

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NORTH ATLANTIC DIVISION FORT HAMILTON MILITARY COMMUNITY 302 GENERAL LEE AVENUE BROOKLYN NY 11252-6700

CENAD-PD-PP

20 March 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, 696 Virginia Road Concord, MA 01742-2751

SUBJECT: Review Plan Approval for the Fairfield and New Haven Counties, Connecticut Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study

1. Reference:

a. CENAE-ZC memorandum dated 21 February 2015, subject as above; and

b. EC 1165-2-217, Review Policy for Civil Works, dated 20 February 2018.

2. The Coastal Storm Risk Management Planning Center of Expertise of the North Atlantic Division is the Review Management Organization (RMO) for the subject Review Plan. The Review Plan includes Independent External Peer Review.

3. Per reference 1b, the MSC Commander approves and signs each Review Plan but the MSC Commander may delegate signature authority for Review Plans to either the MSC Programs Director Chief or the MSC Regional Business Director. The enclosed Review Plan is approved for execution. Like any aspect of a Project Management Plan, the Review Plan is a living document and may change as the study progresses. The Review Plan must be kept up-to-date, in coordination with the MSC and RMO, to reflect the proper scale and scope of the anticipated reviews. The Project Delivery Team will update the Review Plan to reflect minor changes as they occur without the need for reapproval. Re-approval of the Review Plan by the MSC will be required when there are significant changes, such as in the level of review or in the study scope. The up-to-date version of the Review Plan will be posted on the District's website along with the RMO endorsement and this approval Memorandum.

4. The point of contact is Mr. Larry Cocchieri, NAD Planning Program Manager, 347-370-4571, Lawrence J.Cocchieri@usace.army.mil.

WESLEY E. COLEMAN, JR. Programs Director North Atlantic Division



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT 696 VIRGINIA ROAD CONCORD MA 01742-2751

CENAE-ZC

21 February 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander (CENAD-PD-X/Larry Cocchieri), USACE North Atlantic Division, 301 General Lee Avenue, Fort Hamilton Community, Brooklyn, NY 11252

SUBJECT: Submission of the Review Plan for the Fairfield and New Haven Counties, Connecticut Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study (P2 No. 395890) for Approval.

1. References: EC 1165-2-217, Review Policy for Civil Works, 20 FEB 2018.

2. Background: The New England District developed the Review Plan for the subject study. This review plan is written using the newest required template and includes vertical team reviewers from the "Blended One Review Team" assignments spreadsheet published by NAD on 04 FEB 2019.

3. The New England District requests that the North Atlantic Division approves the subject Review Plan.

4. Point of Contact for this Review Plan is Byron Rupp, Study/Project Manager at 978-318-8172 or Byron.R.Rupp@usace.army.mil.

Encl

1. CT CSRM Review Plan, 12 Feb 2019

WILLIAM M. CONDE COL, EN Commanding

REVIEW PLAN

Updated: 12 February 2019

Project Name: Fairfield and New Haven Counties, Connecticut. Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasiblity Study
P2 Number: 395890
Decision Document Type: Feasibility Report
Project Type: Coastal Storm Risk Management
District: New England District
District Contact: Study Manager: (978) 318-8172
Major Subordinate Command (MSC): North Atlantic Division
MSC Contact: Civil Works Integration Division - District Support Team: (347) 370-4534
Review Management Organization (RMO): USACE National Planning Center for Coastal Storm Risk Management
RMO Contact: Deputy Director of the CSRM PCX: (347) 370-4571

Key Review Plan Dates

Date of RMO Endorsement of Review Plan: Pending			
Date of MSC Approval of Review Plan:	Pending		
Date of IEPR Exclusion Approval: N/A			
Has the Review Plan changed since PCX Endorsement? Y			
Date of Last Review Plan Revision:	June 2016		
Date of Review Plan Web Posting:	TBD		
Date of Congressional Notifications:	TBD		

	Milestone Sc		
	Scheduled	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Complete</u>
Alternatives Milestone:	Sep 2017	Sep 2017	Yes
Tentatively Selected Plan:	May 2019	TBD	No
Release Draft Report to Public:	Jun 2019	TBD	No
Agency Decision Milestone:	Sep 2019	TBD	No
Final Report Transmittal:	Feb 2020	TBD	No
Senior Leaders Briefing:	Apr 2020	TBD	No
Chief's Report:	Jun 2020	TBD	No

