

Resilience in the Age of Climate Change



Resilience in the Age of Climate Change

What do we do when the weather “rules” change?

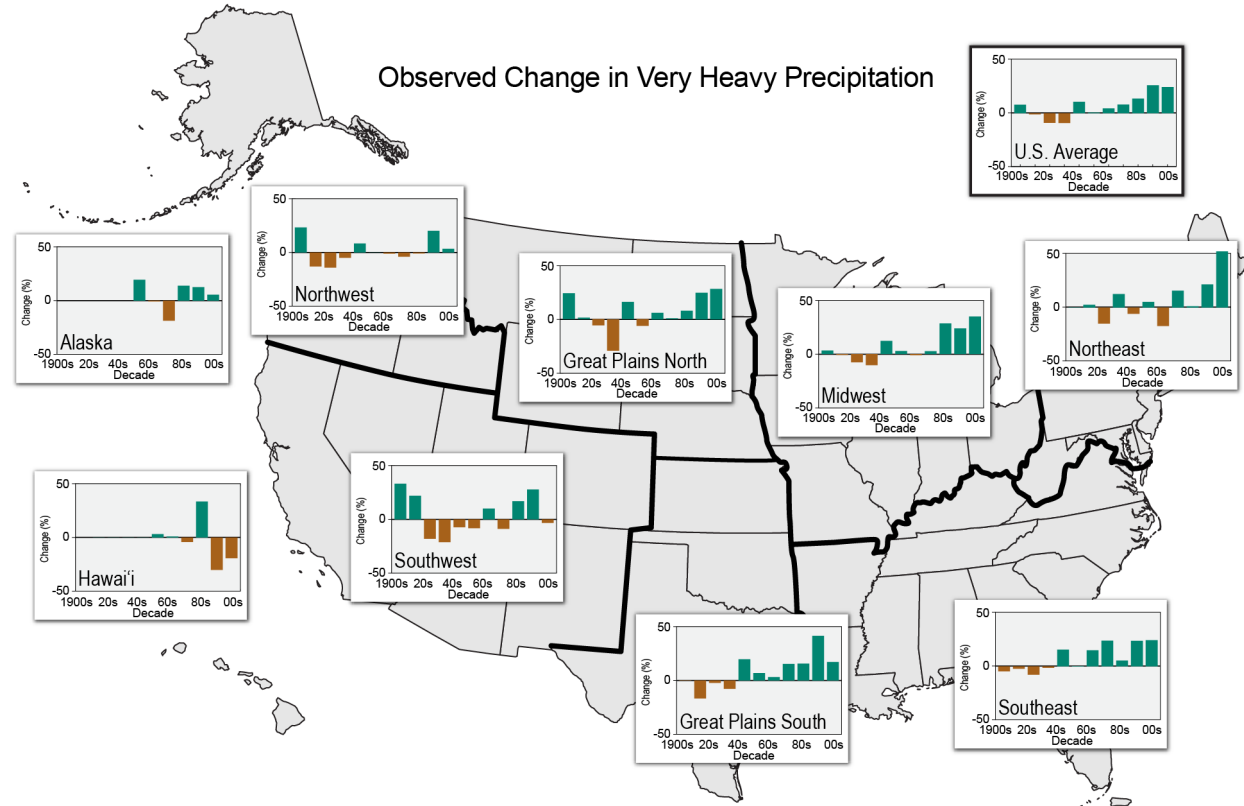
- Design to accommodate
- Manage what we can
- Understand those things we cannot control

