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# Levee Improvement Program



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# Levee Study

- HF 861, 2021 Session
  - Study focused on 10 counties on Missouri and Mississippi Rivers
  - Takeaways/Recommendations
    - Consolidate at the system level
    - Utilize a watershed approach
    - Develop a strategic plan
    - Consider raising minimum assessment
    - Consider granting taxing authority to the watershed
    - Consider a statewide levee assessment
  - Delivered January 2023
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# Levee Improvement Program

- HF 711, 2023 Session
  - New Chapter 418A
  - Reduce and manage risk due to levee's inadequate design, structural performance, or operational control
  - Specifics
    - Identification and geophysical survey of all levees
    - Development of a rating system
    - Funding to address shortfalls.
  - Funding is cost shared NTE 50% of projects cost
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# Administration

- Flood Mitigation Board
    - Funding decisions
    - \$5 million per year for operations and projects
  - HSEMD
    - Support to FMB
    - Staff the Office of Levee Safety
    - Develop rating system
    - Coordinate with IGS on levee survey
  - IGS
    - Geophysical survey of 900 miles levee
    - Survey will occur over the course of 5 years
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# Stakeholders

- Local
  - Levee and drainage districts
  - County auditor
  - County emergency manager
  - Local entities – cities, Board of Supervisors
- State
  - IDALS, DNR, DOT, IEDA, HSEMD
- Federal
  - USACE – PL 84-99
  - FEMA – NFIP
  - EPA
  - US Fish and Wildlife

# 2023 Activity

- Stand up Office of Levee Safety with HSEMD
  - Outreach
    - Initial engagement with partners
    - Auditor engagement to obtain existing records - ISACA
  - IGS Survey
    - 900 miles over 5 years, 100 year 1, 200 per year after year 1
    - Geolocate levee
    - Provide structural assessment of levee
    - Survey cost = \$1.4 million
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# 2024 Activity

- Continued outreach
  - 15 town hall meetings beginning in February
  - Expand engagement with levee and drainage districts
- Development of levee rating system
  - Survey data
  - Inspection reports
  - Financial data
- Application process for FMB
- Education
  - Levee systems
  - Public

# Information

- Annual Report
  - <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/DF/1441956.pdf>
- Levee Study
  - <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/DF/1366026.pdf>
- Office of Levee Safety
  - <https://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/levee-safety/>