USACE LOS ANGELES DISTRICT POST STORM / INLAND SEDIMENT ISSUES

Mark Cohen Chief, Operations Division 26 OCT 2023











US Army Corps of Engineers_®



WHAT DOES SPL'S OPERATIONS DIVISION DO?



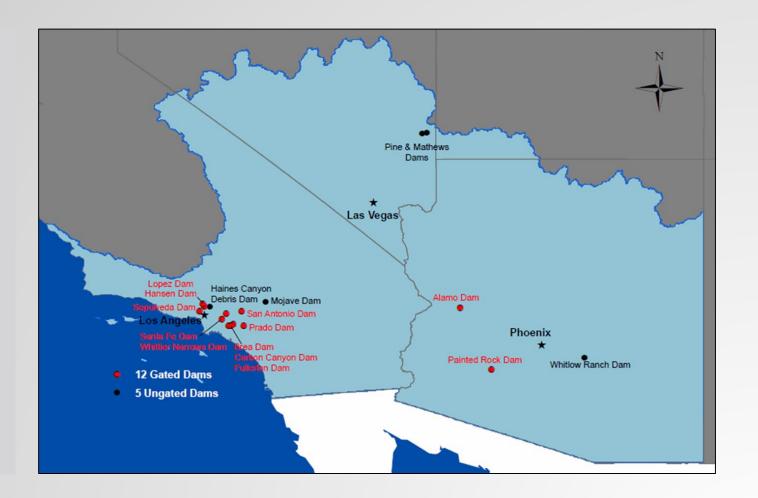
The Los Angeles District (SPL)
Operates and Maintains 16-Dams, 61Miles of Channels & Levees and 1debris basin

Southern California

- > 11 Dams
- > 1 Debris Basins
- > 61 Miles of Channels and Levees

Arizona - 3 Dams

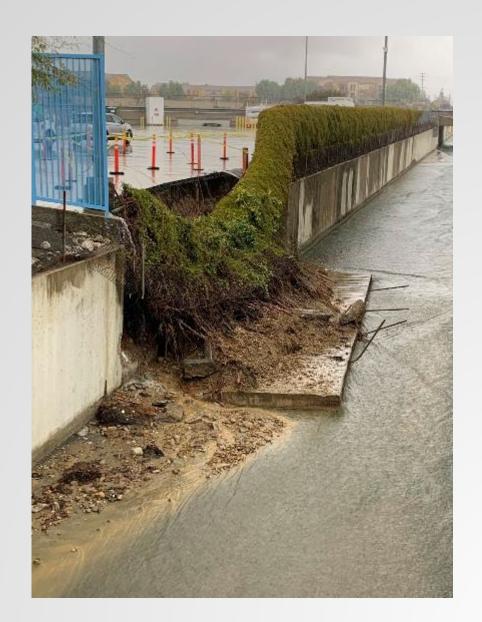
Nevada - 2 Dams





2023 STORM CHALLENGES

- Heavy Rains Marked by Multiple Successive **Events**
- In SPL, Projects "Activated," including **Channel Watch Teams to Monitor Storms**
- SPL Projects Performed as Expected and Protected Life and Property Across our AOR
- However, Normally Dry Basins Held More Water and for Longer Periods than We've Seen in a Generation or more
- SPL Requested and Received Emergency Funds to Remove Excess Sediment Deposits and Fix Channel Wall Collapse





WHAT IS THE STORAGE CAPACITY OF OUR DAMS?



- 2023 Storms Contributed to Ongoing **Conversation Regarding Sediment** Management within SPL Basins
- In Sum Sediment in Our Dams are within Expected Lifetime Allowance, but Specific Dams Need More Immediate Attention – Prado, Painted Rock, and Alamo

Facilities	Original Storage Capacity (ac-ft)	Sediment Allowance (50-yr)	Sediment That Needs to be Removed (ac-ft)
Sepulveda Dam	16,720	0	(1,400)
Lopez	322	322	154
Hansen Dam	35,800	3,300	3,900
Haines Debris Basin	0	0	(50)
Santa Fe Dam	34,280	1,500	2,880
Whitter Narrows	36,160	0	(1,331)
Brea Dam	4,100	1,200	210
Fullerton Dam	743	230	(21)
San Antonio Dam	9,284	2,000	(599)
Carbon Canyon	6,615	1,500	345
Prado Dam	222,840	12,000	50,080
Mojave River Dam	89,669	11,000	1,297
Painted Rock	2,491,700	200,000	156,896
Alamo Dam	1,045,300	200,000	52,450
Whitlow Ranch Dam	35,890	7,000	1,735
Mathews Canyon Dam	6,000	1,000	6,000
Pine Canon Dam	7,747	1,400	7,747
Total (ac-ft)	4,043,170	442,452	280,293







ROUTINE SEDIMENT REMOVAL



- **Limited Sediment Removal** is Part of Regular O&M Activities in SPL
- Performed Seasonally as Needed in Advance of Rainy Season
- Focus is on Inlet/Out Cleaning of Sediment and the Removal of Debris that Could Inhibit Flood **Operations**



Carbon Canyon Dam



Mojave Dam



Lopez Dam



Santa Fe Dam

WE DO NON-ROUTINE SEDIMENT REMOVAL BUT

U.S. ARMY THERE ARE ISSUES

- Updating Data / Determining Disposal Needs
- Identifying Disposal Location(s)
- Disposal Cost
- Seeking Funding
- Level of Effort:
 Determining Internal or
 External Work Effort









EXAMPLES OF NON-ROUTINE SEDIMENT REMOVAL



PROJECT	YEAR	REMOVAL AMOUNT	ISSUES
LOS ANGELES RIVER	2018	48,000 Cubic Yards	Contracted for Removal
SANTA FE DAM	2021	2,000,000 Cubic Yards	Issued License to Company for Removal
LOPEZ DAM	2023	40,000 Cubic Yards	Issued License to Company for Removal
LOS ANGELES RIVER	2024	100,400 Cubic Yards	Will Restore Channel to As- Built Conditions

SPL DISPOSAL OPTIONS



INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL





INTERNAL - CORPS O&M
TEAM DOES THE WORK.
MUST TEST, SORT, &
DISPOSE OURSELVES.
STAFF INTENSIVE EFFORT
DEPENDING ON SIZE

LICENSEE – REAL ESTATE AGREEMENT. **COMPANY SELLS** SEDIMENT OVER LIFE OF AGREEMENT. MUST TEST AND SORT. NO COST TO THE GOVERNMENT. **DEPENDS ON USEFULNESS OF** SEDIMENT AND MARKET NEED

OR

CONTRACT – USE
OF VARIOUS TOOLS
TO OUTSOURCE
WORK AT EXPENSE
TO FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT



U.S. ARMY

- Develop Comprehensive, Forward-Leaning Plans for Sediment Removal.
- Assess How Changing Weather Patterns
 Will Impact Future Sediment Accumulation
- Better Understand Contractor Capabilities of Removal Methods (e.g. Efficiencies)
- Leverage Partnerships (e.g. Understand Sediment Needs of Local to Projects, Coordinate with Other Agencies with Similar Needs)
- Assess and Plan for Resource-Related Issues (e.g. NEPA, ESA, Cultural Resources)













QUESTIONS

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