

THE INSIDER

A Publication
for Members

January
2010

The Association of State Floodplain Managers

2809 Fish Hatchery Rd., Madison, WI 53713 www.floods.org
608-274-0123 Fax: 608-274-0696 memberhelp@floods.org

Deputy Executive Director's Report - George Riedel, CFM

I hope everyone had a Happy and Safe 2009 Holiday. 2009 was a challenge financially for many of our members, partners, and friends. ASFPM was not exempt from financial challenges in 2009. ASFPM has so far been able to weather the tough economic times by tightening our financial belt and ensuring funds were spent wisely in order to maintain ASFPM's member benefits and services. Hopefully, 2010 will be a better year financially for everyone. ASFPM will continue to operate prudently and wisely to ensure our members of a strong and vibrant organization.

The Association had a very busy year in 2009, both on national policy and with member services. This past year, the Association was heavily involved nationally with lots of legislation, the proposed revision of Executive Order 11988, the new "National Objectives, Principles, and Standards for Water and Related Resources Implementation Studies," the NFIP Reform, and the National Levee Safety Committee. ASFPM continues to be involved with and participate with representatives of the insurance industry regarding insurance reform; the Interagency Flood Risk Management Committee consisting of NAFSMA, USACE, and FEMA which discusses national approaches on flood risk management; and with FEMA, the Program Management and Production teams and our mapping partners to discuss Risk MAP and map maintenance.

Internally, ASFPM continues to grow. The membership was up in 2009. There were 14,000 members in 2009 including all of our national and chapter members. The CFM Program continued to grow in 2009 as well. Currently, there are over 6,300 CFMs nationwide. During the past year, Reliability and Validity testing of the CFM Exam and Certification Program was initiated and is nearly completed. A final report will be completed this spring. This report, with recommendations, will be a guide to the Association to ensure the CFM Program is maintained at a professional level nationally.

In This Issue

Click on any of the following links, or simply scroll down for entire newsletter.

[Deputy Executive Director's Report](#)
[Annual National Conference Update](#)
[Larson Appointed to FEMA's National Advisory Committee](#)
[National Awards Submittal Deadline](#)
[Addressing Urban Pluvial Flooding in Europe](#)
[New! ASFPM Training Deployment Many Agencies, One Solution – Reducing Risk](#)
[Reminder: CRS Award Deadline](#)
[Updated Principles and Guidelines for Water and Land Related Resources](#)
[Five-Star Restoration Grants Program](#)
[CRS Task Force - Summary of Actions](#)
[Washington Legislative Report](#)
[WWW.FLOODS.ORG Corner](#)
[CFM Corner](#)
[News from Chapters](#)
[Floodplain Mgmt. Training Calendar](#)
[Job Corner](#)

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR ASFPM MEMBERSHIP FOR 2010!!

Don't risk losing your valuable member benefits – send your renewal form and payment to the ASFPM office now!

The Association continued to provide training modules in 2009 to be used by our members and chapters. ASFPM released “CFM Refresher” and “Floodplain 101” training modules this past year. Additionally, the Association revised and updated our website to better assist our members, local officials, general public, and media in obtaining information in an easy to use and friendly manner.

ASFPM’s 2009 Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida, was a success with over 1,300 participants attending this event. ASFPM staff is now working diligently in getting ready for the 2010 Annual Conference in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in May 2010. With the Annual Conference comes the election of ASFPM Officers, Regional Directors, and Chapter Directors. Nomination requests for these positions will be sent to all 2010 paid ASFPM members in February. **Please renew your 2010 ASFPM membership in order to participate in the nomination and election of ASFPM Officers, Regional Directors, and Chapter Directors.**

As you can see, 2009 was a busy and successful year for the Association. This can only occur with member involvement and participation. We seek your input and your involvement in all Association activities in order to make 2010 a successful year.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Annual National Conference Update - Oklahoma City, May 16-21, 2010



It's time to make sure your travel authorization is approved to attend the world's most comprehensive floodplain management conference! The Conference Team is now finalizing the program schedule and confirming all of the speakers.

