

The background of the slide is a close-up of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes. Overlaid on the right side of the flag is a silhouette of a castle with two prominent towers.

THE EVOLVING CORPS: Flood Control to Flood Risk Management

***Presentation
for the***

RED RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

by

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Agenda

- ✓ **History of Corps flood control mission**
- ✓ **Lessons learned from recent events**
- ✓ **Flood risk management**
- ✓ **Funding issues**
- ✓ **The future Corps**

One Team: Relevant, Ready, Responsive and Reliable



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History

- ✓ **Pre-1900's: flooding is a local concern**
- ✓ **1927 Mississippi River flood**
- ✓ **1936 Flood Control Act:**
 - ✓ **Flood control is a proper Federal activity**
 - ✓ **Objective is to reduce economic damages**

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History



1944: Baldhill Dam, Sheyenne River



1948: Orwell Dam, Otter Tail River

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History

- ✓ 1968: National Flood Insurance Program
- ✓ 1986: Water Resources Development Act
 - ✓ **Increased non-federal cost-sharing**
- ✓ General trend: more demands for fewer dollars
 - ✓ **Performance-based budgeting**

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Catastrophe!



1997 Grand Forks & East Grand Forks

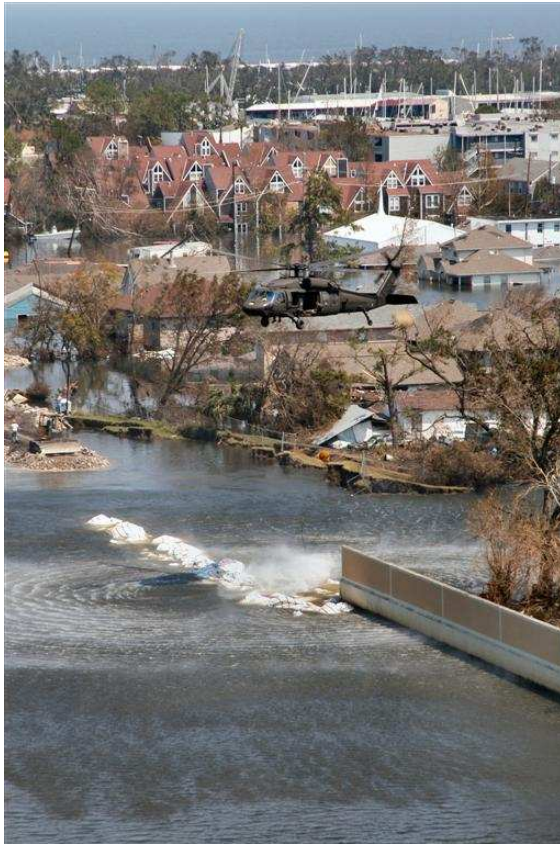
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Catastrophe!



2005 Hurricane Katrina

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Lessons Learned

- ✓ **Flood control projects don't guarantee safety**
- ✓ **People don't understand flood risks**

