



Everything I know...

Everything I know about
Floodplain management
I learned in the Army
French Wetmore, CFM



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Floodplain management
I learned in the Army
French Wetmore, CFM



March 8, 2017



Everything I know...

- ✓ Army training
- ✓ Field experience
- ✓ After active duty



This photo is an example
and is not of French's
experience



Everything I know...

The 11 Principles of Leadership

1. Be technically and tactically proficient.
2. Know yourself and seek self-improvement.
3. Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions.
4. Know your men and look out for their well-being.
5. Keep your men informed.
6. Set the example.
7. Make sound and timely decisions.
8. Build a team.
9. Ensure each task is understood, supervised, accomplished.
10. Develop a sense of responsibility in your subordinates.
11. Employ your team in accordance with its capabilities.

– *US Army Special Forces Small Unit Tactics Handbook, 2013*



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Everything I know...

The 11 Principles of Leadership

1. Be technically and tactically proficient.

- ✓ “Know your job”
- ✓ “Certified Floodplain Managers know their stuff”

Lesson 1: “Know your stuff”

- ✓ That means everything that can affect your job
- ✓ Not “let someone tell you what to do”
- ✓ The onus is on you



Everything I know...

The 11 Principles of Leadership

1. Be technically and tactically proficient.
2. Know yourself and seek self-improvement.
3. Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions.
4. Know your men/people and look out for their well-being.
5. Keep your men/people informed.
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7. Make sound and timely decisions.
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Everything I know...

The 11 Principles of Leadership

1. Be technically and tactically proficient.
2. Know yourself and seek self-improvement.
3. Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions.

Lesson 2: “Seek and take responsibility.”

- ✓ Not “It’s not my department”
- ✓ But “I’ll take care of it”
- ✓ Ask yourself “who is going to get it done?”
- ✓ If you take responsibility, things get done



Everything I know...



These photos are
examples and are not of
French's experience





Everything I know...

Lesson 3: "You can do it."



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Everything I know...

Lesson 3: "You can do it."



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Everything I know...

Lesson 1: “Know your stuff.”

Lesson 2: “Seek and take responsibility.”

Lesson 3: “You can do it.”

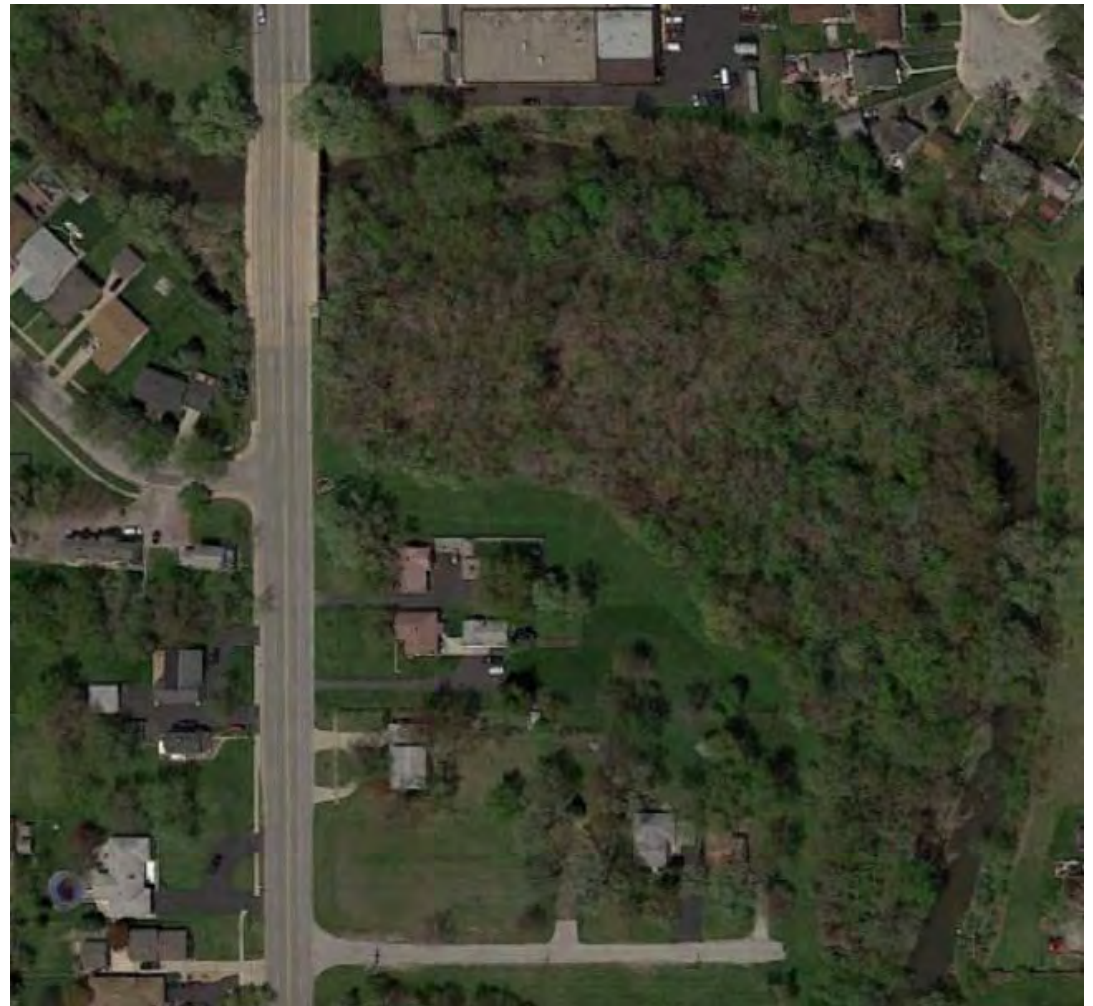
1976, State NFIP Coordinator
On the job for 3 - 4 months....



