

# ***Sustainability Roundtable 2009***

## ***Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable***

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

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# Civil Works Value to the Nation



**Recreation areas**  
353 M Visitors/yr  
Generate \$18 B in economic activity,  
500,000 jobs

**400 miles of Shore protection**  
Destination for  
75% of U.S. Vacations



**3% of Nation's Electricity: \$800 M + in power sales**



**12,000 miles of Commercial Inland Waterways:**  
1/2 the cost of rail  
1/10 the cost of trucks

**299 Deep Draft Harbors**



**627 Shallow Draft Harbors**

**~11,750 Miles of Levees**



**12 Emergency Responses**



**Stewardship of 11.7 Million Acres Public Lands**



**Environmental Restoration**



**73,000 permits**

- **US Ports & Waterways convey > 2B Tons Commerce**
- **Foreign Trade alone creates > \$160 B Tax Revenues**



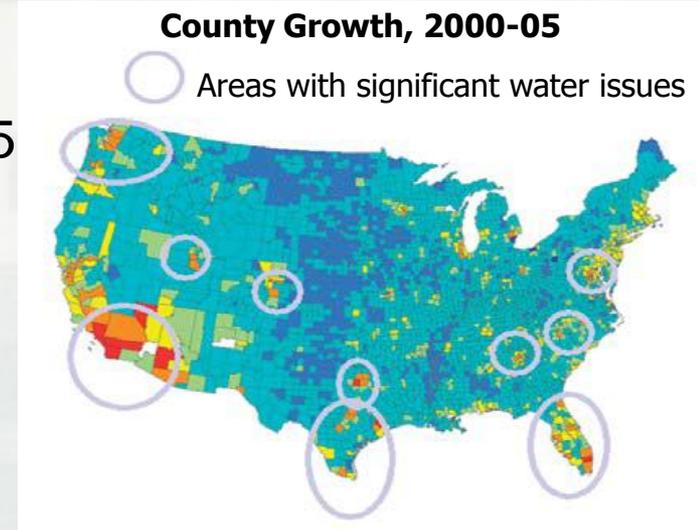
# Water Resources Challenges

## Demographic shifts

- World population to increase 2.2 billion by 2025
- U.S. population to reach 440 million by 2050
- Population more urbanized, concentrated in coastal communities at risk from severe weather and lack of fresh water

## Persistent Conflict

- Population growth leads to increased demand for scarce water, environmental degradation
  - >900 million people without access to clean water, >2.5 billion without adequate sanitation
- Terrorist threat – need to protect infrastructure from attack
- U.S. role to promote regional stability



# Water Resources Challenges

## Aging Infrastructure

- ASCE overall grade of U.S. infrastructure in 2009: **“D”** Would need \$2.2 trillion to fix
- Over half of Corps locks, many other facilities, beyond 50-year “design life, need extensive maintenance & rehabilitation
- Failure poses risk to populations, economy



## Globalization

- Foreign trade is increasing share of U.S. economy – could reach 30% by 2010
- Inability of ports and inland waterways to handle greater cargoes could limit economy.



## Energy

- Development of hydropower as clean source
- Role of waterways in transport of coal, petroleum and natural gas
- Volumes of water needed for new sources



# Water Resources Challenges

## Environmental Values

- Pressure from increased development impacts natural environment
- Developing sustainable water resources will require cultural shift, lifestyle changes as well as technical innovation



## Climate Change

- Earlier spring snowmelts, river pulses seen in western U.S.
- Potential to affect all aspects of water resource management
- May exacerbate water scarcities, lead to increased conflict over uses.



## Declining Biodiversity

- 3 times as many freshwater species as land species lost to extinction
- Need for habitat restoration



# Water Resources Challenges



**Increasing  
Demand for  
Water**



# Water Resources Challenges



## Governance

- Determining proper roles for Federal, State, local and non-government entities
- Gaps in jurisdiction as watersheds cross political boundaries
- Perceived lack of national direction on water resource issues

## Continued Pressure on Federal Budget

- More older people = more entitlement spending, less available for discretionary programs
- Rigorous analysis needed to ensure projects and programs are prioritized to ensure greatest value for taxpayer funds



# New Operating Reality

## Traditional USACE Role



Era of large federal, single-purpose water projects is over.