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Lessons Learned

- ✓ **We cannot “control” floods.**
- ✓ **We must manage flood risks.**

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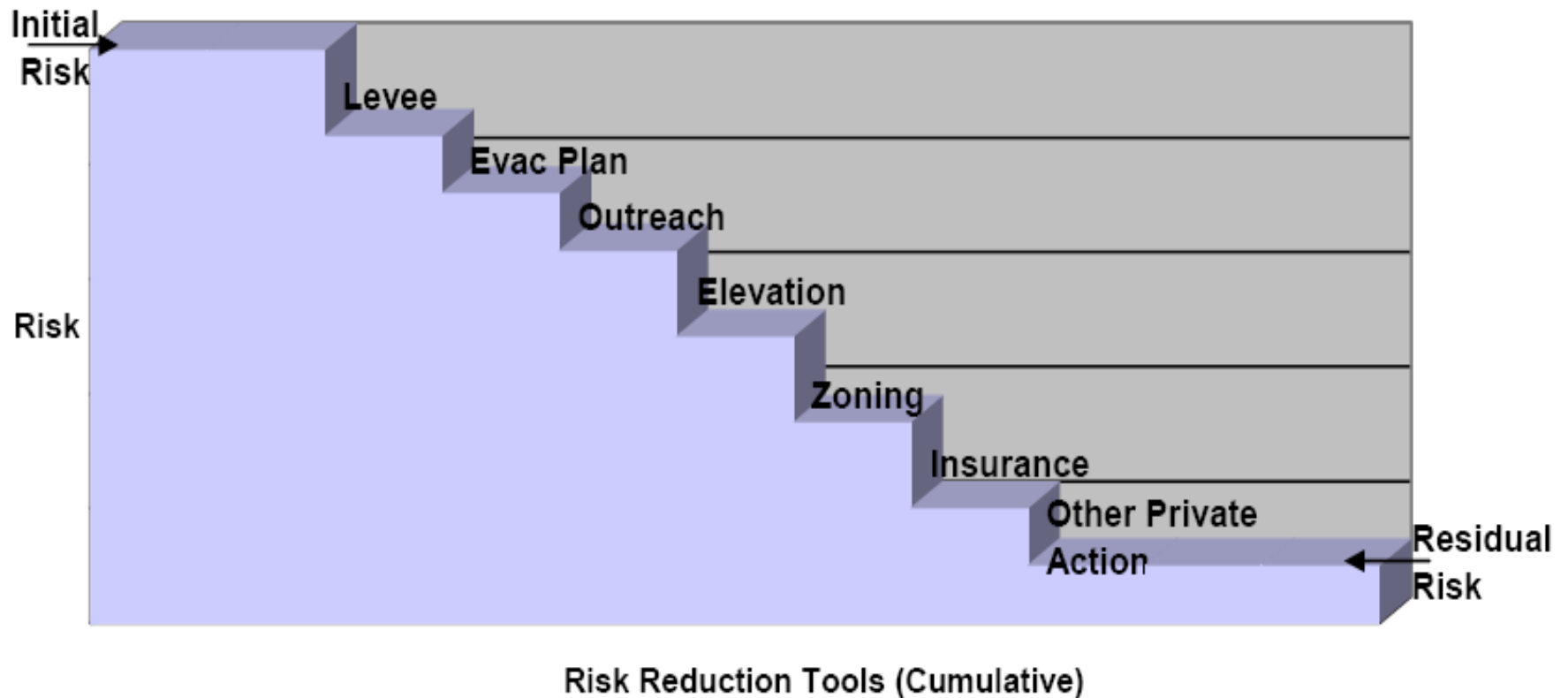


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Flood Risk Management

We're ALL responsible!



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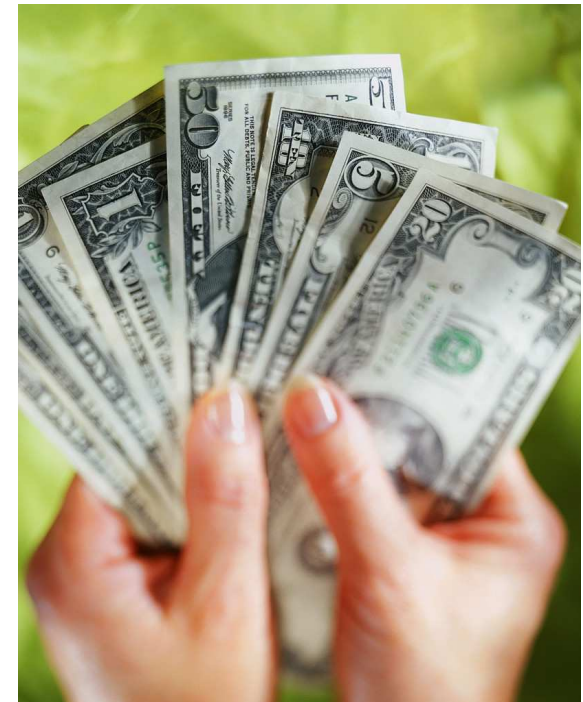


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Corps Funding

- ✓ Current backlog of authorized projects = \$81 Billion
- ✓ FY08 budget for planning and construction is \$2.5 Billion
- ✓ FY 08 President's Budget included \$0 for new starts



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The Future Corps

Focus on systems rather than projects:

- ✓ Holistic systemic solutions
- ✓ Intergovernmental collaboration
- ✓ Watershed context
- ✓ Include non-structural options (flood plain management)
- ✓ More scrutiny and technical review of designs

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The Future Corps

Use risk-informed decision making processes

- ✓ Assess broader risks and uncertainties
- ✓ Communicate all consequences

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The Future Corps

Increased focus on National priorities

- ✓ Federal funding for flood risk management is limited
- ✓ Catastrophic consequences may factor in decisions

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Conclusion

Corps perspective changing to Flood Risk Management

- ✓ Systems approach
- ✓ Communicate residual risks
- ✓ Focus on National priorities

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