



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Buffalo District

FACT SHEET

October 2019

FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT STUDIES

Section 206 of the 1960 Flood Control Act (Public Law 86-645), As Amended
General Investigations (GI)

Appropriation Category: General Investigations

Congressional Interests:

All NY Representatives
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand D NY
Senator Charles Schumer D NY

All OH Representatives
Senator Rob Portman R OH
Senator Sherrod Brown D OH

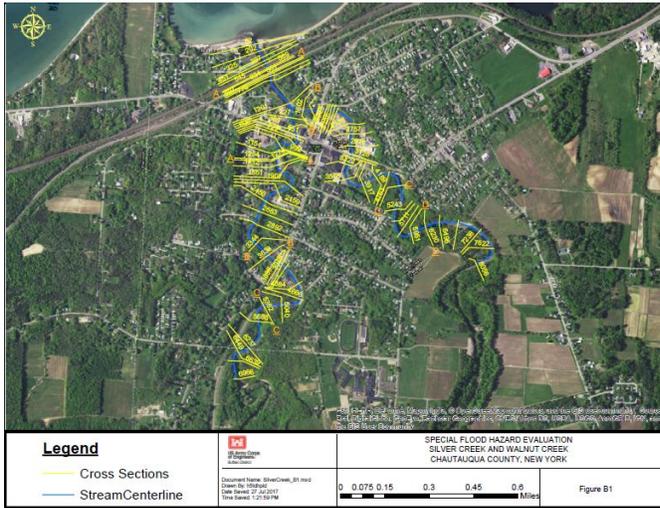
Project Description: The Flood Plain Management Services (FPMS) Program was developed by the Corps of Engineers specifically to address knowledge of flood hazards in and around communities containing flood plains, and the actions that they can take to reduce property damage and prevent loss of life caused by flooding.



The program provides assistance and guidance in the form of "Special Studies" on all aspects of flood plain management planning including potential impacts of off-flood plain land use changes on the physical, socio-economic, and environmental conditions of the flood plain. This can range from helping a community identify present or future flood plain areas and related problems, to a broad assessment of which of the various remedial measures may be effectively used.

The Buffalo District manages the program in close coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) representatives with prioritizing and recommending projects each year. The Buffalo District requests funding based on these priority projects conducting evaluations consistent with the USACE FPMS program criteria.

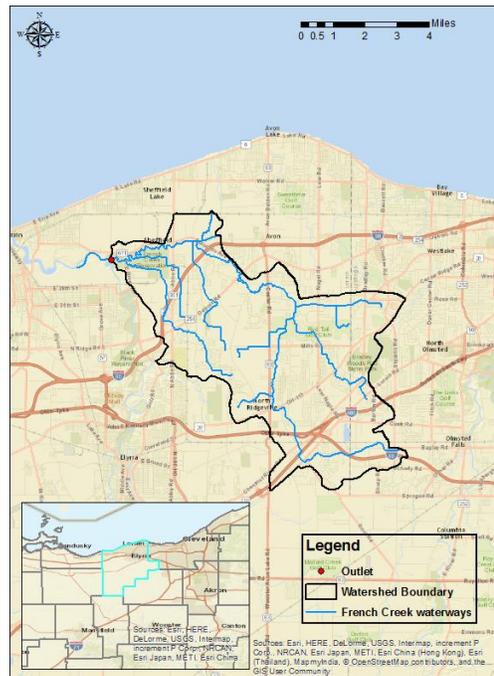
Project Capabilities: Congress authorizes funding every year towards the FPMS program and prioritization for implementation is based on the highest prioritization throughout the country. The selections each year are typically the highest priority projects since there is far greater need throughout the state than appropriations can cover.



Status of Current Projects: With FY17/18/19 funding, the Buffalo District completed Special Studies for: Silver Creek, New York; French Creek, Ohio; and Black River, New York that cover more than 15 municipalities totaling more than \$525K.

Silver Creek, Chautauqua County, New York (FY17): Buffalo District completed a Special Study on Silver Creek covering 14 linear miles benefiting two local communities in 2017. Significant 100-year flood events have occurred in this area several times since 1900.

French Creek, Lorain County, Ohio (FY18): Four communities were included in this Special Study that covered a length of 23 linear miles with a 190 feet elevation change. Significant floods in the communities of Avon, Sheffield and North Ridgeville have sustained damage to structures during major flood events in the last 75 years.



Black River, Jefferson County, New York (FY18): This project covered more than 26 linear miles of the Black River, travelling through eight communities. The Black River, which flows into the eastern end of Lake Ontario is a complex tributary and features numerous braided channels with multiple split flows caused by islands, structured dams, and power generating facility inlets and outlets.

Seneca River, Onondaga County, New York (FY19): Buffalo District has commenced a Special Study for a portion of the Seneca River that travels 24 linear miles through six municipalities. This river corridor is also complex and contains numerous braided channels as well as structured dams. The study is anticipated to be completed by the end of FY19.



Special Study Coordination: USACE staff coordinates with individual municipalities to provide assistance to local officials to assist with land use planning and local floodplain management policies. These studies provide a tool for the adoption of land use controls to guide floodplain development.

Project Manager: Buffalo District – Richard Whipple, (716) 879-4490