FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT DOWNUNDER

“HOW DO THE AUSTRALIAN’S PERCEIVE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT?”
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT HAS NO BOUNDARIES!
WHERE IS BATEMANS BAY?
AUSTRALIA AND THE U.S.
A REFRESHER.....

POPULATION
22 VS. 312 MILLION

STATES
7 VS. 50

AVG. SIZE OF STATE
423,000 VS. 76,000 SQ MI

POP DENSITY
7 VS. 82 !
THE AUSTRALIAN CONNECTION

Paul Osman
a.k.a. “OZ”

Ian Dinham
NEW a.k.a.
“SMOOTH”

2010 IAFSM CONFERENCE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
IT IS "OZ" LAND....PROOF!

IT SIGNIFIES A JOURNEY’S END.
I’M BACK IN OZ.

Ash Nielsen
HOW FAR TO “OZ”? 

9300 MILES (15,000 KM) 

FLIGHT TIME = 20 HOURS 
TRAVEL TIME = 32 HOURS
LANGUAGE BARRIER?
LANGUAGE BARRIER?
LANGUAGE BARRIER?
LANGUAGE BARRIER?
LANGUAGE BARRIER?

PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THE BALLS.

Thank You!
LANGUAGE BARRIER?

PLEASE FEEL
THE BALLS
LANGUAGE BARRIER?

final Bloody Clearance!

$15 each
LANGUAGE BARRIER?
LANGUAGE BARRIER?

FAIRY FLOSS $2.50
LANGUAGE BARRIER?
LANGUAGE BARRIER?
THE GREAT AMERICAN LEVEE CHALLENGE:

Flood Protection or Risk Reduction?
THE NATIONAL LEVEE CHALLENGE
Levees and the FEMA Flood Map Modernization Initiative

Report of the
Interagency Levee Policy Review Committee
Washington, DC

September 2006

This report was prepared for the Federal Emergency Management Agency by an Interagency Levee Policy Review Committee with support from Michael Shaler Corporation under contract HITECH-04-20053, Task Order No. HITECH-05-2-0002. The recommendations of this report are those of the committee and do not necessarily reflect the views of the participating agencies.
INFORMAL

QUESTION 1

IS FOSTER’S AUSTRALIAN FOR BEER?
INFORMAL

QUESTION 2

DOES A FLUSHED TOILET SWIRL COUNTER CLOCKWISE IN AUSTRALIA?
WHAT IS “DOWN UNDER”?

"where the beer does flow and men chunder"

"chunder" = vomit!
INFORMAL

QUESTION 4

WHAT IS A “TASMANIAN DEVIL”?
GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS!

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT DOWNUNDER

“HOW DO THE AUSTRALIAN’S PERCEIVE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT?”
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

- RESPONDENTS FROM 3 STATES
  - QUEENSLAND
  - NEW SOUTH WALES
  - VICTORIA
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

SIX CATEGORIES – 32 QUESTIONS
- MAPPING – 6
- REGULATION - 4
- LEVEES - 9
- INSURANCE - 5
- POLITICAL - 7
- GENERAL - 1
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

MAPPING

NATIONAL STANDARD FOR FLOODPLAIN MAPPING?

- YES 91.7%
- NO 8.3%
PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR FLOODPLAIN MAPPING

- FED: 9.5%
- LOCAL: 40.4%
- STATE: 50.1%
- PRIVATE: 0.0%
SHOULD 100-YEAR BE USED AS A NATIONAL STANDARD FOR MAPPING?

- Yes: 38%
- No: 62%
WHAT EVENT SHOULD BE USED TO MAP FLOODPLAINS?

- PMF: 68%
- 500-year: 14%
- Risk to Life: 14%
- Record Flood: 4%
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

MAPPING

MAPS SHOULD INCLUDE DAM/LEVEE BREACH INUNDATION AREAS?

- **YES**: 89%
- **NO**: 11%
SHOULD ALL COMMUNITIES BE REQUIRED TO HAVE FLOODPLAIN REGULATIONS?

YES 97%

NO 3%
PENALTIES OR FINES FOR COMMUNITIES THAT ALLOW “RISKY” DEVELOPMENT?

- **YES**: 74%
- **NO**: 26%
REQUIRED ELEVATION OR DEMOLITION FOR REPETITIVELY DAMAGED STRUCTURES?

- Yes: 85%
- No: 15%
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

REGULATION

FEDERAL INCENTIVES FOR ABOVE AND BEYOND FPM?

YES 92%

NO 8%
Aussie Ownership of Levees

- Government: 58%
- Private: 22%
- Unknown: 20%

Formal Survey Questions

Levees
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

LEVEES

YES 92%

NO 8%

NATIONAL LEVEE STANDARD
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

LEVEES

AGE OF LEVEES

25 to 50 yrs. 48%

10 to 25 yrs. 23%

<10 yrs. 3%

>50 yrs. 26%
LEVEES

RESIDUAL RISK ADEQUATELY CONVEYED?

- NO: 97%
- YES: 3%

AUS EM BETTER THAN USA!
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

INSURANCE

FLOOD INSURANCE ADMINISTERED BY

PRIVATE
63%

GOV’T
38%

MONEY SUCKERS!
MANDATORY INSURANCE IN THE FLOODPLAIN

YES 77%

NO 23%
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

INSURANCE

RESPONSIBILITY OF FLOOD INSURANCE COSTS

POP AT RISK
78%

ALL TAX PAYERS
22%
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

POLITICAL

BUYOUT PROGRAM BY GOVERNMENT?

- YES: 69%
- NO: 31%

FOR PAST MISTAKES!
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

POLITICAL

GOV’T SHOULD DENY ASSISTANCE AFTER REPETITIVE FLOOD DAMAGES

IF MITIGATION NOT COMPLETED

YES

56%

LOCALS SHOULD MANAGE RISK

NO

44%
**POLITICAL**

**FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS**

**DO POLITICIANS UNDERSTAND FLOODING ISSUES?**

- **NO** 92%
- **YES** 8%

*If it has flooded recently! They pretend to! They block good FPM legislation!*
DO POLITICIANS ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN FPM ISSUES?

- **YES**  17%
  - IN THE WRONG WAY!
  - ONLY WHEN IT’S A HOT TOPIC
  - AFTER A LONG PERIOD

- **NO**  83%
SHOULD POLITICIANS STAY COMPLETELY OUT OF MAPPING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS?

- Yes: 13%
- No: 87%
FORMAL SURVEY QUESTIONS

GENERAL

ONE ITEM TO VASTLY IMPROVE FPM IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- Education and Communication of Risk: 42%
- More Accurate Information: 22%
- Misc: 25%
- Better Land Use Planning: 11%

- Stop political support for development in the floodplain
- Increased funding for buyouts
- No development in the 20-year floodplain
- Risk-based mapping
- More flooding to raise awareness
- Formation of a FMA Political Action Committee
VACATION OR WORK?
EVER VIGILANT!
EVER VIGILANT!
EVER VIGILANT!
EVER VIGILANT!
EVER VIGILANT!
CHEERS!

NO WORRIES!