

**Critical Think Piece  
Team Topics**

**Blue Eagles**  
A Partnership for Flood  
Risk Communication

**Red Rovers**  
Actions for Improving  
Collaborative Planning

**Great White Sharks**  
Interagency Watershed  
Tiger Team

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**Planning Associates Program  
Critical Think Piece**

**Interagency Watershed  
Tiger Team**

"A Top-Down and Bottom-Up Strategy for  
Integrated Water Resource Solutions and  
Sparking a Cultural Change"

**Great White Sharks Team**  
C Bronson, M Fujitsubo, J Peukert, J Strahan

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**Purpose Statement:**

*"The Interagency Watershed Tiger Team  
will affect a cultural change to transition  
watershed studies from the traditional  
project planning mind-set to integrated  
water resource planning and  
management."*

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## Why a Tiger Team?


Expanding challenges, demands, and change to the Nation's water resources and infrastructure is happening now with:

- Continued limited resources and funding of agencies and stakeholders.
- Single project funding and culture is still dominant.
- Corps traditional role is shifting from lead agency to collaborating with other agencies.

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## Opportunities

The timing and awareness of integrated watershed approach's value is happening now with:

- Rising appreciation for holistic and systems perspective
- Focusing on need for collaboration and cooperation and need to maximize resource efficiency and effectiveness
- Corps is a multi-purpose agency, and is able and capable of meeting the challenges.
- Finalizing of the 5 – GE Watershed Studies, and Completion of the Action for Change efforts.

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## Enter the Interagency Watershed Tiger Team!


The Tiger Team objectives are to:

- Integrate watershed planning and management to address the National and regional water resource needs through interagency collaboration.
- Spark a cultural change in planning perspective and process away from single project mindedness into a more holistic and systems approach.

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**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

## Who Makes up the Tiger Team?

- Interagency with Corps leadership
- Single point of contact in USACE
- Draw experience virtually from
  - HQ
  - MSC's
  - PCX's
  - ERDC and IWR
  - CoP's and sub-CoP's
  - Five GE Watershed Studies
  - Other Watershed Studies



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## The Interagency Team

- U.S. Army of Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Federal Highway Administration
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- NOAA Fisheries Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Geologic Survey
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Local and State Agencies



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## The Role of the Tiger Team

- Programmatic
- Study specific
- Corps Role
  - water resource planner
  - program manager
  - facilitator
  - regulator
  - technical expert
  - stakeholder
- Training, tools, guidance, experience, and other assistance in watershed planning
- Common tools, methods, and language



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## Structural Concept of the Interagency Watershed Tiger Team

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## The Path Forward

- Supporting role for the PDT from initiation to delivery
- Combine the expertise of the Corps and other agencies
- Provide a team capable of assisting the PDT
- National integration of Federal, state, and local resources
- Buy-in from HQUSACE, Regional Business Centers (MSC's), PCX's, districts and other Federal agencies
- Beta Test / Proof of Concept

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## National Watershed Program

- Enhance the planning capabilities of project PDT's in holistic watershed contexts
- Develop a plan to identify capability gaps and fill them as required
- Educate and train water resource team members at all levels on the interagency processes for watershed planning

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 **Future Missions of the Tiger Team** 

- Creation of a Planning Core Curriculum prospect course on watersheds
- Hosting of a watershed annual conference
- Implement lessons learned reports on all watershed studies
- Creation of a watershed guide book

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 **How is the Tiger Team funded?**

- Primarily with study funds:
  - o General Investigation
  - o Planning Assistance to States
  - o Interagency and International Support

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 **Additional Funding Sources**

- Other funding possibilities
  - o HQ programmatic
  - o Cross-cut funding
  - o Joint agency budget submittals
  - o Home agency funding

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## Actions for Change

- o Theme 1: Comprehensive Systems Approach
  - Action 1 -- *Employ an integrated, comprehensive, systems-based approach.*
  - Action 5 -- *Employ adaptive planning and engineering systems.*
- o Theme 4: Professional and Technical Expertise
  - Action 3 -- *Continuously reassess and update policy for program development, planning guidance, design, and construction standards.*
  - Action 8 -- *Assess and modify organizational behavior.*
  - Action 11 -- *Manage and enhance technical expertise and professionalism.*

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**US Army Corps of Engineers**

**LEADERSHIP/MANAGEMENT**  
Top Down  
"Institutional Changes"

NATIONAL

REGIONAL

**PROJECT DELIVERY TEAMS**  
Bottom Up  
"Organizational Cultural Changes"

Integrated Water Resource Planning  
**TIGER TEAM**  
Actions for Change

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## Summary

- Create an Interagency Watershed Tiger Team
- Seek to instill a cultural change
  - o Capitalize on top down direction
  - o Provide the means for bottom up integration
  - o Encourage watershed collaborative planning
- Integrated water resource planning and management
- The metric for success is the Tiger Team's dissolution

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The slide features a background image of a sunset over a body of water with a pier. The word "Questions?" is written in red at the top. Below it is a photo of four people: John, Miki, Candida, and Jeff. A vertical sidebar on the right contains the text "The Great White Sharks" and "Critical Think Piece" between two triangular logos.

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