The Conference Brochure, including registration materials for participants and exhibitors, will be available on the ASFPM website the last week in January. Once again this year, online registration will be available for all Individual Members. Please keep an eye on the website for continuing updates as they are available. Also, if your organization is interested in gaining national exposure, there are plenty of sponsorship opportunities remaining. Contact Conference Planner Chad Ross at chad@floods.org for more information.

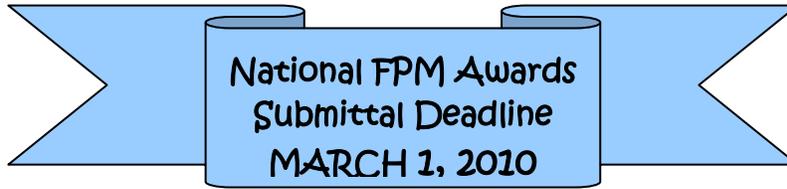
[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Larry Larson Appointed to FEMA’s National Advisory Committee

The Association of State Floodplain Manager's Executive Director, Larry A. Larson, has been appointed to FEMA's National Advisory Council and will be sworn in at its February meeting.

You can read the full announcement on our website at:
<http://www.floods.org/n-news-hottopics/article.asp?id=28>

[Return to Table of Contents](#)



The national awards for excellence in flood loss reduction are conferred at the annual floodplain managers conference each spring, and you are invited to feature YOUR outstanding local or state program or person! The 2010 ceremony will be held at the annual ASFPM Awards luncheon, noon Thursday May 20, at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Please see the Award categories and submittal instructions at <http://www.floods.org/awardsform.asp>. Make sure you complete this online submission by the March 1 deadline; it will not be extended since the conference is a month earlier this year. It is highly recommended that you attach applicable letters of support for your nomination. You may direct any questions to Diane Brown in the ASFPM office at diane@floods.org or call her at 608-441-3003. Winners will be notified in April to allow time to make travel arrangements. We appreciate your help in showcasing what works, as we commemorate those who reduce flood damages in the nation and make flood risk management an achievable reality. Congratulations to those who received national awards in 2009 – you can see them at:

<http://www.floods.org/index.asp?menuid=396&firstlevelmenuid=179&siteid=1>.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Addressing Urban Pluvial Flooding in Europe

By: Alan Lulloff, ASFPM Science Services Program Manager

The Urban Flood Management Conference – “Road Map Towards a Flood Resilient Urban Environment”, held Thanksgiving Day and Black Friday 2009 in Paris, France, was a joint effort of the International Hydrological Program of UNESCO and EU COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology). Two terms used frequently at the conference were pluvial flooding and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS). The term “pluvial” comes from the Latin word “*pluvilis*” meaning “rain” and describes a climate characterized by persistent heavy rainfall. SUDS are measures used to reduce the impact of pluvial flooding.

Non-structural responses promoted at the conference include source control measures (e.g. green roofs), detention structures (e.g. ponds, swales) and infiltration techniques (filter drains, soakaways). These are similar to the Low Impact Development (LID) approaches being used in the US. For urban areas to be flood resilient, objectives identified were: a) warning people of an impending flooding, b) protecting existing infrastructure, c) maintaining transport and communication through the worst possible event and d) minimizing urban flooding in future cities/suburbs through improved master drainage plans. Major themes at the conference were urban population growth, uncertainties in flooding caused by climate change and the need for non-traditional approaches to manage urban flood risks.

According to the United Nations, the world's urban population is projected to grow at an average annual rate of 1.8 per cent, nearly double the rate expected for the total population of the world (1 per cent per year). Urban flooding is in particular a problem in developing countries due to the general lack of infrastructure, emergency planning and land use controls.

Climate change is causing increased inundation due to accelerated Sea Level Rise and increased pluvial flooding due to extreme storm events. Evaluating the impacts of climate change provides opportunities to think long term and to reform traditional urban planning systems and flood management approaches.

Extreme storm events that are occurring with increased frequency and intensity are causing severe pluvial flooding in urban areas. Countries are working to refine the global climate models to provide better clarity to how significantly climate change is impacting rainfall intensity in their regions. Regional model simulations for a case study in Norway show that in the next few decades, annual flooding will increase by 31% and Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) will increase by 33%.



