

Alluvial Fan Task Force Draft Findings and Recommendations

May 25, 2010



Outline

To provide a brief overview of the Alluvial Fan Task Force (Task Force) Draft Findings and Recommendations

- Brief History of Task Force (i.e. Authorization, Task Force Purpose and Scope)
- Major Accomplishments (i.e. Integrated Approach, Model Ordinance, Findings and Recommendations Report)
- Overview and Discussion of Findings and Recommendations
- Questions ?



Brief History of Task Force

- CA Floodplain Management Task Force final report (2002) recommended formation of the AFTF
- Assembly Bill 2141 (2004) authorized formation of the Task Force
- Assembly Bill 466 (2005) authorized state funding match
- Funding secured in 2006 through FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning grant
- Thirty-three member Task Force appointed by Former DWR Director, Lester Snow



Task Force Purpose and Scope

- Review state of knowledge regarding alluvial fan floodplains
- Develop local planning tools and a model ordinance on alluvial fan floodplain management for use by local governments
- Provide recommendations relating to alluvial fan floodplain management
- Determine future research needs
- Geographic area includes the 10 counties of Southern California (Los Angeles, Kern, San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, San Diego, Imperial, Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo)



Task Force Findings

Based on research of state of knowledge on alluvial fan floodplains and lessons learned from past development:

- Insufficient understanding of alluvial fan flooding and flood hazards
- Lack of integration of information on hazards, beneficial values, and long-term costs for local land use decisions
- Need for enhanced support for local land use decisions
- Insufficient technical assistance and funding



Task Force Recommendations

- Recommendations based on response to task force
- Four major categories of recommendations:
 - Advance the understanding of alluvial fan flooding and flood hazards
 - Integration of information of other hazards, beneficial values, and long-term costs for local land use decisions
 - Enhanced support for local land use decision
 - Technical assistance and funding



Specific Recommendations to “Advance the Understanding of Alluvial Fan Flooding and Flood Hazards”

1. Floodplain Mapping & FEMA Flood Insurance Studies (FIS)
2. Better Characterization of Alluvial Fan Floodplains
3. Improved Flood Hazard Protection Standards
4. Documentation of Historical Floods
5. Gauged Stream and Precipitation Data
6. Assessment of Existing Debris Basins



Specific Recommendations for “Integration of Information on Alluvial Fan Hazards, Beneficial Values and Long Term- Costs for Local Land Use Decisions”

7. Multiple-Objective Management Strategies
8. Decision Support for Communities



Specific Recommendations for “Enhanced Support of Local Land Use Decisions”

9. Outreach for Integrated Approach
10. Encourage Model Ordinance



Specific Recommendations for “Technical Assistance and Funding”

11. Floodplain Delineation
12. Addressing Long-Term Costs of Development
13. Structural Improvements for Existing Alluvial Fan Flood Management
14. Standards for Community Rating System Points



Questions?

