



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

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SUBJECT: USACE Landslides Committee under the Geotechnical, Geology, and Materials Community of Practice (GGM CoP)

CATEGORY: For Information

1. References:

- a. ER 25-1-8, USACE Communities of Practice, 31 March 2011

2. Purpose. The purpose of this ECB is to provide information on the mission and activities of the Landslides Committee (LC).

3. The mission of the Landslide Committee is to facilitate in-house technical capability for response to routine and emergency slope stability events. This LC was formed by Headquarters to address various issues pertaining to landslides and other slope stability challenges. The committee is responsible for advising the Geotechnical, Geology and Materials Communities of Practice on all aspects of landslides including but not limited to policy, guidance, and funding; Landslide Advisory Team (LAT) and execution; and education and outreach. To support the LCs stated mission, this committee focuses on the following critical activities:

- a. Assessing existing guidance and identifying gaps, both internal and external to USACE.
- b. Develop provisional guidance in the form of an ECB.
- c. Establishing and updating the Landslide Advisory Team to identify technically qualified deployable professionals.
- d. Effectively sharing knowledge and educational opportunities throughout the community, maximizing opportunities for face-to-face meetings within the GG&M CoP and the LC.
- e. Promoting a diverse range of training opportunities, to include field and classroom training, distance learning (e.g. webinars), Visiting Scholar Program, and developmental assignments (e.g. field, lab, and design).
- f. Maintaining core competencies as a world class engineering organization.
- g. Identifying research needs and promoting the dissemination of new technologies.
- h. Building technical networks across the nation for mentoring and leveraging of expertise.
- i. Promoting engagements with other government agencies, universities, and professional societies.

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j. Promoting consistency within the committee to enhance quality and facilitate regionally integrated execution.

k. Reviewing and identifying common software needs and support corporate software licenses.

l. Forecasting future mission needs and changing priorities to maintain technical relevancy.

m. Identifying, collecting, and disseminating the best practices and lessons learned.

n. Advocating for sufficient in-house work and capabilities to attract and retain expert technical staff, and build the bench for the future.

4. The LC Chairperson will hold quarterly meetings unless the Chairperson deems additional meetings are needed. Web meetings and/or teleconferences will be held as needed to accomplish LC sub-committee tasks and work items. The LC shall sponsor a minimum of one educational event (e.g. webinar, field trip, etc.) every fiscal year.

5. The Landslide Committee will include LC Committee Members, a LC Secretary, LC Initiative Leads, LC Support, LC Alternatives, and a Landslide Advisory Team (LAT). Each of which are selected by the Chairperson and the HQ proponent and voted into their two-year appointment and position.

6. The Landslide Advisory Team (LAT), working under the LAT/Execution initiative, is comprised of individuals with expertise (senior) and experience (associate) who are willing to deploy. Resumes will be evaluated by the Initiative Lead, the HQ proponent, Chairperson, and with advice of the existing senior LAT members. The roster will be maintained by the Initiative Lead.

7. All Districts are encouraged to join the quarterly calls and webinar discussions as well as support other EEG activities.

8. Information regarding the Landslide Committee (LC) is posted and maintained at the following TEN page: <https://apps.usace.army.mil/sites/TEN/wiki/GGM%20Landslides.aspx>

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9. The point of contact (POC) for the LC Chairperson is April Fontaine, CESP-K-ED-G, 916-557-7699. The point of contact (POC) for the LAT Coordinator is Mark Elson, CELRN-EC-CD-G, 615-736-7897. HQUSACE POC for this ECB is Mr. Marty Goff, P.G., CECW-CE, 202-549-1166.

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CHRISTINE T. ALTENDORF, P.E., PHD, SES
Chief, Engineering and Construction
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Encl.