Picture 1. Elevated Manhole in Venice
- Photo by Kate Barrett

One case study presented was Venice, Italy. In Venice, surge protection is being constructed on barrier islands to reduce the impact of storm surge, manholes are being elevated, flood closures across door openings are being promoted and temporary wooden walkways are installed during flood events. In addition, the city is promoting jacking up buildings (at an estimated cost of \$4,000 per sq. ft.) as a long term solution to the Sea Level Rise/subsidence problems the city is facing.



Picture 2. Flood Closures on Doorways
in Venice - Photo by Alan Lulloff

Urban flooding requires a heavier focus on pluvial flood management approaches. Stormwater systems are aging and were not designed to handle extreme rainfall events that have become more frequent. Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) are common in Europe and further complicate the issue. Underground subways have for decades been a concern however more recently underground parking is becoming a flood risk in many of the major cities in Europe. After a major rain event these underground facilities can become death traps.

Take away message: An emerging strategy in flood risk management (FRM) is development of resilient cities using a multi objective optimization approach and giving priority to Non

Structural Responses (NSRs). These NSRs were summarized as the 4As: assistance, alleviation, awareness and avoidance. Furthermore, SUDS can help cities address pluvial flooding and achieve a resilient built environment (RBE). FRM = NSR + 4As + SUDS--> RBE

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

New! ASFPM Training Deployment

As some of you know, in December ASFPM deployed the “Floodplain Management 101” training module to our chapters and the state floodplain management offices. Previous to that, ASFPM deployed the CFM® Refresher Course to the same contact list. These courses are made available to our chapters and state floodplain management office contacts at no cost. Training materials include fully developed Instructor Guide, Student Manual, PowerPoint presentation, Activities, Exercises, Resource Materials, and Course Administration materials.

Chapters and States are provided with broad instructor selection criteria (so they can identify qualified individuals in their states to teach), and use guidelines to they may deploy and schedule training in their states. We’ve asked them to charge only what it costs to put a workshop on so that continuing education

is as affordable as possible for attendees. Initial responses from states and chapters has been overwhelmingly positive:

"I just wanted to thank ASFPM for the FPM 101 training materials you provided to our office. When I opened the DVD, I was pleasantly surprised at the amount of content available, and how neatly organized it was...Thanks again for this invaluable tool to assist the States during this difficult economic time."

ASFPM has more training in the works and is scheduled to deploy the next module, "Building Public Support for Floodplain Management" in early 2010. Training workshops using these materials are already being scheduled- check the ASFPM Event Calendar for postings in your area: <http://www.floods.org/n-calendar/calendar.asp>.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Many Agencies, One Solution - Reducing Risk:

Recently, new initiatives have been launched in an effort to enhance interagency partnerships.

The Silver Jackets Program is initiating or supporting state-level teams nationwide. Silver Jackets are continuously operating, state-led, interagency collaborative teams working together to reduce flood risk. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is teaming with states, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and other federal, state and local agencies to provide a unified approach to addressing a state's priorities. No single agency has the 100 percent solution -- each has one or more pieces, similar to squares in a patchwork quilt. The Silver Jackets program can be viewed as the quilting bee, the forum where all agencies come together to combine their squares and implement a solution.

Silver Jackets teams facilitate strategic life-cycle flood risk reduction, ensuring continuous coordination and collaboration. Teams create or supplement a formal mechanism to collaboratively solve state-prioritized issues and implement or recommend those solutions. Processes are improved while leveraging resources and information. Teams frequently establish goals to improve and increase flood risk communication through a unified interagency message. Multiple teams have updated their state's Hazard Mitigation Plan or implemented actions prioritized in their Mitigation Plans. The close relationships established through these teams have also facilitated integrated post-disaster recovery solutions.

The intent is not to duplicate existing teams, but to supplement and strengthen current efforts and establish relationships where they do not yet exist. To date, teams have been initiated in over 20 states, with the ultimate goal of offering an interagency team to every state.

One of the initial pilot teams was created in Indiana in 2006; Manuela Johnson of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security reports that "Silver Jackets allows the State and Federal partners to work seamlessly...and anticipate needs during disaster events. The Silver Jackets program maximizes the funding available... and allows the team members to work together in a synergistic manner, tapping into one another's needs and capabilities, thus creating... services that otherwise would not be available. The program allows the partner agencies to look ahead and identify potential challenges and identify solutions to address those challenges before they happen."