.....  
Role of USACE as sole decision maker and technical expert for water solutions is changing

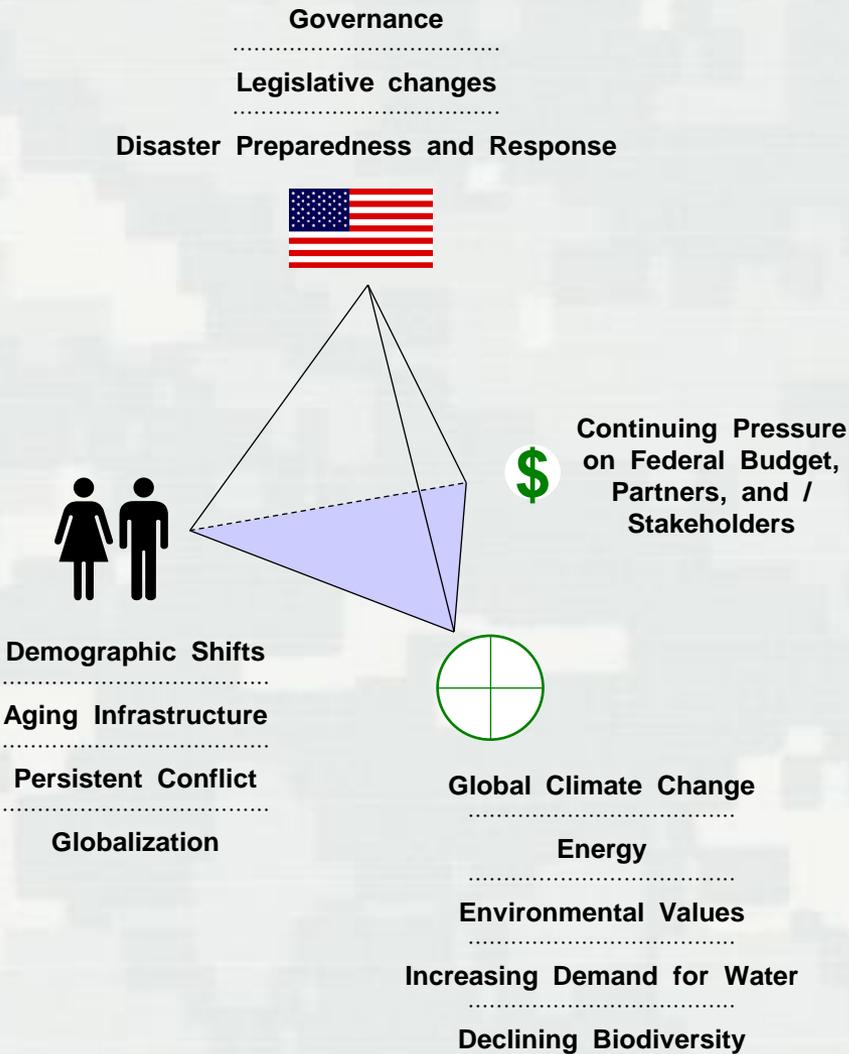
.....  
Water resources community recognizes need for more transparency and engagement in water resources Planning

.....  
There is a need and more desire for collaborative regional planning

## New / Renewed USACE Role



# Goal 2 New Operating Framework



<i>Focus</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
<b>“ Success “</b>	<b>Projects</b>	<b>Comprehensive Plans</b>
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>NED benefits 1st</b>	<b>More balanced NED, RED, EQ, OSE benefits</b>
<b>Work</b>	<b>Stay in your functional lane</b>	<b>Seek horizontal integration</b>
<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Knowledge is power</b>	<b>Share knowledge</b>
<b>Style</b>	<b>Follow SOPs as recipes</b>	<b>Think creatively, consider risks, think systems</b>
<b>Money</b>	<b>Save Federal \$</b>	<b>Leverage resources</b>
<b>Life Cycle</b>	<b>Plan and build</b>	<b>Plan / fund / monitor for full project life cycle</b>



# USACE's Campaign Plan



## Goal 1:

Deliver USACE support to combat, stability and disaster operations through forward deployed and reach back capabilities.

### Objective 1a:

USACE is ready, responsive and reliable in delivering high performance, all-hazard, contingency mission execution in a world-wide theater of operations.

