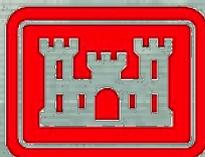


# ***Evolving USACE Levee Safety Policies Towards a National Levee Safety Program***

**Presentation for the Flood Risk Management Workshop  
December 2015**

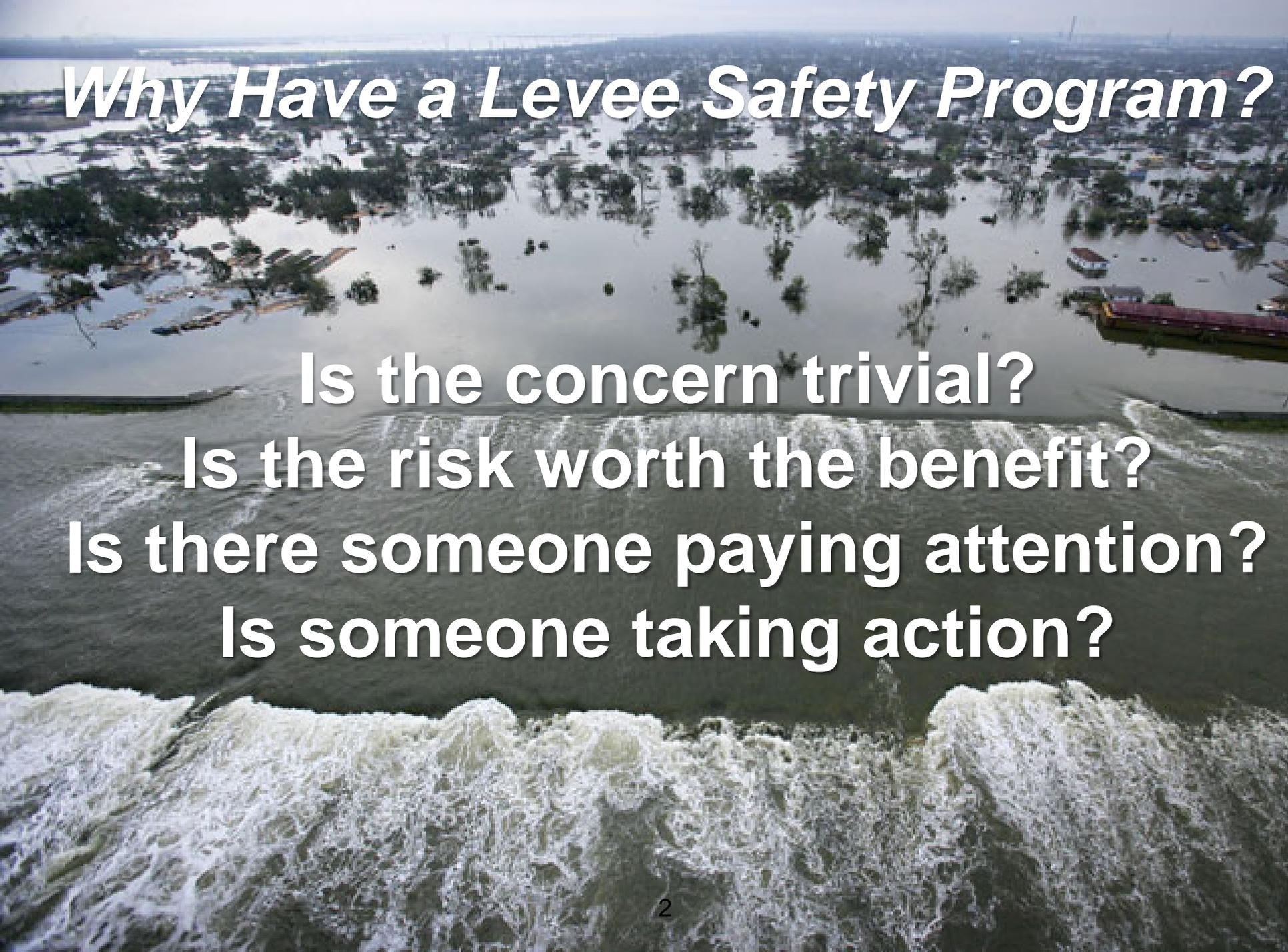
**Eric Halpin, PE**  
Acting Administrator,  
National Levee Safety Program



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**



# *Why Have a Levee Safety Program?*

An aerial photograph showing a city completely inundated with floodwater. In the foreground, a large dam with multiple spillways is visible, with turbulent white water cascading over its crest. The background shows a dense urban area with buildings and trees, all submerged in a greyish-brown floodwater. The sky is overcast and grey.

