



US Army Corps
of Engineers

One Corps Serving the Army and the Nation

2006 Northwest Dam Safety Regional Forum

*February 14-15
Portland, OR*

USACE Opening Remarks

Jerry W. Webb, PE, D.WRE
Principal Hydrologic & Hydraulic Engineer



US Army Corps
of Engineers

One Corps Serving the Army and the Nation

USACE Dam Safety

- ◆ 620 dams throughout USA
 - Primary purpose is flood control
 - Many projects without “first filling”
 - Average age ~50 years
- ◆ Annual Program of +\$250M per year in routine dam safety and remedial activities



US Army Corps
of Engineers

One Corps Serving the Army and the Nation

Current Civil Works Priorities

- ◆ New Orleans and vicinity levee reconstruction, performance assessment, and future planning
- ◆ Inventory and Risk based assessments of levees nationwide
- ◆ Working towards alignment with USBR on risk and reliability methodologies



US Army Corps
of Engineers

One Corps Serving the Army and the Nation

Dam Safety Risk Analyses

- ◆ Trends from 2005 USACE Analyses:
 - Majority of loss of life risks in seepage and piping type deficiencies in glacial and Karst foundations
 - Seismicity in Pacific coast also drives high regional risks
 - Hydrologic events of “Unusual” frequency constitute primary loading condition of concern



US Army Corps
of Engineers

One Corps Serving the Army and the Nation

US Army Corps of Engineers

- ◆ Forum Objectives:
 - Share information and experiences on issues of seismicity and extreme hydrologic events
 - Discuss and debate alternative approaches and experiences in government and industry
 - Build Consensus where practical