Attachment A – Charter USACE Engineering & Construction Geotechnical, Geology, and Materials Committee for Landslides

CHARTER
USACE ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION
GEOTECHNICAL, GEOLOGY AND MATERIALS
COMMITTEE FOR LANDSLIDES

1. PURPOSE

The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) issued ER 25-1-8, USACE Communities of Practice (CoP) in March 2011 to provide the general policy and framework for the establishment, sustainment, operations, roles and life cycle of CoPs across the organization. The CoP concept supports effective communication, learning, and relationship development within the USACE team. From ER 25-1-8, the Guiding Principles for the implementation of effective CoPs are that:

- a. Communities are formed around shared interest in accomplishing the USACE mission.
- b. Communities are built on a foundation of trust, exhibited by the open and self-less sharing of expertise and knowledge.
- c. Communities provide value to their members in professional growth and learning, recognition and satisfaction of contributing, and assistance in problem solving.
- d. Communities are engines of learning by advising to bring together knowledge and expertise across the entire Corps.
- e. Communities are built on relationships among members, with ties to other communities, outside agencies and stakeholders.
- f. Communities promote communication through the use of technology and face-to-face meetings.
- g. Communities are differing from a team, as an enduring source of knowledge transfer and support to each Corps mission in need.
- h. Communities exist outside of the normal organizational structure, being unbound by geography, organization, or hierarchy as one learning organization.

This Charter provides operational guidance to the USACE Landslide Committee (LC). The strength of the LC is essential to ensure a common understanding and continued high level of technical expertise and capabilities within the discipline of the Geotechnical, Geology and Materials (GG&M) CoP.

2. MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Landslide Committee is to facilitate in-house technical capability for response to routine and emergency slope stability events. This LC was formed by Headquarters to address various issues pertaining to landslides and other slope stability challenges. The committee is responsible for advising the Geotechnical, Geology and Materials Communities of Practice on all aspects of landslides including but not limited to policy, guidance, and funding; Landslide Advisory Team (LAT) and execution; and education and outreach.

3. OBJECTIVES

To support the LCs stated mission, this committee will focus on the following critical activities:

- a. Assessing existing guidance and identifying gaps, both internal and external to USACE.
- b. Develop provisional guidance in the form of an ECB.
- c. Establishing and updating the Landslide Advisory Team to identify technically qualified deployable professionals.
- d. Effectively sharing knowledge and educational opportunities throughout the community, maximizing opportunities for face-to-face meetings within the GG&M CoP and the LC.
- e. Promoting a diverse range of training opportunities, to include field and classroom training, distance learning (e.g. webinars), Visiting Scholar Program, and developmental assignments (e.g. field, lab, and design).
- f. Maintaining core competencies as a world class engineering organization.
- g. Identifying research needs and promoting the dissemination of new technologies.
- h. Building technical networks across the nation for mentoring and leveraging of expertise.
- i. Promoting engagements with other government agencies, universities, and professional societies.
- j. Promoting consistency within the committee to enhance quality and facilitate regionally integrated execution.
- k. Reviewing and identifying common software needs and support corporate software licenses.
- l. Forecasting future mission needs and changing priorities to maintain technical relevancy.
- m. Identifying, collecting, and disseminating the best practices and lessons learned.
- n. Advocating for sufficient in-house work and capabilities to attract and retain expert technical staff, and build the bench for the future.

4. ORGANIZATION

- a. The Landslide Committee will be led by a LC Chairperson who is selected by the HQ proponent. This Chairperson is to be selected based on the individuals broad experience and knowledge in landslide slope stability and having positions with national visibility over one or more USACE programs that use or could benefit from technical applications to slope stability.
- b. The Landslide Committee will be further comprised of LC Committee Members, a LC Secretary, LC Initiative Leads, LC Support, LC Alternatives, and a Landslide Advisory Team (LAT). Each of which are selected and voted into their appointment and position.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. **LC Chairperson.** The Landslide Committee Chairperson is selected by the HQ proponent. This Chairperson will provide leadership and direction for the operation of the LC. The chairperson will have broad technical responsibilities for the development, enhancement, implementation and improvement of the technical expertise for landslide slope stability identification and repair. Appointment will be for two years and may be renewed by the HQ proponent with concurrence of the HQ GG&M CoP lead.

