

JUST THE FAQs

WHAT CHALLENGES CAN SILVER JACKETS TEAMS ASSIST WITH?

Silver Jackets teams can address a variety of water-related challenges including:

Flood Risk Management – Reduce flood risk

Water Management – Address water quality, water supply, and impacts of aquatic invasive species

Disaster Response & Preparedness – Enhance disaster preparedness and response, such as flooding after fire

Collaboration & Coordination – Facilitate cooperation for a unified approach

Community Engagement – Increase public awareness and involvement

WHAT IS YOUR COMMUNITY'S ROLE WHEN PARTNERING WITH SILVER JACKETS?

Silver Jackets team activities depend on a variety of agencies, partners, and community input to leverage unique expertise, programs, and perspectives. When partnering with Silver Jackets, communities contribute their ideas and experiences to enable the team to create more comprehensive, collaborative, and sustainable solutions.

WHO CONTRIBUTES RESOURCES TO SILVER JACKETS?

Silver Jackets teams do not require funding or work-in-kind contributions from community partners. Instead, Silver Jackets partners leverage their own individual programs, authorities, and resources – including funding – to support joint efforts and projects that help meet the priorities of each team within the limits of available resources.



IF YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SILVER JACKETS AND HOW TO GET INVOLVED, CONTACT:

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COLLABORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR NATIVE COMMUNITIES



NO SINGLE PARTNER HAS ALL THE ANSWERS, BUT EACH HAS A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE

Silver Jackets facilitates cooperation and collaboration among partners – the key to creating the innovative and effective solutions needed to make communities more resilient to flooding, drought, and other natural hazards.

WHY THE NAME “SILVER JACKETS”?

During disaster response, teams and agencies are identified by the color jacket they wear. For example, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) wears blue, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) wears red. The name “Silver Jackets” represents many partners working together to achieve better outcomes by leveraging the opportunities and expertise available through each agency.



Tribes, nations, and pueblos can engage with Silver Jackets through their local USACE District Silver Jackets Coordinator or their state’s Silver Jackets team. Through working with USACE Silver Jackets Coordinators or state teams, tribes, nations, and pueblos can access resources, technical assistance, and expertise to support flood risk management and resilience-building efforts.



Contact the National Silver Jackets Program Manager or your local USACE District for more information and to explore opportunities for collaboration.

TEAM ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Silver Jackets teams are tribe-, state-, or territory-led, with team leads being responsible for setting priorities, directing regular meetings, and identifying project partners. In addition to being a team member, USACE funds dedicated staff members called Silver Jackets Coordinators to support every interagency team, alongside the tribe, state, or territory team lead.

Silver Jackets most often provides support through stand-alone Silver Jackets teams, but also accomplishes its goals by supporting other groups, such as Hazard Mitigation Planning Teams, or when USACE Silver Jackets Coordinators support communities by bringing together resources from multiple agencies to address flood risk.

Silver Jackets teams can assist with cultural and natural resource protection throughout the project process, giving communities a seat at the table to bring collaborative solutions to their challenges. This can consist of inclusion of cultural practices, protection of natural and cultural resources, and integration of Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge (ITEK) and Native languages in projects.

SOME OF THE MANY FEDERAL PARTNERS



FEMA



WHAT CAN SILVER JACKETS DO FOR YOUR COMMUNITY?

The follow are some examples of activities Silver Jackets teams commonly undertake in partnership with communities:



PLANNING/ANALYSIS

- » Risk assessments
- » Nonstructural solutions assessments (e.g., floodproofing)
- » Floodplain management plans



OUTREACH/EDUCATION

- » Workshops
- » Webpages
- » Resources guides (e.g., Flood after Fire toolkit)



MAPPING

- » Inundation mapping



PREPAREDNESS

- » Emergency action plans
- » Communication plans
- » Tabletop exercises
- » Flood fighting exercises
- » Warning systems
- » Stream gaging



DATA MANAGEMENT

- » High water mark collection
- » Web applications
- » GIS datasets