DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

CECW

30 May 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR All USACE Civilian Employees

SUBJECT: Volunteering for Emergency Response Deployments in Support of USACE Missions

1. Each year, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) plays a critical role in responding to emergencies across the nation. From natural disasters such as wildfires, hurricanes, and floods to infrastructure crises, our expertise is essential to protecting lives, restoring essential services, and supporting national recovery efforts.

2. There is a greater need for volunteers now more than ever. Since the first of January, emergency response deployments have increased by nearly 200% compared to the first four months of previous years. This surge in demand reflects the growing number and severity of disaster events and underscores the importance of a ready and willing volunteer workforce.

3. I strongly encourage all USACE civilian employees to consider volunteering for 30-day emergency response deployments in support of our response missions during this calendar year. Your skills, dedication, and professionalism are vital to the success of these efforts. Deployments offer a unique opportunity to make a tangible impact in communities affected by disaster, while also offering significant personal and professional benefits. Reference the benefits of deployment flyer attached to this memo. These benefits include:

a. Helping communities in need and contributing to a greater purpose

b. Engaging in fast-paced, mission-driven work that is deeply fulfilling

c. Gaining valuable experience that enhances your resume and career development

d. Connecting and collaborating with USACE professionals from across the enterprise

e. Taking on a temporary assignment that provides a change from your daily routine

f. Earning overtime pay and travel compensation in accordance with federal guidelines

4. All personnel who deploy are expected to uphold the highest standards of conduct and professionalism throughout the entirety of their assignment. This includes maintaining the utmost respect and compassion for individuals and communities

impacted by disaster. Deployed personnel represent USACE and the Department of the Army at all times, and must conduct themselves accordingly, both during official duty hours and while off the clock. A reference for response volunteer conduct on deployment is attached to this memo to demonstrate the professionalism expected of USACE volunteers. Any conduct that could reflect negatively on the Corps, the Army, or the federal government is unacceptable, and may be grounds for redeployment to home station.

5. Supervisors are encouraged to support employee participation in these missions by identifying flexible solutions that allow for temporary reallocation of duties or workload coverage during deployment periods. Supporting our employees in these efforts strengthens the USACE team and enhances our overall readiness and resilience.

6. Employees interested in volunteering can visit the following link for more information: https://usace.dps.mil/sites/EM/SitePages/Volunteer.aspx. Those interested in volunteer opportunities shall coordinate with their District Emergency Management (EM) staff or Division Readiness and Contingency Operations (RCO) personnel.

7. Thank you for your commitment to the USACE mission and for considering this important opportunity to serve when you are needed most.

JASON E. KELLY
Major General, USA
Deputy Commanding General
for Civil and Emergency Operations

ATTACHMENT:
Emergency Response Volunteer Flyer
Response Volunteer Conduct on Deployment