

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection Bureau of Water Protection & Land Reuse Land & Water Resources Division

LWRD License Application Engineering Report Cover Sheet

This Cover Sheet is a checklist of requirements that need to be completed and submitted with the engineering report. Please complete this checklist by identifying where each requirement listed is addressed in the engineering report (report title and page numbers). If an item is not applicable, place "NA" in the box. The engineer report must fully describe the design of the proposed facilities or other actions and the hydraulic and hydrologic effects thereof. This Cover Sheet is required to be signed and sealed by a professional engineer licensed in the State of Connecticut.

Stormwater Management

Engineering Report section title and page number	Requirement Description
	Description of the design storm frequency intensity, volume and duration
	Watershed maps, existing and proposed
	Computations for Tc
	Imperviousness calculations
	NRCS runoff curve numbers, volumetric runoff coefficients
	 Computations used to determine peak runoff rates, and velocities for each watershed area (24-hour storm): Stream Channel Protection: 1-year, 2-year frequency ("over-control" of 2-year storm) Conveyance Protection: 10-year frequency Peak Runoff Attenuation: 2-year, 10-year, 25 year, and 100-year frequency Emergency Outlet Sizing: safely pass the 100-year frequency or larger storm
	Hydrograph routing calculations
	Description, schematics, and calculations for drainage and stormwater management systems
	Infiltration rates, geotechnical information, test pit data, perc test data, conductivity testing data
	Documentation of sources
	Electronic files in native format for any computer modelling generated for analysis.

Stormwater Management

Engineering Report section title and page number	Requirement Description
	Detention basin analysis including timing and duration of expected outflow, stream stability analysis and hydrograph summation
	Erosion & sedimentation calculations for any engineered measures
	Calculations for any engineered water quality treatment measures

Floodway/Floodplain Assessment

Engineering Report section title and page number	Requirement Description
	Description of existing and proposed conditions upstream and downstream of the proposed activity
	For any bridge or culvert placement or replacement with a drainage area of 100 acres or more, plan sheets showing the existing and proposed inundation area for the 2, 10, 25, 50, and 100 year discharges, carried to convergence
	Flood Contingency Plan
	A description and analysis of the floodplain modifications required to restore any flood conveyance and flood storage capacity
	Demonstration that backwater from the proposed activity will not impact an existing dam, dike, detention, or similar structure
	Backup data and complete hydraulic analysis for proposed modifications to the floodplain including location plan and plot for sections, profile sheet, summary sheet (for riverine modeling, refer to: <u>https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-</u> 02/Hydraulics OneDimensionalAnalyses Nov 2016.pdf)
	Description, schematics, and calculations for bridges and culverts

Structures within a Coastal Floodplain

Engineering Report section title and page number	Requirement Description
	Longshore sediment transport impact report
	Wind, wave, load analysis for significant public access structures (Only for Flood Management Certification)
	Wind, wave, load analysis for flood and erosion control structures (e.g. seawalls, bulkheads, revetments, berms, jetties, etc.)
	Hydrologic / Hydraulic impact report for tide regulating / influencing structures (e.g. culverts, tidegates, flood berms / levees, etc.)

Professional Certification

For any engineering report submitted as part of the LWRD License application, the following certification must be signed and sealed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in Connecticut and submitted with the Engineering Report Cover Sheet.

"I certify that in my professional judgement, each requirement listed in the Engineering Report Cover Sheet has been addressed in the engineering report submitted as part of the LWRD permit application and that the information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

This certification is based on my review of the engineering report.

I understand that a false statement made in the submitted information may, pursuant to Section 22a-6 of the General Statutes, be punishable as a criminal offense under Section 53a-157b of the General Statutes, and may also be punishable under Section 22a-438 of the General Statutes."

Signature of Professional Engineer

Date

Name of Professional Engineer (print or type)

P.E. Number (if applicable)

Affix P.E. Stamp Here (if applicable)



To:	Randy Christensen	From:	Cody Miller
	Northampton MA Office		Albany NY Office
File:	Hartford-Brainard Obstruction Removal	Date:	April 20, 2022

Reference: Stormwater Management Assessment, Hartford-Brainard Airport, Hartford, CT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

This memo was prepared by Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) under contract with the Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA). This memo is provided in support of permit applications required to implement this The purpose of this memo is to provide a preliminary assessment and summary of conclusions related to the need for a stormwater management plan related to the proposed vegetation management at the Hartford-Brainard Airport.

ASSESSMENT

The subject work as described in Part V: Project Information of the LWRD License Application will have no increase in stormwater runoff and therefore the requirements as outlined on the Engineering Report Cover Sheet under Stormwater Management do not apply to the vegetation management areas.

The following information was used for the "no increase" and "not applicable" Stormwater Management determination.

This Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) safety project for clear and safe runway approaches requires the removal of the vegetation (tree) obstructions to the Runway 2, 20 and 29 approaches at Hartford-Brainard Airport. The areas of vegetation removal were identified and surveyed and are located between the Clark Dike system and the Connecticut River within the City of Hartford and within the floodway of the Connecticut River. FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map for Hartford County, Connecticut, Map Number 09003C0507G shows the Floodway in relation to the Hartford-Brainard Airport, the Levee and Connecticut River. See Figure 1, FEMA MAP.

For all three runway ends, the vegetation removals will be conducted without any disturbance to the ground and with no increase in impervious area. The work will constitute a combination of tree removal without grubbing root systems, tree cutting leaving tall stems and tree topping. Work requiring logging equipment will only be allowed to take place during frozen ground conditions (typically between the months of January and March) as per conditions of other applicable permits. Working under frozen ground conditions and snow cover futures the protection of the underlying soil structure. Soil disturbances and/or erosion is not anticipated.

The topography of each runway approach work area generally slopes away from the levee toe to the river; however, the grades and elevations are not consistent due to numerous unnatural/manmade undulations and low spots. This is a direct result of the Clark Dike enlargement project during the 1930's and 1940's where borrow material to construct the levee was taken from these areas. This topography limits the hydrograph modeling due to the multiple interior low points while the overall site sheet flows into the Connecticut River with no point flow location to calculate flow volume. There are no existing drainage structures in the work areas and no drainage structures are proposed under the vegetation management project.

A second challenging factor for analyzing the work areas is that these areas are typically submerged by the Connecticut River under significant storm events. The majority of the work site is below 12 feet of elevation. NOAA's Northeast River Forecast Center, Connecticut River at Hartford, CT (HFDC3) the Connecticut River observation data collection site, approximately 2 miles upriver from the Hartford-Brainard Airport, is used for the source data. Using the data from HFDC3 the 10-day Accumulated Precipitation Probabilities and 10-day

River Level Probabilities correlate to a 14 feet river level from approximately 1.5 inches of 10-day accumulated precipitation. This river level floods the work sites making the stormwater runoff evaluations obsolete. The NOAA Atlas 14 Volume 10 Version 3, Point Precipitation Frequency Estimates for the Hartford Connecticut location shows the Precipitation frequency of a 24-hr – one (1) year storm event to be 2.46 inches. Although not linear in relation to the river level, many factors contribute to the overall river level, but a 24-hr. storm event delivering 2.46 inches of rain will most likely result in the river level exceeding the ground elevation at the work areas within a short period of time.

HydroCAD was utilized to compute the weighted CN value for pre and post construction at each runway approach work area. These calculations have been attached for convenience along with USDA Soil Survey Map. The weighted curve numbers decreased slightly from pre to post construction as the wooded area is converted to brush. As the mature trees are cut and removed, this allows for undergrowth and brush to be the dominate vegetation type. This indicates that the impact of this project will potentially decrease the stormwater runoff volumes when river levels are below the project area elevation.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Based on extent of the proposed vegetation management along the Connecticut River as part of the removal of airspace obstructions as defined within FAA Regulations for HFD, Stantec's opinion is that the proposed vegetation management can be performed with no impact or change to the existing drainage patterns or stormwater flow volumes within the proposed vegetation management area.

Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

al Mil-

Cody Miller, P.E. Senior Aviation Engineer

Phone: 518-424-8126 cody.miller@stantec.com

Attachment: Attachment

NOTES TO USERS

This map is for use in administering the National Flood Insurance Program. It does not necessarily identify all areas subject to flooding, particularly from local drainage sources of small size. The community map repeationy should be consulted for possible updated or additional flood hazard information.

To obtain none detailed information in unas when Base Flood Disentities (PEandor Moodway) here ben determined uses are exclusingle to consult the Floo Profiles are Floodway Data and/or Summary of Salavater Envations tables contained within the Flood Insurance Sulvig (FIS) Report that accomparises the FIRM. Use should be aware that BEEs are included for flood insurance manufer wholedevations. These BEEs are included for flood insurance many account of stood in the used as the scale source of flood devation information. According the FIRM for success of contrustone radio flooding management.

Coastal Base Flood Elivations show on this map apply only inclused of 0.0 North American Vertical Datum of 1980 (NNID 68), Users of this FIRM should be aware that coastal flood eventions as also provided in the Summary of Dataware bottom in the Summary of Diffueld Prevalence state bottom of the Summary of Dataware shown on the Summary of Diffueld Prevalence state bottom of the Summary of Dataware and the state of the Summary of Diffueld Prevalence state bottom of the Summary of Diffueld Prevalence state bottom of the FIRM.

Boundaries of the Roodways were computed at cross sections and interpolated between cross sections. The Roodways were based on hydraulic considerations with ingant to regularitimeting of the National Flood Insurance Program. Floodway widths and other pertnert Roodway data are provided in the Flood Insurance Study Report for this juscifiction.

Certain areas not in Special Flood Hiszarf Areas may be protected by flood control structures. Refer to Section 2.4 "Flood Protection Measures" of the Flood Insurance Study Report for information on flood control structures for this luradiction.

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(301) 713-3242 To obtain current elevation: description, and/or location Momation for bench mark shown on this map, please contact the Information Services Eranch of the Nation Geodetic Survey at (301) 713-3242, or visit to website at <u>Into Ilevan non-non-non-non-</u> contact.