Project Fact Sheet

January, 2019

Project Name: Fairfield and New Haven Counties, Connecticut CSRM Feasiblity Study

Location: Fairfield and New Haven Counties, Connecticut

Authority: The study is authorized under a Resolution by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives dated April 29, 2010 which states: "the Secretary of the Army review the report of the Chief of Engineers on Land and Water Resources of the New England-New York Region, published as Senate Document No. 14, 85th Congress, 1st Session, and other reports to determine whether any modifications of the recommendations contained therein are advisable at the present time in the interest of flood damage reduction, coastal storm damage reduction, coastal erosion, and other related purposes in the vicinity of the estuaries and shoreline of Fairfield and New Haven Counties, Connecticut."

Sponsor: Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Type of Study: Feasibility Study

SMART Planning Status: An exemption from the three year time rule will be applied for following the ADM Milestone.

Study Area: The study will focus on the estuaries and shoreline of Fairfield and New Haven Counties, Connecticut located along the north shore of Long Island Sound. The study area encompasses approximately half of the Connecticut shoreline and includes 15 coastal municipalities. Since the study began in 2016, the NAE PDT, working with the non federal sponsor and local stakeholders, has screened the focus area of the study from a two-county area to coastal reaches within the town of Fairfield and the city of New Haven.

Problem Statement: The Fairfield and New Haven County, CT study area is highly vulnerable to damages resulting from coastal storm events such as Hurricanes and Nor' easters. Hurricane Sandy (2012) is the most recent major event to cause wide spread damage to the region. The USACE North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study (completed in 2015) identified areas of high exposure and risk along the Connecticut coast study within Fairfield and New Haven counties. The combined population of the study area (as of the 2010 census) is approximately 1.8 million. Low lying coastal communities contain thousands of high-value residential structures, commercial properties and government facilities. Critical infrastructure throughout the region including the I-95 corridor and multiple railroad transportation systems, government facilities, and medical facilities become more at risk of damage from coastal storm events as climate changes.

Federal Interest: The study will provide CSRM alternatives to manage risk and reduce the susceptibility of residential, commercial, and public structures and infrastructure to coastal storm-induced storm damages. Another goal of the study is to increase the reliability of the Nation's transportation system (I-95 corridor & Railroad) by providing alternatives that will potentially lessen damages from coastal storm-induced flooding.

According to the NOAA Office for Coastal Management, 35 tropical cyclones (including hurricanes and tropical storms) have tracked within the Fairfield & New Haven County study area since the mid-1800s. The most intense hurricane of record within the study area is the Hurricane of 1938. According to NOAA, this hurricane was a Category 3 intensity at landfall along the Connecticut coast. There were also several high intensity hurricanes during the 1800s and early 1900s that made landfall along Long Island, although details about their intensity are limited. Of the 35 tropical cyclones, 5 hurricanes and tropical storms passed within a 50-nautical mile radius of the study area during the last 25 years. These storms are listed below (with maximum track intensities indicated):

- Beryl, Tropical Storm, 1994
- Bertha, Category 3 Hurricane, 1996
- Floyd, Category 4 Hurricane, 1999
- Hanna, Category 1 Hurricane, 2008
- Irene, Category 3 Hurricane, 2011

Although these hurricanes reached intensities as high as Category 4 at some point over their storm track, the storm intensities decreased significantly over the colder New England waters. Hurricane Sandy, although its landfall was over 200 nautical miles south of the study area, was one of the most significant flood events in Connecticut due to its very large windfield. Sandy's storm surge when combined with tides, caused water levels to reach Elevation 12.3 feet MLLW (Elevation 8.6 feet NAVD88) in the vicinity of the Long Wharf area in the city of New Haven.

Risk Identification: The Connecticut coast is vulnerable to coastal flooding, including storm surge and waves. There is a potential threat to human life as the focused study area within the town of Fairfield and the city of New Haven contains an approximate population of 200,000 residents, many of whom live in close proximity to coastal floddplains. Damages created by hurricanes, tropical storm events, and nor'easters pose a significant risk to the communities within the study area.

In the future, coastal storms are predicted to increase in frequency and intensity due to climate change. This will result in higher and more frequent storm damages and higher average annual damages. Sea level rise over the next 50 years is predicted to be between 0.4 foot and 3.2 feet. The effect of sea level rise will be to increase both the frequency and floodwater elevation of coastal flood events. Under the high sea level rise projections utilized by the USACE, by the year 2116, tidal flooding of the Long Wharf area in New Haven will also occur (similar to that observed during Hurricane Sandy, but on a twice-daily basis).