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Everything I know...





Everything I know...

Facts

- ✓ Developer wanted to build single family homes
- ✓ Neighbors did not want more flooding
- ✓ No Flood Insurance Rate Map (yet)
 - No mapped floodway
- ✓ Community in the Emergency Program
 - No clear regulations
- ✓ Developer's engineer = city's engineer
- ✓ Got regional attention



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Everything I know...

At the public meeting

City's attorney wrote the book
"Illinois Municipal Law"

Debate:

Regulate to flood of record or 100-year flood?

Attorney:

"Nothing in regulations say we're required to
use the 100-year flood"

"Don't try to practice law, young man"



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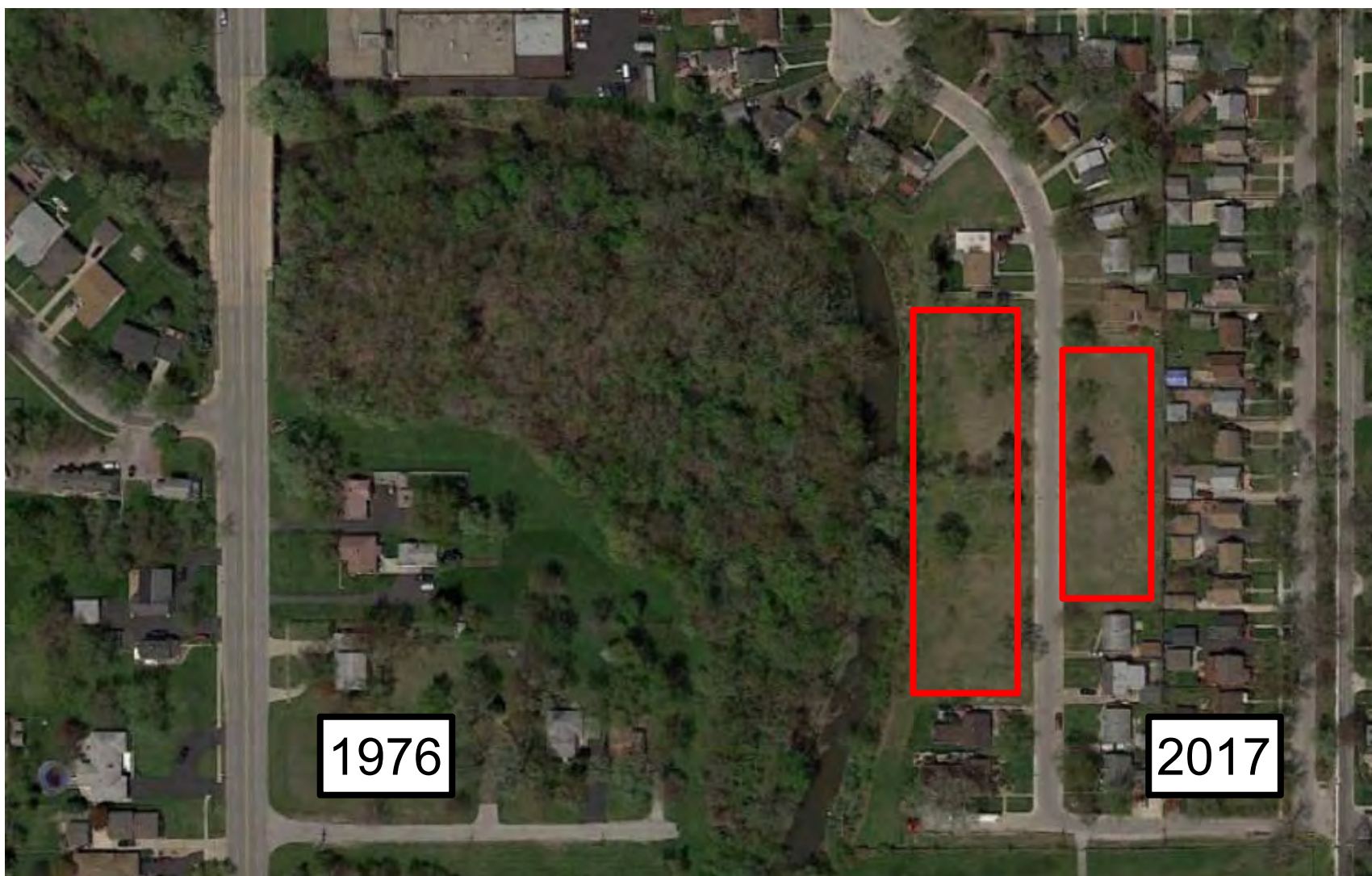


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Everything I know...

First three lessons from the Army put to use

Lesson 1: “Know your stuff.”

Know the regulations (or at least bring them)

Lesson 2: “Seek and take responsibility.”

Help the residents

Make sure the community follows the rules

Don't say “It's FEMA's job” and walk away

Lesson 3: “You can do it.”

Stand up at public meeting





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- ✓ Field experience
- ✓ After active duty