Base map information shown on this FIRM was provided in digital format b Connectcut Department of Environment (CTDEP). This information was derived from digital onfrophotography diated 2008.

The profile baselines depicted on this map represent the hydraulic modeling baseline that match the flood profiles in the FIS report. As a result of improved topographic data the profile baseline, in some cases, may deviate significantly from the channe committee or appear outside the SFHA.

Corporate limits shown on this map are based on the best data available at the tim of publication. Because changes due to annexations or de-annexations may have occumed after this map was published map users should contact appropriate memory directs to userily correct corrected limit bacters.

Please refer to the separately printed Map index for an overview map of th courts showing the ligout of map panels, community map repository addresses and a Listing of Communities table containing Mational Flood Insurance Plogram dates for each community as well as a listing of the panels on which each community in termster.

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179450287 Revision Sheet 1 of 1 Scale NOT TO SCALE Drawing No. **1**





Subcatchment 1S: Runway 2 Approach; Pre-Construction

Runoff = 27.31 cfs @ 11.90 hrs, Volume= 1.001 af, Depth> 0.64"

Runoff by SCS TR-20 method, UH=SCS, Time Span= 5.00-20.00 hrs, dt= 0.05 hrs Type II 24-hr 1 year Rainfall=2.46"

Are	ea (sf)	CN	Description
81	3,050	77	Woods, Good, HSG D
81	3,050		Pervious Area

Subcatchment 2S: Runway 2 Approach; Post-Construction

Runoff = 23.63 cfs @ 11.90 hrs, Volume= 0.872 af, Depth> 0.56"

Runoff by SCS TR-20 method, UH=SCS, Time Span= 5.00-20.00 hrs, dt= 0.05 hrs Type II 24-hr 1 year Rainfall=2.46"

Area (sf)	CN	Description
429,314	77	Woods, Good, HSG D
383,736	73	Brush, Good, HSG D
813,050	75	Weighted Average
813,050		Pervious Area

Subcatchment 3S: Runway 29 Approach; Pre-Construction

Runoff = 7.46 cfs @ 11.90 hrs, Volume= 0.282 af, Depth> 0.45"

Runoff by SCS TR-20 method, UH=SCS, Time Span= 5.00-20.00 hrs, dt= 0.05 hrs Type II 24-hr 1 year Rainfall=2.46"

Area (sf)	CN	Description
98,639	77	Woods, Good, HSG D
229,565	70	Woods, Good, HSG C
328,204	72	Weighted Average
328,204		Pervious Area

Subcatchment 4S: Runway 29 Approach; Post-Construction

Runoff = 4.37 cfs @ 11.91 hrs, Volume= 0.184 af, Depth> 0.29"

Runoff by SCS TR-20 method, UH=SCS, Time Span= 5.00-20.00 hrs, dt= 0.05 hrs Type II 24-hr 1 year Rainfall=2.46"

Area (sf)	CN	Description
4,539	77	Woods, Good, HSG D
229,565	65	Brush, Good, HSG C
94,100	73	Brush, Good, HSG D
328,204	67	Weighted Average
328,204		Pervious Area

Subcatchment 5S: Runway 20 Approach; Pre-Construction

Runoff = 3.20 cfs @ 11.91 hrs, Volume= 0.125 af, Depth> 0.38"

Runoff by SCS TR-20 method, UH=SCS, Time Span= 5.00-20.00 hrs, dt= 0.05 hrs Type II 24-hr 1 year Rainfall=2.46"

Ar	ea (sf)	CN	Description
17	70,368	70	Woods, Good, HSG C
17	70,368		Pervious Area

Subcatchment 6S: Runway 20 Approach; Post-Construction

Runoff = 1.98 cfs @ 11.91 hrs, Volume= 0.087 af, Depth> 0.27"

Runoff by SCS TR-20 method, UH=SCS, Time Span= 5.00-20.00 hrs, dt= 0.05 hrs Type II 24-hr 1 year Rainfall=2.46"

Area (sf)	CN	Description
40,463	70	Woods, Good, HSG C
129,905	65	Brush, Good, HSG C
170,368	66	Weighted Average
170,368		Pervious Area

Stantec

То:	Randy Christensen	From:	Michael Chelminski
	Northampton MA Office		Northampton MA Office
File:	Hartford-Brainard Obstruction Removal	Date:	June 15, 2022

Reference: Preliminary Assessment on Impact of Vegetation Removal on Flood Flows on the Connecticut River, Hartford, Connecticut, Hartford-Brainard Airport

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

This memo was prepared by Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) under contract with the Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA). This memo is provided in support of permit applications required to implement this safety-related project of the Hartford-Brainard Airport.

Hartford-Brainard Airport (HFD) is a public airport situated in the City of Hartford, Connecticut, approximately two miles southeast of downtown Hartford just east of Interstate I-91 and approximately 12 miles south of Bradley International Airport. The airport covers 201 acres and consists of one seasonal 2,350-ft-long turf runway, two asphalt runways that are 4,400 and 2,300 ft long, one lighted helipad, and supporting infrastructure. The Hartford-Brainard Airport is owned and operated by the CAA. HFD is located on an expansive plain, likely former floodplain, along the Connecticut River. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Hartford Dike System, specifically the "Clark Dike" and "South Meadows Dike" section, provides flood protection for HFD and the surrounding community. A floodplain forest buffer is between the dike and the Connecticut River.

The CAA intends to implement removal of obstructions to navigable airspace, primarily large, mature trees within the floodplain forest along the Connecticut River (tree clearing areas). The proposed vegetation management is necessary to address airspace obstructions as defined within Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Regulations for the current runway configuration at HFD. The proposed tree clearing areas are located within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Special Flood Hazard Area with a Zone AE designation according to the FEMA Flood Insurance Study (FIS)¹. The areas are also designated as a FEMA "Regulatory Floodway". The FEMA Regulatory Floodway is defined as the channel of a river and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height (44 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] § 59.1 - Definitions).

The purpose of this memo is to provide a preliminary assessment and summary of conclusions related to the potential impact of the proposed vegetation management on flood flows in the Connecticut River.

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

A preliminary assessment of potential changes in flood stage and conveyance due to the proposed tree clearing was performed based on review of publicly-available aerial imagery, the current FEMA FIS, FEMA guidance documents, and professional judgement. A summary of the findings from this assessment are presented below.

 No development or fill is proposed within the floodway as part of the proposed vegetation management work. Alteration of soils or topographical features is not proposed as part of the work. Root systems of target vegetation shall remain in-place, and lower vegetative layers shall be protected and preserved during management efforts. Therefore, there is no reduction in conveyance capacity of the floodway and no anticipated rise in flood stage elevations expected.

¹ Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Flood Insurance Study for Hartford County, Connecticut, as revised May 16, 2017. Flood Insurance Study Number 09003CV006C.

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Reference: Preliminary Assessment on Impact of Vegetation Removal on Flood Flows on the Connecticut River, Hartford, Connecticut, Hartford-Brainard Airport

- 2. The FEMA hydraulic model was developed using a steady-state analysis approach and attenuation of the peak of a flood hydrograph, for example from overbank or floodplain roughness, is therefore not considered as part of the FEMA analysis. Given the steady-state approach, de minimum changes in hydrologic storage resulting from vegetation management would not impact the floodway.
- 3. Based on review of the FEMA FIS flood profile data, during flood flows, the proposed vegetation management areas and associated floodway is backwatered by the downstream reach. The William Putnam Memorial Bridge (State Route 3) located approximately 1 mile downstream from HFD appears to be a hydraulic control for flood flows, as evidenced by the hydraulic drop at this structure. Therefore, the proposed vegetation management is not expected to result in substantive alteration of flood flows.
- 4. The location of the proposed tree clearing is at a scale that is not well-resolved based on cross-section information presented in the current FEMA FIS. For example, the flood elevations for the proposed tree clearing areas are based on hydraulic model simulation results in the vicinity of cross-sections 'M', 'N', and 'O', which span approximately 10,000 feet (ft) along the Connecticut River resulting in an average distance between adjacent cross-sections of approximately 5,000 ft. Therefore, the spatial discretization along the Connecticut River within the current FEMA model is too coarse to fully resolve the proposed tree clearing areas. Reference FEMA FIS Study No. 09003CV001C (Revised May 16, 2017), Panel No. 63P (Volume 6 of 11) for the locations of cross-sections 'M', 'N' and 'O' and FEMA FIRM Map No. 09003C0507J (Map Revised September 16, 2011) for the locations of cross-sections 'M' and 'N. The extents of the proposed vegetation management are small relative to the spatial resolution of the FEMA hydraulic model and it is therefore not expected that changes associated with the vegetation management could be resolved in the model.
- 5. The guidance document titled "Guidance for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping Floodway Analysis and Mapping", published by FEMA and dated November 2019, presents information related to guidance for floodway analysis. Section 11.2.6 of this guidance document discusses how a development in a floodway, which may cause an increase in flood stage, could be compensated by physically modifying the floodway to replace flood conveyance that would be lost as a result of the development. One approach outlined in Section 11.2.6 to physically modify the floodway includes permanent changes in land use, such as replacement of a floodplain forest with a ball field or parking lot to compensate for loss of conveyance. However, it is noted that there must be permanent changes in land use under this approach. The example of cutting down of trees to increases conveyance is not a permanent change if the tree clearing is not managed to prevent regrowth. The proposed tree clearing would not be a permanent change as other woody vegetation and saplings will begin to grow back in subsequent years and will continue to grow for 20-40 years before the crowns of the trees begin to re-enter the protected airspace. Therefore, based on the logic presented in Section 11.2.6 of the FEMA guidance document, if the trees and vegetation are allowed to grow back, conveyance would not change. For reference, previous vegetation management of the project floodplain forest areas occurred as recently as the 1980s.
- 6. Large areas of natural, undisturbed floodplain riparian zones adjacent to rivers can provide some flood attenuation benefits during flood flows. However, the natural, historic floodplain of the Connecticut River has been largely encroached and developed within the City of Hartford and the USACE Hartford Dike System has been constructed to keep floodwaters out of these historic floodplains. The proposed combined total areas of proposed vegetation management at HFD represent a relatively small spatial extent compared to the functional capacity of the historic, natural floodplain, and is anticipated would

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Reference: Preliminary Assessment on Impact of Vegetation Removal on Flood Flows on the Connecticut River, Hartford, Connecticut, Hartford-Brainard Airport

likely not result in a substantive loss of floodplain flood attenuation benefits that are currently being provided in these areas. The extents of the proposed vegetation management are small relative to the existing channel and adjacent floodplain areas and substantive impacts to the floodway are not expected result from the project.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Based on review scope and extent of the proposed vegetation management along the Connecticut River as part of the removal of airspace obstructions as defined within FAA Regulations for HFD, Stantec's opinion is that the proposed vegetation management can be performed consistent with current FEMA requirements for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program and would not result in substantive increases in the existing flood stage or conveyance along the Connecticut River as documented in the most recent FEMA FIS report.

Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

na Mar 6/15/2022

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Flood Contingency Plan Revision 1

Removal of Vegetative Obstructions at Hartford-Brainard Airport

Hartford, CT

May 2022

Prepared for:

Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA) 334 Ella Grasso Turnpike Windsor Locks, CT 06096

Prepared by:

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1.0 PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW

The Connecticut Airport Authority's (CAA) selected construction CONTRACTOR (insert CONTRACTOR name), hereafter "CONTRACTOR", is required to submit a completed Flood Contingency Plan (FCP or Plan) prior to start of construction.

This FCP has been developed for use during construction in order to minimize the potential for damage to the City of Hartford (City) flood control system, and minimize impairment of the City's ability to control flooding that may occur during the completion of the Vegetation Removal Project (Project). During normal work conditions (None flood events) the FCP primary focus is for the protection of the levee system from construction activities. During a flood event, construction activities within the levee right-of-way (ROW) and Connecticut River floodway need to be coordinated to allow for safe evacuation of contractor men and equipment and allow the City to preform necessary flood fighting operations and inspections without delay or interruption. The coordination needs to consider all elements of the construction activities including, but not limited to, the removal and route of equipment and material, timber mats and cut vegetation.

The CAA's hired CONTRACTOR shall construct the Project, and to whom various responsibilities will be assigned under the terms of the construction contract, and as outlined in this FCP.

This project will require vegetation removal work within the Floodway of the Connecticut River. All cutting for vegetation removal will occur outside of the levee ROW however, access to the vegetation removal areas and crane removal of cut vegetation will be within the levee ROW.

Vegetation removal will consist of four different removal/cutting techniques depending on the tree location relative to the trees encroachment to the Airport's runway approach surfaces. These techniques include mechanical felling by flush cut and snag cut. The flush cut being within a foot of ground level and snag cut which leaves a standing stump 12' to 15' above the ground. Forestry climbing techniques of topping and prune cuts will also be utilized.

This Project has no existing or proposed excavations but, the potential for boils or seepage to appear within these areas has been previously identified by the City and the contractor will be responsible for keeping these areas clear of equipment during flood events for Cities unimpeded inspection.

This FCP is an integral part of the construction contract for the CAA's Vegetation Removal Project, and its requirements will be carried by the parties designated herein.

2.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA)

CAA is the owner of the Hartford-Brainard Airport that will be sponsoring the Vegetation Removal Project, and the permittee under the USACE Section 408 process and CT DEEP.



- CAA will assign certain responsibilities herein to, and will ensure that, the selected CONTRACTOR(s) follow the requirements of all permit approvals and the requirements/conditions of this Plan.
- CAA will provide engineering/construction monitoring services in accordance with permit conditions. The engineering/construction monitoring firms or employees will observe the work performed by the CONTRACTOR and will report relevant data to CAA, City of Hartford, USACE and CT DEEP.
- CAA will coordinate with the City regarding implementation of this Plan, and will convey all reasonable requests made by the City to its CONTRACTOR.
- CAA may seek assistance with certain responsibilities from its Engineer (currently Stantec Consultants) or other consultants as outlined in this plan and in the USACE 408 application documents.
- CAA and its Engineer will be responsible to coordinate with the City of Hartford Department of Transportation Flood Control Personnel.

(Insert CONTRACTOR) "CONTRACTOR"

CONTRACTOR is responsible for constructing the Vegetation Removal Project.

- CONTRACTOR will inform all SUBCONTRACTORs about this FCP and ensure they work with the CONTRACTOR's team to meet their requirements.
- CONTRACTOR will provide training to key supervisory personnel who will be overseeing the construction activities within and adjacent to the flood control system. Training will include an overview of the FCP, designated on-site location of the FCP and the flood contingency measures described in this FCP.
- CONTRACTOR will conduct daily monitoring of river stage and weather conditions as described in this FCP.
- CONTRACTOR will be responsible to coordinate with the City of Hartford Department of Transportation Flood Control Personnel.
- CONTRACTOR will coordinate activities at the levee to ensure that work does not interfere with City of Hartford's maintenance and operation of the levee.
- CONTRACTOR will use the River Monitoring program as described in this FCP to avoid working in, or the movement of equipment and materials into areas within the levee ROW that are flooded or could reasonably be expected to become flooded prior to the completion of the proposed construction activities in that area.
- CONTRACTOR will be prepared to move materials and equipment in response to flooding per this FCP and at the direction of CAA and/or its engineering inspectors.

City of Hartford Public Works Department



The City of Hartford owns and operates the flood control levee system. This FCP does not supersede any aspect of the City Plan's for disaster response, including flooding events.

- The City Hartford will conduct monitoring and notifications in accordance with standard procedures for the levee.
- City of Hartford will inform CAA of its access needs, and the need to conduct monitoring and flood fighting activities.
- The CONTRACTOR will comply with all directives issued by the City of Hartford with respect to flood-related precautionary or emergency measures.
- The City reserves the right to make specific requests in the event of a moderate or major flood event.

3.0 PROJECT COORDINATION, ACCESS, AND CONTINGENCY PLANNING

CONTRACTOR and CAA will coordinate with City Hartford staff concerning all logistics relevant to the Vegetation Removal project within the levee ROW, construction activities that may affect City flood control operations, and construction access issues which could impact the ability of City staff to access any part of the flood control system. This coordination will include:

- Providing and maintaining current site-specific contact information for the Project CONTRACTOR's Project Manager and Site Foreman as well as relevant SUBCONTRACTORs;
- Providing and maintaining a current schedule for work;
- Providing a list of equipment and major materials to be used by CONTRACTORs;
- Coordinating with City staff about maintaining unobstructed access to the flood control system, except where specifically permitted; and
- As work progresses, the point of contact for the CONTRACTOR will inform CAA and the City of any changes in the work schedule and when portions of the Project have been completed.
- Coordination with the City on the City's levee flood fighting protocols including flood monitoring and inspection. A copy of the Interim Risk Reduction Measures (IRRM) 5, Flood Fighting Supplemental Guidance for Structural IRRMs and Flood Fighting Techniques on Levees have been included in Appendix C for the Contractors information.

The Project requires construction access at the Metropolitan District (MDC) property at the end of Brainard Road. From the MDC property construction access enters City of Hartford Property at the Clark Dike station 25+00S a short paved section exists before turning into a gravel road along the landside toe of the levee. The access route continues along the landside toe until approximately station 42+00S at which time the route goes up the ramp to cross over the levee. The up ramp on the land side of the levee reaches the top of the levee at approximately station 47+25S. The access route then follows the down ramp to the river side of the levee at a switchback from station 47+25S to station 43+00S. The construction equipment will then access the vegetation management areas beyond the levee's river side toe from the existing stabilized turf road running parallel with the levee toe of slope to perform the daily construction activities. The construction personnel and resident inspectors will exit the work areas along the same route but in reverse and the forestry equipment will be parked on the river side of the levee at the end of each day. Because the eventual route for construction equipment to access this section of the Project will be via roads also used by the City, coordination will be required in the event of flooding to ensure levee operation can continue. Demobilization of equipment and material from the vicinity of the levee will be required of the CONTRACTOR if it is necessary.

Flood contingency planning will include monitoring Connecticut River stage levels to ensure that equipment and materials can be safely removed from the area in flood conditions. The elevation of the ground near the vegetation removal areas is approximately 5-11 ft (NGVD 29), so the work area would likely be inaccessible in a Level 1 Flood Surveillance event (El. 16 NGVD29). If this area is expected to flood, temporary removal of equipment and material and other elements which could be dislodged in flood



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events will be required of the CONTRACTOR. Due to the majority of the vegetation cut occurring between 5-11 ft, Pre-Alert stage actions will be required of the CONTRACTOR.

The Contractor shall protection the four existing piezometers located within the work area on the levee. The piezometer locations are shown on the plans and in Appendix B of this document. No equipment or materials are to be place on or near the piezometers and traffic cones shall be placed around each piezometer for protection. The piezometers use cellular service to transmit data continuously, therefore the Contractor shall be aware and be sure not to interfere with the signal at anytime.

Areas of the Clark Dike levee has a potential for seepage to occur when the Connecticut river reaches moderate flood levels. These areas of concern are from Clark Dike Station 70+00S to 127+00S with emphasis at Station 98+00S. The Stationing is also labeled in the plans on the Drawings, as well as on the Levee Seepage & Penetration Flood Patrol Inspection Location Plan attached in Appendix B of this document.

No excavation or soil stockpiles are proposed.

1. River Level Monitoring

- A. At any time that men, equipment, and stockpiled cut vegetation are on the river side of the levee, in the floodway, CONTRACTOR staff will monitor river levels using the links contained in Section
 2. Using this method, CONTRACTOR will have the ability to obtain flood stage data on an advance basis that will allow CONTRACTOR personnel sufficient time to secure the site, implement flood contingency measures (see Section 3), and assist with worker safety issues.
- B. Training will be provided for key supervisory personnel who will be overseeing the monitoring and inspection. Training will include an overview of the FCP, designated on-site location of the FCP itself, and the Flood Contingency Measures described in this plan.