Figure 4. Overview of the five original study reaches for the Fairfield and New Haven Counties Feasibility study. As of February 2019, the focused study areas have been further screened to two study reaches (the town of Fairfield and the city of New Haven.)

1. FACTORS AFFECTING THE LEVELS OF REVIEW

Scope of Review.

- <u>Will the study likely be challenging?</u> Yes due to the size of the study area and differing stakeholder viewpoints, particularily with CSRM alternatives that will impact private property. Additionally, there have been issues on the non-Federal side with funding the study. The original scoped budget of \$3 million has been reduced to less than half of that amount (FCSA amended in June 2018). This has resulted in scoping issues for the study, forcing the PDT and non-Federal sponsor to screen out study reaches that have the lowest economic damages.
- <u>Provide a preliminary assessment of where the project risks are likely to occur and assess the magnitude of those risks.</u>

There are risks associated with finding comprehensive solutions that will be acceptable to the public. Proposed alternatives in the town of Fairfield involve structural options that involve floodwalls and pump stations that will impact private properties. Potential negative impacts to an existing salt marsh complex in Fairfield is another project risk that is currently under evaluation.

In the city of New Haven, one project risk involves a potential alternative which is integrated into the existing Interstate 95 highway embankment. Large, deployable closure structures are also needed to block multiple I-95 underpasses. Discussions with CT DOT, City Engineering and Federal Highways are ongoing to determine the feasibility of integrating existing highway infrastructure into a USACE CSRM project.

• Is the project likely to be justified by life safety or is the study or project likely to involve significant life safety issues?

A potential CSRM project within Fairfield and New Haven counties will not likely to be justified by life safety. As of February 2019, there appears to be a higher potential for life safety issues within the Fairfield study reach. The Fairfield reach includes hundreds of low-lying residential properties that are highly vulnerable to being flooded by coastal storms for a long duration due to poor drainage. Depending on the selected alternative and the significance of life safety issues, a type I IEPR that includes a Safety Assurance review may be required as part of the final report.

• Has the Governor of an affected state requested a peer review by independent experts?

Not that the New England District is aware of.

• Will it likely involve significant public dispute as to the project's size, nature, or effects?

The proposed structural alternative for the town of Fairfield will likely be controversial (at the local level) as it will impact many parcels of privately owned property. Floodwall alignment, viewshed issues, project cost and environmental impacts are all expected to generate public

debate and potential disputes. As of February 2019, the proposed suite of alternatives for the New Haven study reach have been supported by New Haven officials. A potential CSRM project in the Long Wharf area of New Haven is not expected to create public dispute.

• <u>Is the project/study likely to involve significant public dispute as to the economic or environmental cost or benefit of the project?</u>

As of January 2019, the economic cost or benefit of the project is not expected to involve significant public dispute

• Is the information in the decision document or anticipated project design likely to be based on novel methods, involve innovative materials or techniques, present complex challenges for interpretation, contain precedent-setting methods or models, or present conclusions that are likely to change prevailing practices?

The PDT anticipates using approved planning, hydrology and hydraulics, cost engineering, climate change and environmental models. Additionally, all project designs, measures, and features are anticipated to be common and routine techniques with the exception of an alternative within the New Haven study reach that requires integrating the existing I-95 highway embankment into the design. As stated above, discussions are ongoing to determine what analyses are needed to ensure this type of alternative will satisfy USACE, CT DOT and Federal Highways engineering standards.

• Does the project design require redundancy, resiliency, and/or robustness, unique construction sequencing, or a reduced or overlapping design/construction schedule?

As of February 2019, this is yet to be determined.

• Is the estimated total cost of the project greater than \$200 million?

As of February 2019, this is yet to be determined.

• Will an Environmental Impact Statement be prepared as part of the study?

An Environmental Impact Statement will not be required as part of the study. The PDT has determined that an EA/FONSI will satisfy NEPA requirements.

• Is the project expected to have more than negligible adverse impacts on scarce or unique tribal, cultural, or historic resources?

The PDT does not anticipate any adverse impacts on scarce or unique tribal, cultural, or historic resources.

• Is the project expected to have substantial adverse impacts on fish and wildlife species and their habitat prior to the implementation of mitigation measures?