**Is the concern trivial?**

**Is the risk worth the benefit?**

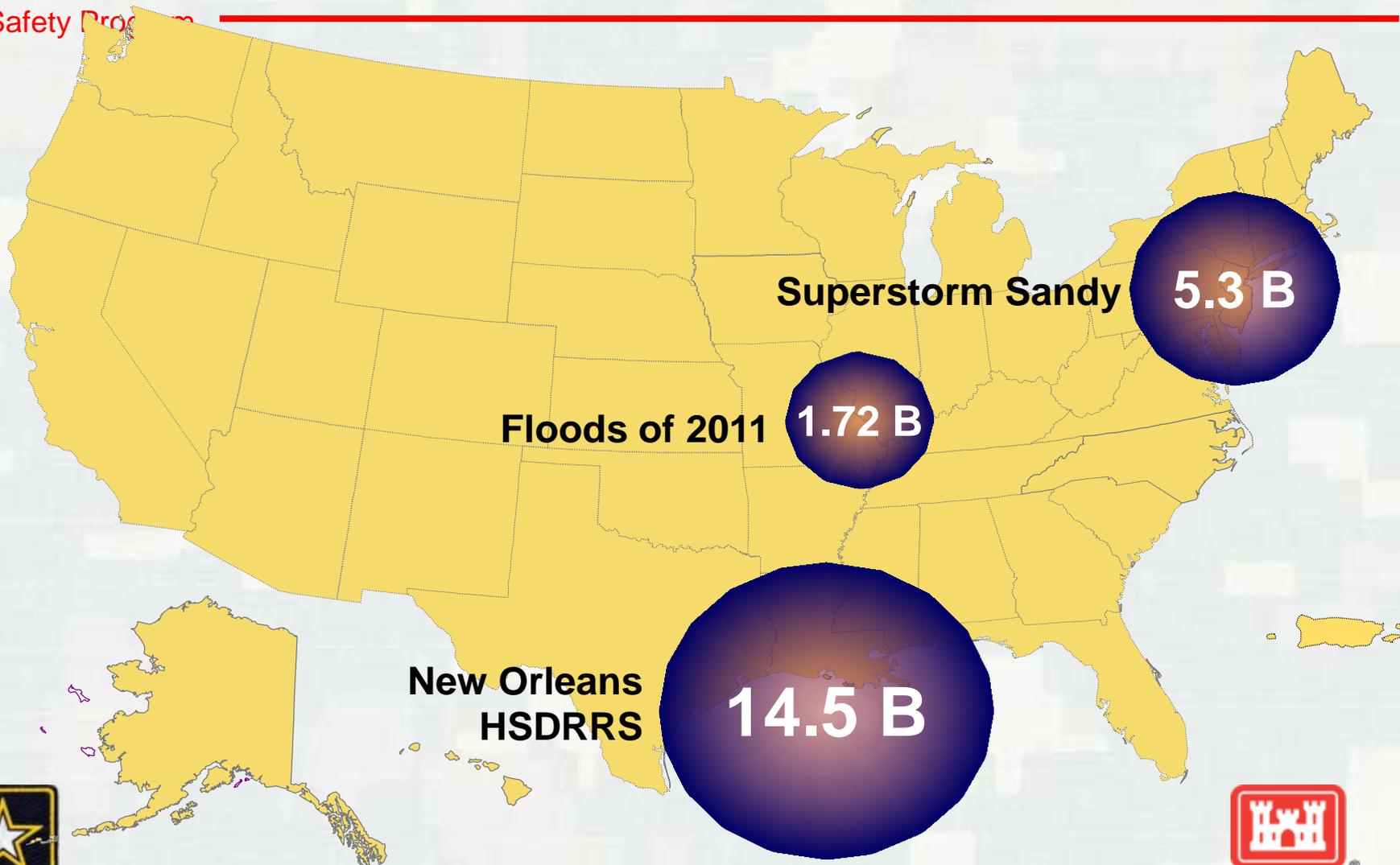
**Is there someone paying attention?**

**Is someone taking action?**

# Major Supplemental Appropriations

*(Post-event expenditures, not included in Presidents' budgets)*

Levee Safety Program



**BUILDING STRONG®**

An aerial photograph showing a flooded area. In the center, there is a large, irregularly shaped body of water that has inundated a green field, likely a golf course. The surrounding area is densely populated with green trees. The water reflects the sky and the surrounding vegetation. The overall scene depicts the aftermath of a natural disaster, such as a hurricane or heavy flooding.