### Objective 1b:

Prepare Theater Engineer Commands (TEC) to support Combatant Cdr's throughout the spectrum of operations.

### Objective 1c:

Establish human resources and family support programs that promote readiness and quality of life.

### Objective 1d:

Institutionalize USACE capabilities in interagency policy and doctrine.



## Goal 2:

Deliver enduring and essential water resource solutions through collaboration with partners and stakeholders.

### Objective 2a:

Deliver integrated, sustainable, water resources solutions.

### Objective 2b:

Implement collaborative approaches to effectively solve water resource problems

### Objective 2c:

Implement Streamlined and Transparent Regulatory Processes to Sustain Aquatic Resources

### Objective 2d:

Enable Gulf Coast Recovery.



## Goal 3:

Deliver innovative, resilient, sustainable solutions to the Armed Forces and the Nation.

### Objective 3a:

Deliver sustainable infrastructure via consistent and effective military construction & real estate support to customers.

### Objective 3b:

Improve resilience and lifecycle investment in critical infrastructure.

### Objective 3c:

Deliver reliable infrastructure using a risk-informed asset management strategy.

### Objective 3d:

Develop and apply innovative approaches to delivering quality infrastructure.



## Goal 4:

Build and cultivate a competent, disciplined, and resilient team equipped to deliver high quality solutions.

### Objective 4a:

Identify, develop, maintain, and strengthen technical competencies in selected Communities of Practice.

### Objective 4b:

Communicate strategically and transparently.

### Objective 4c:

Standardize business processes.

### Objective 4d:

Establish tools and systems to get the right people in the right jobs, then develop and retain this highly skilled workforce.

# Goal 2

## Engineering Sustainable Water Resources Solutions

Deliver essential and enduring water resource solutions through collaboration with partners and stakeholders

Champion

**Steven L. Stockton**

Director of Civil Works, U.S Army Corps of Engineers

Objective **2a**

Deliver integrated, sustainable water resource solutions

Objective **2b**

Implement collaborative approaches to effectively solve water resource problems

Objective **2c**

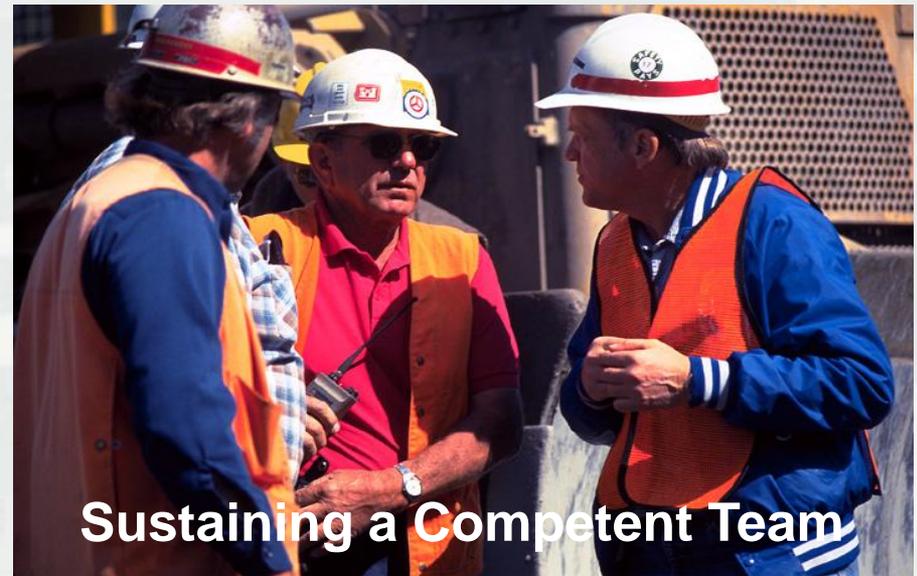
Implement streamlined and transparent regulatory processes to sustain aquatic resources

