

# Future Interstate Study

## *Change :: Resilience :: FHWA perspectives*

**A Presentation by**

**Joe Krolak, P.E.  
Principal Hydraulic Engineer  
FHWA  
Washington DC**

**27 March 2017  
Listening Session**



# Interstates :: Overview

## FHWA, Change, & Resilience

- **Where Are We?**
  - *Quick Current Snapshot*
- **How Did We Get Here?**
  - *Milestones & Lessons*
- **A System of Change**
  - *Beyond Status Quo*
- **Conclusions & Takeaways**

# Interstates :: Our Partners

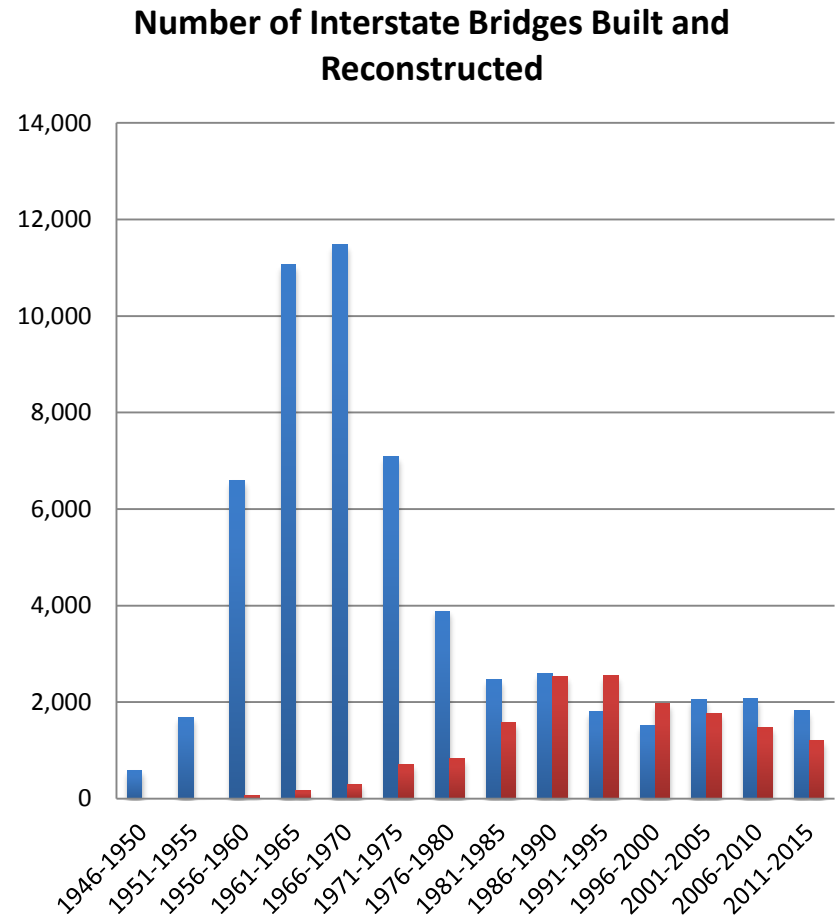


## Bridges & Structures

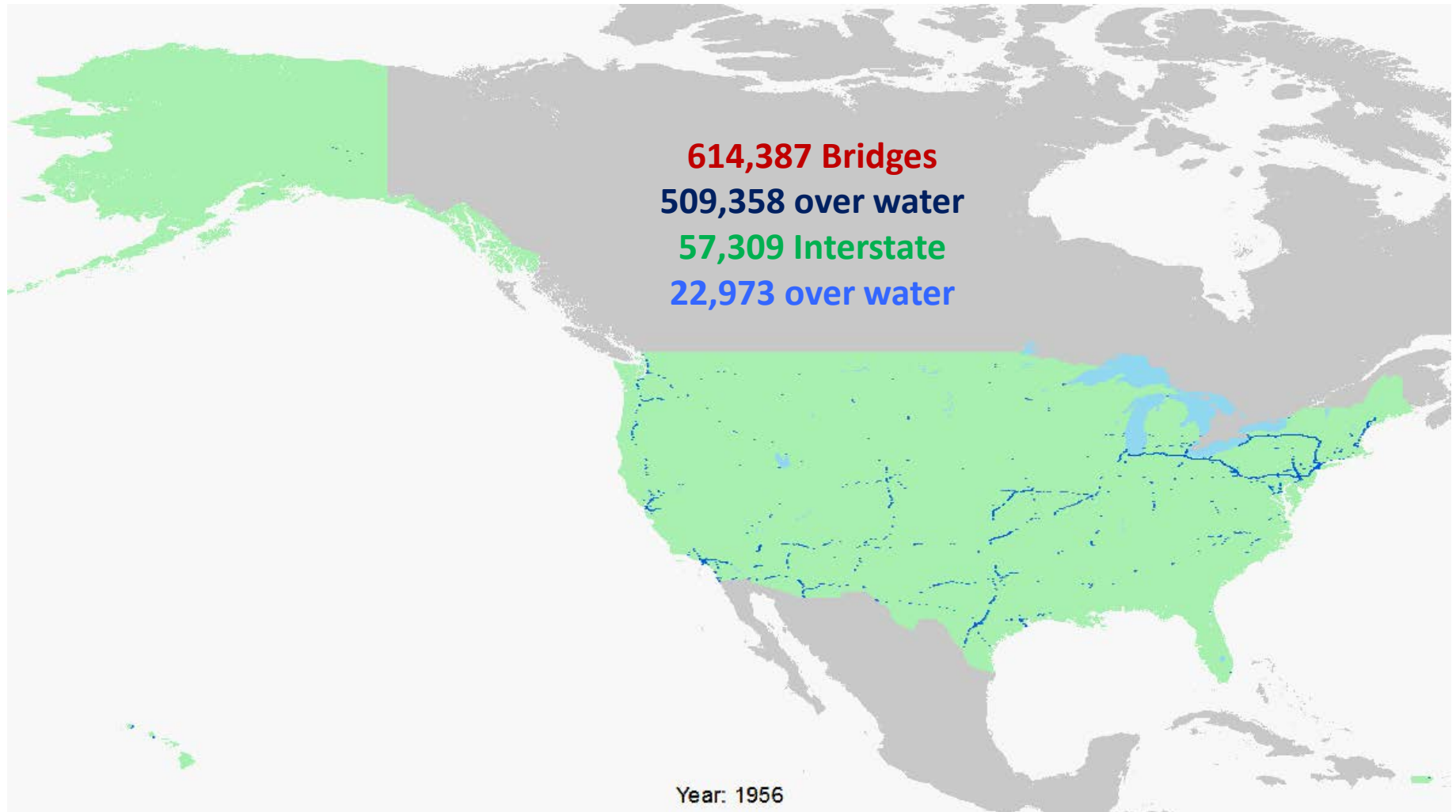
# Interstates :: Where We Are – A Quick Snapshot ...