## **Economic Premise of the Levee Safety:**

***Extract the Nation from a Disaster Relief Environment where it is okay to invest \$22B after events have occurred but not before.***

*Evolving Levee Safety Policies and a  
National Levee Safety Program*

# **MATURING TOWARDS A NATIONAL LEVEE SAFETY PROGRAM**



# National Objectives

Levee Safety Program



## Build Levee Safety Capacity in States/Tribes

- Levee Rehab, Grants, & Technical Assistance
- Levee Review, Guidelines, & Liability Report



## Align the Federal Family toward Levee Safety

- Report on Federal Alignment
- National Joint Dam/ Levee Programs Study
- Incentives Design



## Build Risk Awareness and Education

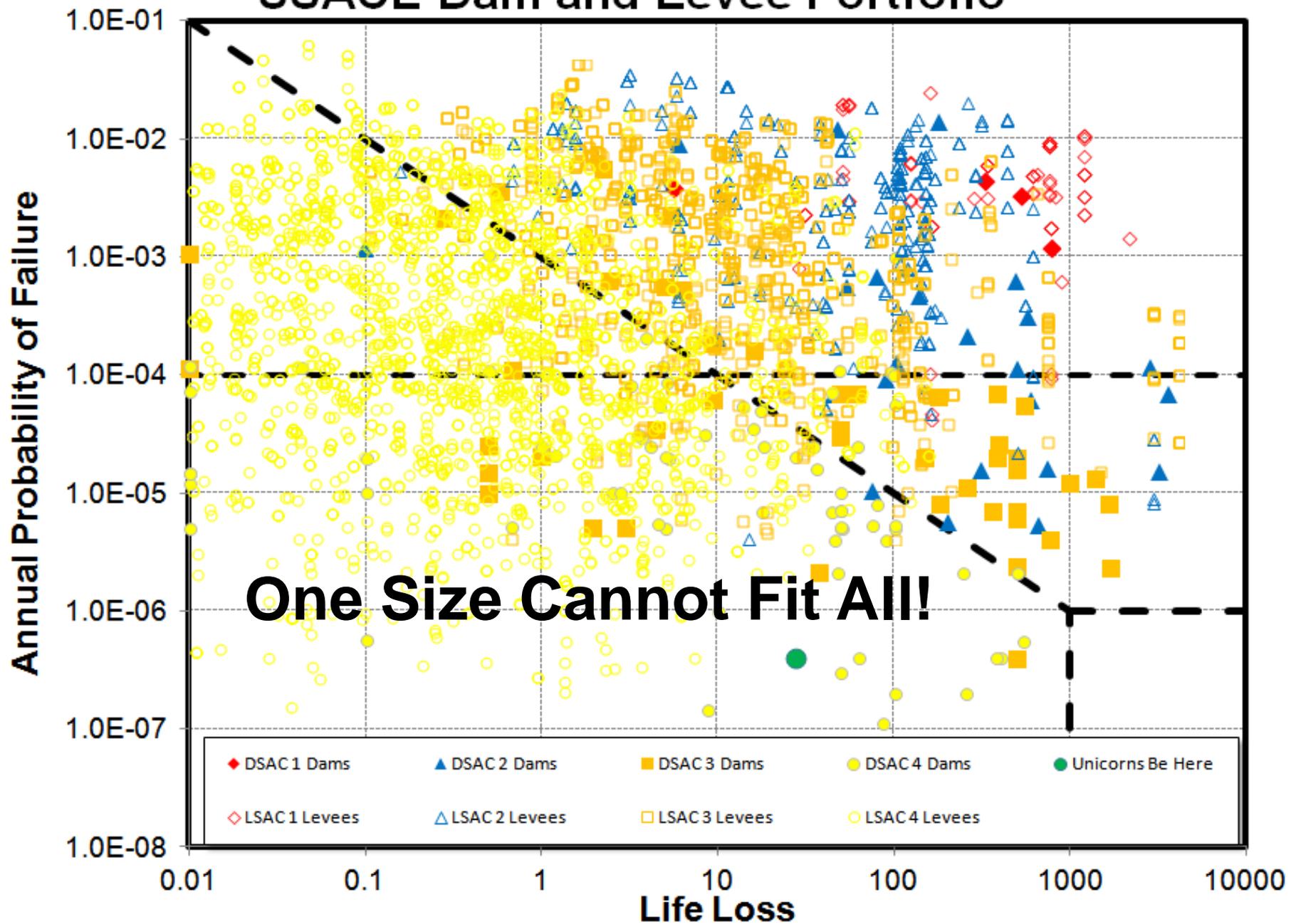
- Education & Awareness Guidance
- Reports to Congress, National Committee on Levee Safety, & Stakeholder Plan



