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# MR&T Levee Certification for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

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# Introduction



- The Corps has had and continues to have a major role of many levee systems.
  
- Therefore, the Corps will play a key role in:
  - performing levee certification determinations (LCD)
  - or supporting LCDs for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)



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# Authority



- A policy letter\* dated August 15, 2006 outlines current authorities.
  - USACE will provide LCD for levees that it operates and maintains.
  - Upon request, USACE will provide LCD for levees in the USACE ICW Program.
  - USACE may provide technical analysis support for LCD to be performed by others for any levee system.

\* *Authority and Funding Guidance for USACE Levee Certification Activities Policy Letter*



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# Authority (con't.)



- USACE does not have authority to perform levee certifications for non-Federal projects.
- USACE cannot initiate a cost-shared study for the sole purpose of levee certification.



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# Levee Certification



- A technical finding that there is reasonable certainty that the levee system protecting the area will contain the 100-year flood.
- The design criteria include but may not be limited to requirements for:
  - freeboard,
  - closure devices,
  - embankment protection,
  - embankment and foundation stability,
  - settlement,
  - and interior drainage.



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# LCD's sole purpose...



To validate that areas protected from flooding by the levee in question may be shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) as protected from the 100-year flood.



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# Who's responsible?



The community or other parties seeking accreditation of a levee is responsible for providing FEMA the data and documentation defined and outlined in 44 CFR 65.10\*.

\*Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 65.10 –  
*Mapping of Areas Protected by Levee Systems*



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# MR&T Levee Example



- Mississippi Co., AR is scheduled to be mapped by FEMA
- MS Co. requests the Corps for documentation of LCD
- Memphis District does LCD and provides letter to MS Co.
- MS Co submits all appropriate data and documentation including LCD letter to FEMA
- FEMA will accredit certification and show levee on Flood Insurance Rate Map as providing protection



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