## Bridges :: A Microcosm of a System

- **Count: 57,309**
  - **Rural: 25,176**
  - **Urban: 32,133**
  - **Over Water: 22,973**
- **Averages**
  - **Year Built: 1973 (44 years)**
  - **Reconstructed : 1993 (24 years)**
  - **Traffic Lanes: 3**
  - **Daily Traffic: 36,540 vehicles**
  - **% Trucks: 17%**



# Interstates :: Bridges over Time ...



# Interstates :: How Did We Get Here?

Presidential terms and some milestones on our journey ...





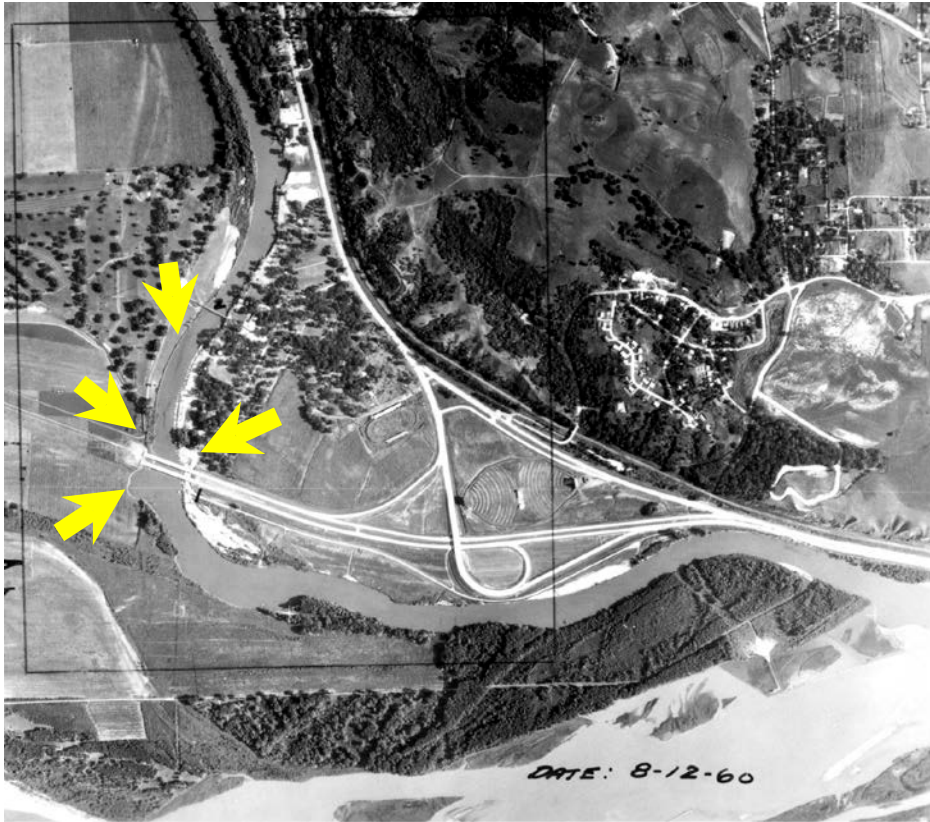
## A Federal Design Standard

*Designs for **all Interstate** culverts and bridges over streams **shall ... accommodate floods at least as great as that for a 50-year frequency** or the greatest flood of record, whichever is the **greater, with the runoff based on the land development expected in the watershed 20 years hence ....***

Policy and Procedure Memorandum 20-4  
Bureau of Public Roads  
*August 10, 1956*

# Interstates :: Uncertainty

## 1 April 1962 :: I-29 Bridge on Big Sioux River







## 1974 :: FHWA Floodplain Regulation

RULES AND REGULATIONS 38331

all lands therein, the Federal share shall be increased by a percentage of the remaining cost equal to the percentage that the area of all such lands in such State is of its total area; or

(2) May be increased to 100 percent of the replacement cost of a comparable facility upon the request of the State when incurred in by the Federal Highway Administrator if the increased payment would be in the public interest.

(3) The Federal share payable for any repair or reconstruction of Federal roads may equal 100 percent of the cost regardless of whether such highways or roads are on any Federal-aid system.

§ 630.507 Eligibility of work.

(a) Emergency funds may participate in:

(1) Repairs to or reconstruction of damaged facilities of the highway within the right-of-way limits. Control features for stream channels outside the highway right-of-way shall not be eligible for emergency funds unless:

(i) The public highway agency has responsibility for the maintenance and proper operation of the stream channel section; and

(ii) The control features are necessary to preserve satisfactory operation of the highway system involved.

(2) Relocation or rebuilding, including costs of right-of-way, at higher elevations and the extension, replacement, or raising of any bridges affected where clearly economically justified to prevent future recurring damage under similar conditions.

(3) Temporary operations, including emergency repairs undertaken during or immediately following the occurrence for the purpose of:

(i) Reducing the extent of the damage;

(ii) Protecting remaining facilities; or

(iii) Restoring travel.

(4) Preliminary engineering, if performed by consultants prior approval of the contract by FHWA is required.

(5) Temporary operations and preliminary engineering as set forth in § 630.507(a)(3) and (4), respectively, may proceed without prior program approval and authorization provided the need for such is subsequently approved by the FHWA. This work must be included in a program to provide a basis for reimbursement.

(c) Permanent restoration work shall not be performed prior to program approval and authorization by the FHWA unless performed as part of an emergency repair project.

(d) Replacement highway facilities having more traffic lanes than the destroyed facility are limited in emergency relief reimbursement to a share of the cost of a new facility to current design standards of comparable traffic capacity to the destroyed facility.

§ 630.508 Submission of programs and allocation of funds.

