Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Dam Safety Conference

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Association of State Dam Safety Officials

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Dams in the United States
(Approximately 88,546 State Regulated Dams
9,849 State-Reg High Hazard in the NID)

Numbers taken from the 2007 National Inventory of Dams
ASDSO (partial list of objectives)

- **Training & Education**
  - National conference
  - Technical training guides and seminars for state officials
  - Training for dam owners

- **Information Clearinghouse/Guidelines**
  - State Model Program (underwritten by FEMA)
  - Library and Database on Dam Safety
  - Technical journal and news service
  - Performance measuring and statistical analyses

- **Peer Review Program**

- **Legislative Advocacy**

- **Coordination with the National Dam Safety Program at FEMA**

- **Dam Security initiatives with DHS, Infrastructure Protection**
Components of a Model Program

- Legislation and regulations
- Permitting and approval of plans & specifications
- Experienced and professional staff
- Inspections – construction and annual
- Enforcement
- Emergency response
- Emergency action plans
Summary of ASDSO Results for 2007 Reporting Year

Legislation

Permitting

Inspection

Enforcement

EAP & Response

Education/Training

Public Relations

Green - State has all characteristics of the ASDSO model State dam safety program
Blue - Most characteristics
Yellow - Some characteristics
Red - No characteristics
Difference in State Programs

- Maturity of program
- Funding and staffing (FTE)
- Strength of regulations and statutes
- Experience of staff
State Dam Safety Programs

Budget
- Range: 0 to $10 million
- Average: $1,100,000

Staffing
- Range: 0 to 59
- Average: 9 (approximately one FTE per 379 dams)
State Dam Safety Programs

Inspections
- High hazard dams are inspected on average every 1½ years
- Approximately 60% of all high hazard dams inspected in 2007

Emergency Action Plans
- Approximately half of the 10,000 state regulated high hazard dams have EAP’s
Observations

- The greatest degree of compliance with the ASDSO model State dam safety program continues to be enforcement and the least degree in public relations.

- The number of inspections is constant with 2006, and the percentage continues to show that high hazard dams are being inspected at approximately 1 ½ year intervals.

- The number of high hazard dams with EAP’s continues to gradually increase with over 50% of the dams currently having EAP’s.

- The collective dam safety budget is increasing while staffing remains approximately stable.

- The number of State-regulated dams continues to increase and currently is approximately 90,000.
Challenges

- The funding for enhancement of State dam safety programs has changed minimally and their significance continues to increase noticeably.

- Limitation for the rehabilitation and repair of public and private dams. This is due to minimal or no funding for this need.

- The number of high hazard dams continues to increase due to downstream development. This requires development of new EAP’s that can be expensive.

- The development and updating of inundation maps. Distribution of maps to the public sometimes conflicts with security concerns.

- The identified and unidentified dams not currently under State regulation continues to increase.
Evaluations, Design Reviews and Inspections
CA DSOD – FERC Cooperation

- PFMA’s
- Coordination with dam owners
- Development of national guidelines
- Dam owner workshops – Western Forum/ASDSO conference workshop
- EAP’s
- Dam security