

The purpose of the Community Assistance Program – State Support Services Element (CAP-SSSE) is to provide, through a State grant mechanism, a means to ensure that communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) are achieving the flood loss reduction goals of the NFIP. CAP-SSSE is intended to accomplish this by funding States to provide technical assistance to NFIP communities and to evaluate community performance in implementing NFIP floodplain management activities with the additional goal of building community floodplain management expertise and capability.

Outline:

I. State authority:

Under Louisiana Revised Statutes 38:84, the Louisiana Legislature designated the Department of Public Works of Louisiana as the NFIP State Coordinating Agency for the State. The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development is the successor agency to the Department of Public Works.

II. Vision for floodplain management in Louisiana

Through communication, education and technical assistance the State will seek to implement within each National Flood Insurance Program Community a comprehensive floodplain management process capable of exceeding the Federal Emergency Management Agency flood loss reduction goals.

III. State strategy to improve floodplain management

A. Five-year State Floodplain Management Plan

The State will develop and implement a 5-year comprehensive floodplain management plan.

B. Ordinance Assistance

Louisiana has in excess of 288 active or potential NFIP communities. Each community creates and maintains the floodplain management process locally. Louisiana will strive to contact each community newly identified through Map Mod to

inform them of our availability and assistance during the five-year plan period of fiscal year 2005 through 2009. The State assumes the first contact will be associated with ordinance assistance.

C. Community Assistance Visits (CAVs) and Community Assistance Contacts (CACs)

Comprehensive community assistance visits are proposed. These assessments will include touring the floodplains (with specific emphasis in repetitive loss areas and areas with submit-to-rate or substantial damage questions), reviewing permit procedures and ordinances and meeting with local officials. A report will be submitted documenting the CAV including an evaluation of the community's floodplain management activities and follow-up assistance required. Community Assistance Contacts and Telcacs are proposed.

D. Community Information System (CIS)

The CAV, CAC and Telecac reporting process will include entering the data into the Community Information System (CIS).

E. Education, Workshops and Other Training

During fiscal years 2003 and 2004 Louisiana, under HMTAP 1437, initiated and took the lead role in the organization and preparation of a new "Louisiana Floodplain Management Desk Reference." This task will include a power-point presentation for educational purposes. Louisiana's education goals include:

1. Distribution of one hardcopy of the Desk Reference to each of the 288 participating communities and each community newly identified through Map Mod during the five-year plan period for fiscal years 2005 through 2009.
2. Providing a copy of the Desk Reference on CD upon request.
3. Maintaining the Desk Reference on a website.

4. Coordinating workshop curriculum with the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association to provide an opportunity for Continuing Education Unit credits to the state's Certified Floodplain Managers.
5. Production and distribution of a quarterly newsletter.
6. The State may proctor the CFM exam in the fall, giving Louisiana community officials two opportunities to take the exam in-state annually (The exam is given at the LFMA conference).

F. General Technical Assistance

The State will respond to requests from individuals, government agencies, private firms or other interested parties regarding information, regulations or promotion of Floodplain Management within the State of Louisiana.

G. Program Coordination, Staff Development and Continuing Education

The State will participate in two (2) program coordination meetings with FEMA staff for the purpose of coordinating the State's activities under the CAP-SSSE. Two staff members may be required to attend these meeting at designated locations within FEMA Region VI. One individual will attend the Region VI Partnership meeting. Staff members will attend the National Association of State Floodplain Managers Annual Conference. Representation from the State office will attend the Louisiana Floodplain Managers Association Conference. Other meetings, workshops and training sessions may be added as deemed necessary by FEMA including the Floodproofing Conference.

H. Post Disaster Assistance

The State will assist communities in conjunction with Presidentially declared or non-declared disasters by offering support to NFIP communities in order to minimize future flood losses and reduce the vulnerability of recurring flood disasters as well as participate on hazard mitigation teams.

I. Community Rating System Application Assistance

The State will provide application assistance to NFIP participating communities. Application assistance may be in the form of general inquiries, modification assistance as well as verification, re-verification and/or modification visits.

J. Project Application Review

The State will respond to requests from state and federal agencies, private engineering and architect firms and individuals regarding NFIP requirements in connection with their proposed projects. The reviews can include LADOTD highway and enhancement projects and USDA funded projects and applications for the Hazard Mitigation Program and Flood Mitigation Program funding.

K. Mapping Assistance

The State may participate in project scoping meetings on an “as needed” basis and will continue assisting the Region and the Region’s contractor in NFIP compliance efforts related to updated floodplain mapping.

The State of Louisiana will coordinate with Region VI to determine variations to the mix of activities due to Map Modernization or Post Disaster Assistance.

IV. Needs analysis and gap assessments

1. The State of Louisiana proposes a need to produce a minimum of 50 hardcopies of the Louisiana Desk Reference annually to present to the new communities identified as a result of the Map Modernization Program.

2. The State of Louisiana feels there is a strong and urgent need to scan all of the original FHBMs, FIRMs and FIS on microfiche in the LA State Coordinating Agency Office and the Region VI office and make them available online similar to the “firmettes.” With the implementation of Map Mod the firmettes currently available online could also be included in a “historical” map site. Our office receives a growing

number of requests for copies of these old maps to assist policyholders in Louisiana receive grandfathered rates. The microfiche reader and printer available at DOTD are rapidly becoming obsolete, with our office being the only users of the equipment (One-time monetary commitment).

3. This office also feels a strong need for a “lafloods” website. We must always ask another state agency to include our information on their site, such as, our newsletter, our community database information, our handbook and possible historic maps. Our site within LADOTD is buried beneath several layers that are not user friendly to the normal citizen looking for NFIP information.

4. This office also feels there is a strong need for monetary reward to State partners for achieving CFM status.

This table does not address any of the above mentioned needs.

Proposed Budget for Five-Year Floodplain Management Plan

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Salary						
NFIP Manager		50,000	52,000	54,080	56,244	58,494
Coordinator 2		40,000	41,600	43,264	44,995	46,795
Coordinator 2		40,000	41,600	43,264	44,995	46,795
Coordinator 1		38,500	40,040	41,642	43,308	45,041
Support Staff		10,000	10,400	10,816	11,249	11,699
Fringe		44,625	46,410	48,266	50,197	52,206
Travel		10,000	10,300	10,609	10,927	11,255
Supplies		3,000	3,090	3,183	3,278	3,377
Total		236,125	245,440	255,124	265,193	275,662
Current Funding Levels	Federal (75%)	162,041	162,041	162,041	162,041	162,041
	State (25%)	54,014	54,014	54,014	54,014	54,014
Potential Funding Gaps		20,070	29,385	39,069	49,138	59,607

V. State Performance Measures

Elements	Targets					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Improve the % of communities that adopt new maps by the FIRM effective date.	Establish Baseline	10	10	10	10	10
Improve the % of communities that adopt new maps prior to the 30 day letter being sent.	Establish Baseline	10	10	10	10	10
Increase the number of newly identified, as a result of Map Mod, flood prone communities enrolled in the NFIP	Establish Baseline	10	10	10	10	10
Increase the number of CRS communities or CRS class improvements	Establish Baseline	2	2	2	2	2
Increase number of applicants taking CFM Exam	Establish Baseline	5	5	5	5	5