# MISSISSIPPI VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL ASSOCIATION Rob Rash PE, PLS





#### **Evolution of Mississippi River Levees**









## **1927 Flood**



- Legend 1927 Flooded Area
- 500 deaths
- 600,000 homeless
- •16 million acres (26,000 sq. miles)
- 80 miles wide at Vicksburg



JILDING STRONG®

### Mississippi River Levee 1927 Flood



#### World's Largest Naturally Navigable Watershed

ISSOU

41% of U.S. drainage flows through the body of the nation



Station	2011	<b>1927</b> <sup>5/</sup>	1927	<b>1937</b> <sup>5/</sup>	1973	PDF <sup>3/</sup>
		Actual	Confined			
Cairo, IL <sup>1/</sup>	1,936,00ð <sup>/ 2/</sup>	1,626,000	1,765,000	2,010,000⁄	1,536,000	2,360,000
Memphis, TN	2,213,000	N/A	1,744,000	2,020,000	1,633,000	2,410,000
Helena, AR	2,130,000	1,756,000	N/A	1,968,000	1,627,000	2,490,000
Arkansas City, AR	2,293,000 <sup>6</sup>	1,712,000	2,472,000	2,159,000	1,879,000	2,890,000
Vicksburg, MS	2,272,000	1,806,000	2,278,000	2,060,000	1,962,000	2,710,000
Natchez, MS	2,227,000	N/A	N/A	2,046,000	2,024,000	2,720,000
Red River Landing, LA	1,641,000	1,461,000	1,779,000	1,467,000	1,498,000	2,100,000

C - Peak Discharge, Provisional

1/ Discharge Range at Hickman, KY

2/ Approximate mile 950.8 at 1400 CDT 5/02/2011 near Wickliffe, KY, prior to operation of Birds Point-New Madrid Floodway

3/ Project Design Flood (PDF) provides design flows for MR&T project - Currently estimated to be

complete in 2032 at the average rate of funding over the last 10 years

4/ Includes flow through Birds Point-New Madrid Floodway

5/ Reference - "Annual Maximum, Minimum, and Mean Discharges of the Mississippi River and Its Outlets and Tributaries to 19

Revised 22 June 11



## **Flood Control**



### **Flood Control**





#### 1927 vs. 2011 Mississippi River Record Flood: From "Levees Only" to "Room for the River"

- 1927 Flood = 16.8 million acres
- 2011 Flood = 6.4 million acres
- \$14 billion Investment since 1928
- \$246 billion damages prevented (2011)
  - ✓ \$612 billion since 1928
  - ✓ 46 to 1 return on investment
- 4 million people protected
- \$3 billion annual transportation rate savings
- Untold economic productivity enabled
  - ✓ Farms, towns, factories



## Mekong River Flood 2011





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## Items of Concern

Requested \$500 Million for FY16 MR&T

- Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS)
  - Sets unachievable standards.
- Waters of the United States "Rules Clarification"
  Regulates water that has a "significant nexus to a watershed"