

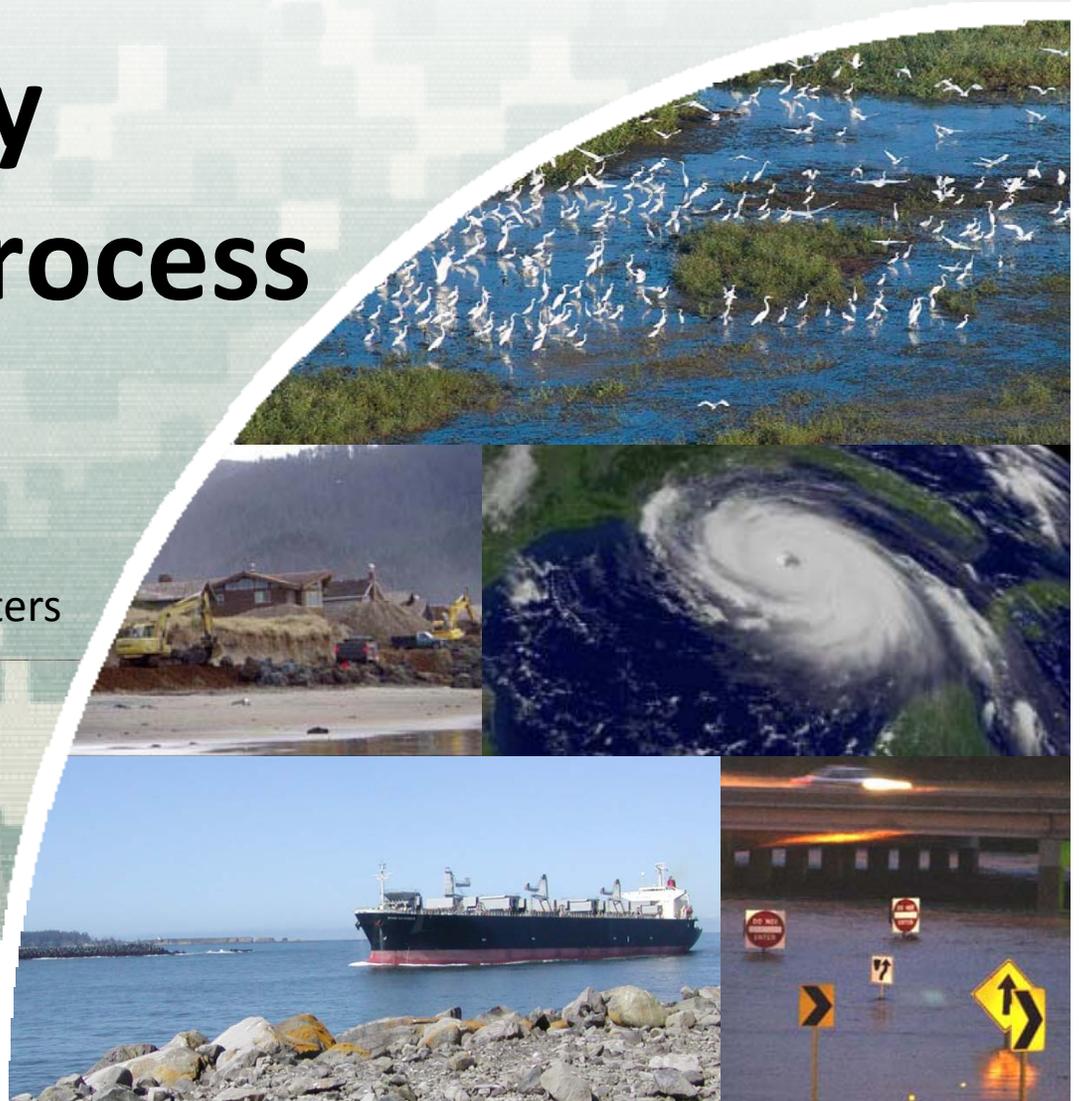
SMART Planning

Feasibility Study Milestones & Process

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US Army Corps of Engineers
PLANNING SMART
BUILDING STRONG®



