NSW Urban Levee Review

Improving our knowledge and management of flood levees for NSW communities

Thank you to
David Wilkins, NSW Public Works
John Dixon, NSW Public Works

• Levees creating waves
• NSW Urban Levee Review
• The NSW Levee Owners Guideline
• Linking Levees and Emergency Mgmt

Wanaaring, NSW
2010

NSW Levee Review

• Data Collection
• Field survey
• Creating linked data
• NSW Flood Database

NSW Levee Owners Guideline

Aims of the Guideline:
• Improve the operation and maintenance of levees in NSW
• Knowledge hub for levees
• Identify levee capabilities and limitations
• Inform Emergency Response Planning

• Section 2 - An overview of Levees in NSW
• Section 3 - Owner’s Responsibilities
• Section 4 - Basic Principles covering types of levees in NSW
• Section 5 - Levee Owner’s Manual
• Section 6 - Operations and Maintenance requirements
• Section 7 - Communication Plan
• Section 8 - Emergency Response Planning
– Guidance on Levee Management
– Process to understand levee design, construction, operation, maintenance and asset management
– Methodology to assess:
  • levee condition
  • full range of potential flood behaviour
– Inform Emergency response
  • establish “Interim Effective Flood Operating Level”

Interim Effective Flood Operating Level:

“The flood level for which the levee can be expected to effectively operate with reasonable certainty that failure of the levee will not unexpectedly occur during a flood event”

ONLY for use in emergency response planning. Based on assessment using limited data and some uncertainty.

Contingency Plans

Levee Emergency Management

• The Emergency Risk Management (ERM) Process

Planning creates a shared understanding

Although levees can strain community cohesion
• Risk based decisions
• Improving data
• Informing Emergency Plans