



# Vermont Silver Jackets Flood Risk Management Team Charter



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®



FEMA





## **INTERAGENCY FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT TEAM CHARTER**

This interagency team charter establishes a formal Silver Jackets Interagency Flood Risk Management Team for the state of Vermont. This collaborative effort will focus the interagency and intergovernmental team on the flood risk management needs of the state. This charter will be reviewed annually and may be revised at any time at the consent of the core agencies.

### **VISION STATEMENT**

*Fostering innovative and collaborative partnerships that facilitate and contribute to comprehensive and sustainable management of flood risk throughout the state of Vermont.*

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Create an atmosphere of community and collaboration that is focused not on the missions of individual agencies, but on the flood risk mitigation and management needs of the state of Vermont. Establish an interagency approach to sharing and combining resources, including funding, programs and technical expertise as appropriate. Consistent with Vermont's adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan, assist with the identification and communication of flood risk and implementation strategies to mitigate and manage flood risk.

### **GOALS**

- Ensure interagency protocols and or agreements are in place to foster continuous pre- and post- disaster collaboration
- Develop and maintain a common information matrix of State and Federal programs which identifies limitations and opportunities for flood risk management
- Develop and execute a unified action plan for implementing high priority actions identified in the State's hazard mitigation plan, including the mitigation of riverine erosion hazards;
- Participate in a joint outreach program to deliver a unified flood risk message
- Jointly provide specific input to agencies on barriers that their existing programs, policies or processes present to effective flood risk management
- Collaborate to identify innovative pilot projects that can reduce flood risk and could be candidates for the Silver Jacket Pilot Project Program
- Participate with Federal and State agencies emergency managers/technical staff/senior staff during response and recovery activities

### **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The following core agencies will participate in all facets of the Vermont Silver Jackets Team:

#### **State Level:**

- VT Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS)
- VT Agency of Natural Resources (ANR)
- VT Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD)
- VT Agency of Transportation – (AOT/VTrans)



### **Federal Level:**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - New York District (USACE)  
Federal Emergency Management Agency – Region 1 (FEMA)  
U.S. Geological Survey – New England Water Science Center (USGS)  
U.S. Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA/NRCS)  
National Weather Service – Burlington, Vermont (NWS)

Supporting Agencies include, but are not limited to: federal, state, county, and local governments as well as non-governmental organizations and others interested in flood risk management in the state of Vermont. Supporting agencies will be invited to meetings and will participate when applicable and at their discretion.

Vermont DEMHS and the USACE are the primary coordinating agencies and will coordinate the logistics of the meetings, project and program development, and facilitating the overall partnership in support of all team members.

All core agencies are expected to participate in routine meetings, help build the partnership, as well as look to fulfill the Missions and Goals of the Vermont Silver Jackets Team. Signatory agencies and supporting organizations as warranted may participate on, and will be kept abreast of, task force teams that will be assembled for the accomplishment of specifically defined tasks, studies, projects, or events. Furthermore, task forces are established to reduce the technical task focused discussions at the large meetings. The results of task force work may or may not be directly attributed to the team, as determined by the signatories at a formal meeting.

### **MEETINGS**

With the support of all team members, Vermont DEHMS and USACE will coordinate and facilitate team meetings. Meeting agendas will be determined by the core agencies with input invited from all signatory agencies. Meeting summaries shall be provided to the signatory agencies following the meetings.

Meetings will occur quarterly with one quarterly meeting being a face to face meeting which will be hosted at a mutually agreeable location. Additional meetings can be scheduled as needed. Topics assigned to a task force may require additional meetings, but may not require the full team to meet. Task Forces will report out at all team meetings.

### **DECISIONS**

Decisions during meetings will be accomplished through participatory, collaborative discussion of all signatories present resulting in the consent of all.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

All commitments and participation by each Federal or State agency or organization in the actions and activities covered by this Charter is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds, staff resources and budget priorities. Nothing in this Charter, in and of itself, or any decisions made by the team, obligates the parties to expend appropriations or to enter into any contract, assistance agreement, interagency agreement or other financial obligation.



COL David A. Caldwell  
Commander, New York District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Christopher Herrick,  
Director, Division of Emergency Management and  
Homeland Security

Deb Markowitz  
Secretary, Vermont Agency of Natural  
Resources

Paul Ford  
Regional Administrator, Region 1  
Federal Emergency Management  
Agency

Keith Robinson  
Director, NH/VT New England Water Science  
Center, U.S. Geological Survey

Patricia Moulton  
Secretary, Vermont Agency of Commerce  
& Community Development

Vicky Drew  
State Conservationist, USDA - Natural Resource  
Conservation Service

Chris Cole  
Secretary, Vermont Agency of Transportation

Lauren Oates  
State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Division of  
Emergency Management and Homeland Security



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andy Nash', is written above a horizontal line.

Andy Nash  
Meteorologist-in-Charge  
NOAA/National Weather Service - Burlington VT