Operation Watershed

Responding to the Historic Mississippi River Flood of 2011

Overview Presentation



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MVD REGIONAL FLOOD RISK MANAGER November 2012





US Army Corps of Engineers BUILDING STRONG®





Presentation Outline

ACT I: MR&T & THE 2011 FLOOD: Facts and Figures

ACT II: OPERATION WATERSHED: Response and Recovery

- 1) Organizational Structure
- 2) Damage Assessments and Documentation
- 3) Data Management
- 4) Post Flood Report
- 5) Repair/Recovery Status

ACT III: RISK COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

- (1) Regional Communication Plan
- (2) Interagency Recovery Task Force
- (3) Flood Preparedness
- (4) Tools and Products



The United States is at Risk!



 Flooding is the costliest natural hazard in the nation

Consequences of Flooding:

- Loss of Life
- Loss of business revenue
- Property damage
- Infrastructure damage
- Environmental damage
- \$\$\$ Recovery

- ✓ Flood events are getting more extreme and frequent
- Need to break cycle of damagerepair-damage-repair
- ✓ Flood Risk Management is a <u>SHARED RESPONSIBILITY</u>!

A NATION AT RISK: Throughout the Nation, both existing and new development are locating in flood prone areas, often behind aging and poorly maintained flood risk management infrastructure. There is limited information available on the extent of current-day and potential future flood risks and a widespread lack of understanding of flood risks by the public and decision makers.

Mississippi River Watershed World's 3rd Largest

lissou

Fattle River

Arkansas

wstone

Drainage basin for 41% of the United States



ACT ONE: MR&T & THE 2011 FLOOD: **Facts and Figures**





Mississippi River & Tributaries Project









- Most comprehensive and Successful FRM system in the world.
- Comprised of Levees, Channel Stabilization, Tributary improvements and Floodways
- 35,000-square-mile flood plain
- \$14 billion invested
- \$612 billion in flood damages prevented
 - 44 to 1 return on investment
- 4.5 million people protected
- MR&T Project Currently 89% Complete



Pine Blut



Alexandria









Legend 1927 Flooded Area

26,000 Square Miles Flooded 500 People Killed 325,000 Refugees



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Mississippi River & Tributaries Project



Project Design Flood



MR&T Levees

Project Flood

12

DB

10

- Backbone of the MR&T
- Extends from Cape Girardeau, MO to Venice, LA.
- Total of 3,787 miles of embankments and floodwalls.
- 2,216 miles are main stem Mississippi River Levees
- 1,571 miles are backwater, tributary, and floodway levees.
- No project levee built to Mississippi River Commission standards has ever failed
- Grade and section of the present levee system dwarfs by comparison those of the levee system overwhelmed during the 1927 flood
- Technological advances in levee design and construction





1882

1928

- Roadway Addition

Floodways and Backwater Areas



Floodways

- (1) Birds Point New Madrid 133,000 acres
- (2) Morganza Floodway 71,500 acres
- (3) Bonnet Carré Spillway 7,600 acres
- (4) West Atchafalaya Floodway 154,000 acres

Backwater Areas

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- (a) St. Francis Backwater Area 500,000 acres
- (b) White River Backwater Area 145,000 acres
- (c) Yazoo Backwater Area 634,000 acres
- (d) Red River Backwater Area 373,000 acres



Birds Point-New Madrid Floodway

- completed in 1933, has been operated in 1937 and 2011
- varies in width from about three to ten miles and has a length of nearly 36 miles
- > 133,000 acres vs 2.5 million acres protected
- > designed to divert 550,000 cfs from MR during PDF.
- fuseplug levees at its upper and lower end require explosives for activation
- > operation of the BP-NM floodway is not about a single town or place