Welcome

- Please Sign-in so we know who you are
- We will begin the webinar when the majority of audio dial-in beeps subside
- Global Mute on the phone to improve sound quality
- Questions welcome via chat function or SMART Guide Comment Form
 - Will address questions as time allows
- Slides and Q&A will be posted on SMART Guide
- Thank you for your time today



Topics Covered

- Overview of SMART Planning Principles
- Identification of Key Decision Points
 - Who, What, When, How, Why
- Vertical Integration
- Reviewer's Perspectives
- Key Messages
- Next Steps



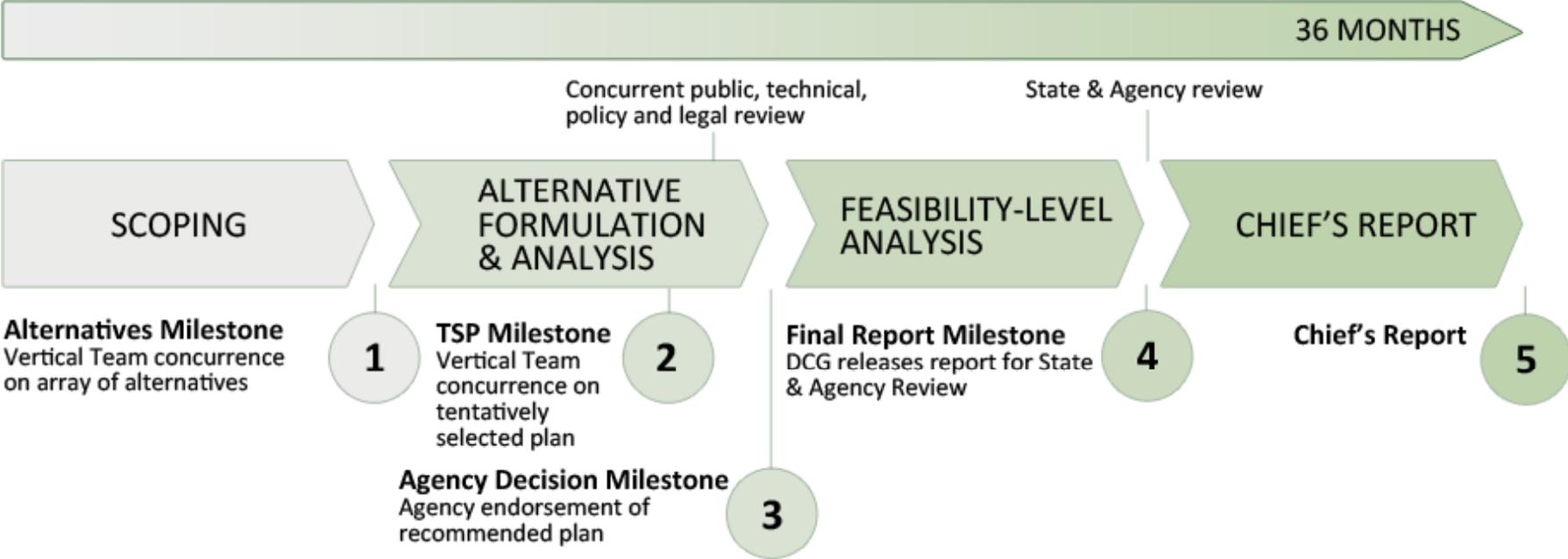
The “Five Imperatives for Change”

- Reaffirm **Federal and Corps interest** and role in resolving the problem
- Ensure **resources** needed are identified and available
- Recognize for most studies, there is **no single “best plan”**
- Manage appropriate **level of detail** and acknowledge **uncertainty**
- Ensure **vertical integration** throughout the study



SMART Feasibility Study Process

In-Progress Reviews (IPRs) as needed



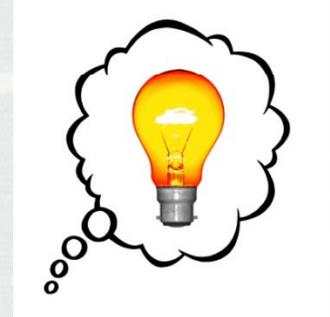
SMART Milestones: What's Different?