You can find out more about the Silver Jackets on their webpage at:

<http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/nfrmp/state/>

The Regional Flood Risk Management Team is building partnerships in the Upper Mississippi River Valley. The states of Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and FEMA Regions V and VII recently signed the team's initiating charter. To achieve the goals of the charter, the team will lead a collaborative, comprehensive and sustainable regional flood risk management strategy to improve public safety, reduce flood damages and reduce holistic flood risk by ensuring vertical (national/tribal level to state level) and horizontal (interstate) communication and information sharing. Flood risk management is a shared responsibility and a partnership among federal, state and local agencies and private property owners. The RFRMT builds upon that partnership to ensure an effective interagency approach to floodplain management.

<http://www.mvd.usace.army.mil/rfrmt/>

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Reminder: Deadline for CRS Award Nominations is January 15th!

There is still time to get in a nomination if you know someone who is qualified for this award!

Please consider nominating a worthy insurance agent, business professional, or other private sector community leader for receipt of the first CRS Award for Excellence. Nominees for this award should be:

- Active in promoting the use of flood insurance to help households prepare for the possibility of flood damage;
- Actively involved in a CRS community and knowledgeable about the potential for local flooding;
- Active in encouraging community leaders to improve local safety and resilience to flooding and other disasters; and
- Be working to alert residents and businesses to flood dangers and promoting the purchase of flood insurance and other mitigation measures.

Nomination forms for the CRS Award for Excellence can be downloaded from the web at:

<http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3805>.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Updated Principles and Guidelines for Water and Land Related Resources Implementation Studies

On December 3, 2009, the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) released a proposal to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) for their review that would change the principles and guidelines that govern America's water resource planning. The proposal will require that such project help to improve the economic well-being of the Nation for the present and future generation, better protect communities from the effects of floods and storms, help communities and individuals make better choices about where to build based on an understanding of the risk, and protect and restore the environment.

The proposal calls for the development of water resource projects to be based on sound science, increased consideration of both monetary and non-monetary benefits to justify and select a project, improved transparency, and consideration of nonstructural approaches that can solve the flooding problem without adversely impacting floodplain functions. The proposal also expands the scope of the Principles and Guidelines to cover all Federal agencies that undertake water resource projects. CEQ will take public comments on the new proposal for 90 days. For more information, go to:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/PandG/>

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is accepting applications for the Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program, which is open to any public or private entity. But note that grants are restricted to nonprofit, community-based organizations, conservation organizations, local governments, and school districts. The Five Star Restoration program seeks to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships for wetland, riparian, and coastal habitat restoration. Elements of a Five Star project include on-the-ground restoration, environmental education, partnerships – at least five community partners – and measurable results. The deadline to apply for the National Fish and Wildlife Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program is Feb. 11, 2010. If you have any questions, contact Constantinos 'Dean' Economides, Project Administrator, at Dean.Economides@nfwf.org.

For more information, visit:

http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Charter_Programs_List&Template=/TaggedPage/TaggedPageDisplay.cfm&TPLID=30&ContentID=14515

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Community Rating System Task Force - Summary of Actions December 2009 Meeting

*Submitted by: Al W. Goodman, Jr., CFM
ASFPM representative to the CRSTF*

The Community Rating System Task Force consists of 18 subject matter experts currently broken down as: three local governments, one ASFPM, one NAFSMA, one USACE, one NOAA, two insurance underwriting, three FEMA Region, five FEMA HQ, and one Chairman. This group represents the actuarial science, engineering, floodplain management, insurance underwriting, and property insurance inspection and rating service disciplines¹.

The CRSTF is charged with making recommendations to the FEMA Mitigation Directorate Assistant Administrator (who is an *ex officio* member) in regard to the CRS program. These recommendations can address items such as: program conflicts, possible alternative implementation ideas, reviews of weights of credits for the 18 CRS activities, refinement to the program itself, educational/outreach recommendations, review of work plans and budgets.