Objective **2d**

Enable Gulf Coast Recovery



# Our Goals: Delivering Enduring, Essential Water Resources Solutions



# Strategies to Achieve Our Goals



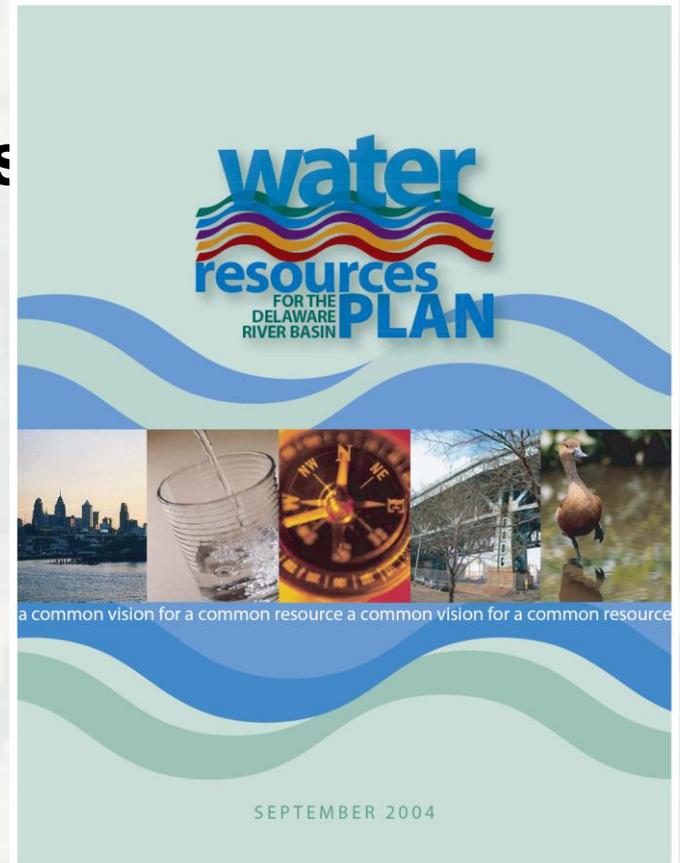
## Integrated Water Resource Management

- **Systems Approach**
- **Collaboration & Partnering**
- **Risk-Informed Decision Making & Communication**
- **Adaptive Management**
- **State-of-the Art Technology**

