

Silver Jackets Program Fact Sheet

AUTHORIZATION: National Flood Risk Management Program/Floodplain Management Services

TYPE OF PROJECT: Technical Services for Flood Risk Management

BACKGROUND: Silver Jackets are interagency teams that facilitate collaborative solutions to state flood risk priorities. The state-led teams bring together multiple federal, state, and sometimes tribal and local agencies to learn from one another and work together to reduce risk from floods and sometimes other natural disasters. By applying their shared knowledge, the teams enhance preparedness, mitigation, and response and recovery efforts. The state or territory sets the priorities, with each agency member supporting the team using its own programs and resources within the constraints of available budgets and agency authorities.



Although each state Silver Jackets team is unique, common agency participants include state agencies with mission areas of hazard mitigation, emergency management, floodplain management, or natural resources management and conservation. Federal participation typically includes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Weather Service (NWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Some teams include membership from Tribes and academic institutions, regional and local government, and non-governmental organizations.

GEORGIA SILVER JACKETS

VISION STATEMENT: Establish and strengthen intergovernmental partnerships that result in comprehensive and sustainable solutions to Georgia's flood hazards.

MISSION STATEMENT: Through an intergovernmental team of state and federal agencies, a collaborative process will:

- Facilitate strategic, integrated life-cycle mitigation actions to reduce the threat, vulnerability, and consequences of flooding in the State of Georgia;
- Create or supplement a mechanism to collaboratively solve issues and implement or recommend solutions;
- Identify and implement ways to leverage available resources and information among agencies;
- Increase and improve flood risk communication and outreach;

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- Inform USACE Savannah District Commander and State-level agency directors during response and recovery activities; and
- Integrate mitigation into recovery actions.

Team Activities

Georgia Coastal Resilience Workshop

The Georgia Coastal Resilience Workshop covered subjects such as sea level rise, economic risk assessment, stormwater adaptation, coastal flooding data trends, FEMA flood map updates, and nature-based solutions. Through shared instruction, the workshop successfully communicated how these tools can be used to assess, communicate, and address risk to Georgia communities from coastal storms and sea level rise.

Flood Inundation Mapping & Community Outreach

The Georgia Silver Jackets team continues to create multiple partnerships with communities to prepare libraries of flood inundation maps. The detailed maps, created from hydraulic/hydrologic modeling and LiDAR, show the predicted area and depth of flooding in near real-time at selected sites with forecast point gages. The flood maps are displayed on an interactive viewer on the NWS Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service website, located at <https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/>.

Floodplain Vulnerability Analysis

The Georgia Silver Jackets team assisted Augusta/Richmond County officials reduce flood risks along the Rocky Creek within the Hyde Park and Aragon Park subdivisions. The project provided information about vulnerable locations and properties to help identify methods of lessening the potential loss of life risks and property damages.

CONTACT: To learn more about our Silver Jackets program contact Brian Choate at (912) 653-5375 or ga.silverjackets@usace.army.mil.

WEBSITE: <https://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/Silver-Jackets/State-Teams/Georgia/>