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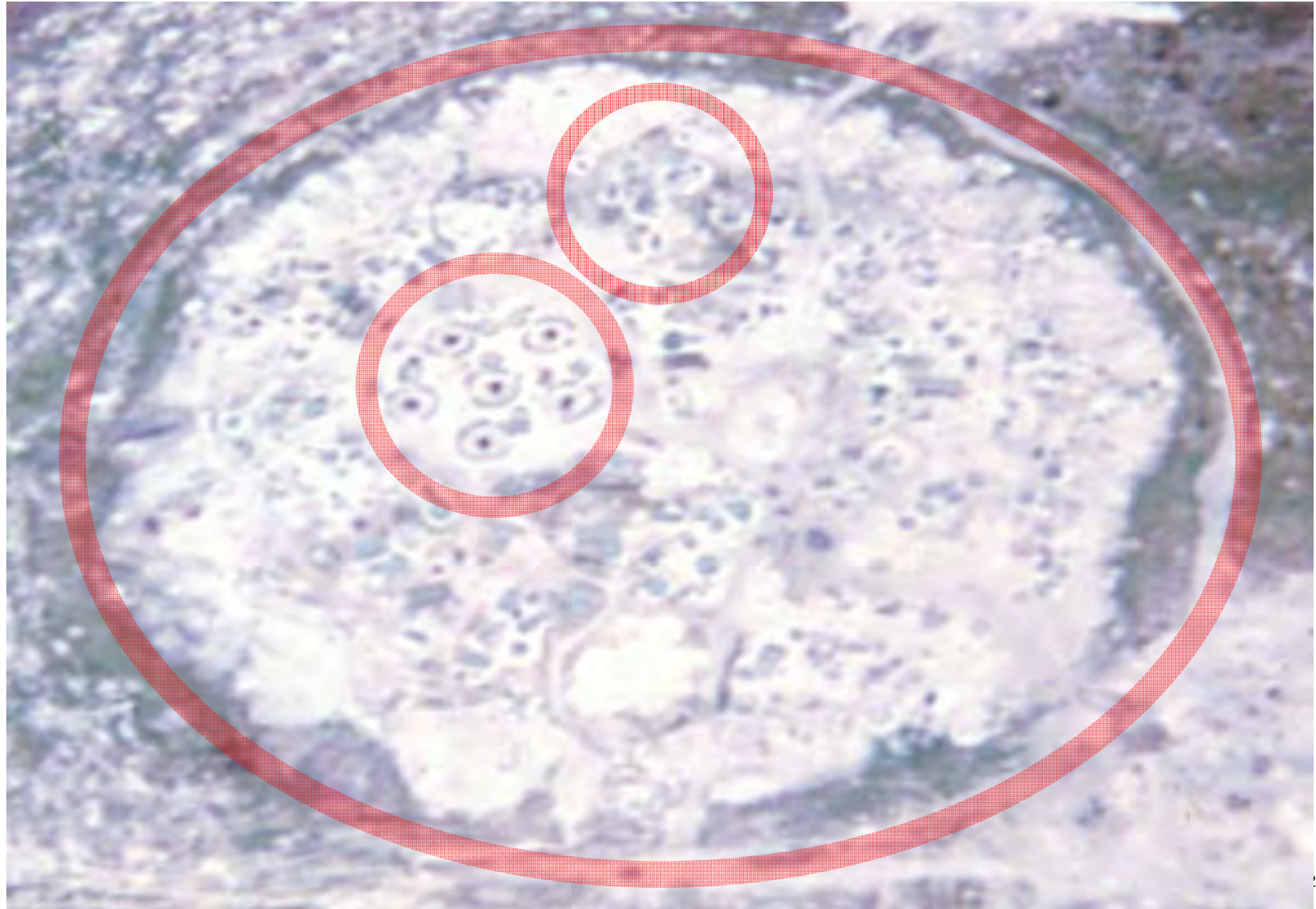


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Everything I know...

Intelligence: information about the enemy

Army lesson: “Check the weather and terrain.”

Floodplain management lesson:

“Check for the hazard before building.”

Corollary floodplain management lesson:





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“Don’t put basements in the floodplain



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Lesson 4: “Check for the hazard before building.”

Lesson 5:



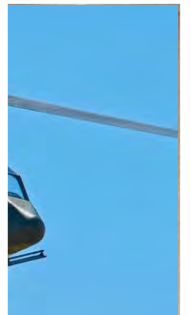
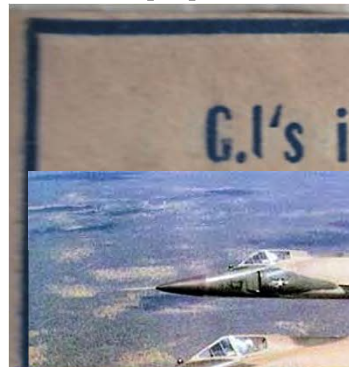
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Resources:

- ✓ Intelligence
- ✓ Disruption of supplies
- ✓ Psyops
- ✓ Air support
- ✓ Indirect fire
- ✓ Direct fire





Everything I know...

Lesson 5: “Use all your resources.”





Everything I know...

Lesson 5: "Use all your resources."



1. **Preventive** activities keep flood problems from getting worse. The use and development of flood-prone areas is limited through planning, land acquisition, or regulation. They are usually administered by building, zoning, planning, and/or code enforcement offices.

- Floodplain mapping and data
- Open space preservation
- Floodplain regulations
- Erosion setbacks
- Planning and zoning
- Stormwater management
- Drainage system maintenance
- Building codes



2. **Property protection** activities are usually undertaken by property owners on a building-by-building or parcel basis.

- Relocation
- Acquisition
- Building elevation
- Retrofitting
- Sewer backup protection
- Insurance



3. **Natural resource protection** activities preserve or restore natural areas or the natural functions of floodplain and watershed areas. They are implemented by a variety of agencies, primarily parks, recreation, or conservation agencies or organizations.

- Wetlands protection
- Erosion and sediment control
- Natural area preservation
- Natural area restoration
- Water quality improvement
- Coastal barrier protection
- Environmental corridors
- Natural functions protection



4. **Emergency services** measures are taken during an emergency to minimize its impact. These measures are usually the responsibility of city or county emergency management staff and the owners or operators of major or critical facilities.

- Hazard threat recognition
- Hazard warning
- Hazard response operations
- Critical facilities protection
- Health and safety maintenance
- Post-disaster mitigation actions



5. **Structural projects** keep flood waters away from an area with a levee, reservoir, or other flood control measure. They are usually designed by engineers and managed or maintained by public works staff.

