

MIDDLE POTOMAC – WASHINGTON DC AND METROPOLITAN AREA COASTAL FLOODING, DC, MD, AND VA

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Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee

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Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

“The views, opinions and findings contained in this report are those of the authors(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision, unless so designated by other official documentation.”

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Area Coastal Flooding, DC, MD, and VA



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Baltimore District



U.S. ARMY

AGENDA

- Overview
- Background and Status
- Goal and Path Forward
- Key Considerations
- Stakeholders and Proposed Collaboration
- Questions and Discussion
- Summary/Action Items
- Contacts



BACKGROUND AND STATUS

The District of Columbia metro area was identified in the North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study (NACCS) as an area warranting further analysis:

- NACCS completed in January 2015
 - <http://www.nad.usace.army.mil/CompStudy.aspx>
- Nine focus areas warranting further analysis by USACE
 - Four studies currently underway
- Opportunity for USACE to use existing authority to investigate flooding problems in the District of Columbia metro area (limited to the extent of coastal inundation to retain link to NACCS)
 - Potomac River and Tributaries Authority:

That the Secretary of the Army is requested to review the Report of the chief of Engineers on the Potomac River and Tributaries in Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania published in House Document 343, 91st Congress, Second Session, and other pertinent reports, with a view to conducting a study, in cooperation with the States of Maryland and West Virginia, the Commonwealths of Pennsylvania and Virginia, and the District of Columbia, their political subdivisions and agencies and instrumentalities thereof, other Federal agencies and entities, for improvements in the interest of the ecosystem restoration and protection, flood plain management, and other allied purposes for the middle Potomac River watershed.

BACKGROUND AND STATUS (CONT.)

- COG submitted a letter of intent dated June 12, 2015, to serve as the non-federal sponsor for the subject investigation
 - Required for federal budgetary actions
- NCPC offered a letter of support dated June 11, 2015
- Initial scoping in 2016 following identification of funding in FY16 Workplan (\$200k)
- President's FY17 budget (\$300k)