2. Response Action Levels

Table 1 identifies the flood response action levels and summarizes the activities associated with each level. These action levels will be based on the actual and forecasted water level and performance of the flood control system.

	Table 1 – Flood Response Action Levels				
Action Level	/el Connecticut River stage at Monitoring Effort				
	Bulkeley Bridge (NGVD29)				
Monitoring	All	Monitoring of the river level forecast should be conducted daily			
Pre-Alert	Forecast indicates river to be	Work will not be allowed at or below forecasted river elevation.			
	between 5' – 11' in elevation	Equipment, cut tree logs or materials will not be allowed to be staged at			
	(NGVD29)	or below forecasted river elevation.			
Alert	Forecast indicates potential	Planning and preparation for flood fighting activity			
	for river to exceed Action				
	Stage (El. 12 NGVD29)				
Surveillance	River exceeds Flood Stage	Physical inspection of entire system and reporting once every 24 hours			
Level 1	(EI. 16 NGVD29)				
Surveillance	River exceeds Moderate	Physical inspection of entire system and reporting once every 8 hours			
Level 2	Flood Stage (El. 24				
	NGVD29)				



Surveillance Level 3	River exceeds Major Flood Stage (El. 28 NGVD29)	Physical inspection of entire system and reporting once every 4 hours
Cessation	River drops below flood stage (El. 16 NGVD29) and risk of flood damage has passed	Systematic inspection and summary of repair needs (if any)

Table 2 identifies CONTRACTOR'S flood response action levels and summarizes the activities associated with each level.

	Table 2 – Contractor Flood Response Action Levels				
Action	Connecticut River stage at	Monitoring Effort			
Level	Bulkeley Bridge (NGVD29)				
Monitoring	Monitoring of the river level	The Connecticut River stage at the Bulkeley Bridge in Hartford is			
	forecast and weather	available at:			
	conditions will be conducted	http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?gage=hfdc3&wfo=box			
	daily.	or			
		http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ct/nwis/uv/?site_no=01190070&PARAmeter_			
		<u>cd=00065,00060</u>			
		The National Maathan Convise's deily briefing evailable at			
		The National Weather Service's daily briefing available at:			
		The US Army Corps of Engineers operates flood control reservoirs in			
		the Connecticut River Basin. Information regarding river stage and			
		storage is available at			
		http://www.nae.usace.armv.mil/Missions/Reservoir-Control-Center/			
Pre-Alert	Forecast indicates river to be	Work will not be allowed at or below forecasted river elevation.			
	between 5' – 11' in elevation	Equipment, cut tree logs or materials will not be allowed to be staged at			
	(NGVD29)	or below forecasted river elevation.			
Alert	Forecast indicates potential	Planning and preparation for flood fighting activity			
	for river to exceed Action				
	Stage (El. 12 NGVD29)				
Surveillance	River exceeds Flood Stage	Physical inspection of entire system and reporting once every 24 hours			
Level 1	(El. 16 NGVD29)				
Surveillance	River exceeds Moderate	Physical inspection of entire system and reporting once every 8 hours			
Level 2	Flood Stage (El. 24 NGVD29)				
Surveillance	River exceeds Major Flood	Physical inspection of entire system and reporting once every 4 hours			
Level 3	Stage (EI. 28 NGVD29)				
Cessation	Kiver drops below flood stage	Systematic inspection and summary of repair needs (if any)			
	(EI. IO NGVD29) and risk of				
	llood damage has passed				

3. Minimum Flood Mitigation Response Actions

Pre-Alert (El. 5' – 11' NGVD29)

CONTRACTOR will take the following steps when the Connecticut River is within Pre-Alert:

- Based on actual and forecasted conditions of river stage and weather, determine what active tasks can be completed before river reaches flood stage and what tasks may need to be delayed;
- The CONTRACTOR shall take following mitigation measures at these lower river elevations as they directly impact work phases of the Project:



- No work shall be performed at or below the river elevation.
- No equipment or log stockpiles shall be left overnight within the Pre-Alert river elevation.
- The CONTRACTOR shall remove all cut log debris from the Pre-Action elevation at the end of every work shift.
- As river elevation recede from the Pre-Action elevation, the CONTRACTOR shall assess the condition of the work areas before resuming work. Consideration is to be given to areas with depressions which could have pounded water at depth.

Action Stage (El. 12 NGVD29)

CONTRACTOR will take the following steps when the Connecticut River is in the Action Stage:

- Based on actual and forecasted conditions of river stage and weather, determine what active tasks can be completed before river reaches flood stage and what tasks may need to be delayed;
- Stabilize work areas and begin demobilization of equipment and materials; and
- Timber mats on the river side and embankment shall be removed as the equipment demobilizes from the floodway.
- Coordinate all efforts with the City.

Flood Stage (El. 16 NGVD29)

CONTRACTOR will take the following steps when the Connecticut River is in the Flood Stage:

- Remove equipment, materials and personnel from the floodplain;
- Demobilization will be coordinated with the City to ensure that activities don't interfere with pump station operation and flood fighting efforts;
- Secure any materials that are to remain in floodplain so that that are not displaced by flood waters; and
- Coordinate all efforts with the City.

Moderate Flood Stage (El. 24 NGVD29)

As the Connecticut River approaches moderate flood stage, CONTRACTOR should have completed the following:

- Install stabilization measures to minimize erosion/scour;
- Securing of all active construction accesses and removal of all materials and equipment from the flood zone;
- Keep the Levee Seepage Inspection Zone clear of all equipment and materials.



APPENDIX

Appendix A

Appendix A

PROJECT COORDINATION CONTACT LIST

Project Coordination Contact List will be provided to USACE and City of Harford upon selection of CONTRACTOR for this project.



Appendix B

Appendix B

LEVEE SEEPAGE & PENETRATION FLOOD PATROL INSPECTION PLAN



LE	G	E	N	D	
				_	

争 B-101	PIEZOMETER LOCATION - GEI CONSULTANTS
VWP	VIBRATING WIRE PIEZOMETER
OSP	OPEN STANDPIPE PIEZOMETER

FLOOD CONTINGENCY PLAN REVISION 1

Appendix C

Appendix C

FLOOD FIGHTING SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDANCE FOR STRUCTURAL IRRMS AND FLOOD FIGHTING TECHNIQUES ON LEVEES



APPENDIX D: Flood Fighting Techniques on Levees

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1. Introduction

If a well-constructed levee of correct cross section is properly maintained and is not overtopped, it should hold throughout any major flood event. However, the levee is still in potential danger whenever there is water against it. The danger increases with the height of water, the duration of the flood stage, the intensity of the current, and the wave action against the levee face. There are three primary factors that lead to levee failures.

- 1. Overtopping
- 2. Seepage problems such as sandboils or slides
- 3. Erosion from the current or waves

Potential levee failures may be prevented if prompt action is taken and proper methods of treatment are employed. This appendix describes some of the general actions that should be taken to raise the crown of a levee or to respond to sandboils, seepage problems, or wave wash if these problems are identified during a patrol. The methods described have been developed from many years of experience in dealing with problems that arise as a result of high water, and should be followed as closely as possible. (The intent of this isn't to destroy personal initiative when dealing with unusual emergencies. On the contrary, if a dangerous situation occurs along a levee line, immediate action is demanded using the materials and labor at hand. However, an emergency is not a time in which to experiment, and these proven methods should be employed wherever possible.) Conditions and problems may arise which are not adequately covered by the suggestions provided or if there's any doubt as to the proper procedure that should be taken, the local U.S. Army Corps of Engineers district Emergency Management Office should immediately be consulted for advice and assistance.

2. Overtopping

A levee is overtopped when water flows over the levee crown. Low reaches in the levee crown must be identified as early as possible and raised to a uniform level. If the stream is predicted to approach or exceed the height of the existing levee, immediate attention should be given to raising the levee crown.

On the other hand, if the stream is likely to crest many feet beyond the elevation of the levee, the best approach may be to simply allow the levee to overtop, so that flood fight efforts can be redirected to other areas. If this is the case, low reaches in the levee crown need to be raised, leveled or otherwise prepared so that it overtops uniformly, to keep the damage to a minimum. Ideally, the levee should be allowed to overtop uniformly along the downstream portion of the system, so the protected area is "backfilled" with flood water. If the levee is breached due to the overtopping along the downstream portion of the FCW, it prevents the full force of the river's current from flowing into the protected area. An upstream breach will allow the river current to bring in much more debris (for example, entire trees), and would possibly cause much more scouring damage to the protected area than a downstream overtopping breach. It's very important that you contact the Corps has a great deal of experience with flood fighting and can provide technical assistance and guidance as needed.

Generally, emergency barriers are constructed 2 feet above the current predicted river crest. For example, if the river is predicted to rise 1 1/2 feet beyond the elevation of the levee, then a 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ foot capping would be necessary in order to maintain two feet of freeboard as a factor of safety. If the crest prediction increases during construction, additional height must be added.

2.1 Options for Raising a Levee

There are a number of ways that the levee crown can be raised. Provided the work is done well in advance of the high water, in areas where there is sufficient space for construction and with the proper equipment, the most efficient means of raising low stretches of the levee is to scarify the surface, haul in fill material and compact it in place, as discussed in section 2.2, below. However, this is not always possible. No heavy equipment should be used on a levee when water is near the top, as the vibration may cause a failure. In no case should such equipment be allowed on an earthen levee after the levee has commenced to seep. For these reasons, raising the elevation with compacted earthen fill may not be an option. The levee crown may alternately be raised with a sandbag capping or with flashboard structures. Jersey barriers have also successfully been converted into floodwalls during emergency situations.

Additionally, there are a large number of contemporary technologies that may be used to raise an emergency levee; including bladders, structurally supported membranes, and lightweight shells that are filled with sand from a bucket loader. The Corps' Engineer Research and Development Center has recently completed a rigorous and impartial study on several of these flood fight technologies. You are encouraged to visit <u>http://chl.erdc.usace.army.mil/ffs</u> for details on the tests and products, since this site will have the Corps' most current information on the subject, and the website will be updated as additional products are tested.

