

USACE Silver Jackets Program - Kansas

Kansas Hazard Mitigation Team. The KHMT, under joint leadership of the Kansas Department of Agriculture-Division of Water Resources and the Kansas Division of Emergency Management, is the long-standing entity managing state hazard mitigation. Silver Jackets is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' program that allows USACE staff to join state agencies in planning and doing state-led flood mitigation. The KHMT has existed longer than the Silver Jackets and has many of the same objectives, so the state has chosen not to stand up a separate "Silver Jackets" group, and the Silver Jackets Coordinators follow the state leaders of the team.

Objective. The Silver Jackets staff follow the state lead in developing strategies and pursuing the actions of interagency flood risk management.

Authority. The Silver Jackets Program is operated under Section 206 of the 1960 Flood Control Act and other authorities.

Types of Work. Work typically addresses flood mitigation actions from the state hazard mitigation plan (associated with the Stafford Act and FEMA), including these areas that overlap with USACE work:

- Dam & Levee Safety
- Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Information Sharing & Alignment
- Modeling & Mapping
- Plan Formulation & Regulations
- Nonstructural Assessments
- Risk Analysis
- Risk Communication & Education

The Main Partners. The leading team members span several agencies:

Steve Samuelson, KHMT Co-lead and State Floodplain Manager, KDA DWR

Jeanne Bunting, KHMT Co-lead and State Hazard Mitigation Officer, KDEM

Brian Rast, Lead Silver Jackets Coordinator, USACE Kansas City District

Products. Past Silver Jackets technical services:

- Pamphlets or publications for risk communication and public outreach
- Innovative mapping tied to
 - Flood forecast inundation
 - Dam or levee break inundation
- Training workshops
- Tabletop exercises
- Meeting facilitation
- Enhanced coordination
- Documents and reports
 - Evaluating and screening measures
 - Floodplain management plans
 - Emergency action plans
- Assessment tools and processes
- Methods that apply improved coordination

The Cost. USACE provides technical services at no cost to state agencies, communities, and tribes.

How to Get Silver Jackets Help. USACE Headquarters collects annual requests for proposals for Silver Jackets interagency projects. Efforts unite a variety of communities, water districts, levee sponsors, not-for-profits, and state agencies together to tackle flood risk management challenges. The proposal process begins in late January, when USACE emails application forms. The USACE Lead Silver Jackets Coordinators aid applicants with identifying and leveraging existing local efforts. The proposals and supporting letters are due in late May.

Find Out More. Silver Jackets has done 16 projects with the KHMT, and 3 new projects began in 2019. The state's flood hazard mitigation goals and actions, past Silver Jackets projects, and related links are on the web, below.

Contact. Phone: (816) 389-3337, email: MOKAN.SilverJackets@usace.army.mil

Website. The team website provides technical publications, tools, resources, related links:

<http://silverjackets.nfrmp.us/State-Teams/Kansas>



US Army Corps
of Engineers.
Kansas City District