Climate Change in Marina Environs

Lakes and Rivers

What is Changing in our environment

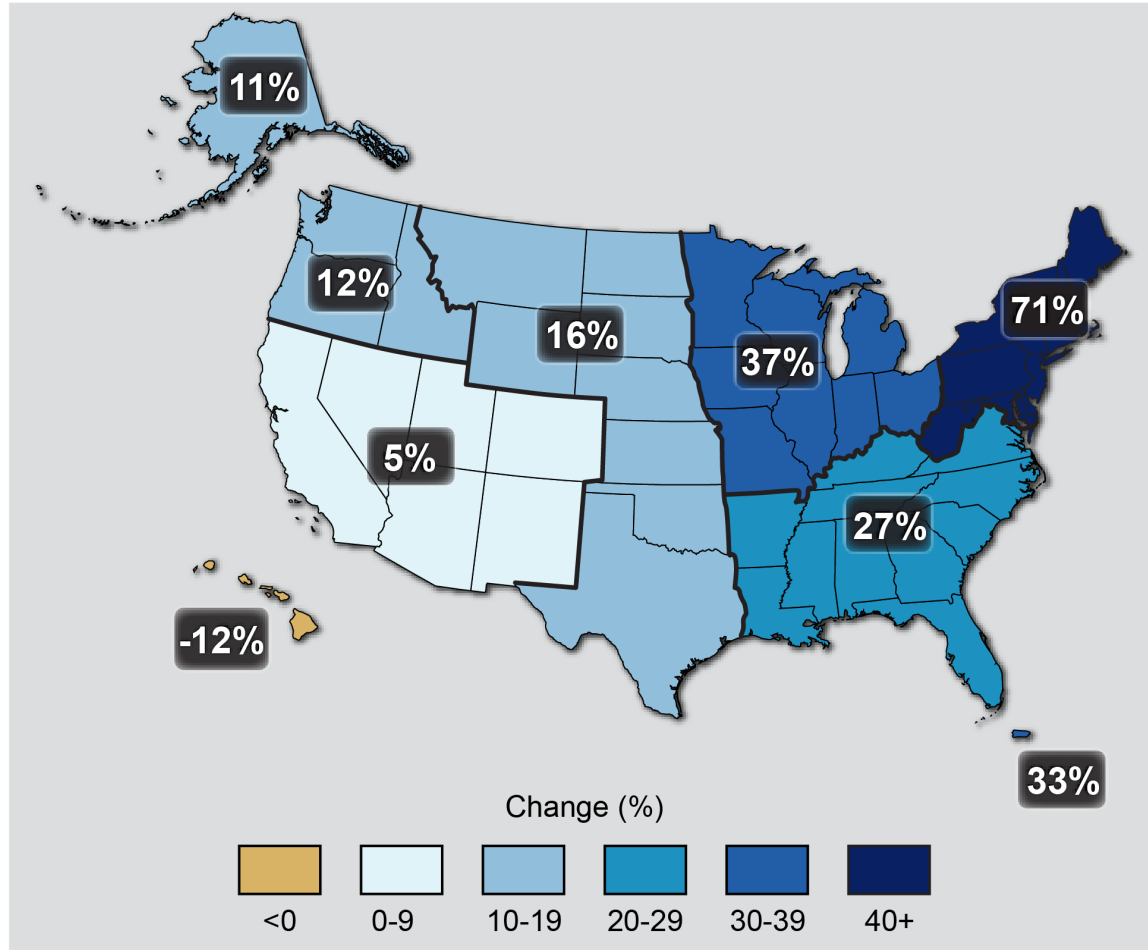
- Climate Change means wilder swings in rainfall.
 - Flooding potential increases
 - Drought conditions will happen, too