With so many options available for raising a flood barrier, there are several things you should consider as you decide how to best protect your community:

a. Cost of materials and labor

The materials for sandbag construction are generally much less expensive than the alternatives. Sandbag construction is very labor intensive, but at the same time, volunteer labor is often readily available during high water.

b. Available time

Flashboards or contemporary options are better suited to conditions when there is little time available for the construction, because they typically require less labor and can be put in place much faster than sandbag levees.

c. Allowable seepage

Most construction methods will allow some degree of seepage through the structure. As is the case with sandbags, modifications may be made to the basic designs so that the seepage is reduced, but these modifications usually take additional time to construct.

d. Suitability for construction in the given area

Sandbags are extremely versatile and sandbag structures can be constructed almost anywhere. Sandbags can be used to close small roads or to fill gaps, or can be built into long stretches of levees if there is adequate time and manpower. Flashboards and newer technologies are generally not as versatile, but depending on the technology and the construction, they are typically well suited for raising the elevation over longer stretches.

e. Equipment requirements

Sandbag structures can be built without heavy machinery, which may be required for some other options. There are a number of situations where it's not possible to use even light earthmoving machinery. For example, there might not be enough space for the machinery, or the foundations might be too unstable. Also, individual landowners may object to the use of machinery over their properties.

f. Necessary elevation

Though sandbag levees are best suited for elevations of 3 feet or less, they have successfully been used to raise elevations by 20 feet or more in extreme flooding situations. Flashboards are typically only built to a maximum of 3 feet, and the elevation provided by other technologies varies. In deciding between the various options, it's important to consider how reliably they can forecast the crest height of the river. If the river stage might rise several feet beyond what is currently predicted, a sandbag levee could be raised higher, while it would be much more difficult to raise something like a flashboard or Jersey barrier structure.

g. Disposal

Burlap sandbags are biodegradable and relatively easy to remove and dispose of. Other options typically take much longer to remove and create more waste. Some are reusable.

Situations may arise when one of the more contemporary products may be readily available and appropriate for the given conditions, when there would be insufficient workers available to protect the area with sandbags or when time was extremely limited; and in these situations the cost of using these products may be justified. While it would be prohibitively expensive for the Corps to stockpile enough inventories to adequately address all problems that might be faced across the country, the Corps may purchase such items and make them available for public sponsors if conditions warrant. However, in the majority of situations, sandbags are almost always preferred and recommended during flood fights when construction with earthen fill is not possible. The following sections provide specific guidance on raising levees using earthen fill, sandbags, and flashboards.

2.2 Raising a Levee with Earthen Fill

a. Borrow Area and Haul Road

Borrow material can become a critical item of supply in some areas due to long haul, project isolation, or for other reasons. The two prime requisites for a borrow area are that adequate material be available and that the site be accessible at all times. The quantity estimate plus an additional 50 percent should provide the basis for the area requirement, in order to provide suitable materials for levee construction as covered below. The area must be located so that it will not become isolated from the project by high water. Local contractors and local officials are the best source of information on available borrow areas. In undeveloped areas, the area should be cleared of brush, trees, and debris, with topsoil and humus being stripped. In early spring, it will probably be necessary to rip the area to remove frozen material. An effort should be made to borrow from the area in such a manner that the area will be relatively smooth and free draining when the operation is complete. The haul road may be an existing road or street, or it may have to be constructed. To mitigate damages, it is highly desirable to use unpaved trails and roads, or to construct a road if the haul distance is short. In any case, the road should be maintained to avoid unnecessary traffic delays. The use of flagmen and warning signs is mandatory at major crossings, such as highways, near schools, and at major pedestrian crossings. It may become necessary to stockpile material near anticipated trouble areas.

b. Equipment

One of the important considerations in earthwork construction is the selection of proper equipment to do the work. Under emergency conditions, obtaining normally specified earthwork equipment will be difficult and the work will generally be done with locally available equipment. It may be wise to call for technical assistance in the early contract stage to ensure that proper and efficient equipment use is proposed. If possible, compaction equipment should be used in flood barrier construction. This may

involve sheepsfoot, rubber-tired, or vibratory rollers. Scrapers should be used for hauling when possible because of speed (on short haul) and large capacity. Truck haul, however, has been the most widely used. A ripper is almost essential for opening borrow areas in the early spring. A bulldozer of some size is mandatory on the job to help spread dumped fill and provide some compaction.

c. Foundation preparation

One of the primary differences in the construction of emergency levees and the construction of permanent levees lies in the preparation of the foundation. Prior to any embankment construction, it's very important that the foundation is prepared, particularly if the levee is to be left in place. For emergency construction during spring flooding, the first item of work will probably be snow removal. The snow should be pushed riverward so as to decrease ponding when it melts. Any trees that might be present should be cut and the stumps removed. If at all possible, any obstructions above the ground (brush or similar debris) should be removed. The foundation should then be stripped of topsoil and surface humus. (Clearing and grubbing, structure removal and stripping should be performed only if time permits.) Stripping may be impossible if the ground is frozen, and in this case, the foundation should be ripped or scarified, if possible, to provide a tough surface for the material to bond to. Every effort should be made to remove all ice or soil containing ice lenses. Frost or frozen ground can give a false sense of security in the early stages of a flood fight. It can act as a rigid boundary and support the levee, but when it thaws, the soil strength may be reduced sufficiently for cracking or the development of slides. The ice also forms an impervious barrier to prevent seepage. This may result in a considerable build-up in pressure under the soils landward of the levee and, upon thawing, pressure may be sufficient to cause sudden blowouts. If this condition exists, it must be monitored, and one must be prepared to act quickly if sliding or boiling starts. If stripping is possible, the material should be pushed landward and riverward of the toe of levee and windrowed. After the flood, this material can be spread on the slopes to provide topsoil for vegetation.

d. Materials

Earth fill materials for emergency levees will come from local borrow areas. An attempt should be made to utilize materials which are compatible with the foundation materials as explained below. However, due to time limitation, any local materials may be used if reasonable construction procedures are followed. The materials should not contain large frozen pieces of earth.

i. Clay

Clay is preferred because the section can be made smaller (steeper side slopes). Also, clay is relatively impervious, and has relatively high resistance to erosion when it's compacted. A disadvantage in using clay is that adequate compaction is difficult to obtain without proper equipment. Additionally, the water content in impervious fill can impact the compaction needs. Efforts are typically made at the borrow site to obtain material with the optimal moisture; otherwise, if that is not

possible, more time may be required for compaction. Another disadvantage is that the clay may be wet and sub-freezing temperatures may cause the material to freeze in the borrow pit and in the hauling equipment. Weather could cause delays and should definitely be considered in the overall construction effort.

ii. Sand

If sand is used, the section should comply as closely as possible with recommendations in the paragraph titled Levee Section, below. Flat slopes are important, as steep slopes without poly coverage will cause seepage through the levee to outcrop high on the landward slope, and may cause the slope to slump.

iii. Silt

Material that is primarily silt should be avoided, and if it is used, poly facing must be applied to the river slope. Silt, upon wetting, tends to collapse under its own weight and is very susceptible to erosion.

e. Levee Section

In standard levees, the foundation soils and available construction materials generally dictate the design configuration of the levee. Therefore, even under emergency conditions, an attempt should be made to make the embankment compatible with the foundation. Information on foundation soils may be available from local officials or engineers, and it should be utilized. The three foundation conditions and the levee sections cited below are classical and idealized, and usual field conditions depart from them to various degrees. However, they should be used as a guide so that possible serious flood fight problems might be lessened during high water. In determining the top width of any type of section, consideration should be given as to whether a revised forecast will require additional fill to be placed. A top width adequate for construction equipment will facilitate raising the levee. Finally, actual levee construction will in cases, depend on time, materials, and right-of-way available.

i. Sand Foundation

If the foundation material under the emergency levee is sand or some other pervious material, the following guidance is provided:

- If the levee section is to be made of sand, use a minimum of 1V (Vertical) on 3H (Horizontal) river slopes. A 1V on 4H river slope is preferable, and will be less susceptible to erosion, but a 1V on 3H slope is considered an adequate minimum for emergency purposes. Use 1V on 5H for the landward slope, and 10-foot top width.
- If the levee section is to be made of clay, use 1V on 2 1/2 H for both slopes.
 1V on 3H slopes are preferable, but 1V on 1 ½ H is an acceptable minimum for emergency purposes. The bottom width should comply with creep ratio criteria; i.e., L (across bottom) should be equal to C x H; where C=9 for fine gravel and 15 for fine sand in the foundation, and H is levee height.

This criteria can be met by using berms either landward or riverward of the levee. Berm thickness should be 3 feet or greater. Berms are used mainly to control or to relieve uplift pressures and will not reduce seepage significantly.

ii. Clay Foundation

If the foundation material under the emergency levee is clay, the following guidance is provided:

- If the levee section is to be made of sand, it should be constructed with 1V on 3H for the river slope. Again, a 1V on 4H is preferable, but the steeper slope is considered adequate for emergency purposes. Use 1V on 5H for the landward slope, and a 10-foot top width, as described in the previous section.
- If the levee section is to be made of clay, use 1V on 2 1/2 H for both slopes.
 1V on 3H slopes are preferable for clay levees, but 1V on 1 ¹/₂ H is an acceptable minimum for emergency purposes. With a clay foundation, there is no need to construct additional berms.

iii. Clay Layer over a Sand Foundation

If the foundation material is such that there is an impervious clay layer resting over a pervious sand layer, the following guidance is provided:

- If the levee section is to be made of sand, use a minimum of 1V (Vertical) on 3H (Horizontal) river slopes for emergency purposes. A 1V on 4H slope is preferable, if this construction is possible. 1V on 5H landward slope, and 10-foot top width. In addition, a landside berm of sufficient thickness may be necessary to prevent rupture of the clay layer. The berm may be constructed of sand, gravel, or clay, but since berms made of clay generally need to be wider and thicker than those made of pervious materials, it would probably reduce the construction effort to build the berm with sand or gravel, if these materials were available. Standard design of berms requires considerable information and detailed analysis of soil conditions. However, prior technical assistance may reduce berm construction requirements in any emergency situation.
- If the levee section is to be made of clay, use 1 V on 2 1/2 H for both slopes. Again, 1V on 3H slopes are preferable, but 1V on 1 ½ H is an acceptable minimum for emergency purposes. Additionally, a berm may be necessary to prevent rupture of the impervious top stratum.