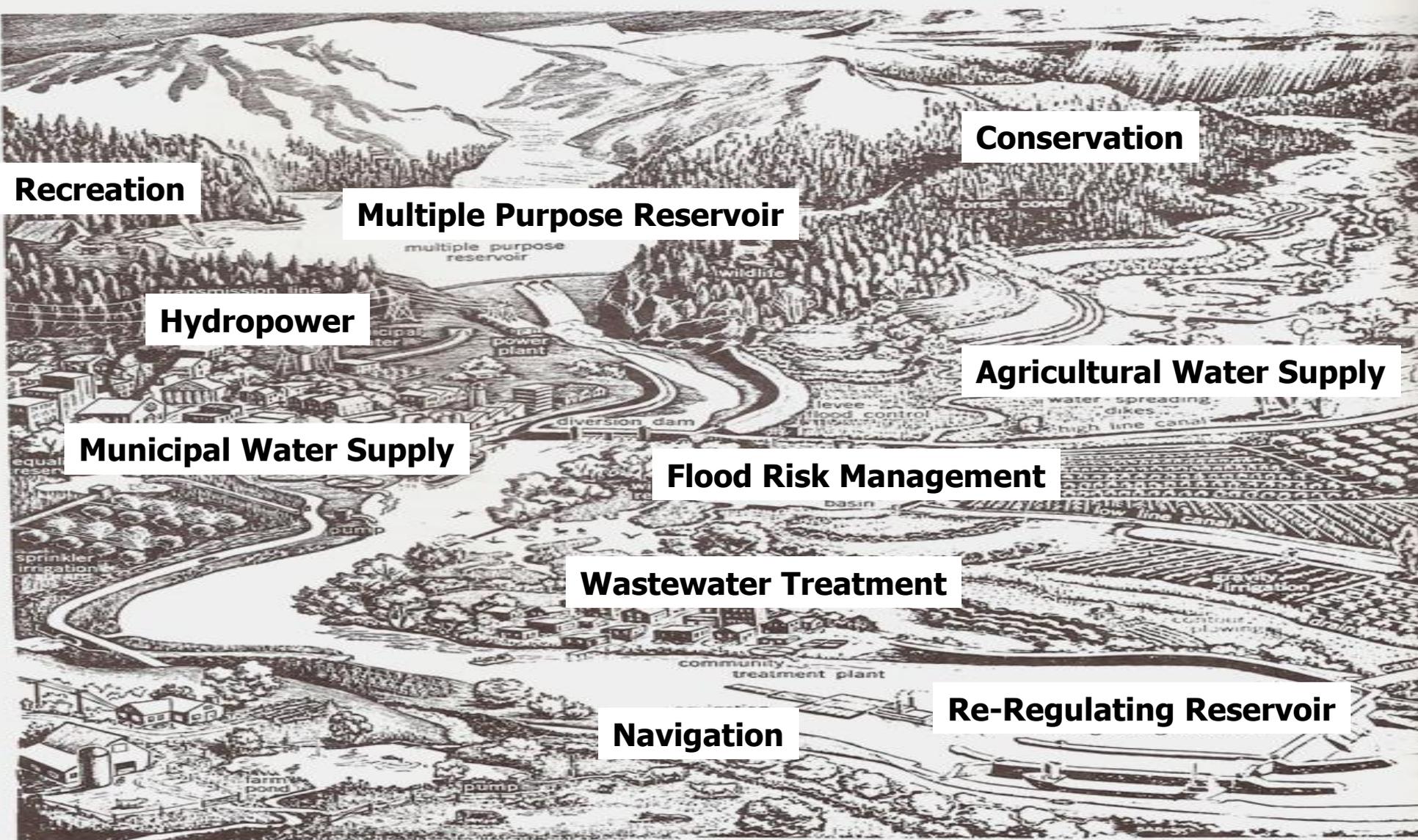


# Systems Approach

- Look at river basins, watersheds and coastal zones as a whole
- Shift focus from individual projects to interdependent system
- Shift from immediate to long-term solutions
- Recognize that any single action triggers one or more responses and reactions in other parts of the system



# Back to the Future



A Multiple-Purpose River Basin Development

***"Finally, I urge the Congress to develop more satisfactory procedures for considering and authorizing basin-wide development programs. We are a long way still, both in the Executive and Legislative Branches, from the kind of comprehensive planning and action that is required if we are to conserve, develop and use our natural resources so that they will be increasingly useful as the years go by. We need to make sure that each legislative authorization and each administrative action, takes us toward -- and not away from -- this goal."***

***Harry S. Truman, 1950***



# Collaboration & Partnering

- **Allow multiple organizations to contribute to problem-solving**
- **Leverage funding, data and talent**
  - **Efficiencies, given scarce resources**
  - **Sophisticated state and interstate organizations**
  - **Tribes, local governments, non-profit organizations**
  - **Public-Private Partnerships**



# Building Strong Relationships for a Sustainable Water Resources Future

- Identify & leverage opportunities for collaborative efforts
- Identify roles and opportunities where roles can be leveraged
- Create a joint national dialogue for water priorities
- Leverage Federal resources to assist states in their water resources planning and management



# Interagency Levee Task Force: Regional Flood Risk Management

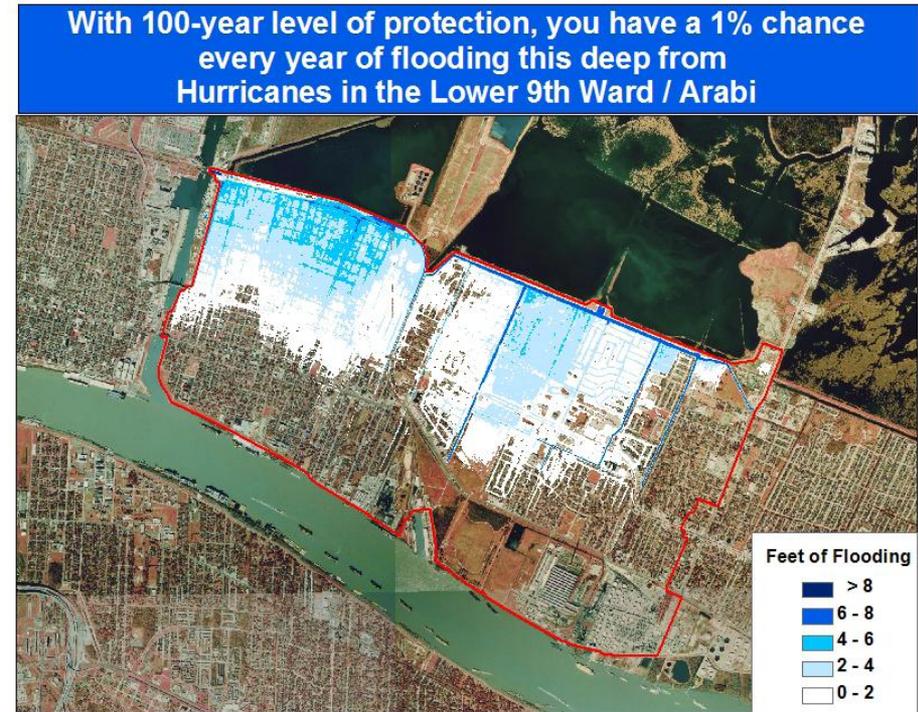
- Identification of regional partners
- Facilitated comprehensive regional approach to flood risk management and recovery
- Establishment of interagency partnerships (Federal / State)
- Explore non-structural solutions and other flood risk management opportunities