- Reservoirs
- Levees/floodwalls
- Diversions
- Channel modifications
- Storm drain improvements



6. **Public information** activities advise property owners, potential property owners, and visitors about the hazards, ways to protect people and property from the hazards, and the natural and beneficial functions of local floodplains. They are usually implemented by a public information office.

- Map information
- Outreach projects
- Real estate disclosure
- Library
- Technical assistance
- Environmental education



ct

National Flood Insurance Program
Community Rating System

Coordinator's Manual

FIA-15/2013



FEMA

OMB No. 1660-0022
Expires: December 31, 2016



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Lesson 6:

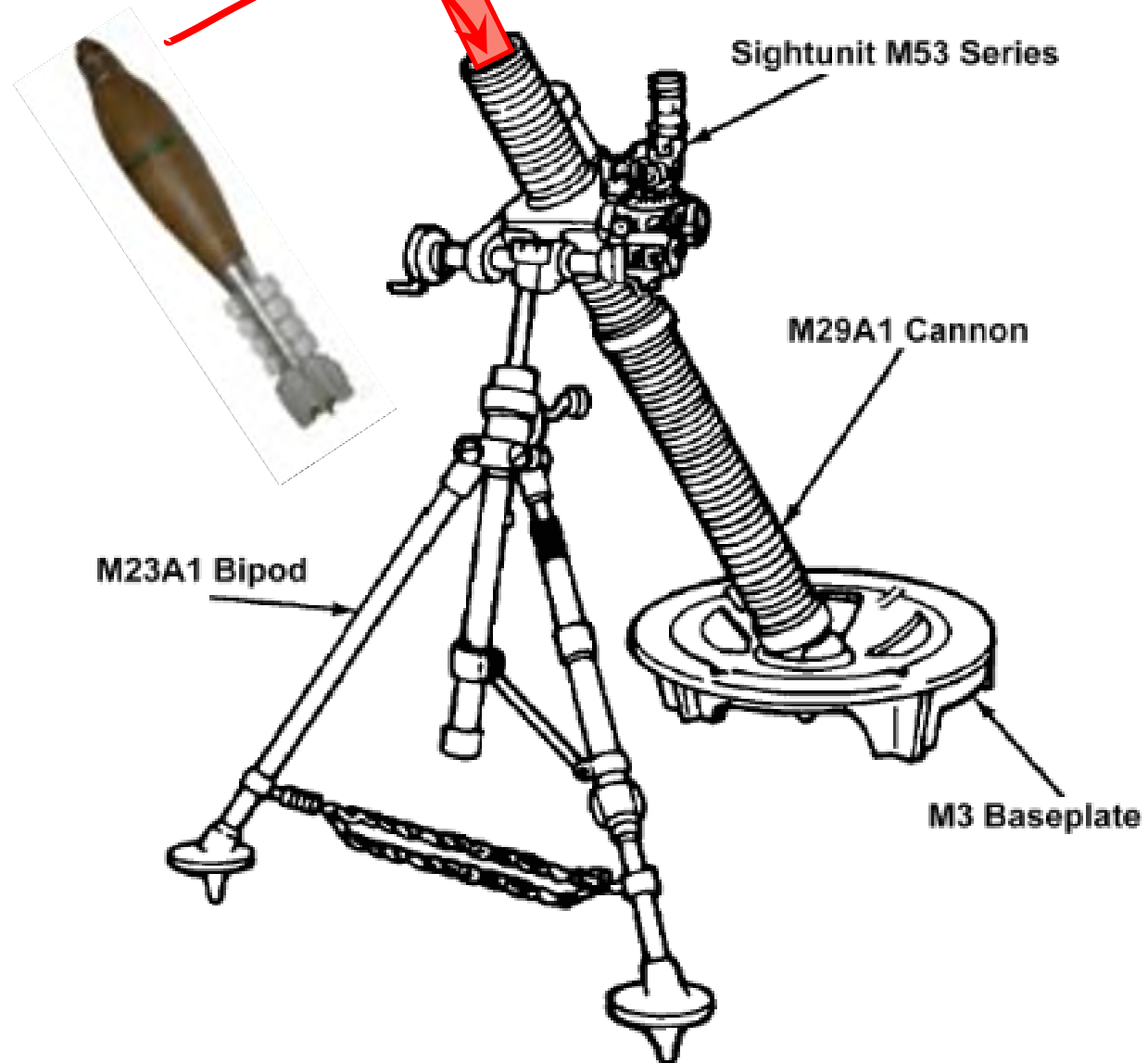
Mortar



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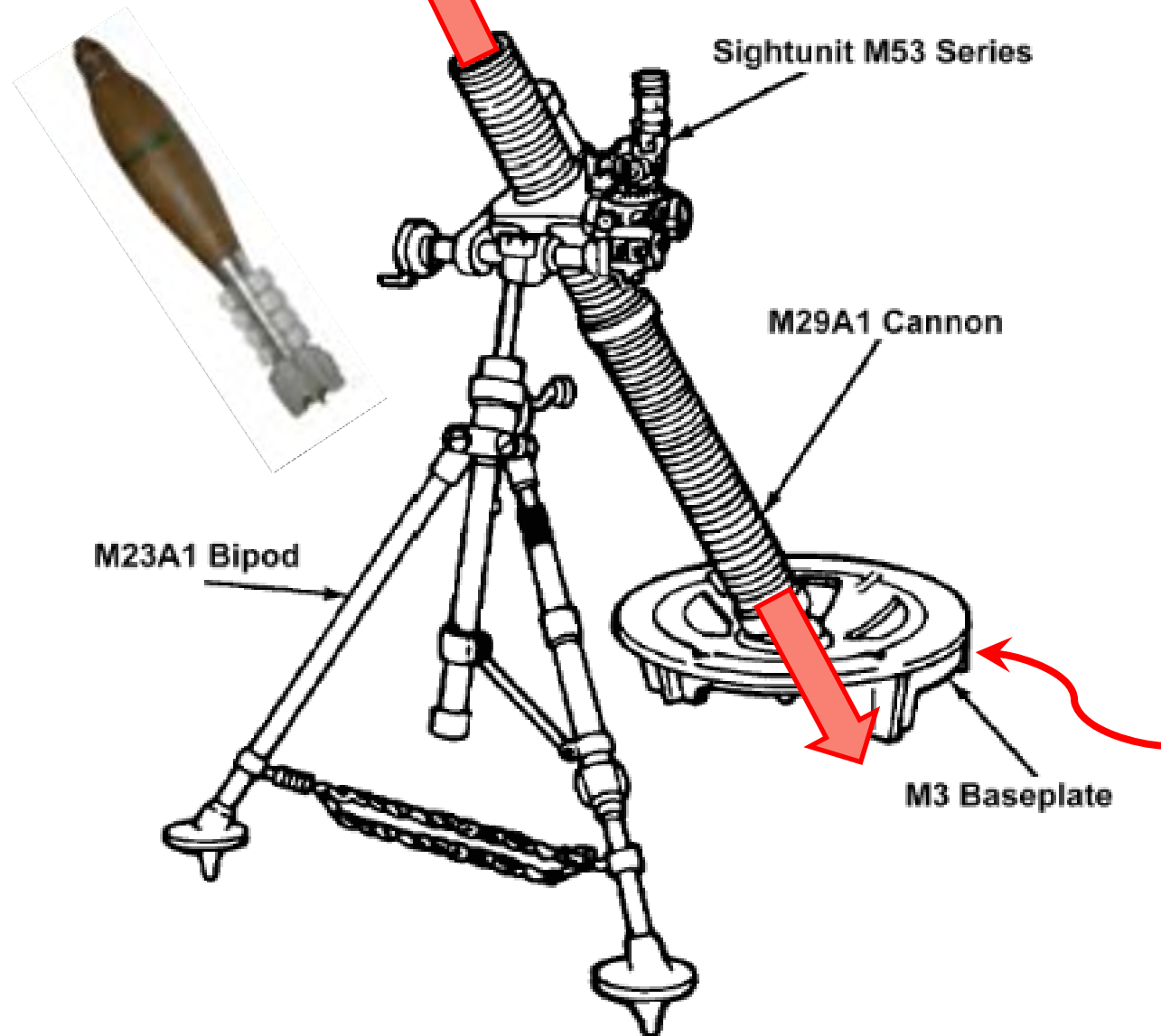
Mortar



Mortar
Platoon
Leader



Everything I know...





Everything I know...





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Everything I know...

Lesson 6: “Knowledge is more important than rank.”
1989, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin

Second Lieutenant (2LT)	First Lieutenant (1LT)	Captain (CPT)	Major (MAJ)	Lieutenant Colonel (LTC)	Colonel (COL)	Brigadier General (BG)	Major General (MG)	Lieutenant General (LTG)	General (GEN)	General of the Army (GA)