- b. **LC Committee Members.** The Committee Members are nominated by each Major Subordinate Commands (MSC) GG&M CoP representative and approved by the Chairperson with concurrence of the HQ proponent. The Risk Management Center (RMC) Director will also nominate a member to the committee. Member appointments will be for two years and may be renewed by the LC Chairperson with concurrence of the HQ proponent. The MSCs and the RMC may submit new nominations at any time at their discretion. These members form the primary voting body of the committee. Each MSC and the RMC may also designate Alternate Committee Members who may represent the appointed Committee Members during meetings, and vote on their behalf if so, clarified to Chairperson in advance by the member. All interested individuals throughout USACE may participate in the quarterly meetings and other appropriate committee activities.
- c. **LC Secretary.** The Secretary is nominated by the Committee Members and approved by the Chairperson with concurrence of the HQ proponent. This position shall be a voting member of the committee. Duties of this position include assessing and providing input to all technical issues, compilation of the draft minutes for each full-committee meeting, and coordination of funding requirements (if needed) for the committee or sub-committee members in coordination with the Chairperson and HQ proponent. Appointment will be for two years and may be renewed by the Committee Members with approval by the Chairperson and concurrence of the HQ proponent.
- d. **LC Initiative Leads.** Initiative Leads are nominated by the Committee Members and approved by the Chairperson. These positions are voting members of the committee, separate from the MSC representative. Appointment will be for two years and may be renewed by the Committee Members with approval by the Chairperson and concurrence of the HQ proponent.
- e. **LC Support.** The Landslide Committee is assisted by engineers and technical personnel from various USACE districts, centers, and labs. Sub-committees will be formed to accomplish the various goals and committee responsibilities. The number of members is dependent on the needs of each sub-committee and the availability of resources.
- f. **LC Alternatives.** Alternates will be permitted to participate in committee and sub-committee activities on an as-needed basis.
- g. **LC Landslide Advisory Team.** The LAT, working under the LAT/Execution initiative, is comprised of individuals with expertise (senior) and experience (associate) who are willing to deploy. Resumes will be evaluated by the Initiative Lead, the HQ proponent, Chairperson, and with advice of the existing senior LAT members. The roster will be maintained by the Initiative Lead.

6. OPERATING GUIDELINES

- a. **LC Meetings.** The LC Chairperson will hold quarterly meetings unless the Chairperson deems additional meetings are needed. Web meetings and/or teleconferences will be held as needed to accomplish LC sub-committee tasks and work items. The LC shall sponsor a minimum of one educational event (e.g. webinar, field trip, etc.) every fiscal year.

- b. **LC and GG&M Website.** The Landslide Committee will utilize a website as its primary means to disseminate information. The LC Chairperson will determine which LC Committee Members have content editing privileges. The approved website for use by all E&C CoPs and sub-CoPs is the GG&M TEN website:
<https://apps.usace.army.mil/sites/TEN/GM/Pages/default.aspx>.

Information regarding the Landslide Committee is posted and maintained at the following GG&M TEN page: <https://apps.usace.army.mil/sites/TEN/wiki/GGM%20Landslides.aspx>

- c. **Additional Guidelines.** As the LC Committee gains experience with committee operations, these guidelines are expected to become more comprehensive.

7. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance feedback and general direction will be anticipated from the USACE GG&M CoP lead, and others at the national and regional levels.

8. REPORTING

The LC will prepare a report to the Headquarters, US Army Corps of Engineers at the end of the Fiscal Year (30 September) that will summarize the objectives, activities, goals and accomplishments of the LC for the FY and include goals for the upcoming FY.

The HQ proponent will request briefs as needed for the status or recommendations of significant activities.

9. FUNDING

Committee activities are unfunded, therefore all participation is voluntary and must be funded by each participant's district office.

10. APPROVAL

Vanessa Bateman, PG, PE, D.GE
Geotechnical, Geology and Materials CoP Lead
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