

Corps sends flood engineer teams out to eight river basins to assess levees

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SEATTLE – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is sending out 26 flood engineers to assess the flood damage to levees in eight river basins. With start of the fall flood season in full swing, the Corps has more than a 100 levees to assess after record rainfall amounts fell in the first two weeks of November.

Corps emergency management teams will be working over the weekend on the Nooksack, Skagit, Snohomish, Puyallup, Chehalis, Olympic Peninsula, Cedar-Green, Yakima-Naches rivers. The teams will be working with the counties emergency management officials to assess levee damage, prioritize the work, and identify those structures that need repairs expedited, to include temporary repairs.

The Corps' last flood fight action, emergency closure of a breached non-Federal levee on the Carbon River near Orting, Wash., was completed today. Work to clean up woody debris after the storm continues in Puget Sound and at Mud Mountain Dam Reservoir.

The Corps provides engineering services to respond to national and natural disasters to minimize damages and help in recovery efforts. Public Law 84-99 enables the Corps to assist state and local authorities in flood fight activities and cost share in the repair of flood protection structures.

For up-to-date river forecasts, go to <http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/nws/hh/index-j.html>. The National Weather Service issues flood watches and warnings and should be consulted for that information.