Private E-1 (PV1)	Private E-2 (PV2)	Private First Class (PFC)	Corporal (CPL)	Sergeant (SGT)	Staff Sergeant (SSG)	Sergeant First Class (SFC)	Master Sergeant (MSG)	First Sergeant (1SG)	Sergeant Major (SGM)	Command Sergeant Major (CSM)	Sergeant Major of the Army (SMA)



Everything I know...

Lesson 6: “Knowledge is more important than rank.”

- ✓ Flood Control
- ✓ Preventive Activities
- ✓ Property Protection
- ✓ Natural Resource Protection
- ✓ Emergency Services
- ✓ Public Information





Everything I know...

Lesson 6: “Knowledge is more important than rank.”



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Everything I know...

“War is too important to be left to the generals.”

Lesson 7: “Floodplain management is too important to be left to the floodplain managers.”



Everything I know...

Floodplain management involves:

- ✓ Engineers
- ✓ Public works
- ✓ Planners
- ✓ Building officials
- ✓ Community development
- ✓ Naturalists
- ✓ Public health
- ✓ Environmentalists
- ✓ Emergency managers
- ✓ GIS
- ✓ PIOs





Everything I know...

Floodplain management means

- ✓ Where people are going to live
 - ✓ Where people are not going to live
 - ✓ Whether and how they can rebuild
 - ✓ How clean their water is
 - ✓ Their health and safety
- Must involve the public
And elected officials