(a) The FHWA concurrence in the official State proclamation and approval of the State's application is the basis for

emergency funds allocations. After the allocation of emergency funds, the State highway department shall promptly submit a detailed program of projects individually justified and prepared in accordance with Federal-aid highway program procedures to the FHWA for approval.

(b) Authorization letters permitting the State to proceed with an approved program of projects shall establish the obligation of Federal funds.

§ 630.509 Processing of emergency projects.

(a) For projects located on a Federal-aid system, procedure shall be by the State Highway Department in accordance with normal procedures for Federal-aid highway projects.

(b) For eligible projects not located on a Federal-aid system, the surveys and plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E) shall be prepared by:

(1) The agency or organization having jurisdiction over such roads; or

(2) The FHWA and the appropriate agency or organization.

(c) Work shall be undertaken by the contract method where feasible. Requirements of advertising for bids may be waived if:

(1) Such procedure is authorized by State or local law; and

(2) Bids are solicited from a reasonable number of contractors or material supply companies.

The FHWA shall approve any such waiver.

§ 630.510 Expediting emergency projects.

After the approval of programs, all programs shall be constructed promptly as order in the construction of an approved emergency project may result in withdrawal of the project from the approved emergency program.

ROBERT T. FREEMAN,  
Federal Highway Administrator.  
[FR 100-74-2520 FR 10-9-74; 9:49 am]

PART 650—BRIDGES, STRUCTURES,  
AND HYDRAULICS

Hydraulic Design of Highway Encroachment on Flood Plains; Erosion and Sediment Control

Federal Highway Administration's Chapter 1 of Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations is amended by adding thereto: Part 650, Bridges, Structures and Hydraulics; Subpart A—Hydraulic Design of Highway Encroachment on Flood Plains and Subpart B—Erosion and Sediment Control on Highway Construction Projects.

Subpart A relates to the economical use of flood plains consistent with national environmental policies and the lessening of flood losses in connection with federally-financed improvements. Additionally, this part codifies the appropriate elements of the "Flood Hazard Evaluation Guidelines for Federal Executive Agencies," May 1972, published

by the Water Resources Council. Subpart B relates to maintaining water pollution and soil erosion during highway construction.

The matters affected relate to grants, benefits, or programs within the purview of § 115, C. 533(a) (2), therefore, general notice of proposed rulemaking is not required. Therefore, these regulations are effective on the date of issuance set forth below.

Issued on October 3, 1974.  
J. R. COSTA, Jr.,  
Deputy Administrator.

Subpart A—Hydraulic Design of Highway Encroachment on Flood Plains

Sec.  
650.103 Purpose.  
650.107 Design standards.  
650.113 Federal participation in construction costs.

Subpart B—Erosion and Sediment Control on Highway Construction Projects

Sec.  
650.201 Purpose.  
650.203 Policy.  
650.205 Definitions.  
650.207 Plans, specifications, and estimates.  
650.209 Construction.

APPROVED: 23 U.S.C. 315; 49 C.F.R. 148(a).

Subpart A—Hydraulic Design of Highway Encroachment on Flood Plains

§ 650.101 Purpose.

The purpose of this subpart is to prescribe policies and procedures for hydraulic designs for highway projects constructed with Federal-aid funds and projects under the direct supervision of the Federal Highway Administration.

§ 650.103 Policy.

(a) It is the policy of the Federal Highway Administration to encourage a broad and unified effort to prevent un-economic, hazardous or unnecessary use and development of the Nation's flood plains, and in particular to lessen the risk of flood losses in connection with federally-financed improvements; and to comply with the "Flood Hazard Evaluation Guidelines for Federal Executive Agencies," May 1972, published by the Water Resources Council.

(b) It is the policy of the Federal Highway Administration that, where practicable, highway locations shall avoid areas subject to flooding.

§ 650.105 Definitions.

(a) The term "basic flood" shall mean the 100-year flood.

(b) The term "conveyance of the basic flood" shall mean the ability to accommodate passage of the 100-year flood.

(1) Conveyance may be through structure or both through structure and over the highway.

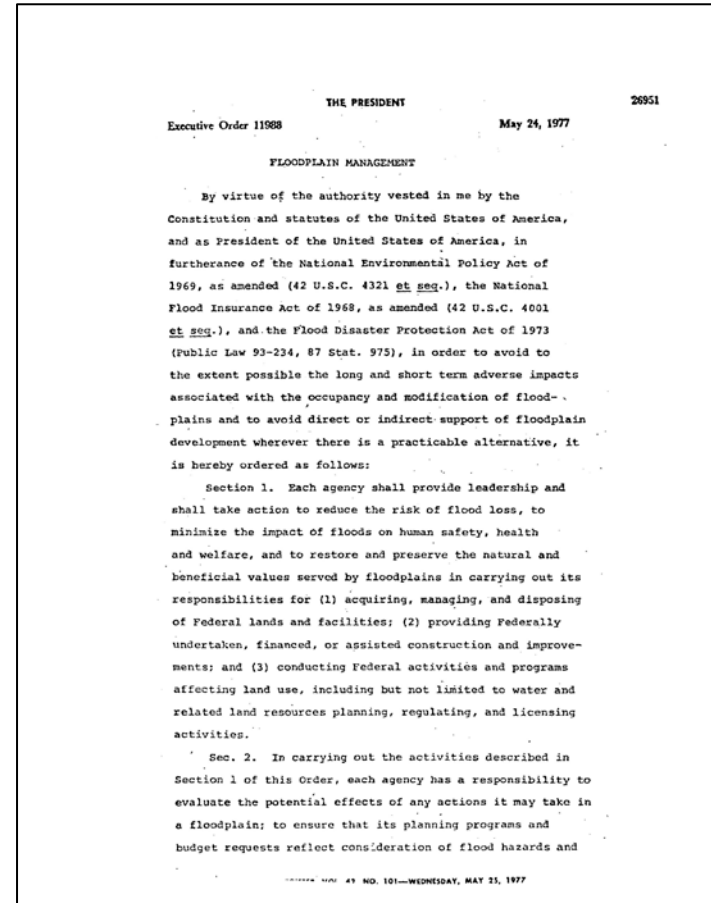
(2) Conveyance along a highway may include foundation of the highway.