*Ensure that human lives and property that are protected by new and existing levees are safe*



# USACE Dam and Levee Portfolio



***Encourage the use of appropriate engineering policies, procedures, and technical practices...***

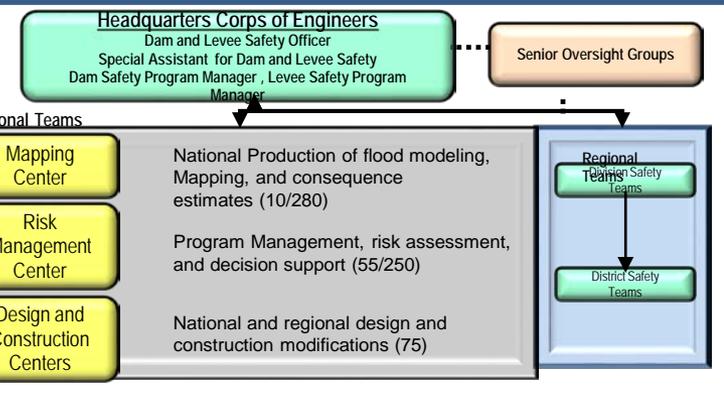
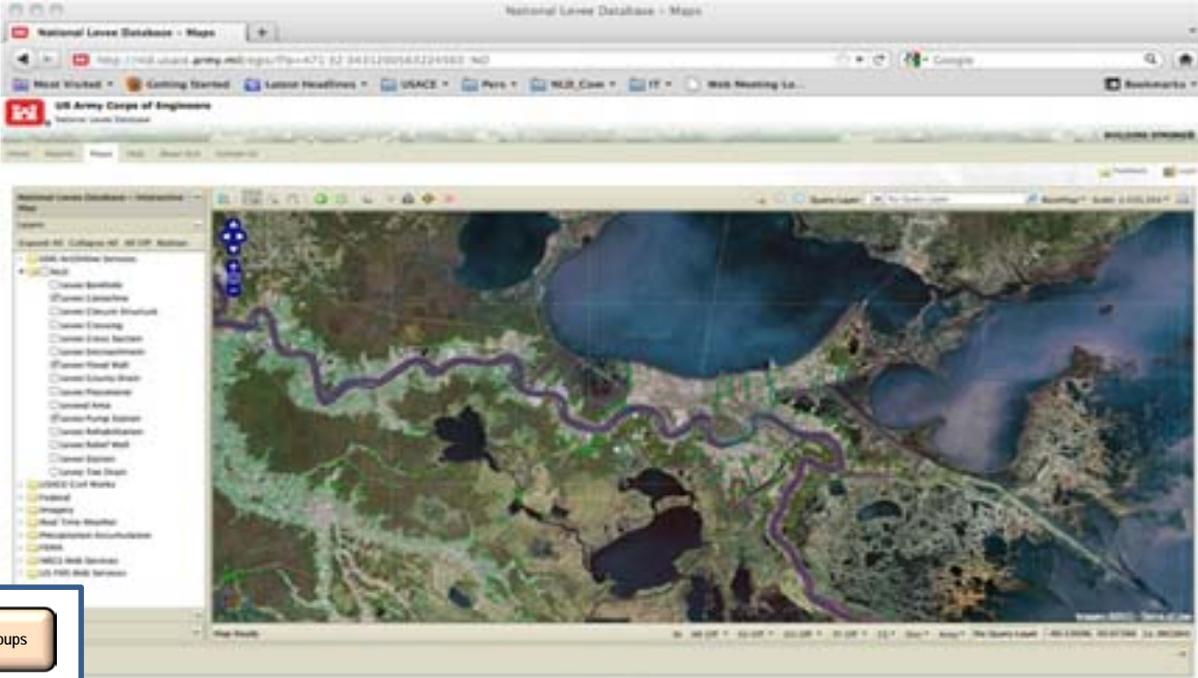


US Army Corps of Engineers

ENGINEERING AND DESIGN

# LEVEE SAFETY PROGRAM - POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Draft - USACE Only



## EM 1913 Levee Design Manual

Sec. 3. Effective date.

