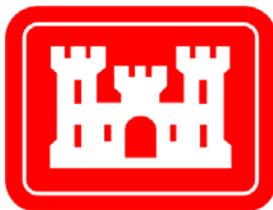


**MACON LEVEE FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT  
OCMULGEE RIVER  
MACON, GEORGIA**

**LEVEE, FLOODWALL, CLOSURE STRUCTURE**

**PERIODIC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 1**

**TEXT AND APPENDICES**



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers ®**

**Savannah District**

**September 2009**

## **Part I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Macon Levee Flood Protection Project is a federally authorized and non-federally operated and maintained, urban flood protection project. The flood protection is located on the west bank of the Ocmulgee River immediately downstream of the City of Macon, Bibb County, Georgia. The system of floodwalls and levees was completed in 1950.

The City of Macon and Bibb County are responsible for operating and maintaining the flood protection system.

The Macon Levee Flood Protection Project was authorized by Congress on 24 July 1946 (House Document No. 560, 79<sup>th</sup> Congress, 2nd Session).

The levee and flood wall were inspected on 16 through 18 June 2009. The local sponsors show an active response to operation and maintenance of the project; however, deficiencies were noted and remedial actions are required. The overall system rating was minimally acceptable.

The main system deficiencies are:

- There has been a vast improvement in regards to vegetative encroachments since the last inspection, particularly between Stations 80+00 and 120+00. Vegetation encroachment into the 15 vegetation free zones continues to be an on-going problem that needs to be addressed by an annual clearing/maintenance program.
- Known underseepage in the vicinity of Station 70+00 to 75+00 is a significant and ongoing concern during high water events.
- Based on the latest hydraulic models completed in the 1990s, the levee is no longer capable of passing the original design flood without overtopping. This is due to construction of Interstate 16 on the opposite side of the Ocmulgee River.
- The potential impacts during flood stages of an abandoned sanitary sewer line that runs parallel to the land side toe of levee should be evaluated.
- Joint filler in the gravity wall sections needs to be replaced.
- All six piezometers need to be rehabilitated so they are functional during flood events.
- The double box culvert at Station 222+60 that controls a large portion of the interior drainage needs to be inspected for obstructions and the two flap gates exercised to verify operability. Water ponding behind the levee in this area appeared higher than observed during past inspections.

The City of Macon Flood Protection Project is rated minimally acceptable; i.e., one or more items are rated minimally acceptable or one or more items are rated as unacceptable. An engineering determination concludes that the unacceptable items would not prevent the system from performing up to its current hydraulic capacity which is the 50-year flood event (2% chance). It was the team determination that repairs should

be made and investigations completed as recommended within two years from the time of the inspection.

The next periodic inspection is scheduled for FY 2014.