As the ASFPM representative to the CRSTF, my charge is to provide advice/input that is consistent with our Association's policies. My inaugural three day meeting with the CRSTF took place in Phoenix in

early December 2009. In preparation, I printed the “read ahead” materials (which came in the form of a flurry of emails) to create a book that measured exactly one inch in thickness, double-side printed. *(This intense group of individuals who make up the CRSTF would quickly displace my previous notions concerning meetings, in regard to in-depth discussions and working through a long agenda.)*

The agenda covered 13 topics and 49 sub-topics that ran the full gambit of CRS related subjects and those that were likely to impact the program. Items of interest included discussion concerning the CRS Strategic Plan Update, the 2011 CRS Coordinator’s Manual update, various committee reports on activities 330, 350, 510, 610, and 630, local/federal actions and requests to the CRSTF, a marketing plan, the developments in DC which will affect the CRS program, various FEMA program initiatives, and program reports.

Amazingly, we completed the agenda. Mentally drained, I travelled back to Mississippi via American Airlines (*Yul Brynner’s voice “You must change planes at DFW.”*). I would recommend that y’all visit the CRS website, as it is being updated and improved. If you have any CRS concerns, please drop me a note at agoodman@mema.ms.gov and I will present them to the task force.

¹ Under §1345(b) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, the CRSTF is exempt from the provisions of the Federal Advisory Act.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)



Submit your own items or suggestions for future topics to column editor Rebecca Quinn, CFM, at rcquinn@earthlink.net. Comments welcomed!

This column will return in the March edition of Insider.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Washington Legislative Report

Meredith R. Inderfurth, Washington Liaison
Rebecca C. Quinn, Legislative Officer



Getting Ready for the New Congressional Session

The House of Representatives comes back for the 2nd Session of the 111th Congress on January 12th and the Senate comes back on January 19th. Most Congressional staff are back from holiday breaks and working to prepare for the upcoming legislative session.

This session is likely to involve movement in a number of legislative areas of interest to floodplain managers as well as, of course, budget and appropriations for FY 2011.

Some of the issues to watch follow. The President's budget request for Fiscal Year 2011 will be submitted to the Congress in early February. That kicks off the cycle of appropriations hearings, which leads to development of appropriations bills, generally by sometime in May. Flood insurance reform legislation will be on the table since the National Flood Insurance Program's authorization will expire on February 28, 2010. Committee staff is already working on development of a new Water Resources Development Act, with expectations for a draft bill by late March or April. Work is progressing on successive drafts of a Sustainable Watershed Planning Act and some progress on developing levee safety legislation could be made. Further, legislation making revisions to the Stafford Act (Disaster Relief and mitigation) has already been reported out of committee and can be expected to come to the House Floor soon. While the House has done its first cut at energy and climate change legislation, the play continues on the Senate side with various additional elements of the overall package currently in development.

National Flood Insurance Program Reform and Reauthorization

Currently, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is authorized through February 28, 2010. The authority, originally set to expire September 30, 2009, was extended first by Continuing Resolutions and later by inclusion in the Defense Appropriations bill for FY '10, which became a kind of omnibus bill for leftover needed reauthorizations. All of those extensions of reauthorizations will expire on February 28th. It appears likely that some further action will be taken to extend the NFIP until June 30th.

The process for NFIP reform as well as the scope of reform is unclear at this point. Indications are that the House Financial Services Committee's Housing Subcommittee will hold at least one hearing on flood insurance early in this new session. Whether or not new legislation will move much beyond the bill passed by the House in the last Congress depends on many factors. Some of those are: assessment of Senate willingness to re-open and expand the flood insurance discussion, whether or not reform recommendations come from FEMA and the Administration, the impact on the Senate Banking Committee agenda of Committee Chairman Dodd's announcement that he will not seek re-election in 2010, and the press of other business before the House Financial Services Committee.

Once the Senate and House committees reconvene for the 2nd Session later this month, the path forward may become clearer.

Water Resources Development Act 2010

Indications are that both the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee intend to develop and pass a Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) this year – to return to the concept of a WRDA approximately every two years. (The last one was WRDA 2007).

WRDA bills typically authorize Army Corps of Engineers projects and often deal with policy matters as well. It is possible then, that ongoing work on policy legislation could be incorporated into WRDA although stand-alone legislation is also possible. Two items in particular could be sustainable watershed planning and levee safety.

