Floodplain Management Association

Sacramento’s Flood Risk Reduction Efforts

September 8, 2016

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Pre Prop 1E Levee Investment
Causes of Sacramento’s High Flood Risk

• Location
• Age and agricultural origin of levees
• Stability, Seepage, Under-seepage, Freeboard
• Erosion
  – Ongoing process
  – Not addressed by system designers
  – Worsened by reservoirs
• Changes in storm size and frequency
  – Warmer storms: Less snow, more rain
  – Climate Change: 5 largest storms in last 40 years
What have we done...

...Nearly $2 billion to date
What are we doing today?

- Folsom Dam Joint Federal Project
- Natomas Levee Improvements
- Levee Accreditation Program
- South Sacramento Streams
- Folsom Dam Raise
Where are we going...

- Common Features General Re-evaluation Report
- Levee Modernization
- Multi-Purpose Projects
- Risk Management

... 200-year level of protection and beyond!
Continued review of system

Levee Accreditation Project
- 58 miles to accredit for FEMA
- Up to 10 miles need remediation to meet FEMA and State Standards
- Address high hazard encroachments/vegetation
Partnerships

• None of the above projects get done in a vacuum
• Permitting agencies have key role in implementation
• Best bang for your buck usually includes multi-benefit approach
Has flood protection improved over the years?

We have transitioned from Flood Protection to Risk Reduction
As Construction Ends...

What concerns the risk reduction manager?

- H&H
- Boring data
- Vegetation
- Rodents
- Past remediation
- Seepage gradients
- Urban vs Ag

- Soil classification
- Levee Performance
- Encroachments
- Levee O&M
- Access
- Slope Stability
- Etc.

How do these get ranked for best bang for your flood control dollar...
Challenges

• We are never done
• Limited Federal/State/Local funds
  – What are we getting for our money
• Risk Communication
• Technology
• Keeping People Informed/Interested
Thank You