



FY 2012 Emergency Supplemental Funding – Rebuilding America’s Critical Flood Risk Management Infrastructure and Restoring Navigation Channels

“This is the flood that engineers envisioned following the 1927 flood. It is testing the system like never before.”

**Maj. Gen. Michael Walsh, Commander,
USACE Mississippi Valley Division**

Historic Floods

The greater Mississippi River Basin encompasses the lower Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) system, the upper Mississippi River, the Missouri River, and the lower Ohio River. The flood risk management systems of the greater Mississippi are complex collections of levees, reservoirs, floodways, and water control structures that enable the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to reduce the risk flood damage impacts in communities near those levees. Operating the flood risk management systems is not about making one isolated decision – it is about hundreds, if not thousands of decisions to manage flood risks in flood-prone communities.

In 2011, the flood risk management systems of the greater Mississippi River Basin experienced record flooding, testing these systems like never before. During the historic floods, USACE engaged in massive flood-fighting operations to reduce risks and minimize damages. Thereafter, throughout 2011, USACE identified, developed plans for, and implemented critical repairs in response to the historic floods and the damages in the northeastern states caused by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. The critical repairs were to protect life and public safety prior to the start of the next flood event or season, and were funded through the Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (FC&CE) appropriation, including funding transferred from other appropriations. About \$500 million was spent on flood fighting and critical repairs (to date).

A post-flood assessment of the Mississippi and Missouri system performance is ongoing, including a review of the operational decision-making process and identification of opportunities for improving system operation and performance.

Supplemental Funding

In addition to the regular fiscal year 2012 appropriations provided in public law (P.L.) 112-74, on December 23, 2011, President Obama signed P.L. 112-77, which provided \$1.7 billion of supplemental funding to USACE for additional repairs and emergency dredging. Public Law 112-77 specified that the funding is for major disasters declared by the President pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, consistent with section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. Funding was provided as follows:

- **Mississippi River and Tributaries Appropriation**
\$802,000,000 provided for necessary expenses for repair of damages to Federal projects.
- **Operation and Maintenance Appropriation**
\$534,000,000 provided for necessary expenses to dredge navigation channels in response to flooding, and to repair damage to USACE projects.
- **Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies Appropriation**
\$388,000,000 provided for necessary expenses to prepare for flood, hurricane, and other natural disasters and support emergency operations, repair, and other activities as authorized by law.

Most damages from the historic floods and storms in the greater Mississippi River Basin and the northeast are covered by Presidential declarations and are eligible for supplemental funding from Public Law 112-77. For remaining damage repairs in areas not covered by Presidential (Stafford Act) declarations, USACE has identified other sources of funding.

Key Messages	Facts & Figures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public safety is the top priority for USACE’s Flood Risk Management Program. • Flood risk management involves a life cycle approach to floods, including preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation (risk reduction). • The flood risk management systems in the greater Mississippi River Basin reduce risks to lives and property. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The flood risk management systems in the greater Mississippi River Basin helped avoid damages to public and private property. • For more information about USACE’s efforts, visit http://www.usace.army.mil/