

Chapter 1 Introduction

1-1. Purpose

This manual sets forth design criteria and procedures to be used for fire protection systems at USACE navigation locks. The fire hazards addressed herein are those presented by commercial vessels, tows, and recreational craft. The protection to be provided is solely for lock appurtenances, such as miter gates, operating machinery, bridges, and buildings. Any benefit afforded the above-mentioned craft is considered incidental.

1-2. Applicability

The provisions of this manual are applicable to all HQUSACE elements, major subordinate commands, districts, laboratories, and field operating activities having responsibility for civil works navigation lock projects.

1-3. References

Required publications are listed in Appendix A.

1-4. Policy

The intent of this manual, including the use of all referenced codes and publications, is to provide for practical and economic fire protection for government property at navigation locks without exposing project personnel to undue risk. It is not the intent of this manual to provide a fire-fighting service to the navigation industry nor is it an intent to create that appearance. The design criteria in this manual shall be considered a minimum for all new locks and major lock rehabilitations. Updating existing locks is recommended, especially when service water or deck wash systems are installed or replaced. A policy of coordination with local fire departments shall be established in order to effectively utilize their fire-fighting capabilities, provided that such services are available. All sources of ignition should be prohibited on lock structures within 50 ft [15.24 m] of vessels where flammable and combustible materials are handled. Suitable **NO SMOKING** or **OPEN FLAME** signs, as specified in EP 310-1-6A, Chapter 11, should be posted in all such areas.