



Responding to an Emergency at a Small Embankment Dam, a Case Study

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In November 2025, the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for a small embankment dam was activated after uncontrolled seepage was found to be eroding the embankment. The presentation will review response activities including investigation of the failure mechanism; mobilization of the response team; public notifications; regular monitoring; safe drawdown; and the design, permitting, and implementation of an emergency authorization to restore safety. Also reviewed will be the tradeoffs between timing and prioritizing various response actions considering the risk to public safety and uncertainty of winter weather.