f. Placement

Layers should be started out to the full width of the embankment base, and subsequent lifts shall be placed so that the tops are substantially horizontal. In general, the levee

section should be homogeneous. However, when materials of varying permeability are encountered in the borrow area, the more pervious material should be placed on the landside of the embankment.

g. Compaction

As stated above, obtaining proper compaction equipment for a given soil type will be difficult. It is expected in most cases that the only compaction will be from that due to the hauling and spreading equipment, i.e., construction traffic routed over the fill. It is to be realized that even the minimum requirements may not be possible or feasible, and, if situation demands, material should be placed and compacted in any way possible and the levee observed closely for signs of distress. A construction engineer should ideally oversee the design of emergency levees. Use of these guidelines should not be taken as a guarantee that a safe structure will be constructed.

i. Pervious Fill

Material shall be placed in layers not more than 12 inches in thickness prior to compaction. In emergency situations, each layer should be compacted at the very minimum by one pass of the hauling equipment. However, whenever time, cost and availability of equipment will permit, a much safer structure will result if each layer gets compacted by a minimum of 3 complete passes of a crawler-type tractor, or by 2 passes of a vibratory roller.

ii. Impervious Fill

Fill material shall be placed in layers not exceeding 9 inches prior to compaction. In emergency situations, each layer should receive at least one complete coverage of the track or wheel of the placing equipment or equivalent. However, whenever time, cost and availability of equipment will permit, a much safer structure will result if each layer gets compacted by a minimum of 4-6 complete passes of a tamping type roller or 4 complete passes of a rubber-tired roller.

2.3 Raising a Levee with Sandbags

a. Sandbags

Sandbags are available in plastic and in burlap. The preferred bags are untreated, close weave burlap sacks available at feed or hardware stores. Empty bags should be stockpiled for emergency use, and can be stored for approximately 8 years in a rodent-free environment with low humidity. Don't fill the bags ahead of time, because they will deteriorate quickly. Commercial polypropylene sandbags are also effective in a flood fight, but since plastic bags are not readily biodegradable, burlap bags will allow more options for disposal if the bags are not going to be reused. (No sandbags should be left in place after the flood fight, regardless of whether they are burlap or plastic.) Do not use garbage bags, as they are too slick to stack; and don't use feed sacks, as they are too large to handle. Experience shows that bags work well if they are approximately 14 inches wide and 24 inches deep.

b. Fill Material

A sandy soil is most desirable for filling sandbags, as it's easiest to shovel, and the bags can most easily be shaped as needed. Fine sand tends to leak through the weave in the bag, and if it is used it should be double bagged. Silty soils also tend to leak through the bags, and both silty soils and clays are difficult to shape into place. Gravelly or rocky soils are generally poor choices for sandbags structures because of their permeability, though rocks and gravel may be used in sandbags in order to divert water flows, to fill holes, or to hold objects in position. However, any usable material at or near the site has definite advantages. Material should generally not be removed from within 500 feet of the landward toe of a levee, except for in extreme emergency situations.

c. Sandbag Filling

Filling sandbags manually requires two people. One member of the team folds the throat of the bag outward to form a collar, and holds it open so that the other person can shovel in material. The one holding the bag should hold it between or slightly in front of his or her feet, either crouching with his elbows resting on his knees or standing with his knees slightly flexed, while keeping his head and face as far away from the shovel as possible. Both people should be wearing gloves to protect their hands, and safety goggles may also be desirable, especially on dry or windy days.

If they are available during large-scale operations, bag-holding racks and power loading equipment can expedite the operation. Sandbag filling machines can



Figure D.1 This two-person team is positioned properly for sandbag filling.

be very effective if they are functioning correctly. Alternately, some people have reported success with improvised sandbag filling devices during a flood response. Inverted traffic cones or large metal funnels have been placed into holes in a table, and feeding bins with doors in their bases have been used to pour sand into bags.

Regardless of what method you use to fill them, bags should be filled between <u>one-half</u> ($\frac{1}{2}$) to two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of their capacity. This keeps the bag from getting too heavy, but more importantly, sandbag structures do not seal or keep out water as well if the bags are more than $\frac{2}{3}$ full. Be very careful not to overfill or under fill the bags.

d. Tied vs. Untied Bags

Although tied sandbags are generally easier to handle and stockpile, <u>untied</u> sandbags are recommended for most situations, because untied bags make a better seal when they're stacked. Since the bags aren't more than 2/3 full, they can be transported almost as easily whether they're tied or untied. Tied sandbags should be used only for

special situations when the bags need to be pre-filled and stockpiled, or for specific purposes such as filling holes or for holding objects in position.

e. Preparing the Ground

Any debris must be removed from the area before the bags are laid in place. Typically, flat headed shovels are used to scrape up ("scarp") the sod or gravel where they are to be laid, to get down to the solid ground where the bags are to be laid. Do not scarp the ground beyond the area directly under the sandbags, because the sod cover in other areas is needed to protect the ground from erosion.

Before laying the bags along the entire length of an area to raise the levee, it's important that you first fill in any low areas with sandbags or with tightly packed earth, so that subsequent sandbag layers will be kept level.

f. Sandbag Placement

When laying the sandbags, the open end of the unfilled portion of the bag is folded over to form a triangle. If tied bags are used, flatten or flare the tied end. Place the partially filled bags lengthwise and parallel to the direction of flow, so the bottom of the bag faces downstream and the folded end faces upstream. (This positioning reduces the chance that floating debris will snag on the tucks and open the bags.)



Figure D.2 Sandbag placement – tucking in the flaps.





Place each succeeding bag tightly against and partially overlapping the previous one. Compact and shape each bag by walking on it.

Tuck the flaps under, keeping the unfilled portion under the weight of the sack. Overlap the next bag slightly over the one before it, so that the top of that sandbag layer can be flattened without leaving any gaps between the bags. Once a bag is placed, it's very important that you then walk over it, stomp on it, or maul it into place to eliminate voids and form a tight seal.

Figure D.3 Sandbag placement – compacting bags together.

When succeeding layers are added, stagger the bags like bricks, so that each one is placed over the gap between the two below it. This ensures that each seam is interlocked between bags and strengthens the structure. (There should never be less than 1/3 the length of a bag overlapping with the ones beneath it.) When placed properly, each bag should raise the elevation of the structure by 4 inches.

g. Sandbag Levees

Sandbags can be used to raise the height of an existing levee or can be used over open ground to protect an area with no levee at all. Any time a sandbag levee will be constructed over one layer high; the bag should be stacked in a pyramid structure to ensure stability. The basic rules of thumb in constructing these structures is that they must be approximately <u>three times as wide as they are high</u>, and the sandbags should be staggered within each layers just as they are staggered from one layer to the next. The directions of the bags (transverse or longitudinal) may be alternated, as long as no loose ends are left exposed. Use this rule of thumb in determining the dimensions of the pyramid:

- 1 bag in length equals about 1 foot
- 3 bags in width equals about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet
- 3 bags in height equals about 1 foot

When building these structures on top of an existing levee, the bags should begin 1 foot from the riverward crown (shoulder) of the levee. Where space is extremely limited on the levee crown, this distance may be reduced but the structure should never be built less than 6 inches from the edge of the levee crown. Stamp each bag in place, overlap sacks, maintain staggered joint placement, and tuck in any loose ends.



Figure D.4 Pyramid sandbag placement.

h. Material, Tools, and Labor Requirements for Sandbag Levee

Listed below are the materials, tools, and labor required to construct 100 linear feet of sandbag levee, two feet high, with a haul distance of 1 mile round trip.

i. Materials and Tools

- 1,800 Sandbags
- 10 Shovels
- 27 Flash lights
- 10 Tons sand (approx)
- 2 Emergency light sets
- 2 Radios or cell phones (one at filling site; one at laying site)
- 6 Pickup trucks

ii. Labor Requirements:

- 10 Filling sandbags
- 5 Loading
- 6 Hauling
- 5 Laying
- 2 Foremen (1 at sandbag filling site, 1 at work site)
- 28 People required, total

iii. Time Requirements:

With given resources, the time for completion is estimated at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours, from start to finish.

i. Bonding Trench and Plastic Sheeting

Seepage through a sandbag structure can be kept to a minimum if the structure is built carefully using untied bags. One method that's been successfully used to reduce the seepage through a sandbag levee and to increase the horizontal stability is to construct a bonding trench under the structure before the sandbags are laid in place, as pictured below. An additional precaution is to build the structure over some plastic sheeting, which is pulled up and over the structure once it's complete.



Figure D.5 Sketch of a typical levee raise with bonding trench.

While it's always recommended at least to scarp the ground before the bags are laid, the decision to dig this trench or use the plastic sheeting depends on local conditions, as well as on the expected height of the structure and the time that's available to build it. One of the primary concerns when considering bonding trenches and/or plastic sheeting is the amount of time that's available. If there's sufficient time and adequate material, the seepage can be reduced, but if there is very little time available, the ground should be scarped and a typical sandbag structure constructed with no bonding trench at all. An additional concern is whether the sandbag levee would have to be raised in the future, because any plastic sheeting has to be removed before the structure can be raised.

If plastic sheeting is to be used in conjunction with the sandbag levee, begin by digging a bonding trench 2 sandbags wide and one sandbag deep. The edge of the plastic is placed in the hole and weighed down with sandbags, with most of the plastic laying out in the direction of the river. It's very important that the plastic is <u>never</u> laid across the entire width of the sandbag levee base. Sandbag levees are held together by frictional forces between the bags and with the ground surface; sandbag structures are much less stable when wrapped with plastic, and can slide apart under high water. Construct the sandbag levee over the sheeting, pull the plastic up and overtop of the structure and weigh it down with sandbags on the landward side. Always work from downstream to upstream so that the upstream plastic seams all overlap the ones downstream, in order to prevent debris from snagging the plastic and pulling the sandbag levee apart.