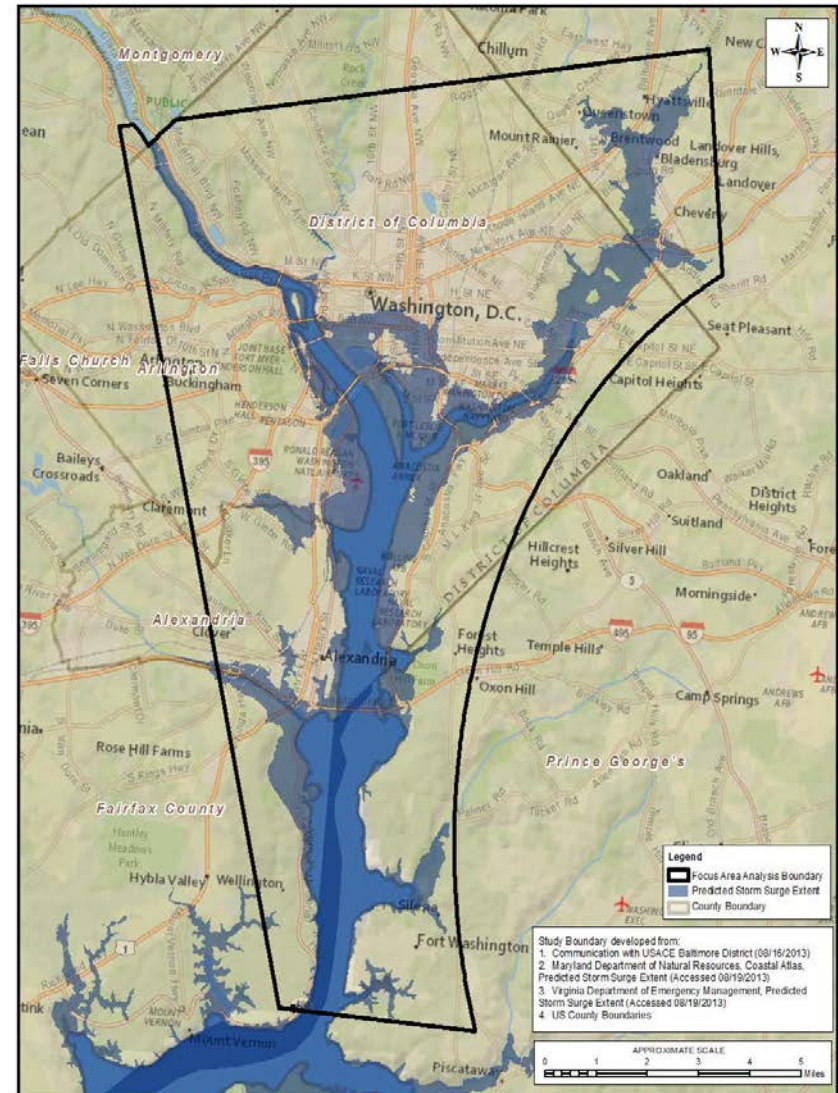


Figure 1. Middle Potomac - Washington, D.C. and Metropolitan Area Focus Area Analysis Boundary

GOAL AND PATH FORWARD

Coordinate scope outline with possible cost-sharing stakeholders and then execute the agreement with MWCOCG:

- Overall regional vulnerability assessment
- Comprehensive assessment of ongoing actions
- Overarching vision and characterization of flood risk management and resilience within the region
- Gaps in evaluations and actions
- What agencies can do to fill gaps
 - USACE Recommendation?



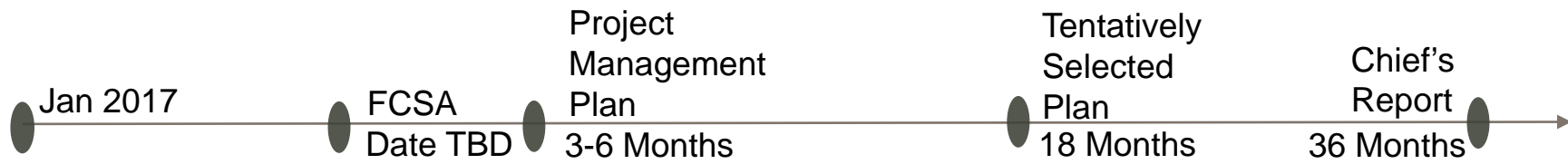
KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Key Considerations:

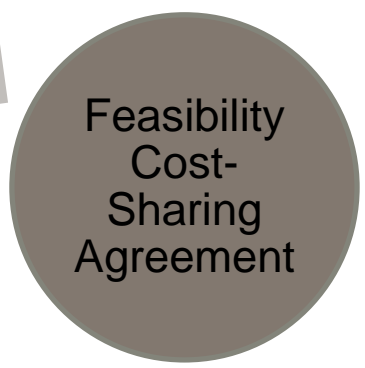
- DOEE Flood Emergency Study
 - Despite numerous modeling efforts related to flooding, the NCR lacks a comprehensive flood risk assessment (UDC, 2015)
- Multiple stakeholders and cost-sharing sponsors would be required
- Federal stakeholders could possibly be involved via Economy Act
 - Buy down scope of the study
- Study will lead to implementation in a specific jurisdiction
 - Project in one jurisdiction and not another?
 - Need to be clear and manage expectations of stakeholders contributing to the study
- Assume three years and \$3M study, cost-shared 50-50-percent federal and non-federal
 - Non-federal costs can include in-kind services
- Coordination and utilize existing forums for collaborative actions
 - COG
 - NCPC
 - District of Columbia Silver Jackets Team
 - DOEE Climate Change Assessment
 - NVRC Resilience Initiative
 - DC 100Cities



STAKEHOLDERS AND PROPOSED COLLABORATION



WE ARE HERE



QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

Items for discussion:

- Need and purpose
- Interest and capability
- Ongoing actions to consider
- Gaps
- Funding
- Comprehensive assessment of ongoing actions
- Overarching vision of flood risk management and resilience within the region
- Gaps in evaluations and actions
- What agencies can do to fill gaps
 - USACE Recommendation?



SUMMARY AND ACTION ITEMS



CONTACTS

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