***<http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/ILTF/>***



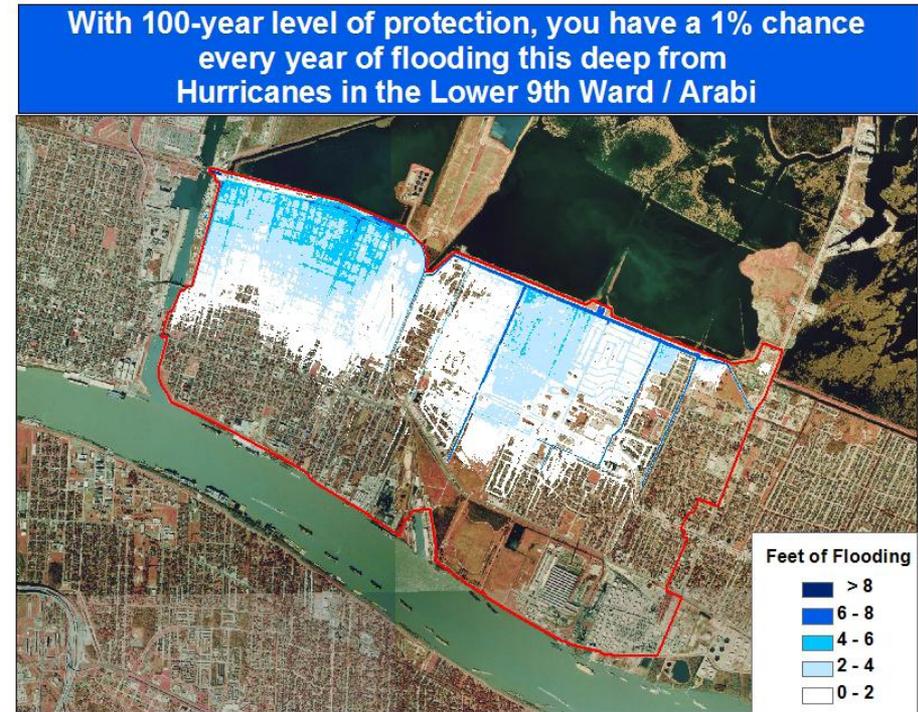
# Risk-Informed Decision Making & Communication

- Consequence analysis, especially risks to populations
- Forestall possible failure mechanisms
- Quantify & communicate residual risk
- Ask which projects will fail to perform as designed, the likelihood of failure, and the consequences
- Recognize limits in disaster prediction
- Recognize limits in protection provided by structural means