Substantial adverse impacts on fish and wildlife species are not expected. The PDT has yet to determine if mitigation will be required as part of the project.

• <u>Is the project expected to have, before mitigation measures, more than a negligible adverse</u> <u>impact on an endangered or threatened species or their designated critical habitat?</u>

The PDT does not anticipate adverse impacts to any T&E species or critical habitat.

2. REVIEW EXECUTION PLAN

This section describes each level of review to be conducted. Based upon the factors discussed in Section 1, this study will undergo the following types of reviews:

District Quality Control. All decision documents (including data, analyses, environmental compliance documents, etc.) undergo DQC. This internal review process covers basic science and engineering work products. It fulfils the project quality requirements of the Project Management Plan.

<u>Agency Technical Review</u>. ATR is performed by a qualified team from outside the home district that is not involved in the day-to-day production of the project/product. These teams will be comprised of certified USACE personnel. The ATR team lead will be from outside the home MSC. If significant life safety issues are involved in a study or project a safety assurance review should be conducted during ATR.

Independent External Peer Review. Type I IEPR <u>may be required</u> for decision documents under certain circumstances. This is the most independent level of review, and is applied in cases that meet criteria where the risk and magnitude of the project are such that a critical examination by a qualified team outside of USACE is warranted. A risk-informed decision is made as to whether Type I IEPR is appropriate.

Cost Engineering Review. All decision documents shall be coordinated with the Cost Engineering Mandatory of Expertise (MCX). The MCX will assist in determining the expertise needed on the ATR and IEPR teams. The MCX will provide the Cost Engineering certification. The RMO is responsible for coordinating with the MCX for the reviews. These reviews typically occur as part of ATR.

<u>Model Review and Approval/Certification</u>. EC 1105-2-412 mandates the use of certified or approved models for all planning work to ensure the models are technically and theoretically sound, compliant with USACE policy, computationally accurate, and based on reasonable assumptions.

<u>Policy and Legal Review</u>. All decision documents will be reviewed for compliance with law and policy. ER 1105-2-100, Appendix H provides guidance on policy and legal compliance reviews. These reviews culminate in determinations that report recommendations and the supporting analyses and coordination comply with law and policy, and warrant approval or further recommendation to higher authority by the home MSC Commander. These reviews are not further detailed in this section of the Review Plan.

Table 1 provides the schedules and costs for reviews. The specific expertise required for the teams are identified in later subsections covering each review. These subsections also identify requirements, special reporting provisions, and sources of more information.

Table 1: Levels of Review

Table listed below outlines project products, type of review, schedule and cost. This table will be updated at each IPR and SMART Planning Milestone meeting and present it to the Vertical Team. Table will be updated following feasibility completion for future phases of the project to include design, construction, and operation and maintenance.

Product(s) to undergo Review	Review Level	Start Date	End Date	Cost	Complete
Report Synopsis	District Quality Control	05/13/2019	05/24/2019	\$2,000	No
Draft Feasibility Report and EIS	District Quality Control	06/10/2019	06/21/2019	\$4,000	No
Draft Feasibility Report and EIS	Agency Technical Review	06/28/2019	06/26/2019	\$35,000	No
Draft Feasibility Report and EIS	Type I IEPR	07/15/2019	08/23/2019	\$200,000	No
Draft Feasibility Report and EIS	Policy and Legal Review	06/25/2019	07/10/2019	n/a	No
Final Feasibility Report and EIS	District Quality Control	11/04/2019	11/15/2019	\$4,000	No
Final Feasibility Report and EIS	Agency Technical Review	11/18/2019	12/13/2019	\$15,000	No
Final Feasibility Report and EIS	Policy and Legal Review (NAD)	01/13/2020	01/31/2019	n/a	No

NOTE: This table may also be used to identify future review work in follow-on phases of a project. This may include products prepared during the pre-construction engineering and design phase or products prepared as part of planning for the Operations and Maintenance phase of a project.

a. DISTRICT QUALITY CONTROL

The home district shall manage DQC and will appoint a DQC Lead to manage the local review (see EC 1165-2-217, section 8.a.1). The DQC Lead should prepare a DQC Plan and provide it to the RMO and MSC prior to starting DQC reviews. Table 2 identifies the required expertise for the DQC team.