DIVISION A—FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS AND HIGHWAY SAFETY  
CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

TITLE I—FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

Subtitle A—Authorizations and Programs

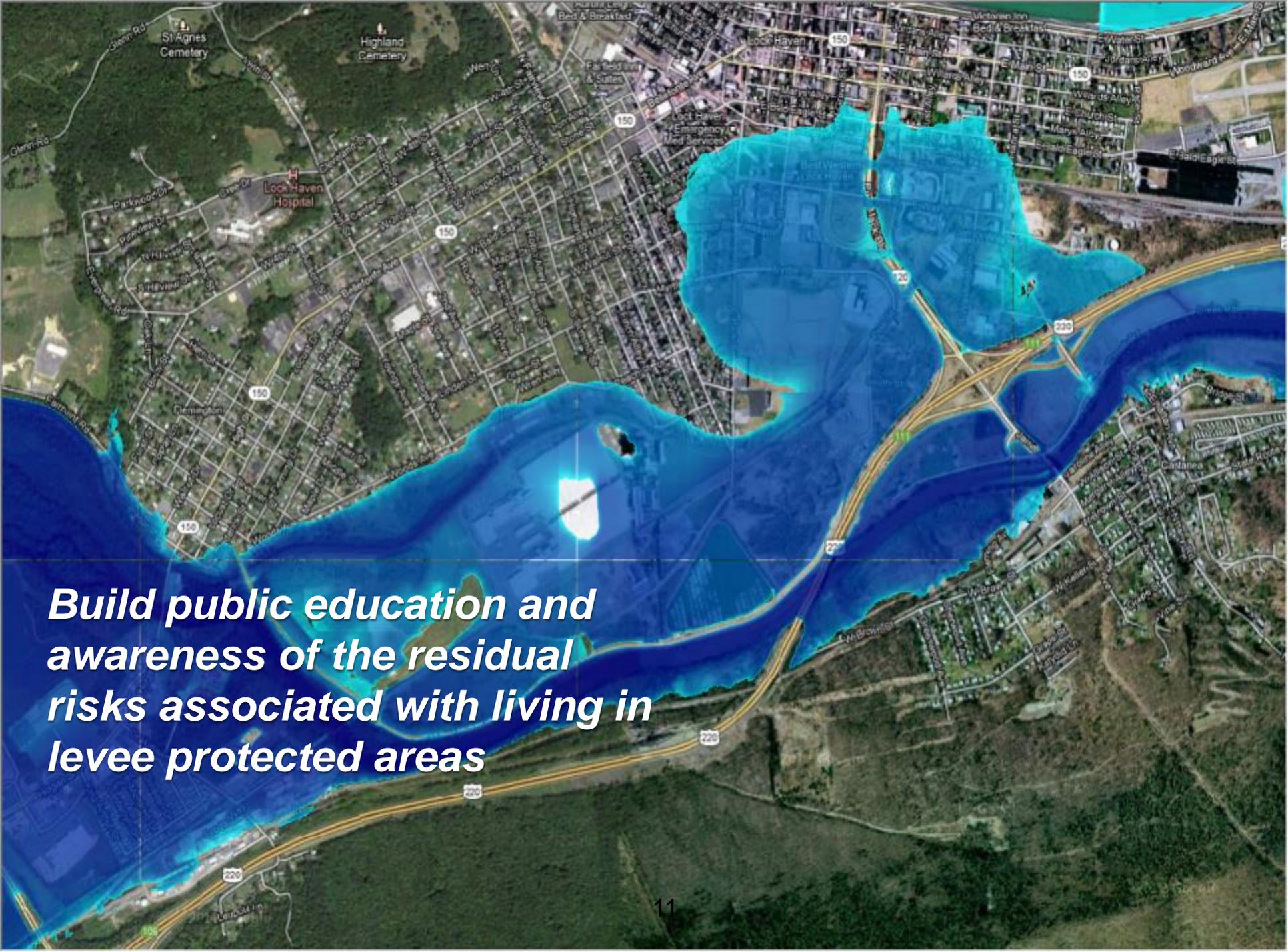
- Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 102. Obligation ceiling.
- Sec. 103. Definitions.
- Sec. 104. National Highway System.
- Sec. 105. Appropriation.
- Sec. 106. National highway performance program.
- Sec. 107. Emergency relief.
- Sec. 108. Surface transportation program.
- Sec. 109. Workforce development.
- Sec. 110. Highway use and system program.
- Sec. 111. National bridge and tunnel inventory and inspection standards.
- Sec. 112. Highway safety improvement program.
- Sec. 113. Competition and quality and air quality improvement program.
- Sec. 114. Territorial and Puerto Rico highway program.
- Sec. 115. National freight policy.
- Sec. 116. Draft/blanket of permits to improve freight movement.
- Sec. 117. State freight advisory committees.