Changing Rainfall Patterns

The eastern half of the US has already seen significant increases in rainfall

Observed Change in Very Heavy Precipitation

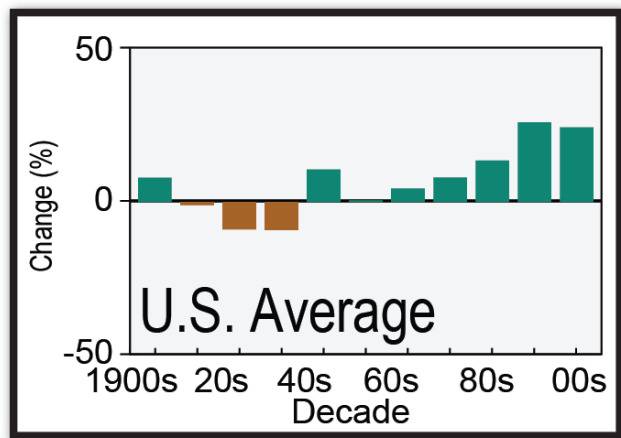


Changing Environs, Changing Rules

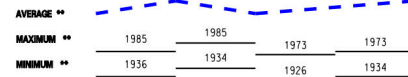
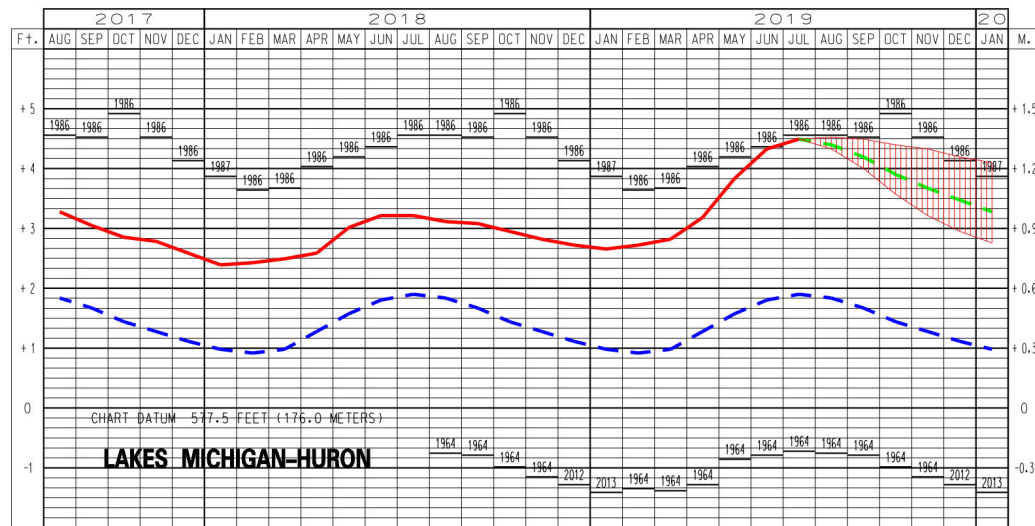
- Predicted Flood Elevations
 - Flood maps are often outdated and should not be the only resource used.
- FEMA is making improvements, but their maps should not be design controls.
- USGS is working on improving the tools

US Rainfall

With more rain, our Lakes and Rivers have to react



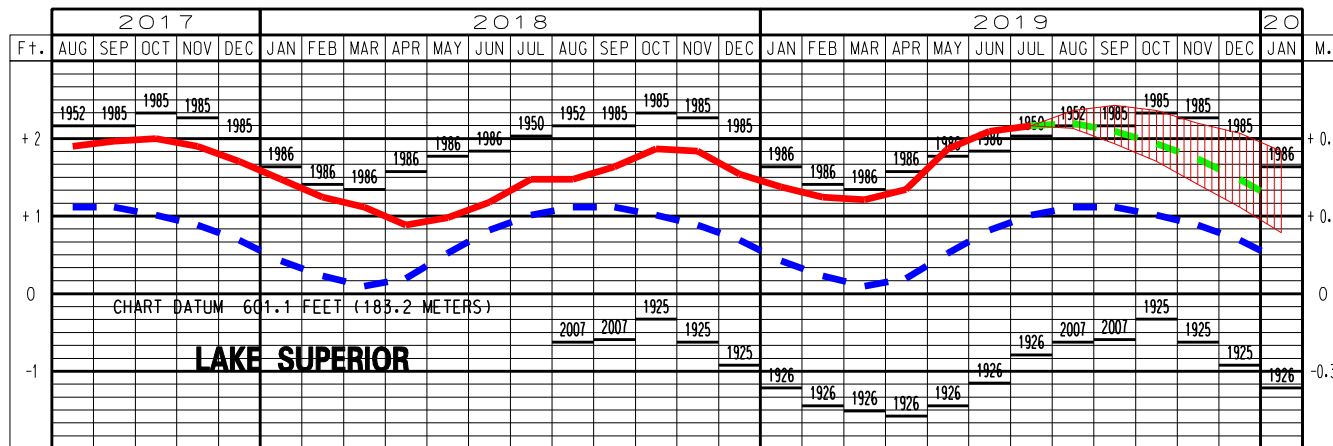
LAKES MICHIGAN-HURON WATER LEVELS – AUGUST 2019



** Average, Maximum and Minimum for period 1918-2018

RECORD BREAKING!