"CRITICAL LESSONS LEARNED AND APPLIED" Room for the River Concept

- 1927 Flood
 - Flooded 26,000 square miles = 16,800,000 acres
 - Levees only policy No floodways or backwater areas
- 2011 Flood
 - Flooded 9,900 square miles = 6,350,000 acres
 - Flooded 38% of area flooded by 1927 Flood
 - MR&T project includes levees and floodways and backwater areas to Make Room for the River
- Floodways and Backwater Areas
 - Total acreage of floodways = 366,000 acres
 - Total used during 2011 Flood = 212,000 acres
 - Total acreage of backwater areas = 1,652,000 acres
 - Total used during 2011 Flood = 335,000 acres (interior flooding)
 - Over 1.5 million acres of floodways and backwater areas were not inundated during the 2011 Flood
 - While the 2011 Flood is not as large as the Project Design Flood, there is still Room for Larger Floods

MR&T and 2011 Flood - Key Messages

- MR&T System performed as designed with not a single life lost or acre of land flooded that was not intended
- Many of our flood control and navigation systems remain in a state of vulnerability and risk due to damages incurred in 2011 historic flooding
- Recovery efforts in full swing due to \$1.724B funding from Disaster Appropriations Act. Current plan is to have all repairs done by 2014.
- Will require extra vigilance and advance preparedness to ensure the safety and security of our citizens, infrastructure and industry
- System-wide performance assessments reveal lessons-learned to be applied in preparation for and system reliability in future flood events.



"Profiling Epic Flood Events"



ACT TWO: **OPERATION WATERSHED: Response and Recovery**





Operation Watershed Responding to the Historic Mississippi River Flood of 2011 RESPONSE OVERVIEW





Operation Watershed *Current Operations (0-24hrs)*

- Purpose: to provide real-time tracking of ongoing floodfight and latest weather and river forecasts for command decisions
- How: Emergency Operations Center active 24-hr/d and 7d/wk with Command Briefings every 12 hrs.
- Example format for command briefings:
 - Weather conditions and forecasts
 - Deployment of Flood Fight Forces and Resources
 - Water Control Current and Projected River Stages and Flows
 - District Commander Briefings
 - Future Operations
 - Recovery Operations
 - FEMA Briefing
 - USGS Briefing
 - USCG Briefing
 - Media and Social Network Briefing
 - Safety and Security Briefings



Operation Watershed Future Operations (24+ hrs)

- Purpose: Tactically and Strategically evaluate issues, challenges, decisions, contingencies and conditions likely to occur in next 24+ hours.
- How: Extensive internal and external coordination, communication and collaboration. Development of Tactical and Strategic condition based alternatives.
- Examples of some of the Future Ops activities:
 - Contingency plans, inventories, contract capabilities, equipment, supplies, and vendors in the case of a breach.
 - ERDC levee breach plugs staging for emergency deployment
 - Levee breach scenarios and updated inundation maps reflecting the most recent crest projections
 - Organizing Public meetings well in advance of crest
 - Interagency Coordination with USEPA, States, USGS and USCG



Operation Watershed Recovery Operations

- Purpose: Secure necessary interagency support and resources needed to efficiently and effectively restore functionality and levels of protection for damaged FRM systems, assess and document system performance, and implement mitigation measures & system improvements.
- How: Internal and External Collaboration and synchronization to ensure structured and timely damage assessment, design and construction.

Examples of some of the Recovery Ops activities:

- Damage Assessments Documentation
- Interim vs Permanent Repairs
- Replacement, rehabilitation or repair plans
- NEPA requirements
- Scope, schedule and budget
- Risk assessments, preparedness and prioritization
- National and Regional synchronization and sequencing
- Interagency collaboration and communication
- Post Flood System Performance Evaluation



The MVD 2011 Flood "War Room"



Operation Watershed - Recovery

Responding to the Historic Mississippi River Flood of 2011





Operation Watershed Responding to the Historic Mississippi River Flood of 2011 DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS

Damage Assessment Reports: (1) Physical data collection (2) Historic perspective analysis (3) Repair options (4) District QA review (5) ROM Repair Cost



