

# Federal Flood Risk Management Standard – FFRMS – EO 13960



October 13, 2015

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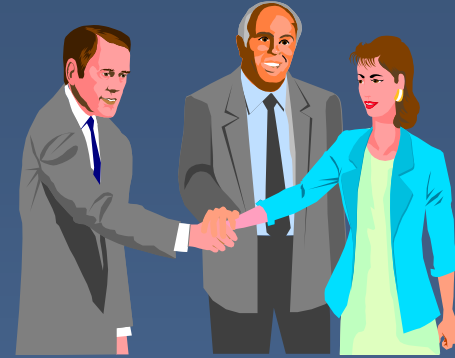
# Agenda

- **What Is FFRMS?**
- **Who Does It Affect?**
- **Where Does It Apply?**
- **Implementation**



# What is the FFRMS?

- Federal Flood Risk Management Standard was established in January 2015 by Presidential Executive Order 13690
- Purpose is to improve the resilience of communities and Federal assets against impacts of flooding





# Executive Orders 11988 & 13690

- EO 11988 applies to federal agencies to avoid long- & short-term adverse impacts to floodplains(issued in 1977)
- EO 13690 builds upon EO 11988



# EO 13690

- Applies to all federal actions in or affecting floodplains including:
- Acquiring, managing, and disposing of federal lands and facilities
- Providing federally undertaken, financed, or assisted construction and improvements
- Conducting federal activities and programs affecting land use, including but not limited to water and land related resource planning, regulating, and licensing activities



# EO 13690

- Applies to FEMA
  - Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants
  - Public Assistance Programs
  - Any other FEMA grants when they fund construction activities in or affecting a floodplain



**FEMA**

# FFRMS

- Does not apply to the National Flood Insurance Program (regulations, insurance, etc)
- Does not apply to private investments in structures, facilities, or homes unless the private party is receiving federal funds for the construction activity that occurs in or affecting floodplain



# EO 13690 – Overall Requirements

- Expands boundary of floodplains for federal actions
- Requires multi-step “practicable alternatives analysis” for any federal action proposed within or may affect this newly defined floodplain
- Requires greater public notice





# Implementation Components

- Federal departments and agencies can select implementation approach that best aligns with their missions, authorities, and program
- Federal agencies shall use natural systems, ecosystem processes, and nature-based approaches when developing alternatives for consideration
- Water Resource Council updating 1977 implementation guidelines for federal agencies (anticipating complete spring 2016)



# Implementation of EO 13690

- FFRMS expands floodplain boundaries via vertical elevation and the corresponding lateral area of the floodplain to account for the effect of climate change
- Requires qualified staff to review and analyze climate informed science for critical actions to determine if a project is within the FFRMS floodplain



# FFRMS Floodplain

- Elevation and the corresponding lateral expansion of corresponding floodplain determined using one of the following approaches:
- BFE + new vertical addition due to best-available data (climate change); OR
- Freeboard – 2' or 3' above BFE: OR
- 0.2% chance annual flood (500 year flood) elevation



# FFRMS Floodplain

- Periodic updates required to account for advances in sciences
- Requires annual assessments by federal departments and agencies to determine if updates are warranted
- Identify gaps and areas for improvements
- Full update every 5 years
- Include updates from building sciences International Construction Code





# FFRMS Floodplain

- FEMA's Technical Mapping Advisory Council is charged with recommending how to incorporate projected sea-level rise and other future climate change impacts into the existing flood study process

