National Waterways Conference

LTG Thomas P. Bostick
53rd Chief of Engineers
and
Commanding General,
United States Army Corps of Engineers
Nation Builders

C&O Canal

Mississippi River Improvements, 1890

Conestoga Wagons on the National Road, mid-19th Century

Washington Aqueduct
The Golden Age of Infrastructure

Bonneville Dam, Oregon

Locks on the Upper Mississippi River

Fort Peck Dam Project, Missouri River, Montana
“I’ll use the money we’re no longer spending on war to pay down our debt and put more people back to work – rebuilding roads and bridges; schools and runways. After two wars that have cost us thousands of lives and over a trillion dollars, it’s time to do some nation-building right here at home.”

- President Barack Obama,
Speech to the Democratic National Convention
Our Nation’s Infrastructure GPA -- D

Roads

Railways

Runways

Rivers
14,000 mi. of inventoried levees in the USACE National Levee Database
105,000 (+) mi. (est.) of other levees in the Nation

Grade is from 2009 ASCE Report Card for America's Infrastructure.
Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana
Nearly 8100 Major Dams in the Nation
Impounding 600,000 mi of river (about 17% of US rivers)*

*USACE National Inventory of Dams (2005)
Lake Tangipahoa Dam, Percy Quin State Park, Mississippi
"America’s ailing ports invisible amid the country’s failing infrastructure”
- Washington Post, 13 Sep 2012

ASCE estimates that it will require an investment of $30 billion – twice as much as we’re spending today– to keep America competitive in a global environment.

What’s at risk? We could lose:

• $270 billion in U.S. exports
• $697 billion in GDP
• 738,000 jobs annually
• $872 billion in personal income.

Source: ASCE
A Maritime Nation

Ports and inland waterways support international trade, which provides 1/3 of U.S. GDP and almost 14 million jobs.
Forecast of US Exports and Imports: 2011 - 2041

Source: IHS Global Insight
We Can’t Wait

Advancing key infrastructure projects at 5 East Coast ports:
- NY / NJ
- Charleston
- Savannah
- Jacksonville
- Miami

Existing locks’ maximum vessel: 4,800 TEU

New locks’ maximum vessel size: 12,600 TEU
One 15 barge tow takes 870 large semi truck off of our highways!
Inland Waterway Navigation System

12,000 Miles of Commercially Navigable Waterways
15% of the nation’s domestic freight
60% of nation’s grain exports
22% of coal used for electricity generation
22% of domestic petroleum and petroleum products
624 million tons of cargo annually
Lock and Dam 27, Chain of Rocks Canal, Mississippi River

Latest update -- 50 tows in the queue for passage once repairs are finished.

Lockport Lock and Dam, Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Illinois River
USACE Backlog

Billions

- Construction Funds (annual)
- USACE Backlog

$60 billion

$2 billion

Backlog Projects by Business Line:

- Environmental Infrastructure, 5%
- Environmental, 20%
- Navigation - Ports, 20%
- Navigation - Inland, 5%
- Flood Damage Reduction, 35%
- F-Shore Protection, 10%

*Hydropower projects less than 1 percent
What Can You Do?

• **Tell the Story**
• Help us transform the Civil Works process.
• Continue to partner with stakeholders, industry and beneficiaries of the system
• Facilitate a Watershed approach
• Help the Nation prioritize efforts and projects.
Perception vs. Reality

Responsive Community Members

Joint International Interagency

“Solutioneers”

“Life Cycle” Anticipatory

Expensive Bureaucratic Arrogant

“Full – Service”

Corrupt Can’t Be Trusted

Slow Self-Absorbed

BUILDING STRONG®
Perceptions
Reality: Mississippi River Floods

“It is evidence that the Corps of Engineers has come up with a method along the Mississippi to be able to mitigate some of the significant damage that otherwise would have occurred.”
- Vice President Joe Biden

Over the years, engineers did a tremendous job putting together a project that actually worked and saved billions of dollars and the lives of people. It saved the town of Greenwood. It saved New Orleans. It saved Baton Rouge.
- Sykes Sturdivant, President, Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Levee Board

"The only positive thing I can say, is that the system that's been built by the American taxpayer, $13 billion since 1927, seems to be working…"
- Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-LA)

If the levees hold, Morgan City should be fine, people here say. People ask me if I have faith in these levees? Well, we wouldn’t live here if we didn’t.”
- Morgan City Mayor Tim Matte
Reality: Hurricane Isaac

"The good news is the Army Corps levees that were built around New Orleans, Jefferson Parish and some of these other areas, worked very well, and they were done expeditiously.”
- President Barack Obama

"We owe the American people a great debt of gratitude. The $14.5 billion levee protection system worked exactly as it was supposed to. That's a great story from this storm. This federal investment not only protected New Orleans, but secured a region that provides this nation energy security and national security.”
- New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu

The system's performance during Hurricane Isaac was a "miracle.”
- Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA)

First, our new protection system performed as designed, and the corps operated it in a very professional way. There was no significant flooding inside this system. Without the post-Katrina improvements, there would have been. This is no small fact, although Isaac didn't fully test the system.
- Senator David Vitter (R-LA)

“Incredible work and effort from the Corps of Engineers. Please pass along my thanks.”
--GEN Raymond Odierno, Chief of Staff of the Army
USACE Global Engagement

- Physically present or engaged in over 130 countries

- **9 USACE Division HQ w/ 37 CONUS Districts**

- **7 OCONUS Districts**
  - Europe
  - Hawaii
  - Alaska
  - Far East
  - Japan
  - Afghanistan (North)
  - Afghanistan (South)

**USACE Division HQ locations**

Northwestern - Portland
South Atlantic - New York
South Atlantic - Atlanta
Great Lakes and Ohio - Cincinnati
Mississippi Valley - Vicksburg
Northwestern - Portland
Southwestern - Fort Worth
South Pacific - San Francisco
Pacific Ocean - Hawaii
Trans-Atlantic - Winchester, VA

Afghanistan Power Grids
Laos Primary School
Brazilian Army Partnership
Kenya Blood Clinic
Commanding General’s Emerging Priorities

Military Focus: Defend and Protect our Nation

Civil Works Focus: Transform Civil Works

Strategic Focus: Prepare USACE For the Future