2.4 Raising the levee with Flashboards or Lumber and Sack Cappings

If it appears that the levee raise would have to hold back more than 18 inches of water, consideration should be given to use of a lumber and sack capping or a flashboard capping. A lumber and sack capping is shown in plate 3, which may be used as a guide to estimate the materials required for a levee raise of about 3 feet. A flashboard structure is very similar, but the face of the structure is constructed of plywood instead of boards. These wooden facings provide a more positive control against excessive through seepage than is provided by sandbags alone. Either structure can be supported from behind with either sandbags or with compacted earthen fill, depending on how accessible the crown of the levee is to earthmoving machinery.

Additionally, plastic sheeting may be installed on the riverside face of the plywood or flashboards, to protect the wood and reduce seepage through the flashboards. Flashboards do tend to leak a little, depending on how they are constructed and how the boards expand when they're wet; though these structures are never constructed without a sandbag backing. If plastic sheeting is to be used, it should extend 1' riverward from the riverside bottom of the plywood/flashboard. A row of sandbags should then be stamped into place along the riverside bottom edge of the plywood/flashboards to help prevent seepage under the flashboard system. The plastic is brought up the riverside of the plywood/flashboards and over the top to the landside supports and held in place by sandbags or nails where necessary. Field conditions, the available time, and the availability of materials would dictate the actual requirements.

3. Seepage

As a river or stream rises, the hydrostatic pressure against a levee slope increases significantly and can force water into and under the levee embankment. Even when a levee is properly constructed and of such mass to resist the destructive action of flood water, this seepage tends to push its way through regions of least resistance (such as sandy layers under the levee or animal burrows) out to the surface on the landward side of the structure. If there isn't sufficient pressure on the landward side to hold back the seepage water, it will break through the ground surface on the landward side, in the form of bubbling springs, which erode and carry soil particles from under the levee.

Seepage is almost impossible to eliminate and attempt to do so may create a much more severe condition. Seepage is generally not a problem unless 1) the landward levee slope becomes saturated over a large area, 2) seepage water is carrying material from the levee, or 3) pumping capacity is exceeded. Pumping of seepage should be held to a minimum, and ponding should be allowed during high water to the extent that it doesn't cause damages. Several levees were endangered during past floods by attempts to keep low areas pumped dry, and additional time and effort were expended in controlling sandboils caused by pumping. Therefore, seepage should be permitted if no apparent ill-effects are observed and if adequate pumping capacity is available.

3.1 Effects of Underseepage

Underseepage can produce three distinctly different effects on a levee, depending upon the condition of flow under the levee.

a. Piping Flow

In extreme conditions of excessive underseepage, the movement of seepage water erodes the foundation materials, and a clearly defined pipe or tube develops under the levee. Unless corrective actions are taken, water continues to erode and enlarge this pipe, so that a cavern develops under the levee, and levee material collapses to fill in the void. In an advanced state, piping under the levee can be identified by a slumping of the levee crown, and the levee can quickly fail if it's overtopped through this low spot. To prevent this condition from developing, any boils found to be transporting soil material need to be treated as early as possible.

b. Non-Piping Flow

In this case, seepage water flows under the levee without following a well-defined path, and results in one or more boils outcropping at or near the landside toe. The flow from these boils tends to undercut and ravel the landside toe, resulting in sloughing of the landward slope. Sloughing is the movement of small amounts of soils from the embankment slopes. Sloughing may also occur if the levee embankment becomes saturated as a result of prolonged high creek stages. Evidence of this type of failure is found in undercutting and raveling at the landside toe.

c. Saturating Flow

In this case, numerous small boils, many of which are scarcely noticeable, outcrop at or near the landside toe. While no boil may appear dangerous in itself, a group of boils may cause significant damage. The flowing water may erode away supporting material and/or keep the area saturated and cause flotation ("quickness") of the soil, reducing the shearing strength of the material at the toe (where maximum shearing stress occurs) which could lead to slope failure. In a slope failure condition, a substantial section of the levee embankment breaks away along a clearly defined crack and slides away from the levee. The displacement of the soil will result in a reduction in the cross sectional area of the levee and poses a major threat to the integrity of the structure.

3.2 Sandboils

a. Identification of Sand Boils

Sandboils usually occur within 10 to 300 feet from the landside toe of the levee and, in some instances, have occurred up to 1,000 feet away. Boils will have an obvious exit (such as a rodent hole), but the hole may be very small. When material is carried upward through a boil, it is deposited in a circular pattern around the exit location, and is comparable to an ant hill or volcano. Alternately, sandboils may exit into standing water. In this case, they may be difficult to identify, especially if the hole is small and the water cloudy from siltation. If you see any movement in what appears to be standing water on the landward side of the structure, this may be the exit point for a sandboil. Carefully approach the site, disturbing the water as little as possible, and let the water settle in order to look for the exit point. If there is no distinct hole, the water flow is not a threat. All boils should be conspicuously marked with flagging so that patrols can locate them without difficulty and observe changes in their condition.

You can tell how serious a boil is by the color of the water that is coming out. If the water is relatively clear, it means that there is relatively little material being eroded away through the boil. The site should be monitored regularly for changes, but nothing else should be done to treat the clear boil. If it's dark or muddy, then it's full of material that's been eroded away from under the levee, and must be treated immediately. Boils may quickly grow very large, and boils, which are discharging clear water, may suddenly begin to discharge soil materials along with the seepage flows. For this reason, any boil, whether the flow is clear or muddy, can potentially lead to the failure of the levee and must be monitored closely.

b. Treatment of Sandboils

The most common and accepted method of treating sandboils that are displacing soil is to construct a ring of sandbags around the boil(s) as illustrated in Figure D.7. The purpose of the ring is to raise a head of water over the boil to counterbalance the upward pressure of the seepage flow. The height of the water column is adjusted so that the water exiting the boil runs clear and no longer removes soil from the levee foundation. It's extremely important that the flow of water is never stopped completely, as this may cause additional boils to break out nearby. Treated areas should be kept under constant surveillance until the water recedes.



Figure D.6 To treat the sandboil, the pressure of the seepage water is counterbalanced by hydrostatic pressure from the column of water in the ring levee.

The diameter and height of the ring will depend on the actual conditions at each sandboil. The base width should be at least 1¹/₂ times the contemplated height, and the inner ring of sandbags should begin between one and three feet from outer edge of the sandboil. "Weak" or "quick" ground near a boil should be included within the sack ring to prevent these areas from developing into new boils when the active boil is treated. Where several sandboils develop in a localized area, a ring levee of sandbags should be constructed around the entire area. The ring should ideally be of sufficient diameter to permit sacking operations to keep ahead of the flow of water. When a sandboil is located near the levee toe, the sandbag ring may be tied into the landside slope of the levee, as shown in Figure D.8.

The base or foundation for the sack ring should be cleared of debris and scarified



Figure D.7 *Sketch of a typical ring levee with spillway.*



Figure D.8 Sketch of ring levee tied to a levee slope, with spillway. Construction against the levee slope results in a U-shaped sandbag "chimney."

to provide a reasonably watertight bond between the ground surface and the sandbags. The ring is constructed with sacks filled approximately two-thirds (2/3) full of sand, and tamped firmly into place. Do not tie the ends of the sacks. When adding subsequent layers, the joints should be staggered for stability and water tightness. The untied ends of sandbags should be laid towards the inside of the ring and folded under. The height of the sack ring should be only sufficient to slow the flow until the water

exiting the boil runs clean. Never place sandbags directly over the sandboil or attempt to completely stop the flow through the boils, as this may result in other boils developing nearby.

A spillway or exit channel should be constructed on the top of the sack ring so that the level of the water in the ring levee can be adjusted, and the overflow water can be carried a safe distance from the boil, away from the direction of the levee. Because the height of the water is the critical factor in adjusting the rate of flow through the boil, the spillway will require constant monitoring and adjustment once the sandbag ring levee is filled with water. This spillway is normally constructed of sandbags, but alternately, a V-shaped drain can be constructed of two boards; or PVC pipe, plastic sheeting, or other materials may be helpful in building the spillway.

c. Material, Tools, and Labor Requirements for Sandbag Ring Levee:

Materials, tools, and labor required to construct a Sandbag Ring Levee 2¹/₂ feet high and 10 feet in diameter with a haul distance of 1 mile round trip.

i. Materials and Tools:

- 1,125 Sandbags
- 5 Shovels, long or short handle
- 9 Tons of sand (approximately)
- 5 Pick up trucks
- 2 Radios or cell phones (one at filling site; one at laying site)
- 2 Emergency light sets
- 15 Flashlights
- 15 Pairs of work gloves

ii. Labor Requirements:

- 4 Filling sandbags
- 3 Loading/ carrying
- 5 Hauling to work site
- 3 Laying (placement)
- 2 Foremen (1 at sandbag filling site 1 at work site)
- 17 People required, total

iii. Time Requirements:

With given resources, time for construction is estimated to be $1-\frac{1}{2}$ hours from start to finish.

d. Alternate Methods of Treating Sandboils

An alternate method of ringing sandboils is by use of corrugated sheet-steel piling, as shown in Figure D.9. The area is cleared of debris, and the piling is driven about 1-1/2 feet into the ground around the boil. This method accomplishes the same task faster than sandbagging, but is limited in use by the availability of material, equipment, and the location and foundation condition of boils. Expedient methods can be improvised in other ways, to include using sections of corrugated metal piping. Special care must be taken with the design of these structures to make sure there is a reliable means for adjusting the water level, so the water column doesn't completely stop the flow of water through the boil.