## PGL Engaging Sponsors and Communicating Risks



**A GUIDE TO  
PUBLIC ALERTS  
AND WARNINGS  
FOR DAM  
AND LEVEE  
EMERGENCIES**

## MAP21 Task Force Using Risk to Answer NFIP Determinations



***Build public education and awareness of the residual risks associated with living in levee protected areas***

# Policy: PGL on Communication

## Levee Safety Program

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- Improve public sponsor engagement in and knowledge of USACE levee safety activities
- Develop increased understanding of benefits and risks of levee systems
- Promote actions to manage risks
- Build foundation for shared responsibilities of solutions





***Develop technical assistance materials, seminars, and guidelines to improve the security of levees of the United States***

# Policy: Evaluations for the National Flood Insurance Program

## Levee Safety Program

From the MAP 21 Task Force: “better align information and data collected” with NFIP levee accreditation so that:

- 1 - Data can be used interchangeably.
- 2 - Information is sufficient for accreditation.

USACE Updating EC 6067 Guidance to Show Risk Analysis as means to Answer Certification Questions

H. R. 4348

One Hundred Twelfth Congress  
of the  
United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Began and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday,  
the third day of January, two thousand and twelve

An Act

To authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; ORGANIZATION OF ACT INTO DIVISIONS; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act” or the “MAP-21”.

(b) DIVISIONS.—This Act is organized into 8 divisions as follows:

- (1) Division A—Federal-aid Highways and Highway Safety Construction Programs.
- (2) Division B—Public Transportation.
- (3) Division C—Transportation Safety and Surface Transportation Policy.
- (4) Division D—Finance.
- (5) Division E—Research and Education.
- (6) Division F—Miscellaneous.
- (7) Division G—Surface Transportation Extension.
- (8) Division H—Budgetary Effects.

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; organization of Act into divisions; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. Effective date.

DIVISION A—FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS AND HIGHWAY SAFETY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

TITLE I—FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

Subtitle A—Authorizations and Programs

- Sec. 1001. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 1002. Obligation ceiling.
- Sec. 1003. Definitions.
- Sec. 1004. National Highway System.
- Sec. 1005. Apportionment.
- Sec. 1006. National highway performance program.
- Sec. 1007. Emergency relief.
- Sec. 1008. Surface transportation program.
- Sec. 1009. Workforce development program.
- Sec. 1010. Highway use and congestion program.
- Sec. 1011. National bridge and tunnel inventory and inspection standards.
- Sec. 1012. Highway safety improvement program.
- Sec. 1013. Competition and quality and air quality improvement program.
- Sec. 1014. Territorial and Puerto Rico highway program.
- Sec. 1015. National freight policy.
- Sec. 1016. Prioritization of projects to improve freight movement.
- Sec. 1017. State freight advisory committees.