DQC Team Disciplines	Expertise Required
DQC Lead	A senior professional with extensive experience preparing Civil
	Works decision documents and conducting DQC. The lead may
	also serve as a reviewer for a specific discipline (such as planning,
	economics, environmental resources, etc).
Planning	A senior water resources planner with experience in large Coastal
	Storm Risk Management projects.
Economics	The Economics reviewer should have at least 10 years of USACE
	economics experience or a combination of education and
	experience. The Economics reviewer should have a background in
	developing economic simulation models and analysis for large,
	complex regional investigations. Should have extensive experience
	in analyzing coastal storm flood risk management projects in
	accordance with ER 1105-2-100, the Planning Guidance
	Notebook. Experience with non-structural analysis preferred.
	Experience with HEC-FDA is preferred.
Environmental Resources	Senior Environmental Specialist with experience in CSRM projects.
	This includes experience in coastal zone management, essential fish
	habitat and endangered species compliance.
Cultural Resources	Senior Cultural Resource Specialist with experience with the tribes
	and culturally significant areas within New England
Hydrology/Hydraulic/	Senior H&H Engineer with experience with 2-dimensional models
Coastal Engineering	and experience with climate change analysis. Experience with,
	application of levees and flood walls, non-structural solutions and
	flood proofing, and computer modeling such as HEC-RAS is
	preferred.
Structural Engineering	Senior Structural Engineer with experience in CSRM projects.
	Experience with floodwall and closure structure design is
	preferred.
Cost Engineering	The Cost Engineering panel member should have 10 years
	demonstrated experience or combined equivalent of education and
	experience assessing CSRM projects.
Real Estate	Senior Real Estate Specialist with experience within the New
	England real estate market. Experienced with easements and fee
	title acquisitions.

Table 2:	Required DQC Exp	pertise
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Documentation of DQC. Quality Control should be performed continuously throughout the study. A specific certification of DQC completion is required at the draft and final report stages.

Documentation of DQC should follow the District Quality Manual and the MSC Quality Management Plan. An example DQC Certification statement is provided in EC 1165-2-217, on page 19 (see Figure F).

Documentation of completed DQC should be provided to the MSC, RMO and ATR Team leader prior to initiating an ATR. The ATR team will examine DQC records and comment in the ATR report on the adequacy of the DQC effort. Missing or inadequate DQC documentation can result in delays to the start of other reviews (see EC 1165-2-217, section 9).

Recommended Best Planning Practice: Use DrChecks software to document DQC. Attach a DrChecks report to the DQC Certification to help illustrate the thoroughness of the DQC.

b. AGENCY TECHNICAL REVIEW

The ATR will assess whether the analyses are technically correct and comply with guidance, and that documents explain the analyses and results in a clear manner. An RMO manages ATR. The review is conducted by an ATR Team whose members are certified to perform reviews. Lists of certified reviewers are maintained by the various technical Communities of Practice (see EC 1165-2-217, section 9(h)(1)). Table 3 identifies the disciplines and required expertise for this ATR Team.

ATR Team Disciplines	Expertise Required
ATR Lead	A senior professional with extensive experience preparing Civil
	Works decision documents and conducting ATR. The lead should
	have the skills to manage a virtual team through an ATR. The lead
	may serve as a reviewer for a specific discipline (such as planning).
Planning	A senior water resources planner with experience in large Coastal
	Storm Risk Management projects.
Economics	The Economics reviewer should have at least 10 years of USACE
	economics experience or a combination of education and
	experience. The Economics reviewer should have a background in
	developing economic simulation models and analysis for large,
	complex regional investigations. Should have extensive experience
	in analyzing coastal storm flood risk management projects in
	accordance with ER 1105-2-100, the Planning Guidance
	Notebook. Experience with non-structural analysis preferred.
	Experience with HEC-FDA is preferred.
Environmental Resources	Senior Environmental Specialist with experience in CSRM projects.
	This includes experience in coastal zone management, essential fish
	habitat and endangered species compliance.
Cultural Resources	Senior Cultural Resource Specialist with experience with the tribes
	and culturally significant areas within New England
Hydrology/Hydraulic/	Senior H&H Engineer with experience with 2-dimensional models
Coastal Engineering	and experience with climate change analysis. Experience with,
	application of levees and flood walls, non-structural solutions and
	flood proofing, and computer modeling such as HEC-RAS is
	preferred.
Structural Engineering	Senior Structural Engineer with experience in CSRM projects.
	Experience with floodwall and closure structure design is
	preferred.
Cost Engineering	The Cost Engineering ATR member should have 10 years
	demonstrated experience or combined equivalent of education and
	experience assessing CSRM projects.
Real Estate	Senior Real Estate Specialist with experience within the New
	England real estate market. Experienced with easements and fee
	title acquisitions.
Climate Preparedness and	A member of the Climate Preparedness and Resiliency Community
Resilience CoP Reviewer	of Practice (CoP) will participate in the ATR review.

