

STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

EO 19-10

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE ARKANSAS LEVEE TASK FORCE

WHEREAS: Well-maintained levees are essential for the preservation and protection of life and property in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Recent floods revealed vulnerabilities in some of the levees along the Arkansas River and its tributaries; and

WHEREAS: A number of levee district boards in the state are inactive or functioning ineffectively; and

WHEREAS: It is a matter of state importance to ensure that levees along all of the state's waterways are adequately maintained; and

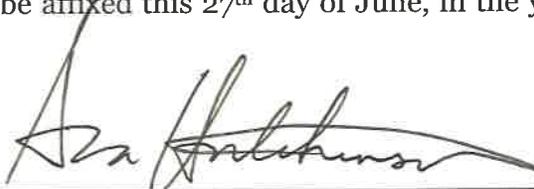
WHEREAS: It is in the best interest of the state and its citizens to explore best practices and procedures for ensuring a secure system of levees on the state's waterways;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, acting under the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby order the following:

- (1) There is hereby created the Arkansas Levee Task Force, which shall serve as an investigative and advisory body of the Governor.
- (2) The task force shall be composed of members appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The chair of the committee shall be designated by the Governor. The Commission shall be composed of:
 - a) The Arkansas Commissioner of State Lands, or his or her designee;
 - b) The Secretary of the Department of Public Safety, or his or her designee;
 - c) The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, or his or her designee;
 - d) The Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, or his or her designee;
 - e) The Director of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, or his or her designee;
 - f) The Director of the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, or his or her designee;
 - g) The State Geographic Information Coordinator, or his or her designee;
 - h) The Director of the Arkansas Waterways Commission, or his or her designee;
 - i) One county judge;
 - j) One county clerk;
 - k) One municipal elected official;
 - l) Additional citizens, as the Governor deems necessary, with knowledge of the engineering, construction, funding, or oversight of levees.
 - m) Additional citizens, as the Governor deems necessary, to represent flood-impacted areas of Arkansas.
- (3) The members of the task force shall have the following duties:
 - a) Study and analyze the current condition of the state's levee system;

- b) Study and analyze present and future sources and requirements for the adequate funding of construction, repair, and maintenance of the state's levee system.
 - c) Study and analyze prospective monitoring and reporting systems for the maintenance of the state's levee system;
 - d) Review the adequacy of current laws and organizational structure regarding the state's levee system and levee district boards.
 - e) The Task Force shall provide a report of its findings and make recommendations to the Governor for improved monitoring and maintenance of the state's levee system by December 31, 2019. The Task Force may provide additional reports and recommendations to the Governor as necessary.
- (4) Upon request, the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management and the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission may provide staff and other personnel to support the work of the Task Force.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 27th day of June, in the year of our Lord 2019.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor



Attest:



John Thurston, Secretary Of State