



OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Hazard Mitigation projects a success in December 2015 Winter Storms

As we learn about the damage from current flooding in Oregon, it is important to also remember that property is being protected because of flood mitigation projects in Oregon.

Recently, [Oregon's Silver Jackets](#) were awarded Silver Jackets of the Year for 2015 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for their work in flood risk management. Some of the projects are now helping protect Vernonia during the current flooding.

In 2007, flood damages to the Sentry Market and Vernonia schools prompted mitigation projects with Oregon Office of Emergency Management and FEMA. A wall was built around the Sentry Market after it sustained over \$300,000 in damages. Photos taken on Dec. 8 show the flooding outside the market and almost no water entering the building. On Dec.9, the Sentry Market was even open for business! Vernonia High School was rebuilt in a new location on higher ground. Where it stood previously is under floodwaters, but Vernonia High School is safe and dry and provided shelter for those displaced by the current flooding.

Thank you to the OEM Mitigation staff for all your hard work to help protect Oregon communities and congratulations on your award!



View from inside R & S Market (previously called Sentry Market) of the "stop log" keeping flood waters out.



View from the top of the "stop log" of the flood waters outside the Market.