



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section



San Diego - Citizens Forum

October 7, 2010



International Boundary and Water Commission

United States Section

Why Perform Levee Improvements?

- FEMA is updating flood insurance rate maps
- FEMA requires levees to contain the 100-year flood with 3 ft. freeboard
- USIBWC notified FEMA in 2006 that it could not certify all levees as meeting this requirement



The National Levee Challenge
Levees and the FEMA Flood Map Modernization Initiative

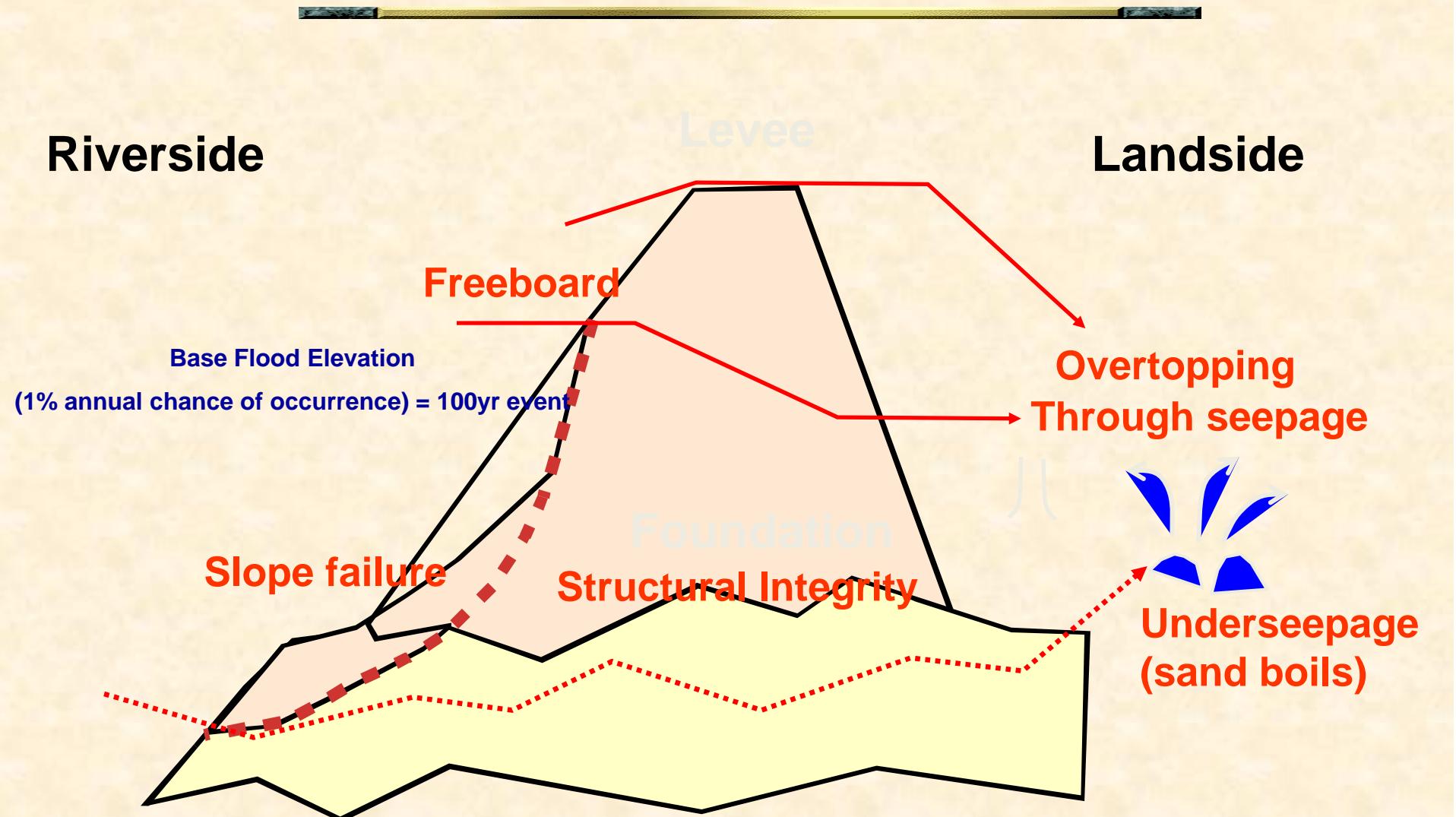
Report of the
Interagency Levee Policy Review Committee
Washington, DC