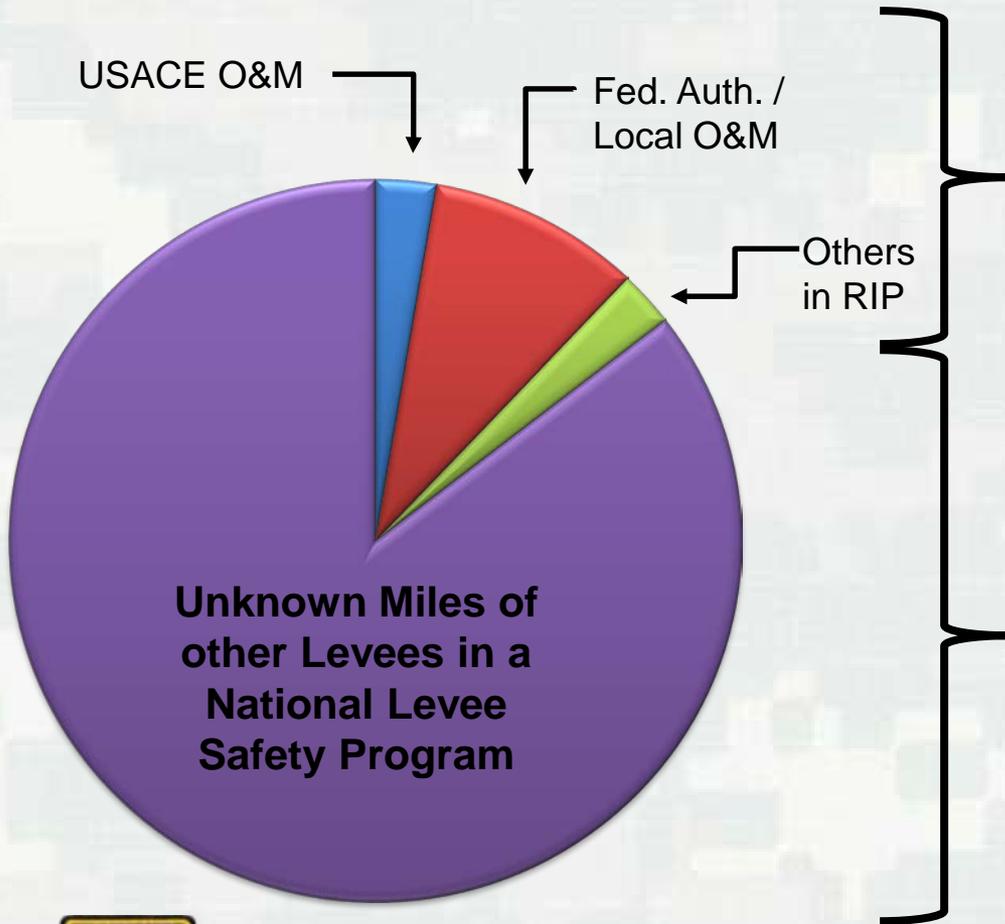


***Encourage the establishment  
of effective State and Tribal  
levee safety programs***



# Building Levee Safety Programs

## Levee Safety Program



**USACE Levee Safety Program:**

- Internal capacity to Assess, Communicate, and Manage Risks
- Done in Collaboration with sponsors and agencies

**National Levee Safety Program:  
(WRRDA 2014, Section 3016)**

- Help build levee safety programs in States and Tribes through incentives
- Align Federal Programs
- Build Risk Education and



# A Brief History of the NLSP

## Levee Safety Program

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- **WRDA 2007** – initiates a National Committee on Levee Safety (NCLS) to advise Congress on best path forward re. federal levee safety efforts
- **NCLS Report to Congress 2009** – provides detailed recommendations for a National Levee Safety Program (NLSP).
- **WRRDA 2014** – authorizes USACE to stand up an NLSP in consultation with FEMA; a revitalized NCLS, made up of state, tribal representatives and public stakeholders, to advise the NLSP.

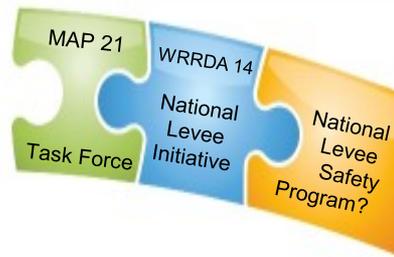


# No Regrets Strategy

## Levee Safety Program



**Building a National Program:**  
- Complementary Authorities and Activities



**Phased, Logical Approach**



- Maximize Existing Investment
  - ▶ Share Existing Risk Knowledge
  - ▶ Build Capacity in Others
- Set up Interim Governance
- Develop Options Through Meaningful National Dialogue
- Pilot Concepts and Tools
- No Commitment of Future Investment While Looking Toward Congressional Appropriation



# Designing a NLSP Program Governance

Levee Safety Program



# National Committee on Levee Safety

Levee Safety Program

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- Primarily non-Federal membership and leadership: “like an embedded independent, external review”

8 State

2 Tribal

2 Regional

2 Private Sector

1 USACE / 1 FEMA (non-voting)

# Polling

- Name someone who you think would be an effective member of a National Committee on Levee Safety
- (answer in wordell)



LSAC 4



LSAC 3



LSAC 2



LSAC 1

