DEVILS LAKE FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Presentation for

PUBLIC MEETINGS

8-9 July 2008





INTRODUCTIONS

Corps of Engineers Team Members

North Dakota State Water Commission

Ramsey County

City of Devils Lake



Gatewell at Creel Bay





FORMAT FOR MEETING

- Please sign in and indicate if you'd like to be added to the mailing list.
- Slide Presentation
- Question and Answer
 Period



Placing fabric on embankment before placing rock (riprap)





WHY WE'RE HERE

- Corps received funding to look at what actions to take at the City of Devils Lake should the lake continue to rise.
- Challenge is to come up with a plan, complete the design, environmental review and real estate acquisition and allow time for implementation.
- Trigger points would be identified so actions wouldn't be taken until absolutely necessary.







US Army Corps of Engineers® Mississippi Valley Division WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR



Identified Alternatives

 Obtained public feedback

Screened Alternatives

Eliminated Alternatives from further evaluation





COMMENTS RECEIVED

- Public desire is for a permanent solution to the overall lake flooding
- Manitoba and other downstream interests opposed to releases out of Tolna Coulee
- Some residents desire Tolna
 Coulee releases
- Some felt upper basin storage is the long term solution.







BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT

Alternatives Recommended to be Dropped from Further Consideration:

Upper Basin Storage
 Modifying elevations at Tolna Coulee.
 Relocating the City





BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT

Alternatives Recommended for Further Evaluation:

Embankment
 Raises/Extensions



 Combination of Embankment Raises/Extensions and Relocations





PROJECT PURPOSE

The primary purpose of this project is to focus on what actions should be taken at the City of Devils Lake to reduce risk of flood damages to the city should Devils Lake continue to rise.





Future Without Condition

Embankment Construction/Extension

- Relocation
- Combination of Embankments/Relocation
- Modifications at Tolna Coulee
- Upper Basin Storage



FUTURE WITHOUT CONDITION



- No additional actions by the Corps at the City of Devils Lake
- Some interim actions may be taken by others
 - Road raises
 - Limited embankment raises or extensions
 - Relocations

This is the baseline condition



EMBANKMENT RAISE/EXTENSIONS





- Raising existing embankments and extend to high ground.
- Alignments considered could range from minimal protection to maximum protection.

✓ Cost: \$100 – 200 Million





RELOCATIONS

- Structures and facilities no longer protected by the embankment could be relocated.
- Could be done in increments as lake rises.
- ✓ Cost: \$400 Million



- Embankment raise/extension
- Relocate structures not protected
- Type of action implemented in any given area based on several factors

✓ Cost: \$100-200 Million



East Ditch Pump Station

8/25/1998



MODIFICATIONS AT TOLNA COULEE



- Lower Existing overflow elevation (1459)
- From as little as 2 feet to as much as 10
- An alternative design would be a gravity flow outlet from East Devils Lake
- Cost: \$110 200 Million



Google Earth Image





UPPER BASIN STORAGE

- Restore up to 50 % of potentially drained depressions
- About 40,000 acres
- Cost \$54 Million







ASSUMPTIONS

- In the absence of developing a plan of action for the City of Devils Lake, if Devils Lake continues to rise some actions will be initiated to maintain some level of protection for the city.
- If the lake continues to rise to the point of overflow, some effort will be made to minimize the potential for severe erosion at Tolna Coulee
- No measures will be taken to elevate the existing overflow elevation at Tolna Coulee







✓ COST

- EFFECTIVENESS
- ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS
- ✓ SOCIAL EFFECTS
- ✓ ACCEPTABILITY
- ✓ RISK
- ✓ IMPLEMENTABILITY







The First Costs of the Project.

- Construction
- Environmental mitigation, monitoring, etc.





EFFECTIVENESS

Whether or not the alternative would be responsive (i.e. timely) and effective in maintaining an acceptable level of flood risk management in accordance with Corps of Engineers design criteria.



✓ Direct and indirect effects on natural resources and cultural resources. Direct effects are those effects associated with the construction. Indirect effects are those effects that may occur as a result of changed environmental conditions due to the construction or operation of a project.





SOCIAL EFFECTS

 Direct and indirect effects on socioeconomic resources such as transportation, regional growth, public safety, employment, recreation, public facilities, and public services.





ACCEPTABILITY

 Controversy and potential effects on community cohesion are indicators of acceptability. Views of other States, Nations and potential effects on Tribal Resources are also indicators of acceptability.





IMPLEMENTABILITY

 Whether or not there are significant outstanding technical, social, legal or institutional issues that affect ability to implement the alternative.







The uncertainties, vulnerabilities, and potential consequences of the alternative.



FUTURE WITHOUT CONDITION

- ✓ Effectiveness Low
- ✓ Environmental High Positive/Adverse
- Social Effects High Adverse
- ✓ Acceptability Low
- Risk Variable by category
- Carry Over for Detailed Evaluation Required by NEPA Guidelines



EMBANKMENT RAISE/EXTENSION

- Effectiveness High
- Environmental Effects Low adverse
- ✓ Social Effects Moderate positive
- Acceptability High
- ✓ Risk Low
- Implementability High

Carry Over For Detailed Evaluation







RELOCATION

- Effectiveness High
- Environmental Effects Low Adverse
- Social Effect High Adverse
- Acceptability Low
- ✓ Risk High
- Implementability Moderate to low

✓ Drop From Further Consideration





- Effectiveness High
- Environmental Effects Low adverse
- ✓ Social Effects Moderate positive
- Acceptability High
- ✓ Risk Low
- Implementability High
- ✓ Carry Over for Detailed Evaluation





Modify Elevation at Tolna Coulee



- ✓ Effectiveness Low
- Environmental Effects High Adverse
- Social Effects High Adverse
- ✓ Acceptability Low
- ✓ Risk High
- ✓ Implementability Low

Drop From Further Consideration





UPPER BASIN STORAGE

- ✓ Effectiveness Low
- Environmental Effects High Positive
- Social Effects Low Adverse
- Acceptability Moderate
- ✓ Risk High
- Implementability Moderate to low

✓ Drop From Further Consideration





CURRENT SCHEDULE

- Sep 2008: Obtain Public Input
- **Dec 2008: Make Decision on Alternative**
- Apr 2009: Complete Environmental Assessment
- **Dec 2009: Begin Plans and Specifications**
- Mar 2010: Be Ready to Begin Construction
- Sep 2012: Complete Construction
- If lake was not anticipated to rise, then plans would be shelved.





- Coordinating lake approach with other impacted areas such as Spirit Lake Nation and Minnewaukan.
- Have entire basin plotted in color maps.







NEXT STEPS

- ✓ Develop the remaining alternatives in greater detail.
- Hold public information meetings on considered alternatives and get feedback.
- Make decision on preferred alignment.



Stromme's Road, Looking East From Highway 20/57





✓ Newsletters No. 1 thru 3 mailed earlier are available.

- Matrix of Alternatives.
- Maps available online or by request.





Information on back of newsletter

Please sign our sheet to get future mailings.

Website: www.mvp.usace.army.mil/devilslake

Phone numbers:

- ✓ Kevin Bluhm 651-290-5247
- Bonnie Greenleaf 651-290-5476
- ✓ Cpt. Adam Rasmussen 651-290-5664



Please come to the podium so everyone can hear.

