

Library

SWLCO

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Little Rock District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 867
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

LRDR 1145-2-16

LIBRARY COPY

Regulation
No. 1145-2-16

13 August 1974

Civil Regulatory Functions
RECOVERY OF BODIES FROM WATER AT LOCKS AND DAMS,
ARKANSAS RIVER, AND LAKE PROJECTS

1. Purpose. The purpose of this regulation is to establish procedures and a policy for recovery of bodies from waterways in the Little Rock District.
2. Applicability. The provisions herein are applicable to all District projects and navigable waterways in the Little Rock District.
3. References.
 - a. OCE Supplement 1 to AR 190-13.
 - b. LRD Supplement 1 to AR 190-13.
4. Policy. When drownings occur, District personnel have a moral obligation to the family of the deceased to furnish all possible assistance in recovery of the body.
5. Recovery of bodies. Recovery of bodies is the responsibility of local law enforcement authorities; however, Corps personnel shall furnish assistance to these officials in accordance with Appendix A or Appendix B. Appendix A sets forth the District's responsibilities when only resources of the District are utilized. Appendix B is applicable when local officials are unsuccessful in recovering a body and request additional Federal assistance through the Governor of Arkansas or Missouri.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:



CHARLES E. DOWNS
LTC, Corps of Engineers
Deputy District Engineer

- 2 Incl
- 1. Appendix A
- 2. Appendix B

DISTRIBUTION A
Plus Bulletin Boards

APPENDIX A

RECOVERY PROCEDURES UTILIZING DISTRICT RESOURCES ONLY

1. Applicability. This Appendix is applicable to body recovery operations when only resources of the District are utilized.
2. Notification. In the event a body is observed floating or a drowning is reported, it should be reported to the Resident Engineer. The Resident Engineer shall notify local law enforcement officials and the Chief, Navigation Section. If any delay is encountered in notifying the Resident Engineer, employees should notify local law officials directly, then notify the Resident Engineer as soon as possible. The Chief, Navigation Section, shall notify the District Engineer; Deputy District Engineer; Chief, Construction-Operations Division; Chief, Safety Office; Chief, Security, EOP-EEO Office; Chief, Public Affairs Office; and District Counsel.
3. Recovery Operations. Since recovery of bodies is the responsibility of local law enforcement officials, Corps personnel should not normally attempt to secure or remove bodies from the water until these officials arrive at the site. If there is danger of a floating body disappearing because of current or other adverse conditions, Corps personnel may secure it, but they should not remove it from the water. All recovery operations shall be under the direction of local officials. The responsibilities of District personnel in furnishing assistance to local authorities are given below.
 - a. Chief, Construction-Operations Division. The Chief, Construction-Operations Division, shall direct all Corps operations to assist local officials in recovery operations. His duties include the following:
 - (1) Furnish all needed labor and equipment in excess of Corps mission requirements that is requested by local officials.
 - (2) Advise the District Engineer of the progress of the recovery operations as necessary.
 - (3) Serve as liaison with the family of the deceased when necessary.
 - b. Chief, Navigation Section. The Chief, Navigation Section, shall serve as project officer for all recovery operations. His duties include the following:
 - (1) Maintain a current knowledge of the progress of recovery operations.
 - (2) Furnish recommendations for labor and equipment needed in recovery operations to the Chief, Construction-Operations Division.
 - (3) If needed labor and equipment is beyond the capabilities of the local Resident Engineer, obtain such labor and equipment from other offices.

LRDR 1145-2-16
13 Aug 74

(4) Advise the Chiefs, Public Affairs Office and Safety Office, of the progress of the recovery operations as necessary.

(5) Dispatch the District's underwater television camera for searching for bodies when deemed advisable.

c. Resident Engineer. The Resident Engineer shall serve as onsite director of all Corps operations to assist local law enforcement officials. His duties include the following:

(1) Furnish the request for assistance from local officials to the Chief, Navigation Section, with a recommendation for the amount and type of assistance.

(2) Advise local officials of unsafe conditions during recovery operations.

(3) Furnish a report on the progress of the recovery operations to the Chief, Navigation Section, at the beginning of each workday. In addition, if significant events, such as recovery of a body, occur on a weekend, the Resident Engineer shall notify the Chief, Navigation Section, as soon as possible during daylight hours.

(4) Issue press releases, as needed, in accordance with LRDR 360-1-1.

(5) Advise local law enforcement officials against the use of amateur sport divers in search and recovery of the body.

4. Reports. The Resident Engineer shall furnish the following reports:

a. DA Form 285, Accident Report, within 10 days after a drowning occurs or a floating body is discovered.

b. ENG Form 4337, Incident Report, within 4 days after alleged drowning and subsequent terminal report.

c. A comprehensive after-the-fact report on all recovery operations in which LRD personnel participate shall be prepared by the Resident Engineer. This report shall be submitted within 10 working days after the body is recovered or after recovery operations have been terminated.

APPENDIX B

RECOVERY PROCEDURES UTILIZING OUTSIDE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

1. Applicability. This appendix is applicable to body recovery operations when outside Federal assistance is requested by the Governor of Arkansas or Missouri. This assistance will normally involve use of Army or Navy divers to recover the body.

2. Notification. Notification procedures are set forth in Appendix A.

3. Recovery operations. In addition to the responsibilities set forth in Appendix A, District personnel shall assume the responsibilities listed below.

a. District Engineer. The District Engineer shall authorize all requests by the District for outside Federal assistance.

b. Chief, Construction-Operations Division.

(1) Serve as liaison with the offices of the Governors of Arkansas and Missouri.

(2) Screen requests from the Governors to insure that they do not have needed capabilities and that they have tried unsuccessfully to secure such capabilities from commercial sources.

(3) Forward requests from the Governors to the District Engineer with recommendations for action by the District.

(4) Direct the procurement of outside Federal assistance.

c. Chief, Navigation Section.

(1) Secure outside Federal assistance as directed by the Chief, Construction-Operations Division.

(2) Serve as liaison with other Federal offices that are furnishing assistance in recovery operations.

d. Resident Engineers.

(1) When local officials request outside Federal assistance, such as a Navy diving team, advise them to channel their requests through the appropriate State offices. In Arkansas, they should contact the Office of Emergency Services (501-374-4744) and in Missouri, the Missouri Boat Commission (314-751-3333). If recovery operations are beyond the States' capabilities, the Governors may request additional Federal assistance from the District.

LRDR 1145-2-16
13 Aug 74

(2) Serve as liaison with onsite personnel of other Federal offices when they are assisting in recovery operations.

4. Reports. In addition to the reports required by Appendix A, the Chief, Navigation Section, shall prepare an after-the-fact report on negotiations with the states and securing of outside Federal assistance. This report shall be prepared within 10 working days after the body is recovered or after recovery operations have been terminated.