Risk and Uncertainty	For decision documents involving hydrologic, hydraulic, and/or coastal related risk management measures, include a subject matter expert in multi-discipline flood risk analysis to ensure consistent
	and appropriate identification, analysis, and written communication of risk and uncertainty in accordance with ER 1105-2-101.

Documentation of ATR. DrChecks will be used to document all ATR comments, responses and resolutions. Comments should be limited to those needed to ensure product adequacy. If a concern cannot be resolved by the ATR team and PDT, it will be elevated to the vertical team for resolution using the EC 1165-2-217 issue resolution process. Concerns can be closed in DrChecks by noting the concern has been elevated for resolution. The ATR Lead will prepare a Statement of Technical Review (see EC 1165-2-217, Section 9), for the draft and final reports, certifying that review issues have been resolved or elevated. ATR may be certified when all concerns are resolved or referred to the vertical team and the ATR documentation is complete.

Recommended Best Planning Practice: All members of the ATR team should use the four part comment structure (see EC 1165-2-217, Section 9(k)(1)).

c. INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW

(i) Type I IEPR.

Type I IEPR is managed outside of the USACE and conducted on studies. Type I IEPR panels assess the adequacy and acceptability of the economic and environmental assumptions and projections, project evaluation data, economic analysis, environmental analyses, engineering analyses, formulation of alternative plans, methods for integrating risk and uncertainty, models used in the evaluation of environmental impacts of proposed projects, and biological opinions of the project study.

Decision on Type I IEPR. Based on the factors discussed in Section 1 of this Review Plan, the PDT anticipates a Type I IEPR with a safety assurance review component will be required for the recommended alternative. When the tentatively selected plan (TSP) has been further developed, additional discussions, in the form of an IPR, will be scheduled with the vertical team to determine the appropriate level and timing of Independent external peer reviews.

Products to Undergo Type I IEPR. The full draft report will undergo IEPR.

Required Type I IEPR Panel Expertise. Panels will consist of independent, recognized experts from outside of the USACE in disciplines representing a balance of areas of expertise suitable for the review being conducted. Table 4 lists the required panel expertise.

IEPR Panel Member Disciplines	Expertise Required
Economics	The economics reviewer should be experienced
	in economic evaluation of coastal storm risk
	management projects. Experience with
	modeling flood damages a using tools such as
	HEC-FDA is required.

Table 4: Required Type I IEPR Panel Expertise

Environmental	Senior environmental specialist with experience in CSRM projects with 10+ years of experience. This includes experience in NEPA and coastal	
	zone management.	
Engineering	Senior engineer with experience in CSRM	
	projects.	

Documentation of Type I IEPR. The OEO will submit a final Review Report no later than 60 days after the end of the draft report public comment period. USACE shall consider all recommendations in the Review Report and prepare a written response for all recommendations. The final decision document will summarize the Review Report and USACE response and will be posted on the internet.

Recommended Best Planning Practice: Begin coordination with the RMO very early in the study to allow adequate time for scoping and contracting for the Type I IEPR.

Recommended Best Planning Practice: Follow the Type I IEPR SOP, Appendix C, for step-bystep guidance on how to seek an IEPR exclusion. A copy of the SOP is available on the Planning Community Toolbox at

https://planning.erdc.dren.mil/toolbox/library/Misc/Type%20I%20IEPR%20SOP%20Final-2016.pdf

(ii) Type II IEPR.

The second kind of IEPR is Type II IEPR. These Safety Assurance Reviews are managed outside of the USACE and are conducted on design and construction for hurricane, storm and flood risk management projects or other projects where existing and potential hazards pose a significant threat to human life. A Type II IEPR Panel will be convened to review the design and construction activities before construction begins, and until construction activities are completed, and periodically thereafter on a regular schedule.

