Educational Opportunities for Floodplain Managers

KAMM Conference
September 11, 2014
Degree Programs

• Minor in Floodplain Management – WKU
  • Required courses – 13 semester hours
    • Surveying
    • Hydrology
    • GIS
    • Floodplain Management
  • Electives – 8 semester hours
    • Meteorology
    • Water Resources
    • GIS

• Bachelors of Interdisciplinary Studies with Concentration in FPM - WKU
• Masters in Planning with a Concentration in FPM – U of Washington
  • Most courses on line
  • Two summer 2-week on campus sessions
  • Point of Contact – Bob Freitag
BIS with FPM Concentration

• Contact: Warren Campbell, 270-745-8988, warren.campbell@wku.edu
• 121 semester hours
• Selected required courses
  • Hydrology and water resources (14 hrs)
  • Floodplain Management (6 hrs)
    • Traditional FPM
    • Field Experience in FPM
  • Political science (6 hrs)
  • Communications (9 hrs)
    • Business/Professional Speaking
    • Fundamentals of communication and Culture
    • Small group communication
  • GIS (11 hours)
  • Physical Geology (4 hrs)
  • Meteorology (3 hrs)
  • Math and Statistics (10 hrs)
Death Valley
Los Angeles Aqueduct
La Jolla
1 R & W
10 R & W
9/13
2 Cats
Do Not Last Call 10/3
Remove 9/27
Owner Dog Dead
Bury
By the 17th Street Canal, New Orleans
17TH STREET CANAL FLOODWALL

On August 29, 2005, a federal floodwall atop a levee on the 17th Street Canal, the largest and most important drainage Canal for the city, gave way here causing flooding that killed hundreds. This breach was one of 50 ruptures in the Federal Flood Protection System that occurred that day. In 2008, the US District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana placed responsibility for this floodwall’s collapse squarely on the US Army Corps of Engineers; however, the agency is protected from financial liability in the Flood Control Act of 1928.

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9:45am August 29, 2005  A portion of the 17th Street Canal hurricane protection floodwall gave way here and eventually widened into a nearly 300 foot gap. The abrupt catastrophic flooding killed over 500 people in this, the main basin of the city of New Orleans.

This breach and others - part of the metropolitan New Orleans Hurricane Protection System - together are considered the worst civil engineering disaster in our nation's history. It is the worst in the world since the Chernobyl meltdown.

Eight months later, the US Army Corps of Engineers admitted that its poor design of the floodwall allowed the breach to occur 3 feet below the design specifications.

Federal Judge Stanwood Duval, in January 2008, placed responsibility for the floodwall's collapse squarely on the Corps of Engineers. However, the Corps could not be held financially liable due to the Flood Control Act of 1928 which shields the agency from lawsuits.

To date, no one at the Army Corps of Engineers has been fired nor demoted relating to this breach. To date, there is no fiscal incentive which would force our Army Corps to construct flood protection properly. Nor to date, are there any financial or professional consequences should the agency's flood protection fail.
Sun Shower House
Albuquerque
Glen Canyon Dam, Arizona
Gamification – Getting in the Spirit
Hurricane Game
Fluvial Jeopardy
Summary

• There are significant educational opportunities in Kentucky
• Graduate work – U. of Washington
• Field experience courses broaden perspectives
• Games make learning enjoyable
• Look for these games
  • Fluvial Pursuit
  • Fluvial Jeopardy
  • Fluvial Timeline
  • Flood Game
  • Hurricane Game