San Francisco District Overview
US Army Corps of Engineers

Building the Future: Solutions to Ensure Sustainable Growth of the Bay Area Industrial Economy – “A Regulatory Perspective”

Thursday, April 9th

LTC John C. Morrow
District Commander/Engineer
San Francisco District – Overview

Oldest USACE district on the Pacific Coast
- Providing Value to the Nation since 1866

Strategically significant district

- Navigation energizes the economy – we support 22 Federal ship channels, SF Bay Area’s $70B annual maritime industry and $585B GDP (22nd in world), and are the only government agency with debris removal mission in SF Bay (>1200 tons/yr)

- Reducing disaster risk for 6.5 million people and economies of SF Bay Area, Silicon Valley, Sonoma, Napa, and Central Coast – 99% chance of big earthquake in next 30 yrs (per USGS); additional risks of flooding, sea level rise, tsunamis, and wildfires

- Largest wetlands restoration projects in California – leading effort to beneficially reuse dredged material

- District “owns” and is recovering the last viable population of an endangered species - Coho salmon on Russian River (per 2008 NOAA-NMFS Biological Opinion); in 2012, recognized by NOAA as a “Habitat Blueprint for Success”

- Large and influential U.S. Congressional delegation – 4 Senators, 21 Representatives

- Regulatory Actions for Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

Diverse, talented workforce with a culture of teamwork and innovation

www.spn.usace.army.mil
Thoughts About the Present/Future?

- Climate Change Impacts (i.e. Sea Level Rise, Drought, etc.)?
- Continued National Policy of No Net Loss of Wetlands?
- The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process can be Very Complex and Time Consuming.
- Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative.
- “All of the Easily Permitted Land has been Developed?”
- Continued/Increased Focus on Renewable Energy Projects?
- Proposed Rule for the Waters of the US – will it Slow Down the Permit Process?
- Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014
  - Codifies Civil Works Transformation and “3x3x3” Planning.
  - Fully utilizes the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.
  - Passed in June 2014 but still waiting for most of the Implementation Guidance.
- Are there too many environmental related laws/regulations (Federal, State, Local)?
Questions