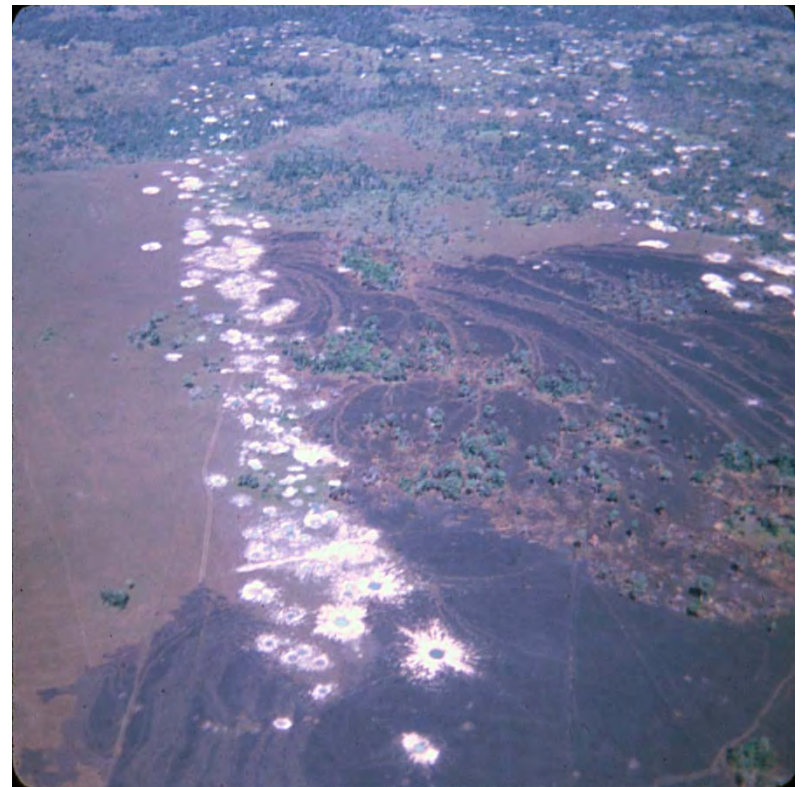




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Lesson 7: “Floodplain management is too important to be left to the floodplain managers.”

Lesson 8: “Things can be made better after a disaster.”

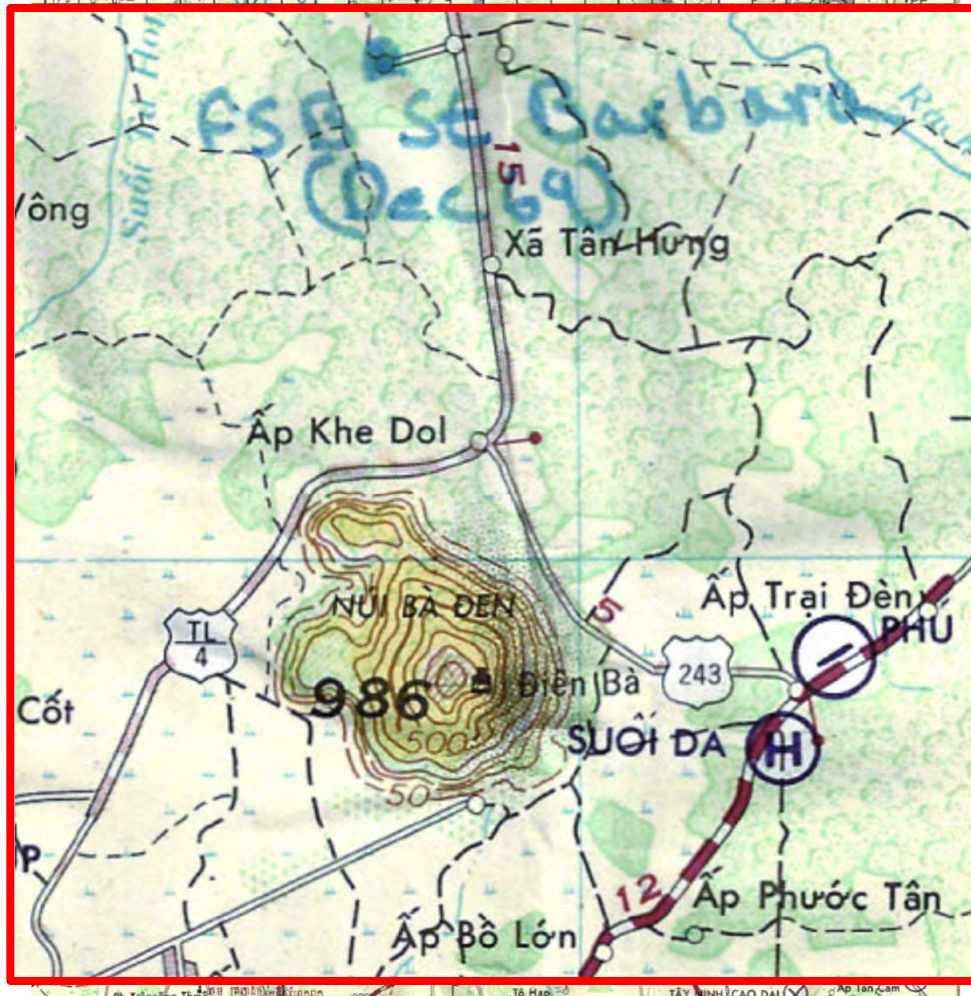




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Nui Ba Den – Black Virgin Mountain