(c) The term "design flood" shall mean the peak discharge volume (if appropriate), and stage or wave crest elevation of the flood associated with the recurrence interval selected for the design of a high-



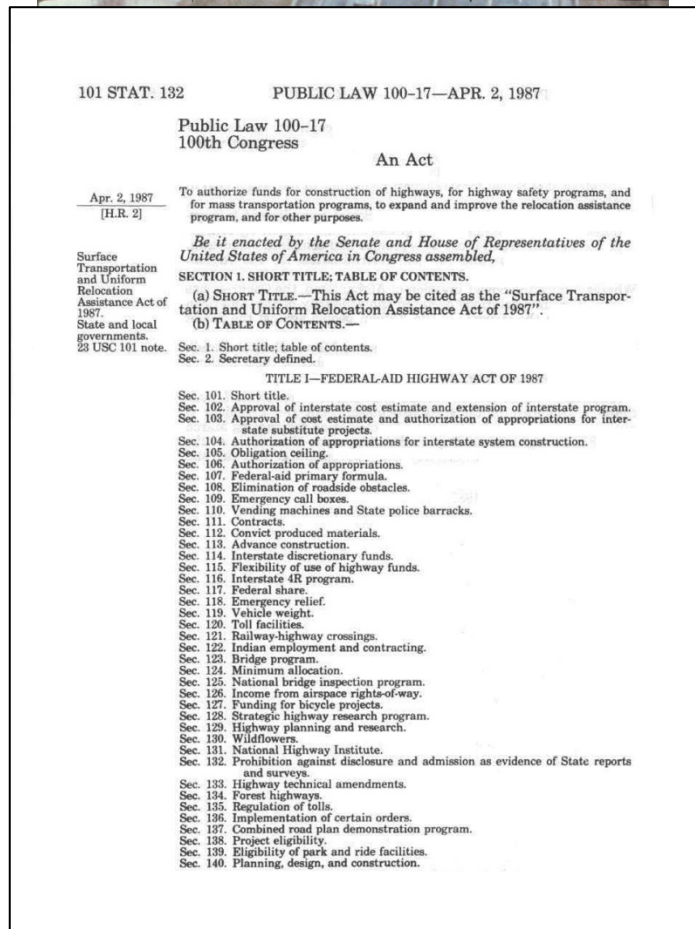
# Interstates :: Integrating NEPA & Floodplains

## 1977 :: Executive Order 11988



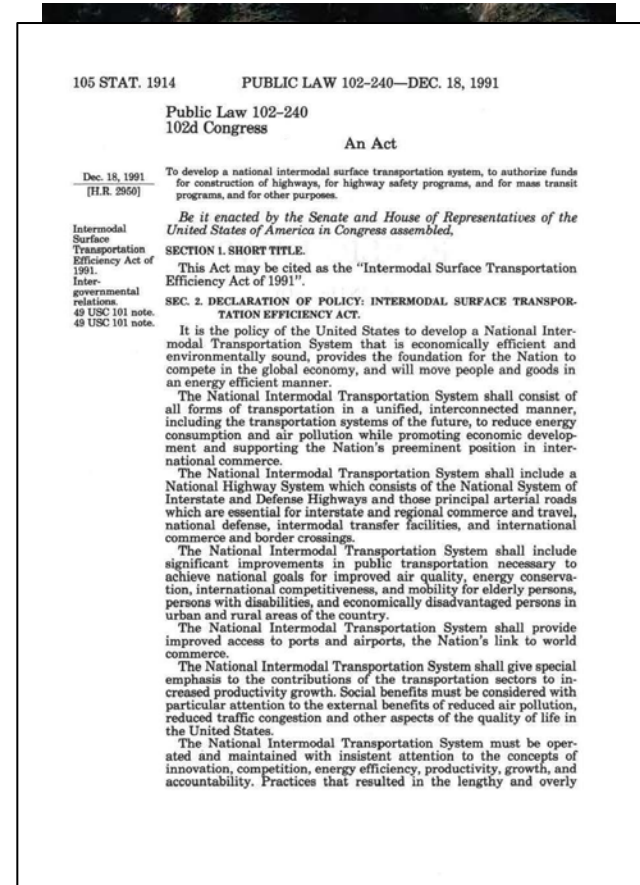
# Interstates :: Not Done Yet!

## I-90 – Schoharie Creek - Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act



# Interstates :: Ending an Era

## I-5 – 1994 Northridge Earthquake Efficiency Act of 1991



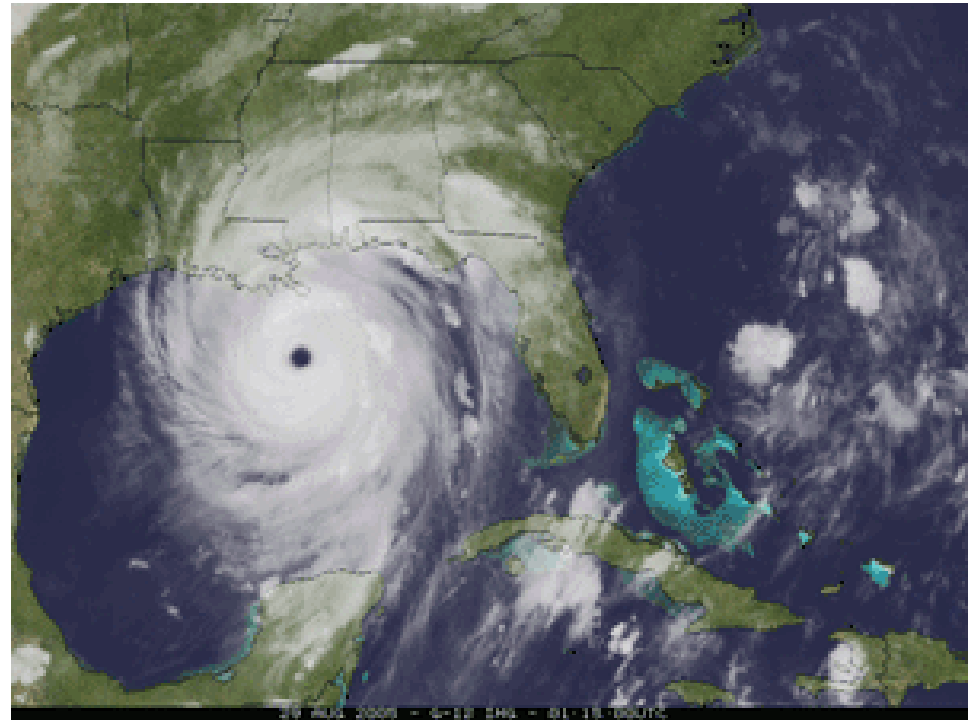
## Example: Floodplains & Transportation