- Milestones are **decision focused** not task oriented
- Risk and uncertainty is **acknowledged and managed**
 - Vertical team agrees on work to be done **before it is done**
 - Vertical team agrees on “**acceptable**” level of uncertainty
- All resources identified early and funding **committed**
- **Concurrent** Policy, Technical, Public Review's
- Read Ahead's **inform** productive meetings and help develop Report



Making Decisions by Acknowledging and Managing Uncertainty

- Decisions may change
 - Alternatives should be revised as more information is attained
 - There will always be some uncertainty
 - Make the best estimate possible today
- Change your decisions
 - Be as sure as is reasonable for your decision
 - When you're unsure let people know it
 - Revise decisions when needed



Read Ahead's

- Are Different for SMART Planning!
- Used to inform
 - No extensive review necessary
 - Not a check-the-box requirement
- Typical Read Ahead's Include:
 - Report Synopsis
 - Decision Management Plan
 - Risk Register
 - Decision Log
 - Project Study Issue checklist



Alternatives Milestone

Who: Vertical Team (VT)

What: Concurrence on the focused array of alternatives

When: During alternatives evaluation and comparison phase

How: Webinar, telecon, meeting or charrette

Why: VT agreement on clear logical formulation and evaluation rationale



Tentatively Selected Plan Milestone

Who: VT, MSC Planning Chief, District PL Chief, HQ Chief of Planning and Policy

What: Planning Endorsement of TSP(s) and approval to release report for concurrent technical, legal, policy and public review

When: After VT agreement on TSP plan(s)

How: Webinar, in-person briefing

Why: Planning endorsement of TSP(s) prior to concurrent review



Agency Decision Milestone

Who: VT, MSC Commander, DCG-CEO and senior HQUSACE leadership panel

What: Command endorsement of TSP(s)

When: After technical, policy, IEPR, public reviews are completed

How: Webinar, in-person briefing

Why: USACE validation of TSP(s)



Final Report Milestone

Who: MSC Commander

What: MSC submission of Final Feasibility Report

When: After Feasibility level design phase

How: Formal transmittal, and CWRB briefing

Why: DCG-CEO approval to release report for State & Agency review



Chief's Report Milestone

Who: Chief of Engineer's

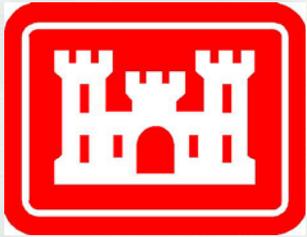
What: Sign Chief's report

When: After State & Agency review, NEPA and policy reviews are complete

How: HQ briefing

Why: Chief transmit's findings to OASA(CW)





Vertical Integration

- Districts, Divisions, and Headquarters work together on **decision-focused** solutions, supported by the **appropriate** level of detail
- Each level of the organization is **responsible and accountable**
 - District Quality Control is essential
 - Timely and appropriate reviews
 - Vertical Team engagement
 - Accurately document discussions



Reviewers Perspectives

- Culture change from schedule driven to decision-focused
 - Milestones are not to meet a date
 - Align with decisions
- As the level of detail increases, prior decisions may change
- Concurrent review does not mean end-loaded review
 - ATR & DQC is required throughout the process
- SMART Planning does not allow for deviation from guidance



Key Messages

- SMART Planning principles apply throughout the process
- At the 5 **key** decision points:
 - Address quality, progress, budget, sponsorship, and Federal interest
- Effective Vertical Team **integration** is essential
- All levels of the Corps (PDT and VT) are responsible and accountable
- Transition is difficult and all levels are learning together



Next Steps

- Apply Risk Informed Decision Making
- Continue coordination and learning
- Update guidance and procedures
- Develop senior planner resources



Questions?

Type questions in the chat box. We will try to answer as many as time allows.

For more information:
<http://www.corpsplanning.us>



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