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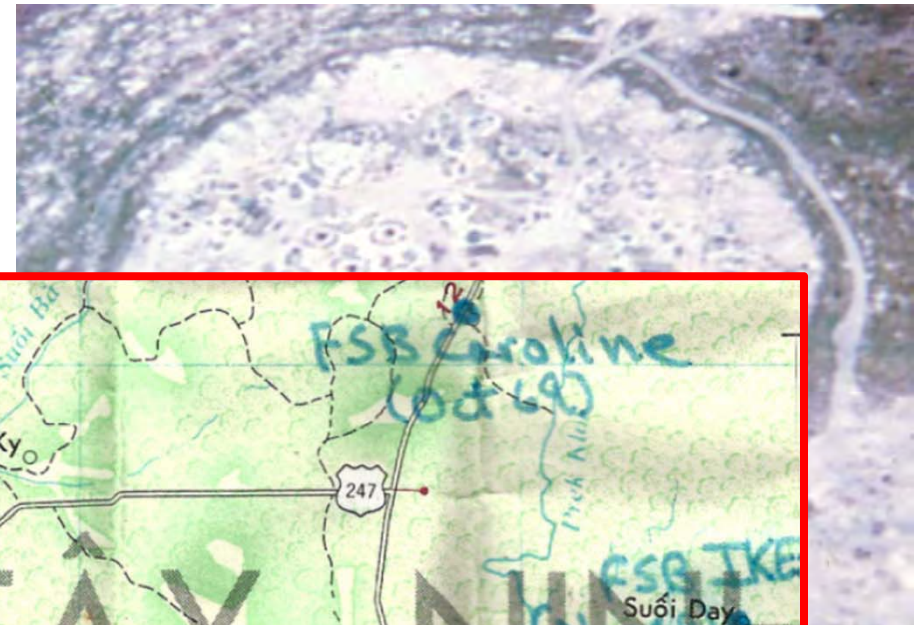
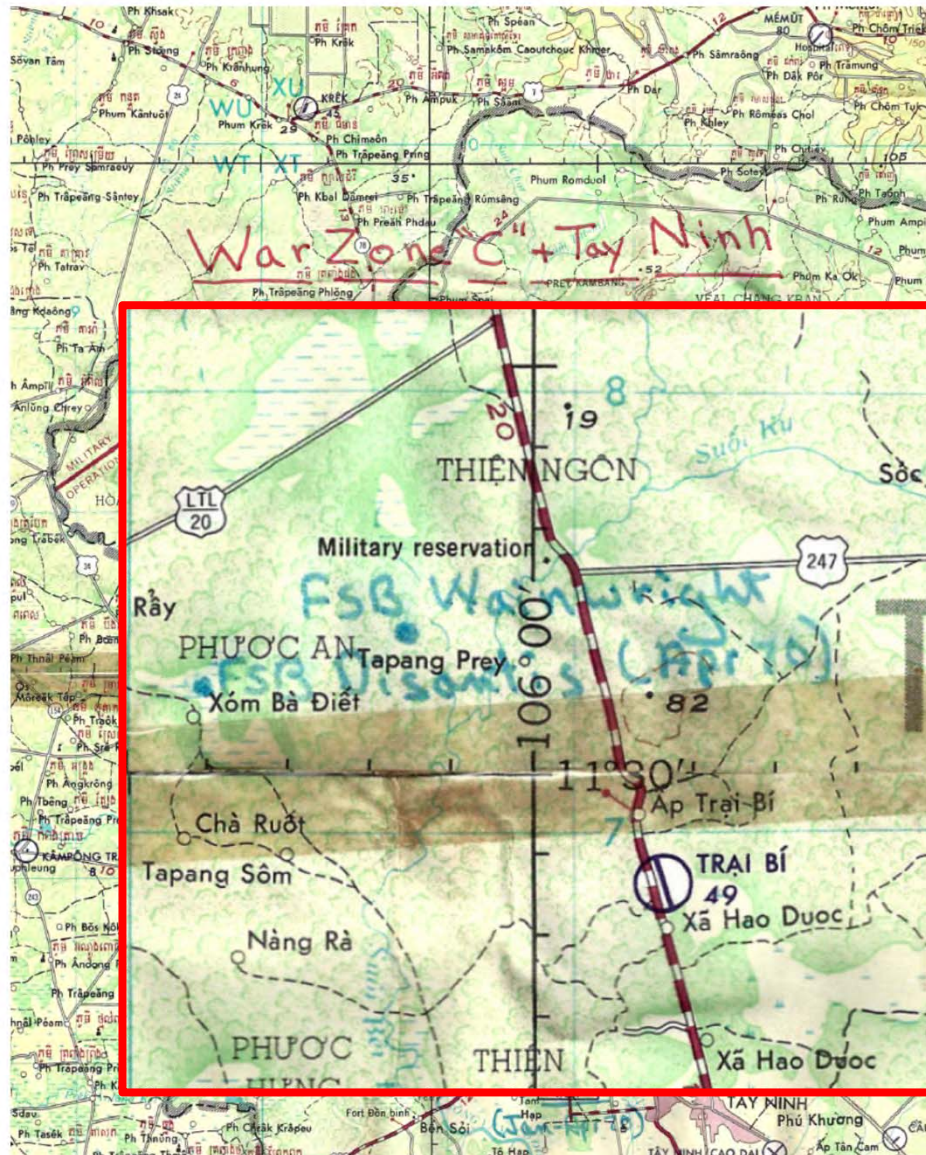
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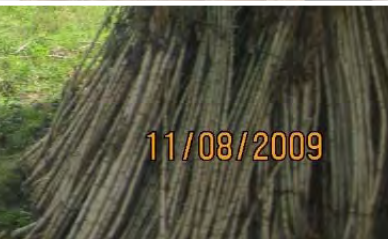
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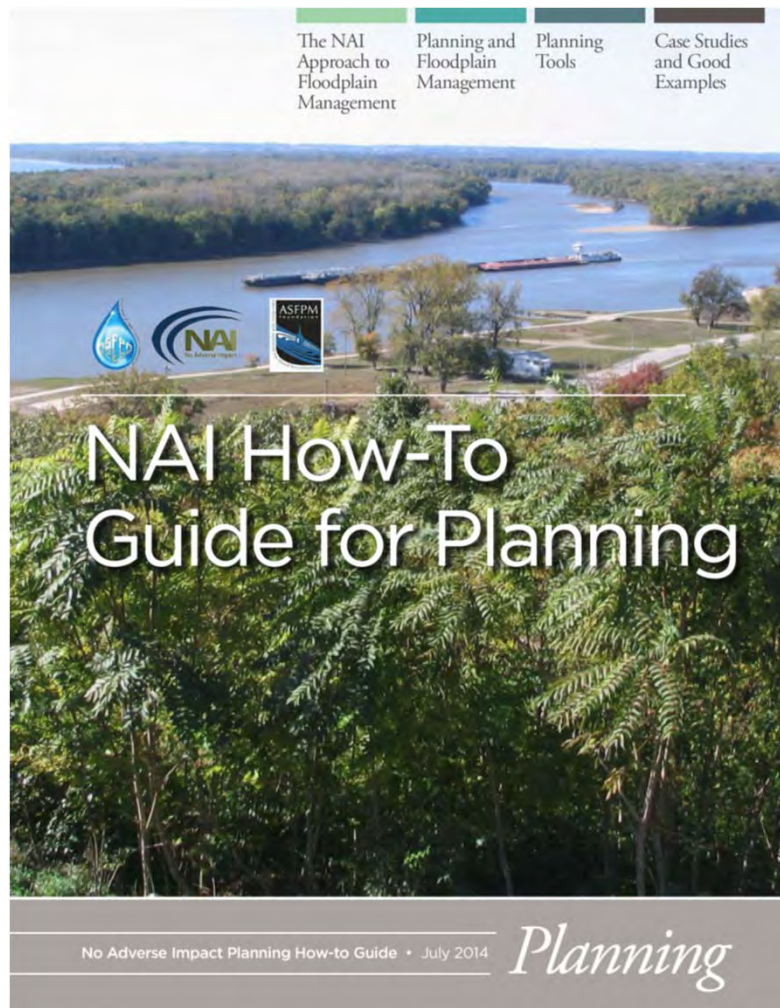
Everything I know...