- **Part of Planning Process**
- **Alignment with NEPA on projects**
- **200,000 Bridges built using floodplain regulation**
- **Informs Construction, Maintenance, and ER activities**
- **Integrated in State DOT & AASHTO approaches**



# Interstates :: End of Status Quo?

## Aging Infrastructure & Natural Events



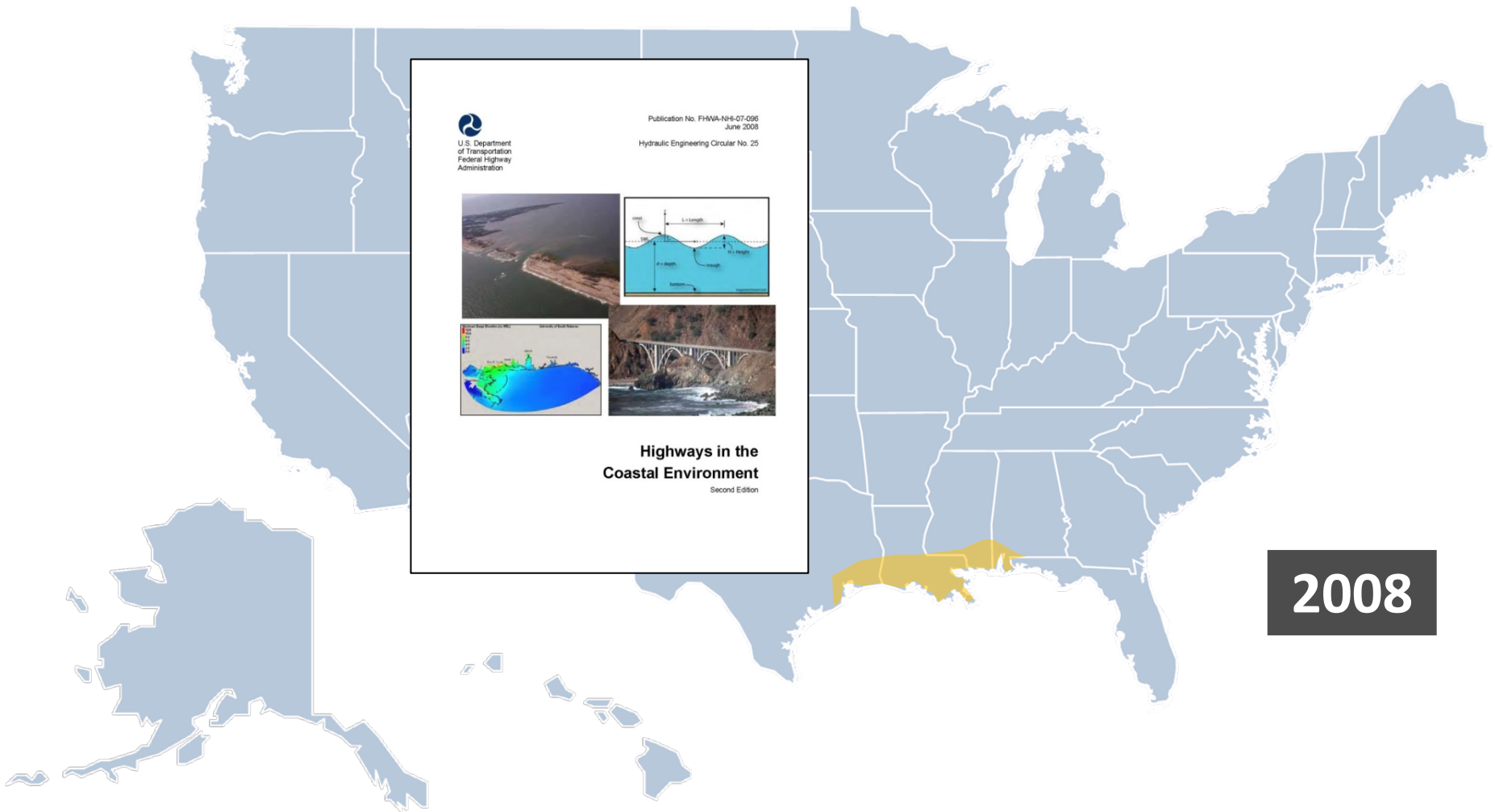
# Interstates :: Resilience to Coastal Events