LAKE SUPERIOR WATER LEVELS – AUGUST 2019

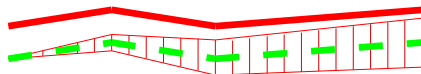


LEGEND

LAKE LEVELS

RECORDED

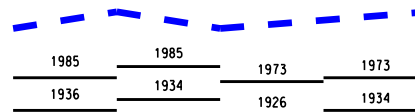
PROJECTED



AVERAGE **

MAXIMUM **

MINIMUM **



** Average, Maximum and Minimum for period 1918-2018

Designing for Events

- Understanding USACE parameters
 - Using conservative data where applicable
 - Don't believe "it can't happen here"
- Taking long term approach to design
 - Higher Highs
 - Lower Lows

Project Examples

Inland Rivers

Alton Design Controls

- Developed parameters based on 500 year flood predictions and 1993 experiences.
 - Pile design to accommodate full range of flood heights
 - Underwater truss design modified for unusual water level drawdowns
 - Everything either floats or is flood resilient
 - Utility connections were made waterproof or located to minimize risk

Alton Design



Piles were
designed to
allow full
height of
levee
flooding plus
2' for floating
dock

Alton- Low water during construction



Floating Platforms



Reinforced
Concrete
Platforms with
polystyrene
flotation and
integrated
utilities

Floating Platforms

Building the structural shell upland minimized costs and allowed for quicker construction



Floating Swimming Pool

Using traditional
design in new ways



Alton Design

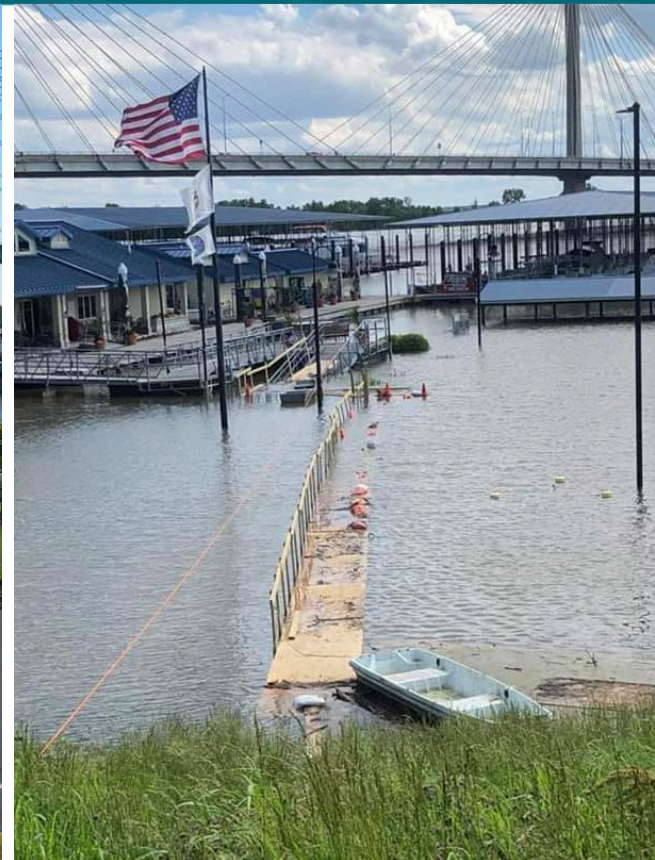


Structures
vulnerable to
flooding were
designed to float

Fuel systems using fuel barges



Alton 2019 Flood





Riverfront Dr

Henry St

Asphalt Damage

Armorstone washout

Light Standard with Silting

Bent Pile Guide

Damaged Pile guide

Trail Dike Failure

Cypress Tree

Stressed Trees

Dead Trees

Pavilion

Retaining wall and Utility Vault

Flex Hose

Launch Ramp Silt

Silted Parking

Landmarks Blvd

Ridge St

Marian Heights Dr

Discovery Pkwy

Clark Brg

Boat Launch Rd

Post Flood Documentation



Post Flood Documentation

- Cleanup costs significant, unavoidable, and repairable



Alton Flood

Site furnishings require hand washing and in some cases repainting.



Post Flood Lessons Learned

- Extreme conditions will happen; good design can minimize damage
- The right vegetation will survive and revive more quickly.
- Don't forget the impact of flow through a site.