Everything I know...

Lesson 8: “Things can be made better after a disaster.”



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Everything I know...



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Everything I know...

What I learned:

1. "Know your stuff"
2. "Seek and take responsibility."
3. "You can do it."
4. "Check for the hazard before building."
5. "Use all your resources."
6. "Knowledge is more important than rank."
7. "Floodplain management is too important to be left to the floodplain managers."
8. "Things can be made better after a disaster."



Everything I know...

“Suppose they had a war and nobody came?”

“Suppose they had a flood and nobody cared?”

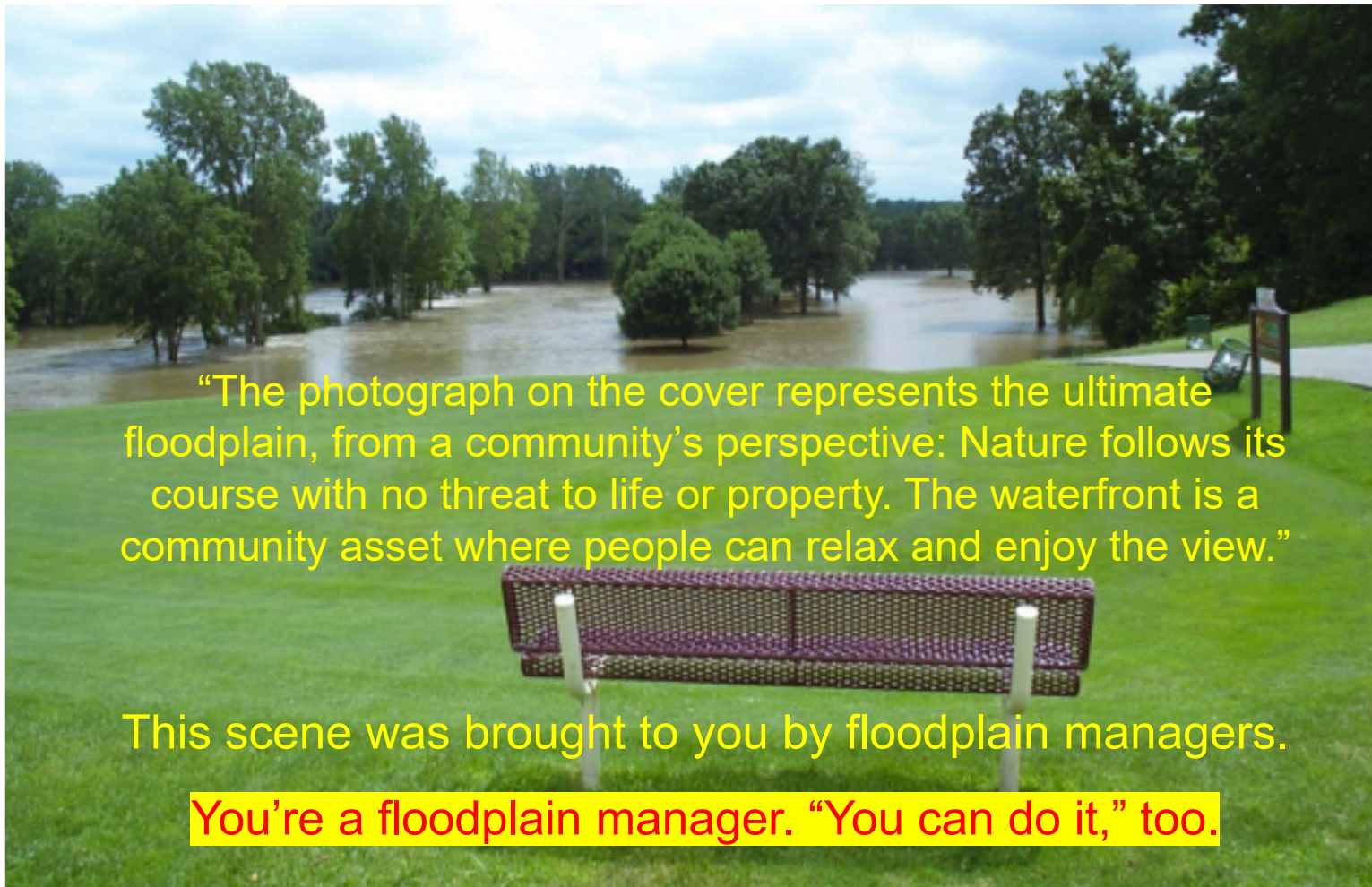


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Everything I know...

“Suppose they had a flood and nobody cared?”



“The photograph on the cover represents the ultimate floodplain, from a community’s perspective: Nature follows its course with no threat to life or property. The waterfront is a community asset where people can relax and enjoy the view.”

This scene was brought to you by floodplain managers.

You’re a floodplain manager. “You can do it,” too.