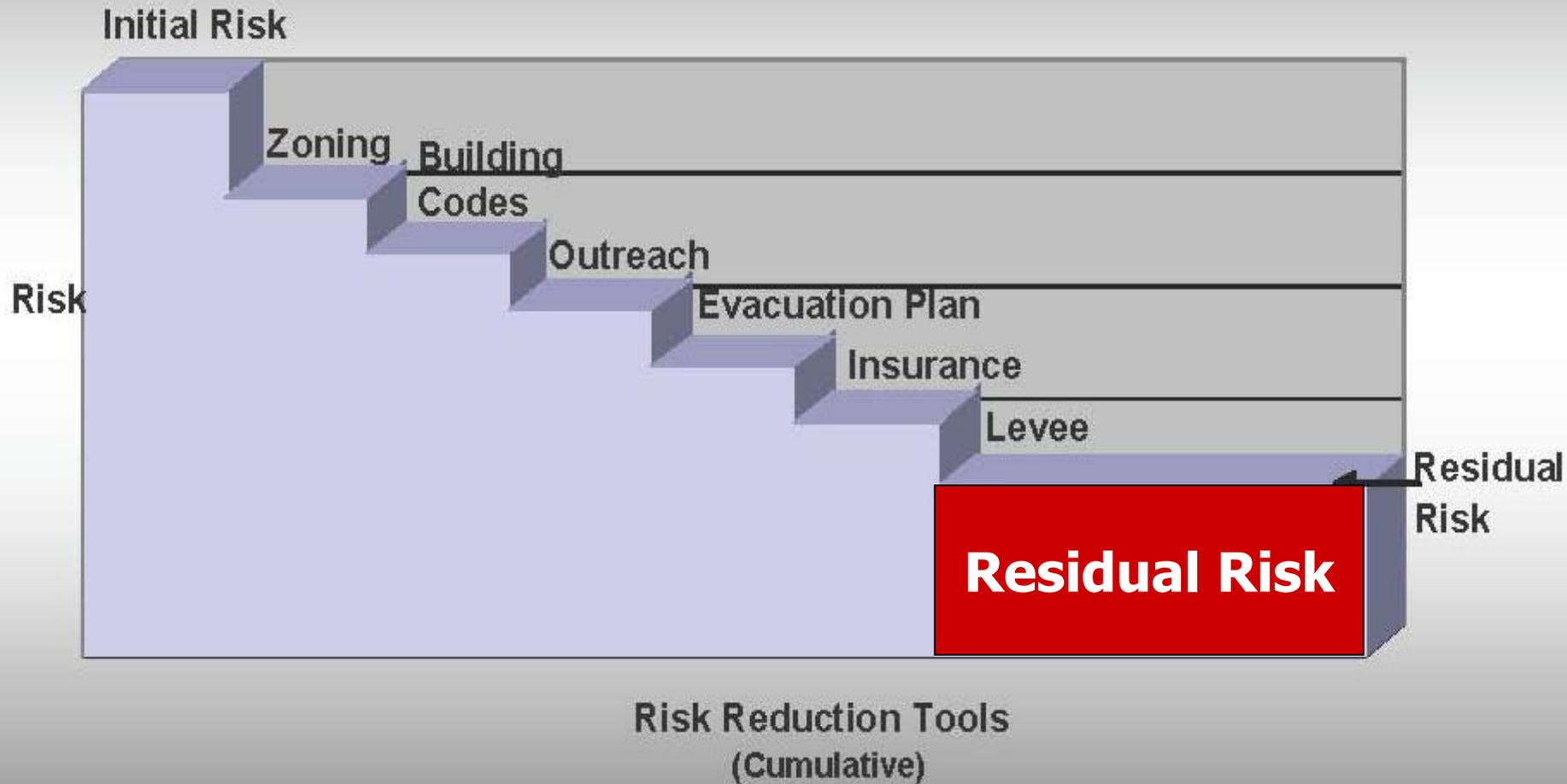


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# Shared Flood Risk Management: Buying Down Risk



All stakeholders contribute to reducing risk!

# Adaptive Management



- Principle commonly used in ecosystem restoration
- Measure responses to interventions within systems to adjust planning, construction and operations in response to changing conditions.



# State-of-the Art Technology

- Research that improves resiliency of structures
- Updated design criteria
- Improved approaches to planning & design
- Take advantage of advances in communication, information access, remote sensing, GIS's & nanotechnology
- Coastal & River Information System





THEODORE ROOSEVELT • CIRCA 1904

THE NATION BEHAVES WELL IF IT TREATS  
THE NATURAL RESOURCES AS ASSETS  
WHICH IT MUST TURN OVER  
TO THE NEXT GENERATION  
INCREASED AND NOT IMPAIRED IN VALUE  
THEODORE ROOSEVELT 1910

# Discussion

