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SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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TO: National US&R Response System
Task Force Program Managers/Training Managers

DATE: February 26, 2021

FROM: Jeff Qunell, P.E. - USACE US&R Program Manager

SUBJECT: VIRTUAL Central Regional Training for Structures Specialists - Course Announcement

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response System, in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), has scheduled a Structures Specialist (StS) "Regional Training" (RT) Course to be held on April 10, with a second session being offered on April 11, 2021. Due to ongoing restrictions and impacts from the Coronavirus pandemic, the RT format has been modified to be delivered using a virtual "Zoom" meeting format. **This will be the FORTH delivery of the "version 6" curriculum.** Since the virtual format constrains the curriculum to only RT classroom content, the length of each training session is planned for 7-hours with several breaks. This training course is offered to Task Force StS who need initial or refresher training in Damaged Building Assessment, Shoring Size-up/Design, Survey 123, Precast/Prestressed/Post-tensioned Concrete review, and Dam/Levee assessments during an US&R response. Students who completed StS1 training and any previous RT training are highly encouraged to attend this RT "skills enhancement" session. This training will sharpen and add to knowledge that will enhance the Task Force capabilities and readiness. The regional training curriculum is updated and revised every two years, and this will be the forth opportunity to receive the unique topics presented for the 2020-2021 Version 6.

The RT sessions are intended for Structures Specialists in the region to minimize or eliminate the impacts to one's daily job. Little or no on-duty time should be required. The weekend course will consist of short review lectures and collaborative tabletop exercises. Although this format will be delivered virtually, priority seats will still be given to StS in the Central Region in order to sustain appropriate attendance for other RT events. This will not preclude other StS from outside the region from attending. Any Task Force will be allowed to send students. If space is available, more students will be accepted. The Central Division Task Forces are encouraged to send as many of their StS as space allows.

Applications should be submitted by March 26th. To register for the course, go to www.DisasterEngineer.org, click the "Training Applications" menu and select "StS Regional Training Application." Fill out the online application and be sure to select either "Session I" or "Session II" (please register for ONLY ONE of the TWO sessions). After March 26th, students will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis according to the waiting list. Due to virtual format limitations, a maximum of 25 students are targeted to participate per session. The training is provided at no charge to the student and 7 PDH will be earned upon completion of the training. This new curriculum is based on the feedback from the Structures Specialists within and in support of the FEMA National US&R Response System. Under ESF#9, and by Interagency Agreement, the Corps is directed to provide and facilitate training for StS.

TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

TO: National US&R Task Force Program Managers,
National US&R Task Force Leaders

Course Logistical Information:

Time: Saturday 0800 thru 1535 MST with 1/2 hour lunch period

Training Source: Live Zoom Video Conferencing

Zoom meeting invitations will be sent to the email provided during student registration.

- The FEMA US&R StS Position Description recommends that Task Force StS complete this training every two years. This is continuing education, the 4th scheduled training for this curriculum.
- Training focuses on assessing structural behavior of damaged buildings, dam and levee assessment, pre-cast/pre-stressed and PT concrete review, wide area assessment (GPS “Iron sights” & Survey 123), use of StS forms, shoring tabletop exercise and other topics.
- Training mission is to provide 7-hours of intensive training.

Requirements for Attendance:

- The course will be on-line using Zoom hosted by Michael Barker at the University of Wyoming.
- You will need a computer with the Zoom application, a webcam and audio (speakers & microphone) for class interactions and discussions.
- Several will be asked to volunteer and show Shoring Design results. A scanner to PDF or phone picture and uploading for the shoring discussion will be effective.
- Download and install the esri ArcGIS Survey123 field app on your smart phone before the virtual training. You can search for the “ArcGIS Survey123” app on your device (e.g. Apple App Store, Google Play App Store, etc.) or download from this link -- <https://www.esri.com/en-us/arcgis/products/survey123/resources> select the “See launch and downloads” button then under the ArcGIS Survey123 field app column, select the version depending on your smart phone operating system. Please contact us with any issues in the days prior to the training.
- A Zoom invitation link will be sent to you via Michael Barker’s email/meeting invitation.
 - When you log into Zoom, enter your full name and email for RT Certificate & discussion identification.
 - Log in a little early to work out any issues – Zoom meeting will open at 7:30 am MST.
- Course Handout materials will be available to registered StS for download prior to the class.

To Register for Training:

Complete the online application at www.DisasterEngineer.org. On the top menu bar, select “Training Applications” then click on the desired training course to open the proper online application. After completing the application, click “SUBMIT.” There is also Course Logistics Info available on this application page.

Additional Information contact:

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