Risk Information Paper

POC's

- Overview
- Damages
- Consequences
- Considerations
- Prelim Schedule

Information Paper

No. 16 Francis Sand Boil (Rosedale)

OPERATION WATERSHED RECOVERY – PHASE I CRITICAL SITES

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OVERVIEW

OW-R PRIORITY: 16 of 93 DISTRICT: Vicksburg District TYPE: Levee Damage – Boil and Seepage RM: 615.5L (STA. 151+00) FRAGO CLASS: 2 - Significant Potential for Loss of Life and Significant Economic Damage RISK: 67,180 residents, \$2.8B infrastructure REPAIR: Eleven 8" relief Wells REPAIR COST: \$474,000

Damage Assessment

US Army Corps

of Engineers Vicksburg District

A large, high energy sand boil was identified moving significant quantities of silt and fine sand material at the toe of a 200 foot seepage berm. The boil was bagged by the Levee Board with prison labor for initial containment and subsequently the sandbag ring was encircled by a larger earthen berm constructed by Corps hired labor forces. A filter of sand and stone was constructed over the boil throat to filter fines and dissipate energy. The stabilization of the boil took 4 days of 24 hr/day effort. Flow from the boil was estimated at approximately 300gals/min. This boil appeared to have the potential to result in backward erosion and piping that could eventually lead to loss of berm and levee foundation material. Two additional sand boils were identified approximately 100 - 150 feet from the berm toe. These boils were classified as moderate energy levels and moved approximately 5-7 cubic yards of material. These boils were also bagged by the local prisoners. Heavy seepage and numerous pin boils were noted and monitored along the slope and toe of the berm upstream and downstream of these boils for a reach of approximately 2,000 feet.

Risk and Consequence

If the East Bank Mississippi River Levee System were to fail at the Francis site, the population at risk would be 67,180. The value of the non-residential structures is \$561,855,000, and the value of the 22,599 residential structures is \$2,261,510,000. 25



Figure 1: Francis Initial Sandbag Ring

Critical Repairs

Remediation, for at least a 500 ft reach of this area, is recommended prior to the next high water season. The preliminary repair recommendation for this site includes eleven 8 inch diameter relief wells, 100 ft deep, 50 ft spacing, located at the existing berm toe. The estimated cost of this repair is \$474,113.

Special Considerations

The Francis site, is covered under the 1998 MRL SEIS. (Work item 616-L). The current US Fish & Wildlife Service letter, concerning T&E species on this site, will need to be updated before further construction can proceed. 404 water quality permits, and mitigation for impacted areas have been completed for this project area. Cultural resources surveys have not been completed for item 616-L. In the event that the project design is not the consistent with the above SEIS, an EA will be completed. This segment of EBMRL has recently been certified, but if left unrepaired, the sandboil site at Francis could decertify this portion of levee. Based on preliminary estimates for the recommended repair, all of the ROW that will be required to install the relief wells is already owned by the Board of Mississippi Levee Commissioners

Schedule

Final Design completed - 30 May 2012 RTA - 31 May 2012 Contract Award - 31 Aug 2012

Acquisition Strategy Work will be combined with another similar MRL projects (Winterville).

2011 FLOOD DAMAGE RISK MATRIX

			CRIT	ICAL REP	AIRS
poo	High	Class IIIb	Class II	Class II	Class I
kelih	Moderate	Class IV	Class IIIa	Class II	Class II
Ire Li	Low	Class IV	Class Illa	Class Illa	Class II
Failu	Remote	Class IV	Class IV	Class IV	Class IIIb
		Level 0	Level 1 Consequer	Level 2 1ces	Level 3
		NON-CRIT	ICAL REP	AIRS	

MVD 2011 MISS RIVER BASIN FLOOD DAMAGE REPAIR REQUIREMENTS TOTAL ≈ 1.585 B As of 1 Mar 2012

Ire Likelinood	High Moderate Low	NON- CRITICAL REPAIRS	CR/7 143 Proje	<i>TICAL REP</i> cts ≈ \$1.04	AIRS 2 billion
Fall	Remote	262 Proj	ects ≈ \$54	3.2 millior	י ו
		Level 0	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
			Conseque	lices	.
			27	BI	