**2003-2004-2005 :: Coastal Storm Events**



# Outcomes :: Coastal Studies & Guidance



Bridges & Structures

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

Structures

Geotech

Hydraulics

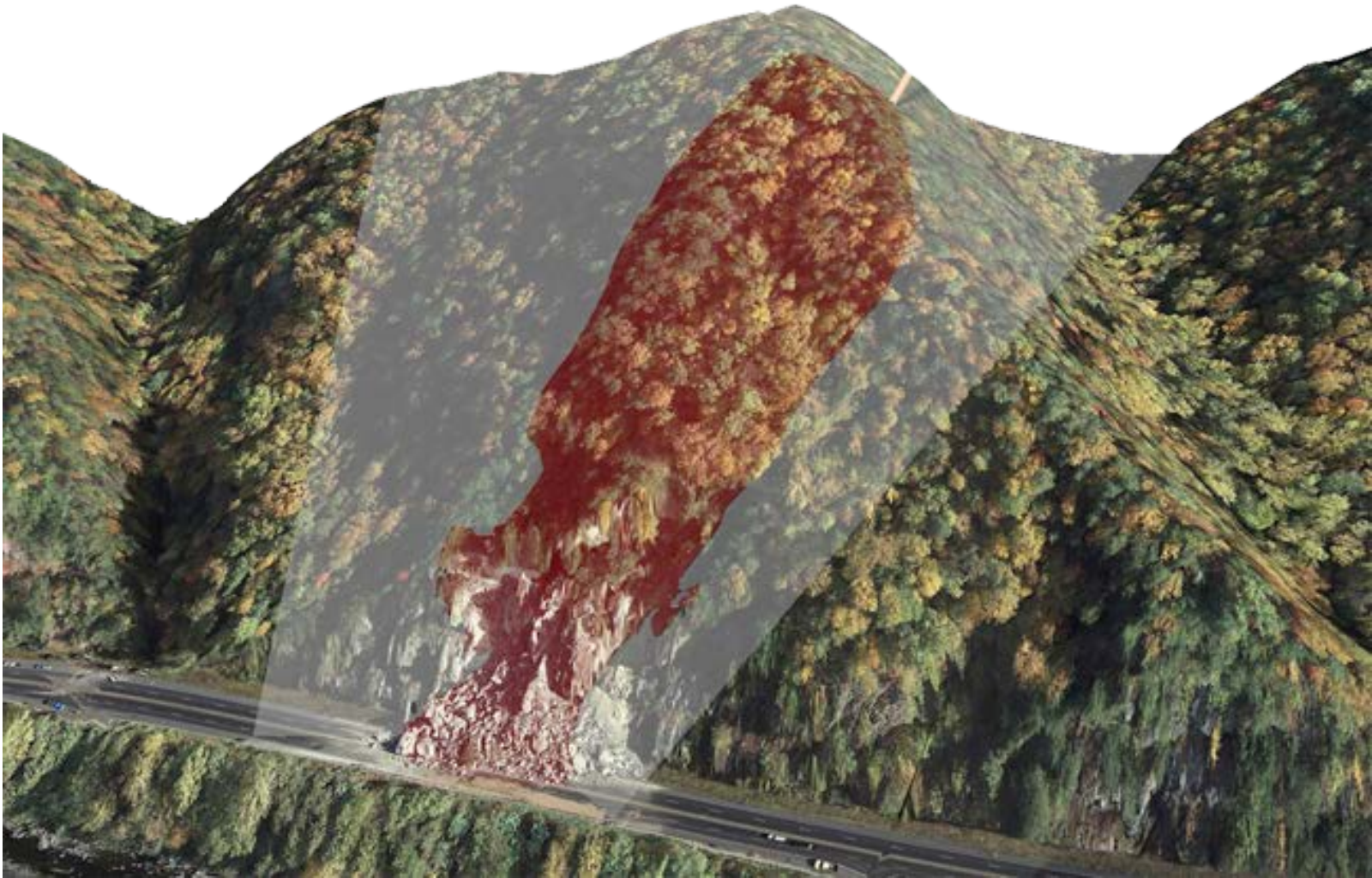
Safety

# Interstates :: Managing Assets & Risk



**I-35W – Mississippi River (2007)**

# Interstates :: GeoHazards



**I-40 – Rockslide (2009)**

# Interstates :: Pavements



**I-20 – Iowa Flooding (2011)**

# Interstates :: An Imperative for Change

## Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

One Hundred Twelfth Congress  
of the  
United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Began and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday,  
the third day of January, two thousand and twelve

An Act

To authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; ORGANIZATION OF ACT INTO DIVISIONS; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act" or the "MAP-21".

(b) DIVISIONS.—This Act is organized into 8 divisions as follows:

(1) Division A—Federal-aid Highways and Highway Safety Construction Programs.

(2) Division B—Public Transportation.

(3) Division C—Transportation Safety and Surface Transportation Policy.

(4) Division D—Finance.

(5) Division E—Research and Education.

(6) Division F—Miscellaneous.

(7) Division G—Surface Transportation Extension.

(8) Division H—Budgetary Effects.

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; organization of Act into divisions; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

Sec. 3. Effective date.

DIVISION A—FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS AND HIGHWAY SAFETY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

TITLE I—FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

Subtitle A—Authorizations and Programs

Sec. 1101. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 1102. Obligation ceiling.

Sec. 1103. Definitions.

Sec. 1104. National Highway System.

Sec. 1105. Apportionment.

Sec. 1106. National highway performance program.

Sec. 1107. Emergency relief.

Sec. 1108. Surface transportation program.

Sec. 1109. Workforce development.

Sec. 1110. Highway user tax evasion projects.

Sec. 1111. National bridge and tunnel inventory and inspection standards.

Sec. 1112. Highway safety improvement program.

Sec. 1113. Congestion mitigation and air quality improvement program.

Sec. 1114. Territorial and Puerto Rico highway program.

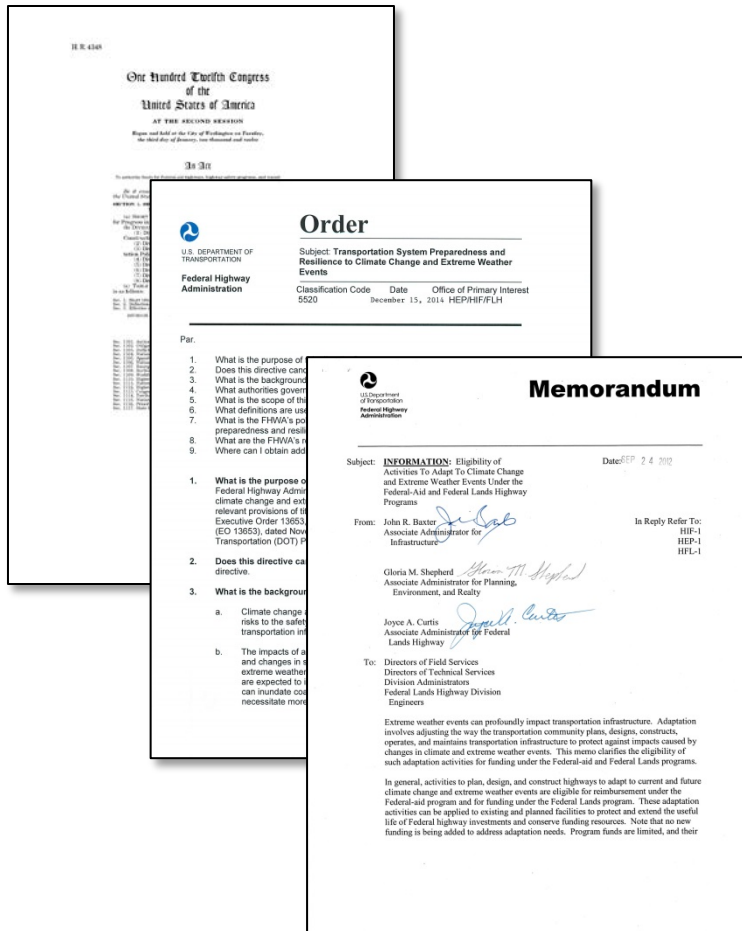
Sec. 1115. National freight policy.

