

Mark Broadshaug is "all wet" regarding 100 year flood woes.
August 14th, 2014

In Mark Broadshaug's August 11th, 2014 letter to the Fargo Forum he attempts to denigrate proven FEMA flood standards to bolster support for un-proven higher projected levels. FEMA uses a contiguous record to assess flood risk, whereas, the Corps study breaks up the period of record into subsets, which is weighted to support an unproven "wetter period", yet, annual precipitation records do not support that theory.

Fact: Fargo exceeded the most recent FEMA regulatory 100 year flood level by approximately 11.3 inches in 2009 (near 200 year FEMA flood event). (Cited Source USGS and 2012 FEMA Flood Insurance Study)

The U.S. Corps of Engineer and Red River Basin reports failed to include the net effects of flood plain encroachment on rising flood crests and flood risks, which is directly related to new flood insurance requirements.

There is no evidence to support that Fargo will continue to experience greater floods in the future or that the maximum flood hasn't already occurred. Additionally, there is no indication that FEMA intends to adopt the Corps modeling as basis for future flood risk mapping.

Regarding the Long Term Flood Study (LTFS) recommendation for 500-year (0.2 percent probability) level of protection, there is a 99.98 percent chance that the Fargo region wouldn't experience that level of flood event, especially using contrived flood levels that solely support the proposed project.

As a resident of Bakke, we've never flooded nor has Hickson and all but five homes in Oxbow are above the new 100 year flood level.

Regardless, Fargo needs to complete permanent internal flood protection, like the 2nd street floodwall, for the city that exists right now and leave the natural flood plain intact to provide vital flood buffer for the city, rather than spending close to \$70 million on the OHB ring dike.

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