Mississippi Valley Division Requirements for 2011 MR Basin Flood Recovery

As of 1 Mar 2012

Di	strict Impacts	<u>Critical</u>	Non-Critical	<u>Total</u>
	St. Paul	\$ 12.2 M	\$ 0.7 M	\$ 12.9 M
\triangleright	Rock Island	\$ 1.1 M	\$ 0.8 M	\$ 1.9 M
	St. Louis	\$ 10.9 M	\$ 6.9 M	\$ 17.8 M
	Memphis	\$ 283.8 M	\$ 111.8 M	\$ 395.6 M
	Vicksburg	\$ 125.4 M	\$ 264.5 M	\$ 389.9 M
	New Orleans	\$ 608.5 M	\$ 158.7 M	\$ 767.2 M
	MVD Totals	\$ 1.042 B	\$ 543.4 M	\$ 1.585 B

Authorized Nationwide Supplemental Funding (\$1.724 B):

- Public Law 84-99 = \$388M
- Mississippi River & Tributaries = \$802M
- Operations & Maintenance = \$534M



MVD DATA MANAGEMENT TEAM *Key Accomplishments*

	Location	Data Format	Storage	Associated System	Availability	District (Housed)	POC Organization	Digital Preservation
After Action Teport	Unspecified	Word	Dktrict Server	Project/Mar	Etvision Wide	MUN	CEM/N-ED-E	
Android Phone Data	Unspecified	KM2	EROC Server	MCA	Distance Wide	ERDC	CEMVIN-EM	
Archaeslogical Mapping Data	Birds Point	TIF/IFF/Shape	District Server	Unspecified	tocal	MIS	CEMVM-PM-E	Brendan M. Daniels
Bathymetric Data	Vicksburg	Not Available	Not Available	Unspecified	ERDC	EADC	CEERD-HI-FM	
Correspondence, Damage to System	Unspecified	Email with JPG & POF Attachments	Datrict Server	Project/like/ Outlook	Ekolsise Wide	Myn	CEMVIN ED E	Knowledge Manager St. Louis District
Damage Assessment Photographs	MVR	JPG	District Server	Barris Malar	84.101 × 140.41	144.14	COMPANY ON A	Date of Presentation
Devations, Water Surface	Yacoo Backwater Levee	ASCI	ERDC Server				Here	
Facebook Updates	Birch Point	Facebook	internet				USACT	
Gate Change Letters	Bonnet Carre	Ward	Datrict Server					
Hot Saot Tracker	M/K	POF	Datekt Server					
					D	igita I	al Preservati Handbook	on the second
						An	At-Your-Desk Guide	Construction of the second sec

Dr. Michael "Sorrry" Trimble Director, CX CMAC (114) 111, 2446 • Made extensive contacts throughout MVD with managers and SMEs.

•Produced a catalog of metadata that describes flood data from the Spring 2011 flood. Includes POC information.

•Produced a Digital Preservation Handbook and accompanying training module which was used to inform key employees of digital data best practices.

 Delivered first-of-its-kind data assessment and review data for the MR&T Post Flood Report.

•Delivered recommendations to improve data storage and sharing in MR&T Post Flood Report.



Data Management - Next Steps



MR&T Post-Flood Report

Addresses primary questions:

- How did the MR&T perform?
- o How could the MR&T perform now?
- o What does the MR&T need to perform in the future?