Sec. 1116. Prioritization of projects to improve freight movement.

Sec. 1117. State freight advisory committees.

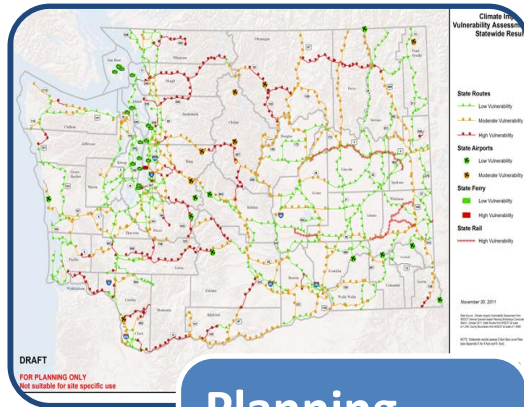


- **FHWA Order 5520**  
**Transportation System Preparedness and Resilience to Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events**
- **Defines & places context of “Extreme Events”**
- **FHWA decides what are appropriate scientific approaches**
- **FHWA “Eligibility Memo”**



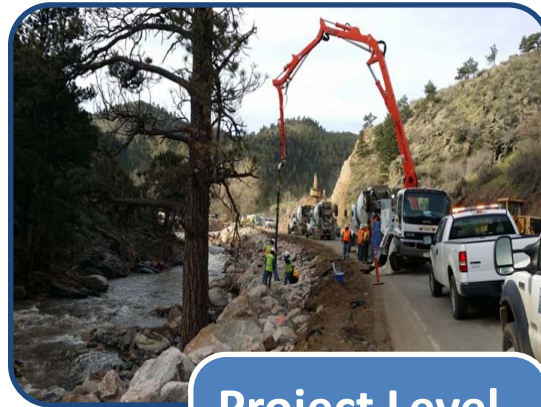
# FHWA Response :: Looking at Project Delivery

**Goal: Mainstream consideration of risk, resilience, and future conditions in transportation decision making**



## Planning

- Long Range Transportation Plans
- Asset Management Plans



## Project Level

- Environmental Processes
- Engineering
- Design

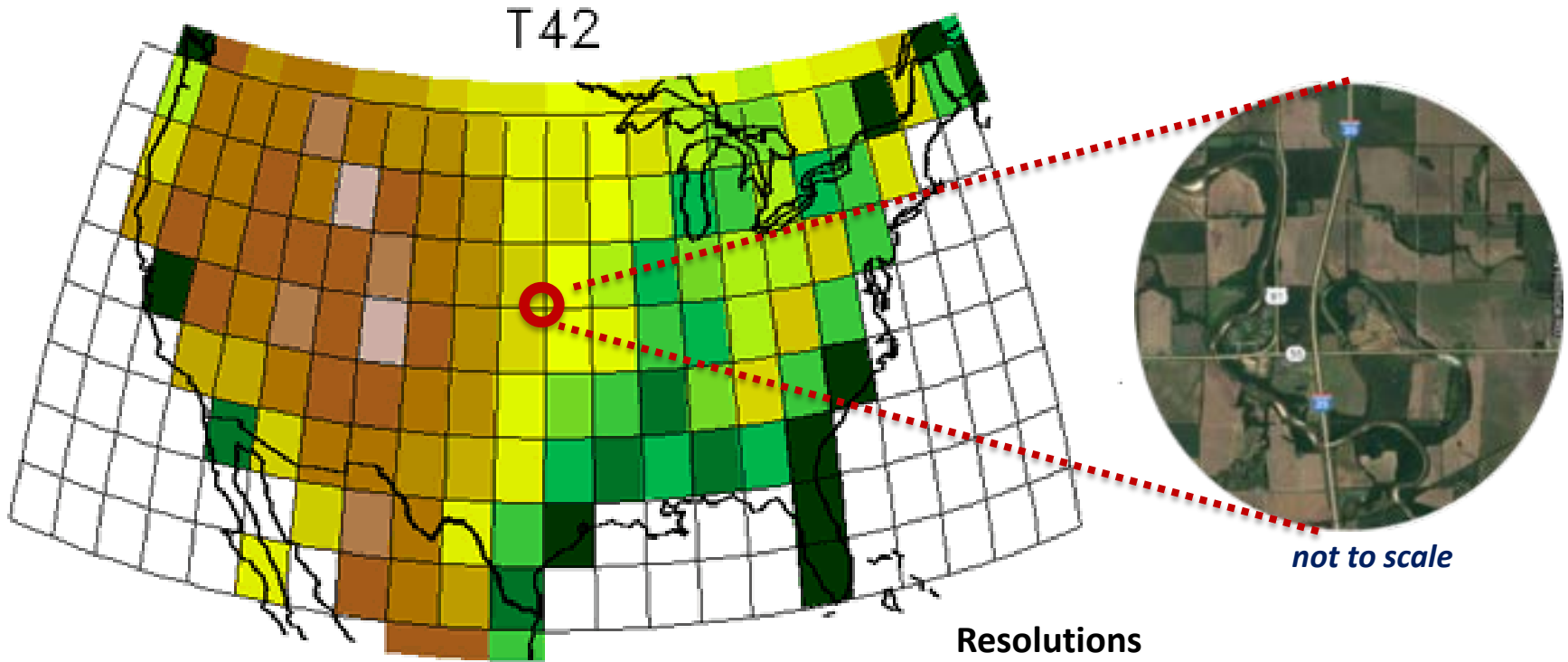


## Operations and Maintenance

- Emergency Relief
- Snow Removal Programs

# FHWA Response: Understanding Science (and limits)

While advancing in complexity, global climate models currently lack required fidelity needed by engineers



Resolution map: Warren Washington, NCAR  
<http://scied.ucar.edu/longcontent/climate-modeling>

