Note 1: Dikes are shown for reference purposes and do not represent the actual levees. The dikes were constructed to provide a setback from the floodplain and were not intended to be levees. The Flood Control Act of 1944 is the major flood control legislation in the United States. It was enacted to provide flood control measures, including levees, to reduce the risk of flooding on public and private lands. The flood control levees are designed to protect the levee system from damage caused by floods.