September 2006

The National Levee Challenge -2006



Levee Terminology





International Boundary and Water Commission

United States Section

Levee Problems

Levee
Seepage



Levee
Slope
Failure



Total
Levee
Failure



Sand Boil
Caused by
Animal
Burrow

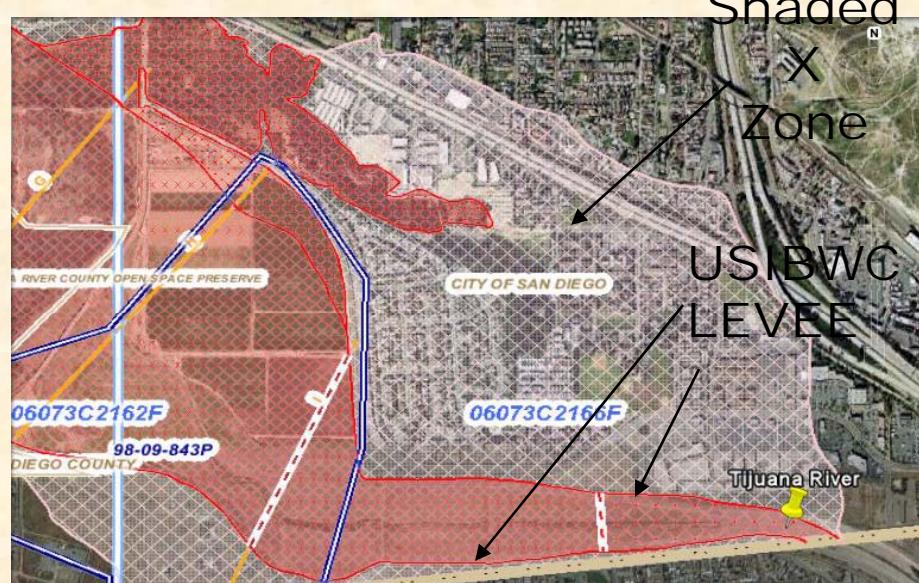




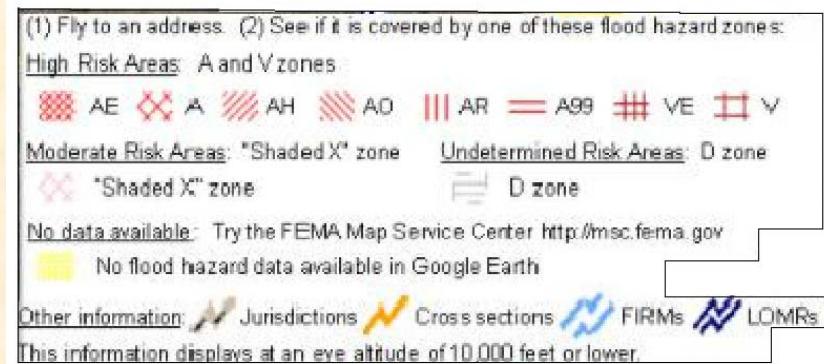
International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

FEMA – Tijuana River Levee Issues

- The area is currently rated as a Shaded X Zone
- Shaded Zone X relates to a 500 yr event or (0.2%) probability of flooding every year
- The Levee is Provisionally Accredited, until USIBWC submits Hydraulic Studies (January 2011)
- Properties in Shaded Zone X are considered to be at moderate risk, flood insurance is *not* required.



Current FEMA Flood Map



FEMA Map Legend



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

San Diego Flood Control Project-Hydraulic Issues

Sediment Control/Mowing

- USACE to prepare a Scope of Work (SOW) to conduct a Storm Drainage Study
- USIBWC will work as a facilitator between Mexico, USACE and the City of San Diego and project sponsor
- Currently USIBWC has an MOU with U.S. Customs and Border Protection to manage vegetation
- Areas sensitive to the Least Bells Vireo will be mapped by U.S. Fish and Wildlife and avoided to preserve habitat

Sediment,
Tijuana
River Valley
Goat
Canyon
December
2008



Least Bells
Vireo



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

SAN DIEGO Flood Control Project Trash Migration Issues

- **IBWC**
 - Will work closer with BECC and others to address trash migration to the north
 - USIBWC will work as a facilitator between Mexico, Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the City of San Diego
 - USACE is seeking funding
 - USIBWC will work with BECC to recognize trash/silt migration as a issue

Pilot
Channel
Tijuana
River
November
2008



Pilot
Channel
Tijuana
River
January
2009

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO



Contact Information

Sally Spener (915) 832-4175

www.ibwc.state.gov