Decision on Type II IEPR. At this point in the planning process, a determination regarding whether or not to conduct a Type II IEPR has not been made. Insufficient detail is known about the need for Type II IEPR, and a decision will be coordinated at a later date with the vertical team.

d. MODEL CERTIFICATION OR APPROVAL

EC 1105-2-412 mandates the use of certified or approved models for all planning activities to ensure the models are technically and theoretically sound, compliant with USACE policy, computationally accurate, and based on reasonable assumptions. Planning models are any models and analytical tools used to define water resources management problems and opportunities, to formulate potential alternatives to address the problems and take advantage of the opportunities, to evaluate potential effects of alternatives and to support decision making. The use of a certified/approved planning model does not constitute technical review of a planning product. The selection and application of the model and the input and output data is the responsibility of the users and is subject to DQC, ATR, and IEPR.

Model Name and Version	Brief Model Description and How It Will Be Used in the Study	Certification / Approval
HEC-FDA	The program integrates hydrologic engineering and economic	Certified
1.4.2	analysis to formulate and evaluate plans using risk-based	
	analysis methods. It will be used to evaluate/compare plans to	
	aid in selecting a recommended plan.	

 Table 5: Planning Models. The following models may be used to develop the decision document:

EC 1105-2-412 does not cover engineering models used in planning. The responsible use of wellknown and proven USACE developed and commercial engineering software will continue. The professional practice of documenting the application of the software and modeling results will be followed. The USACE Scientific and Engineering Technology Initiative has identified many engineering models as preferred or acceptable for use in studies. These models should be used when appropriate. The selection and application of the model and the input and output data is still the responsibility of the users and is subject to DQC, ATR, and IEPR.

Table 6: Engineering Models.	These models may b	be used to develop	the decision document:
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Model Name and Version	Brief Model Description and How It Will Be Used in the Study	Approval Status
HEC-RAS 5.0 (River Analysis	The software performs 1-D steady and unsteady flow river hydraulics calculations and has capability for 2-D (and combined 1 D/2 D) unsteady flow calculations. It will be used	HH&C CoP Preferred
System)	combined $1-D/2-D$) unsteady flow calculations. It will be used for steady flow analysis to evaluate the future without-project and future with-project conditions.	Model
Micro- Computer Aided Cost Engineering System (MCACES) MII	MCACES is a cost estimation model. This model will be used to estimate costs for the feasibility study.	Certified
Version 3.0		

e. POLICY AND LEGAL REVIEW

Policy and legal compliance reviews for draft and final planning decision documents are delegated to the MSC (see Director's Policy Memorandum 2018-05, paragraph 9).

(i) Policy Review.

The policy review team is identified through the collaboration of the MSC Chief of Planning and Policy and the HQUSACE Chief of the Office of Water Project Review. The team is identified in Attachment 1 of this Review Plan. The makeup of the Policy Review team will be drawn from Headquarters (HQUSACE), the MSC, the Planning Centers of Expertise, and other review resources as needed.

- The Policy Review Team will be invited to participate in key meetings during the development of decision documents as well as SMART Planning Milestone meetings. These engagements may include In-Progress Reviews, Issue Resolution Conferences or other vertical team meetings plus the milestone events.
- The input from the Policy Review team should be documented in a Memorandum for the Record (MFR) produced for each engagement with the team. The MFR should be distributed to all meeting participants.
- In addition, teams may choose to capture some of the policy review input in a risk register if appropriate. These items should be highlighted at future meetings until the issues are resolved. Any key decisions on how to address risk or other considerations should be documented in an MFR.

(ii) Legal Review.

Representatives from the Office of Counsel will be assigned to participate in reviews. Members may participate from the District, MSC and HQUSACE. The MSC Chief of Planning and Policy will coordinate membership and participation with the office chiefs.

- In some cases legal review input may be captured in the MFR for the particular meeting or milestone. In other cases, a separate legal memorandum may be used to document the input from the Office of Counsel.
- o Each participating Office of Counsel will determine how to document legal review input.

ATTACHMENT 1: TEAM ROSTERS

PROJECT DELIVERY TEAM			
Name	Office	Position	Phone Number
Grace Moses	NAE-PDE	Environmental	(978) 318-8717
		Compliance/Biologist	
Mike Berner	NAE-PDE	Economist	(978) 318-8959
Kathleen Atwood	NAE-PDE	Cultural Resources	(978) 318-8537
Lisa Winter	CENAE-EDW	Coastal Engineer	(978) 318-895
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