Figure D.9 *A ring of steel-sheet piling can alternately be used to ring the boil, if conditions permit.*

Alternately, it may sometimes be possible to locate the inlet side of a boil under the water on the riverward bank of the levee. A swirl may be observed in the water at this point, or the location of the entry point may have been identified after a previous high water event. Sometimes, because of the current, the swirling vortex appears on the water's surface slightly downstream of the actual opening. If the opening is located, it may be possible to block the seepage flow at its entry point, since blocking the entry point may take much less time than constructing a sandbag ring levee. If the entry point is located, it can be blocked by anchoring a sheet of plastic over the area, using rope and sandbags. It may sometimes be possible to plug a flooded animal burrow by placing a mixture of manure and straw or dry hay into the water at the burrow entrance. If the entry point is blocked, both the blockage and the location of boil need to be closely monitored for any changes.

3.3 Sloughs

If seepage causes saturation and sloughing of the landward slope, the slope should ideally be flattened to 1V (vertical) on 4H (horizontal) or flatter. Material for flattening should be at least as pervious as the embankment material. If any sloughs develop in the levee, all soft areas should be thoroughly drained by excavating shallow ditches in the side slopes, as shown in Plate 4. Contact your Corps district office before undertaking this method.

3.4 Floating Soil Conditions

When seepage exits landward of the levee toe at a pressure that creates a sensation like the soil is fluid, the levee and foundation become susceptible to sliding and/or sloughing which can lead to an embankment failure. A fluid soil condition is an indicator that soil particles or the soil mass is floating, and the soil's ability to support a load such as a vehicle or heavy equipment and/or the levee embankment itself has been reduced. When this condition is observed, the safety, health and welfare of those individuals who are responding to the flood fight and/or those who live within the protected area must come first. Consideration must be given to evacuating the area. If the sod layer appears to pop loose or lift up, evacuate the area immediately. In a past flood, this condition was observed and successfully solved with the placement of clean, free-draining sand fill, classified as SP medium to fine sand, with less than 5 percent fines passing the number 200 sieve. The sand was brought in from another location (away from the levee), and a bulldozer was used to push the sand over the area, creating a blanket some 3 feet in thickness and some 20 feet in width. The thickness and width necessary may vary depending on the observed conditions.

3.5 Other Seepage Related Considerations

Any basement or similar depression near the levee should be closely watched for heaving of floors, caving of walls, and boil activity. It may become necessary to support basement walls or weight down basement floors by intentionally flooding the basement with clean water, to prevent walls from caving in, piping, or excessive seepage.

4. Erosion

4.1 Wave Wash

During high water, continuing wave action against a levee slope can erode wide terraces along the length of the levee. This causes scour or beaching along the riverward slope of the levee and reduces the cross sectional area, which can potentially lead to a failure. This type of damage doesn't typically arise during short (hour-long) storms, especially if the slope has good sod cover. However, during longer periods of high water, especially during windy or icy conditions, the damage can develop very rapidly. The section leader should study the levee beforehand to assess the potential for wave wash. All potential trouble areas should be located well in advance, and section leaders should assemble a reserve supply of materials (filled sandbags, lumber, stakes, plastic sheeting, rock, etc) close to locations most likely to experience such damage. During periods of high wind and high water, when waves attack a levee, ample labor should be assembled and experienced personnel should patrol the areas to identify the beginnings of scour, washouts, or breaching. Because wave wash damage can spread rapidly, it is important that damaged areas are treated as soon as they are identified. There are a number of accepted methods of protecting a levee against wave wash.

a. Sandbags

In emergency situations, the preferred treatment method is to place sandbags in to the cut as shown in Plate 5. The filled sacks should be laid in sections of sufficient length to give protection well above the anticipated rise.

b. Plastic Sheeting and Sandbags

Experience has shown that a combination of plastic sheeting and sandbags is one of the most expedient, effective and economical methods of combating slope attack in a flood situation. Other materials such as snow fence, cotton, or burlap have successfully been used in place of the plastic in the past. Poly and sandbags can be used in a variety of combinations, and time becomes the factor that may determine which combination to use. Ideally, poly and sandbag protection should be placed in the dry. However, many cases of unexpected slope attack will occur during high water, and a method for placement in the wet is covered below. See Plates 6 and 7 for recommended methods of laying poly and sandbags. Plate 8 shows a minimal configuration for emergency use. Since each flood fight project is generally unique (river, personnel available, materials, etc.), specific details of placement and materials handling will not be covered, though some guidelines are provided below. Field personnel must be aware of resources available when using poly and sandbags.

i. Dry Placement

Anchoring the poly along the riverward toe is important for a successful job. It may be done in three different ways: 1) after completion of the levee, a trench excavated along the toe, poly placed in the trench, and the trench backfilled; 2) poly placed flat-out away from the toe, and earth pushed over the flap; 3) poly placed flat-out from the toe and one or more rows of sandbags placed over the flap. The poly should then be unrolled up the slope and over the top enough to allow for

anchoring with sandbags. Poly should be placed from downstream to upstream along the slopes and overlapped at least two feet. The poly is now ready for the "hold-down" sandbags.

It is mandatory that poly placed on levee slopes be held down along the slopes as well. An effective method of anchoring poly is a grid system of sandbags, unless extremely high velocities, heavy debris or a large amount of ice is anticipated. Then, a solid blanket of bags over the poly should be used. A grid system can be constructed faster and requires fewer bags and much less labor than a total covering. Various grid systems include vertical rows of lapped bags, two-by-four lumber held down by attached bags, and rows of bags held by a continuous rope tied to each bag. Poly has been held down by a system using two bags tied with rope and the rope saddled over the levee crown with a bag on each slope.

ii. Placement in the Wet

In many situations during high water, poly and sandbags placed in the wet must provide the emergency protection. Wet placement may also be required to replace or maintain damaged poly or poly displaced by current action. Plate 7 shows a typical section of levee covered in the wet. Sandbag anchors are formed at the bottom edge and ends of the poly by bunching the poly around a fistful of sand or rock, and tying the sandbags to this fist-sized ball. Counterweights consisting of two or more sandbags connected by a length of 1/4-inch rope are used to hold the center portion of the poly down. The number of counterweights will depend on the uniformity of the levee slope and current velocity. Placement of the poly consists of first casting out the poly sheet with the bottom weights and then adding counterweights to slowly sink the poly sheet into place. The poly, in most cases, will continue to move down slope until the bottom edge reaches the toe of the slope. Sufficient counterweights should be added to insure that no air voids exist between the poly and the levee face and to keep the poly from flapping or being carried away in the current. For this reason, it is important to have enough counterweights prepared prior to the placement of the sheet.

iii. Overuse of Plastic Sheeting

In past floods, there has been a tendency to overuse and in some cases misuse poly on slopes. For example, on well-compacted clay embankments, in areas of relatively low velocities, use of poly would be excessive. Plastic should never be used on the landward slopes, as it holds through-seepage against the levee slope. A critical analysis of a situation should be made before poly and sandbags are used, with a view toward less waste and more efficient use of these materials and available manpower. However, if a situation is doubtful, poly should be used rather than risk a failure. Critical areas should have priority.

c. Moveable Panels

Wave wash may also be effectively checked by the use of movable panels constructed of lumber. These panels are anchored in place on the levee slope with stakes and are weighted down with sandbags or stone as shown on Plate 9. A portable bulkhead constructed with lumber and staked into placed is another alternate type of wave wash protection.

d. Miscellaneous Measures

Several other methods of slope protection have been used. Straw bales pegged into the slope were successful against wave action, as was straw spread on the slope and overlain with snow fence.

4.2 Scours

Scouring occurs when the current velocity against the levee is adequate to remove levee embankment materials. Once scouring begins to occur, the protective sod cover is damaged or destroyed and additional scour may develop very quickly. Careful observation should be made along the entire length of the riverside of the levee during high water periods, and especially in locations where the current flow is two feet per second or more. Scouring will most likely develop at road crossing ramps and at locations where pipes, sewers, and other structures penetrate the levee. It may also develop in ditches, excavations or building basements near the levee, around riverside stability berms, or in other locations where there is an obstruction to the smooth flow of water along the levee face. If any scour is observed, soundings should be taken if possible to determine the extent of damage and the amount of treatment required.

a. Deflection Weirs

Deflection weirs (also known as bendway weirs), extending 10 feet or more into the channel have been effective in deflecting current away from the levees. These emergency structures can be constructed using lumber, stakes, brush, sandbags, and stone, and are tied in place as shown on Plates 10 and 11. Snow fence, plain riprap, compacted earth or any other substantial materials available may also be used; even old car bodies have been used in the past. Preferably, the weirs should be placed in the dry at locations where severe scour may be anticipated, because construction during high water will be very difficult. A series of weirs may be needed to protect the area, or a longer weir may be constructed in the water parallel to the levee. Care should be given in the placement of weirs, because haphazard placement may be shift the current towards other banks and lead to even worse scouring. Hydraulic technical assistance should be sought if questions arise in the use of emergency weirs.

b. Plastic Sheeting

Plastic sheeting may be useful in protecting the embankment from scouring, as described under the previous section on wave wash.

c. Other Protection

If scour begins to take place after water is up on the levee, a protective berm should be constructed over the entire scour area using stone, slag, or other durable material with sufficient size and weight withstand the erosive velocity of the current. Construction of this berm will generally require equipment capable of operating from the levee crown. Riprap has been used to provide slope protection where erosive forces were too large to be effectively controlled by other means. Objections to using riprap when flood fighting include the cost and the large quantities that are typically necessary to protect a given area. It's usually very difficult to control the placement of the riprap, particularly during times of high water, but careful use of an excavator has been effective even in difficult conditions.



Figure D.10 *Placement of Riprap. Careful use of an excavator may allow for more accurate placement than is shown above.*

4.3 Ice and Floating Debris

Sometimes ice conditions are such that protection provided by the methods outlined above will not be totally effective. The primary method for protecting a levee slope from debris or ice attack is to construct a floating boom parallel to the levee embankment. Logs, driftwood, or any available timber are cabled together end to end and moored to the ground in such a way that they float out in the current about 15 feet from the water's edge. Depending on the size of the logs, the boom will deflect floating objects. Since a detailed discussion of ice jams lies beyond the scope of this manual, please refer to the references in Appendix I for additional information.



Appendix D- Flood Fighting Techniques on Levees

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