Mississippi River and

Final Products (Oct-Nov 2012)

- Main report provides narrative characterization and recommendations for the future operation, studies, performance and recovery of MR&T
- Appendices provide extensive datasets and support documentation that will be useful to current and future MR&T operators and managers
- o Extensive regional database of Post Flood Data will be archived
- Summary report will be glossy 30-50 pg executive overview



OW-R Flood Damage Repair Plan

IMPLEMENTATION AND ACQUISITION STRATEGY

- Maximize System Risk Reduction by Next Flood Season
- Substantially Complete all Remaining Items Prior to 2014 Flood Season
- MVD currently funded for roughly \$1.2B in construction repairs
- Activities associated with ongoing design, coordination and construction Plans and Specifications, Contract Documentation, Advertisement & Awards, Real Estate (LERRDs), Environmental Assessments, Tracking and Communication



Mississippi River Levees



Mississippi River Levees



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CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT





STRUCTURES

Morganza stilling basin (3 Aug 2011)



Morganza lower guide levee (15 Jul 2011)



Morganza lower guide levee (16 Aug 2011)







DREDGING



2011 Record Flood





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ACT THREE: RISK COMMUNICATION STRATEGY



Regional Communication Plan Operation Watershed Recovery/RFRM

The Regional Communication Strategy created a framework and guide for both the internal and external transfer of OW-R Flood Repair Plan information via CorpsMap, fact sheets, talking points, presentations, press releases, social media, and website. It will also highlight some of the key participants and groups with whom regular communication is required (e.g. stakeholders, levee districts, congressional, Interagency Recovery Task Force (IRTF), State emergency managers...etc). It is important that this shared responsibility be well coordinated and controlled to ensure our communications are responsive, purposeful, and consistent



NTERAGENCY RECOVERY TASK FORCE

























INTERAGENCY RECOVERY TASK FORCE

A multi-agency forum did not exist to solve the many

Provide Safety and Security for Citizens Lives and

Create strong regional effort to inspect, review, reset

regional issues and challenges presented in the

recovery from this historic flood event.

Livelihoods

- NEATHER OF REAL
- Pursue all potential funding methods from federal and state sources.
- Give consideration to traditional and non-traditional alternatives in repair and restoration.

and restore our flood risk management system

 Implement a collaborative and communicative approach across regional and state boundaries to prioritize our efforts and resources during the challenging recovery process





science for a changing

US Army Corps of Engineers®



IRTF ANNUAL REPORT

2011-12

Interagency Recovery Task Force: **Annual Report**



- Purpose
 - Meeting Summaries
- Products
- Lessons Learned
- Next Steps





NOAA













MVD 2012 Flood Season Preparedness



Key Questions:

- How do the 2011 flood damages increase risk?
- Which damaged sites are the most concern?
- What are the potential consequences?
- What is the plan for repairing damages?
- What do we do in the interim?
- How do we best communicate the risks?



Key Products:

- Regional and Local Flood Risk Workshops and Training exercises
- Inundation maps, Risk Mgmt Papers, Interagency Collaboration
- Regional Communication Plan, Website
- Synopsis Report



MVD RFRM WEBSITE

11011



- Public documents & presentations
- ✓ Key Messages
- Operation Watershed Recovery Components
- Public, Partner and Stakeholder Accessibility



US Army Corps of Engineers

Mississippi Valley Division

http://www.mvd.usace.army.mil



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CORPSMAP

- ✓ External Web based site locator
- Pop-up window provides general overview of site specific flood damages and status of recovery.
- Provides access to project information papers as well as risk management and construction fact sheets
- Describes interim risk management measures



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http://www.mvd.usace.army.mil/

INUNDATION MAPS

Post Flood Report – Communication Team

- ► AARs, public meetings, and personal interviews
- What did and didn't happen to communicate the flood event before, during and after the event.
- Our partners want MAPS!



Example of Breach Inundation Maps Greenville, MS

- Communication
- Contingency Plans
- Evacuations
- Consequences
- Life/Safety Risks
- Infrastructure



SOCIAL MEDIA

Use of social media: Facebook, Youtube, Twitter

- Over 10,000 Facebook "friends" in three week period
- Immediate responses to questions, press releases, links to other pages



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Operation Watershed

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