Other Projects

Other Lessons

Clarksville Construction

- Designed for 500 year flood in 2008-2009
- Static from locals “It can’t happen here”
- 2010 Cumberland River Flood

Liberty Park

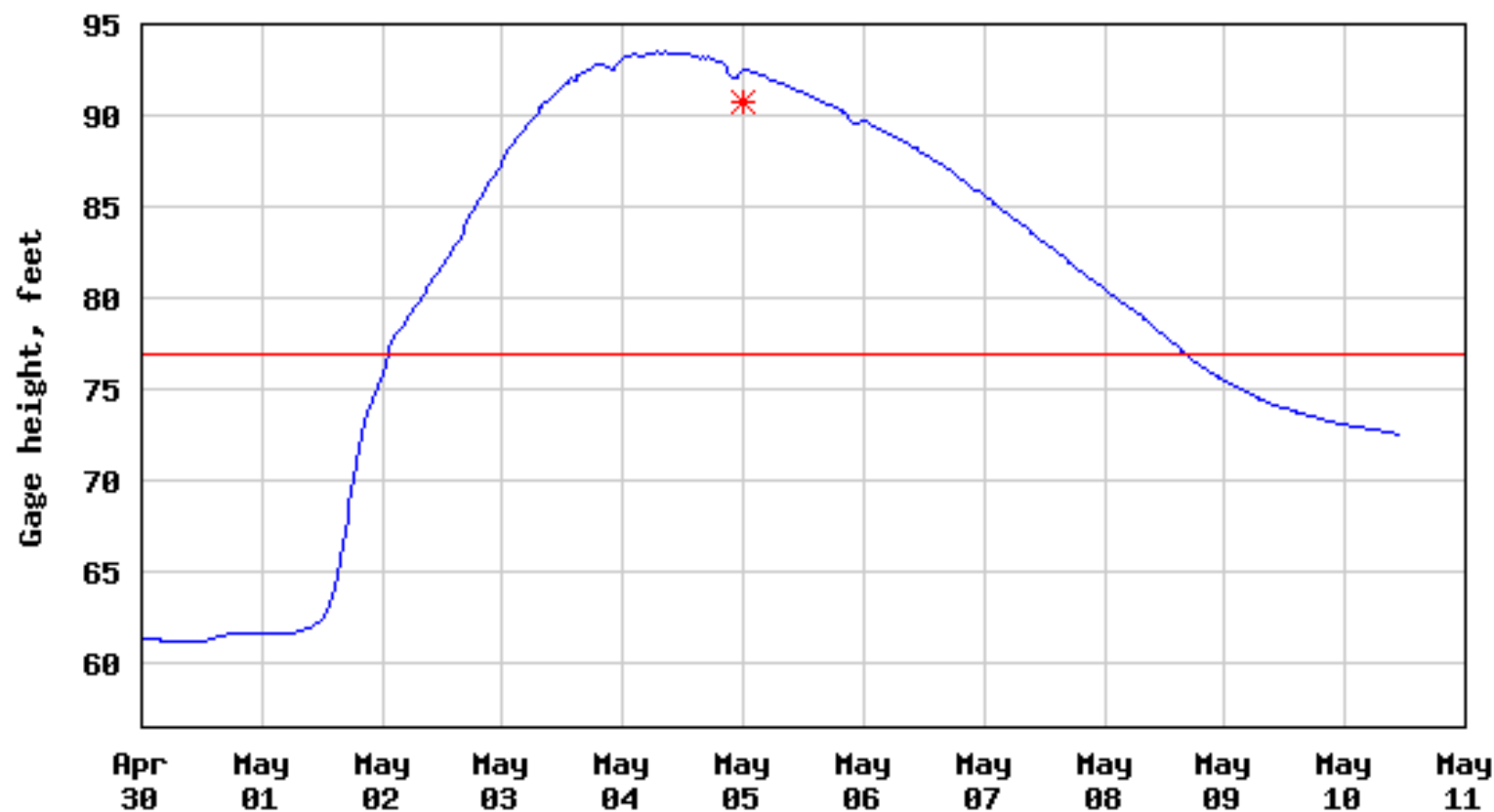
- 37 acres all in flood plain
- All buildings designed to be flood resistant



Liberty Park



USGS 03436500 CUMBERLAND RIVER AT CLARKSVILLE, TENN.



----- Provisional Data Subject to Revision -----

— Gage height

* Measured gage height

— Floodstage

Clarksville- Planning for the worst



Clarksville- Electrical Structure



Floating office and ships store



Owensboro Transient Marina

On the Boards

Owensboro Planning

- 40' Flood heights
- 4-5 knot flow rates
- Debris deflection at all elevations

Owensboro Design



Owensboro

Maintaining Accessibility



Thank You