## Resolutions

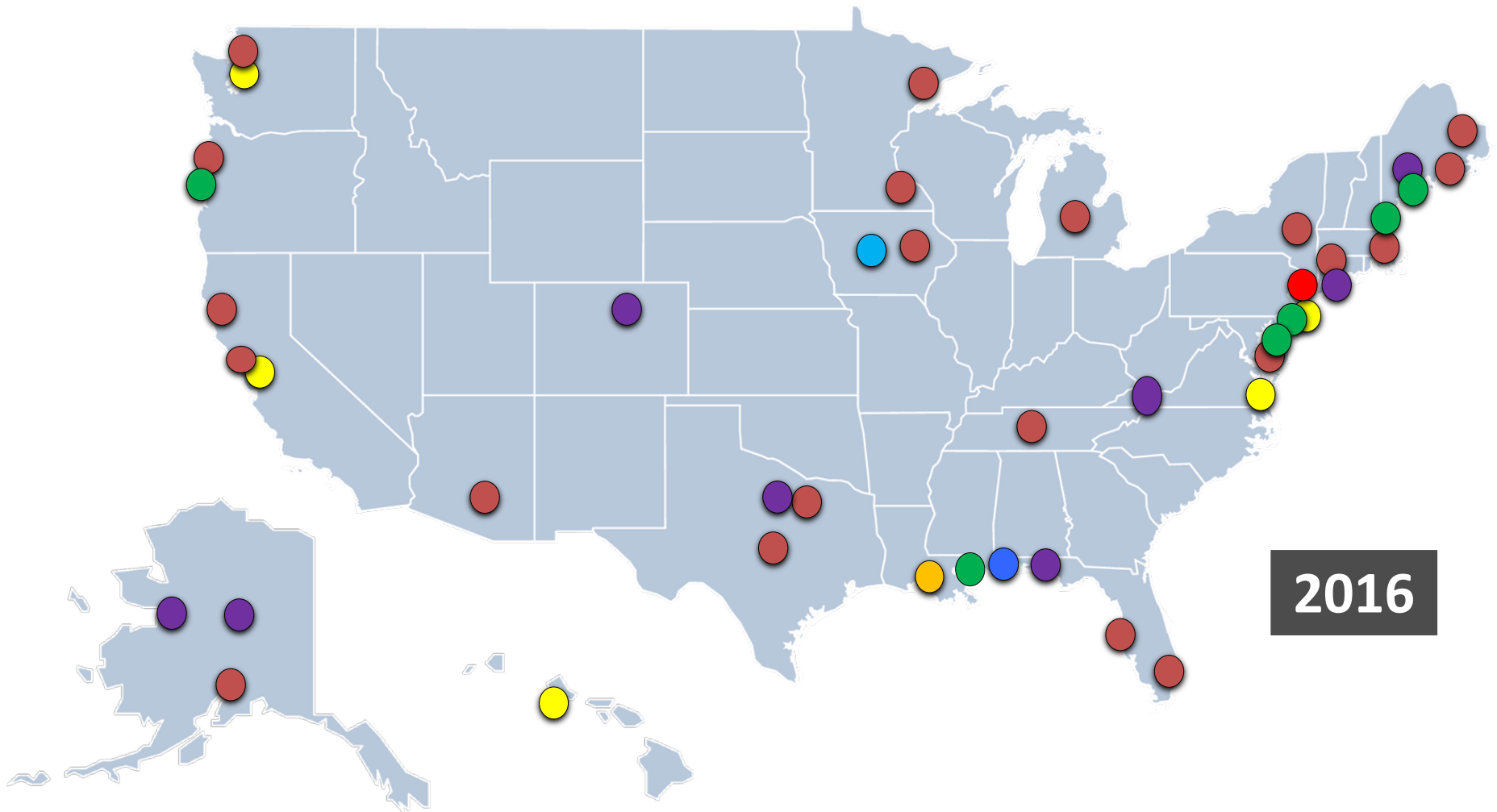
T42: 120 x 180 miles Mid-1990's

T85: 60 x 90 miles Current

T170 & T340 Future



# FHWA Response :: Studies, Pilots, & Case Studies



Bridges & Structures

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration


Structures

Geotech

Hydraulics

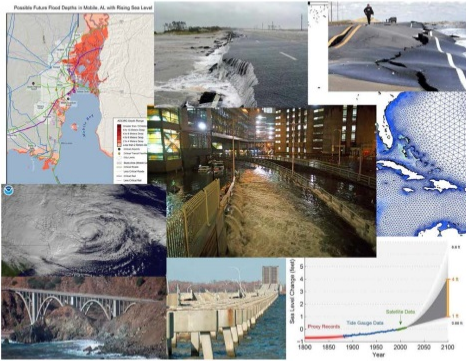
Safety

# FHWA Response :: New Technical Resources


 Publication No. FHWA-NHI-14-006  
October 2014

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

Hydraulic Engineering Circular No. 25 – Volume 2

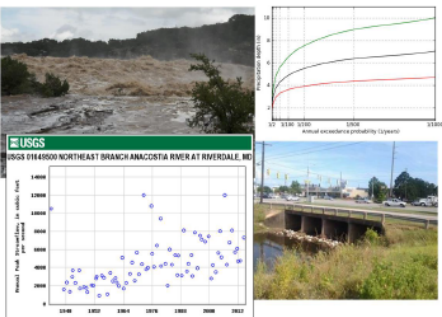


**Highways in the Coastal Environment:  
Assessing Extreme Events**

 Publication No. FHWA-HIF-16-018  
June 2016

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

Hydraulic Engineering Circular No. 17, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition



**Highways in the River Environment-  
Floodplains, Extreme Events, Risk,  
and Resilience**

# FHWA Response :: Encourage New Technologies



**EDC-4 – Collaborative Hydraulics: Advancing to the Next Generation of Engineering**

# Interstates :: What's Next?



# Support :: Future Interstate Study activities

## Future Interstate Study



The Interstate Highway System (IHS) is a key component of the US transportation system. While it makes up only 1.2 percent roadway line-miles of the country's public road system, it handles nearly 25 percent of the total vehicle miles traveled (VMT) annually and almost 40 percent of the nation's total truck traffic. The IHS of today, with a network little changed since its inception, serves more traffic than the entire U.S. road network served when the IHS was authorized in 1956. However, what was once a premier system that stood as a symbol and enabler of American growth and economic vigor is showing its age.

The Future Interstate Study is being done pursuant to Section 6021 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act of 2015 which calls for the Transportation Research Board to conduct "a study on the actions needed to upgrade and restore the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways to its role as a premier system that meets the growing and shifting demands of the 21st century."

# Outreach :: Engage our Partners!



## Bridges & Structures

# Focus :: Direction from Leadership!



**New Administration, new Opportunities**

# Questions?

