminated with hazardous waste, or ordnance; complies with Federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations; strives to minimize Corps use of hazardous materials; and conserves natural and cultural resources. The Corps serves the nation through superior management, design, and execution of a full range of cleanup and protection activities.

CLEANUP OF FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS):

The Department of Defense (DoD) is responsible for cleaning up contamination of properties that it or one of its components formerly owned or leased. As the Execution Agent for DoD, the Corps manages the cleanup of such sites. Cleaning up FUDS is a major undertaking, with 9,029 potentially contaminated sites ranging from military training sites containing ordnance, to industrial operations and production facilities containing solvents, organic materials, and, petroleum contamination.

ARMY, AIR FORCE, AND DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM (IRP):

The Corps districts clean up active installations in support of the Army's IRP by performing studies, developing designs, and conducting remedial actions. The Army has more than 10,000 sites that may be contaminated with ordnance and explosive wastes; solvents; heavy metals; pesticides; plating wastes; petroleum, oil, and lubricants (POL); or other hazardous wastes. Those contaminants are located in landfills, underground storage tanks, soils and fill materials, and aquifers. In support of the Air Force IRP, the Corps has been cleaning up environmental contamination at more than 25 Air Force bases nationwide. In Support of the Defense Logistics Agency, the Corps is cleaning up environmental contamination at Defense Logistics Agency sites.

BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE - ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION (BRAC):

The Corps performs environmental restoration services at Army and Air Force installations affected by the Base Realignment and Closure program. Working closely with Army and Air Force commands and installations in this complex program, the Corps responds to frequently changing requirements while maintaining demanding schedules for cleanup and property transfer.

MANAGEMENT OF DEFENSE & STATE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENTS (DSMOA):

The Corps manages and serves as the Department of Defense (DoD) execution agent for the DSMOA program, which funds states and territories for the technical services they provide to support the cleanup of active and closing Department of Defense facilities and Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS). This program has helped expedite the cleanup process and has fostered improved communications and cooperation between the states and DoD, providing a way for the state and DoD to resolve problems and thus reduce or avoid costs.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY PROGRAM:

The Corps environmental quality program encompasses a variety of compliance, prevention and conservation projects. Under this program, the Corps has been supporting Army installations for more than 20 years. That support includes developing procedures and managing construction projects and ongoing operations to comply with air, drinking water, wastewater, and solid waste laws and regulations. The Corps works with the installations to preserve and restore natural and cultural resources, as well as to find ways to recycle hazardous materials and to avoid creating wastes.

SUPPORT of EPA SUPERFUND:

The Corps provides design, construction, real estate services, and technical assistance to the EPA for the Superfund program. EPA was the Corps' first customer, and this partnership has continued for more than a decade. The Superfund program and EPA's support were instrumental in the development of the Corps environmental remediation expertise and mission.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT FOR OTHERS (ESFO):

Through the ESFO program, the Corps provides high-quality engineering and environmental services to federal agencies, as well as to state and local government agencies. Any agency that lacks the in-house capability to manage such services can engage the Corps, on a cost-reimbursable basis, to act as an extension of its staff.

Partnership is the key. The Corps helps an agency comply with environmental regulations within the constraints of time and budget. The Corps oversees progress and the allocation of appropriate staffing and funding, conducts budget reviews, and issues guidance. Throughout, the customer agency retains legal responsibility and control over its program.

The ESFO program is fully funded by the agencies receiving the Corps assistance. The funding is provided in accordance with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or an Interagency Agreement (IAG) between the Corps and each agency.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROGRAM

US Army Corps of Engineers

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

Responding to natural disasters, such as floods, is primarily a Tribal, State and local responsibility. In instances when the disaster exceeds the capabilities of State, Tribe, or local agencies, however, Federal help is available. Under Public Law 84-99, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, District Office, can provide the needed additional assistance in the event of a life-threatening flood.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS:

State, Tribal and local governments are responsible for flood emergency preparedness, including training personnel and stockpiling flood fight supplies. The role of the Corps of Engineers is to supplement the efforts of the States, Tribes and local governments.

What the Corps can do:

* Participate in flood emergency seminars or exercises when requested by State and local officials.
* Provide flood fighting materials, including sand-bags, pumps and other materials, to supplement State and local supplies during a flood emergency.
* Inspect flood control works constructed or repaired by the Corps and advise local officials of required maintenance.
* Inspect non-Federal flood control works, when requested.

ADVANCE MEASURES PRIOR TO PREDICTED FLOODING:

Advance measures consist of any actions taken by the Corps prior to flooding or a flood fight to protect against loss of life and damage to improved property. An imminent threat of flooding must be present before advance measures can be considered. The threat must be established by the National Weather Service forecasts or by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determinations of unusual flooding from adverse conditions. The threat must be of a nature that, if action is not taken immediately, damages will be incurred.

Criteria for Corps of Engineers assistance:

* There must be a reliable prediction of flooding based on existing conditions.
* Requested work must be technically feasible and economically justified.
* There must be sufficient time before the flood to complete the work.
* Maximum efforts by Tribal, local interests and State resources must be expended before Corps assistance can be provided.
* A written request from the Governor, a governor's authorized representative or responsible authority to include a qualified Indian Tribe, Alaska Native Corporation or tribal organization. If tribal lands are under the authority of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the request should come from the BIA.

What the Corps can do:

* Strengthen Federal and non-Federal flood control works.
* Construct temporary levees to protect life and improved property (removal of the temporary levees is a local responsibility).
* Restore the original design capacity of Federal projects by channel clearing and dredging.
* Relieve the threat of flooding from possible dam failures by dewatering the impoundment, controlled breaching or strengthening of the structure.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS:

In time of flood or coastal storm, the Corps of Engineers will undertake emergency operations to supplement local efforts in the following general categories: disaster assistance, flood fighting, and post flood recovery and/or rehabilitation. Emergency measures are of a temporary nature designed to meet the imminent threat of flood and to preserve existing protective works.

Criteria for Corps of Engineers assistance: Corps policy requires local interests to furnish the following items of cooperation and assurances prior to undertaking any work: (a) provide without cost to the United States all lands, easements, and rights-of-way necessary; (b) hold and save the United States free from damages due to the authorized work, exclusive of damages due to the negligence of the United States or its contractor; and (c) operate and maintain the emergency work constructed by the Corps.

What the Corps can do:

* Assist in rescue operations.
* Furnish technical advice and assistance.
* Furnish flood fighting materials, such as sandbags, polyethylene sheeting, lumber, pumps, or rock to stabilize eroding levees. Government supplies are furnished only if local resources are or will be exhausted.
* Remove logs, ice, or other debris that is blocking stream flow and causing or likely to cause flooding to improved property or to endanger life.

ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS:

The Corps of Engineers can also provide:

* Repair and rehabilitation of flood control works damaged or threatened by flood.
* Emergency drinking water to areas that have contaminated drinking water or are suffering from drought.

HOW TO OBTAIN HELP:

Contact your local officials. They will contact the proper person at the State or Tribal level, and if required, the State or Tribe will contact the Corps of Engineers. For more information on the Corps of Engineers assistance or eligibility for assistance during flood emergencies, contact the Emergency Management Branch of the Corps of Engineers at the regional District Office.