Sustainable Watershed Planning Act

Drafts of possible legislation have been circulated to pertinent parties for comment. A number of ASFPM members have participated in developing comments and recommendations and in meeting with House subcommittee staff. Their idea is to establish a framework for better coordination among federal water related programs and for better, more thorough and comprehensive watershed based planning from the local level upwards.

There are many questions to explore in addressing this increasingly critical subject, so it is commendable that the staff is seeking input on such an important public policy initiative.

Levee Safety

In its ongoing work following submission to Congress of its draft Levee Safety Report last year, the National Levee Safety Committee (established in WRDA 2007) is developing legislative recommendations. ASFPM is represented as a non-voting member of the NLSC by Sam Riley Medlock. Peer Review of the Report was led by Sally McConkey, currently ASFPM Vice Chair.

Congressional committee staff have expressed interest in legislative recommendations that would go beyond the Levee Safety Report, which was very levee engineering specific, to include related flood risk management aspects, such as associated land use.

Stafford Act Revisions

This bill, the Disaster Response, Recovery and Mitigation Enhancement Act, H.R. 3377, was reported out of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on November 5, 2009. The measure is likely to be considered on the House Floor early in this 2nd session.

Among its provisions the bill provides for increased mitigation funds (under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program) for states which actively enforce approved building codes. It also authorizes the rescue and shelter of animals during disasters and emergencies and the continued issuance of grants for implementation of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact. It is possible that amendments will be considered on the Floor.

Natural Hazards Risk Reduction Act

This bill, H.R. 3820, primarily provides for hazard reduction research, focused on an all hazards approach to earthquake and windstorm. It gives significant responsibility to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and establishes an Interagency Coordinating Committee on Natural Hazards Risk Reduction to be chaired by NIST. The stated purpose of the committee is to “oversee the planning and coordination of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHERP) and the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program” ... and to “make proposals for planning and coordination of any other Federal research for natural hazard mitigation that the Committee considers appropriate.”

The measure was reported out of the House Science and Technology Committee on October 21, 2009, but was also referred to the Transportation and Infrastructure (T & I) Committee and the Natural Resources Committee. ASFPM and other associations were asked by the T & I Committee staff for comments. Comments from several ASFPM members were forwarded to the committee informally. They tended to question the amount of responsibility given to NIST and to express concern that these efforts not detract from or confuse the role of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Further, they question the role of the Interagency Coordinating Committee, particularly because of the possibility for overlap and duplication of other efforts.

The timing for action and input from the T & I and Natural Resources Committees is not certain, but can be expected fairly early in the session.

Climate Change and Adaptation Legislation

Development of a Senate energy and climate bill is progressing, but is a multi-track process involving many committees and players. ASFPM is concerned that, so far, the measures proposed do not sufficiently address adaptation to climate change. While there is some attention to natural resources adaptation in one of the proposals, it does not address adaptation of the built environment. Most scenarios envision the bill reported out of the Environment and Public Works Committee (S. 1733) as the base bill. Bills from other committees or individual Senators would be added to or blended with that base bill. An expectation is often expressed by staff that more substantive adaptation language will come in

these other bills. One such bill is S. 1933, introduced by Chairman Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Chairman Max Baucus (D-MT) of the Finance Committee and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI). Another is expected from Chairman John D. Rockefeller IV (D-WVA) of the Senate Commerce Committee.

Coalitions

The several coalitions of associations in which ASFPM participates will reconvene to discuss the 2nd Congressional session in late January and early February.

One exception is the Streamgange Coalition. That group, led by Peter Evans, Executive Director in the Interstate Council on Water Policy, has been very active in explaining the importance of streamgange data for many water related purposes. A number of coalition partners, including ASFPM, participated in meetings with key Members of Congress in mid-December and meetings are expected soon with the Executive branch, including the Office of Management and Budget.

All bills referenced (except drafts) can be reviewed by going to: <http://thomas.loc.gov> and typing in the bill number.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

WWW.FLOODS.ORG Corner

Over the course of the year, ASFPM will be “showcasing” new features and options available on the ASFPM website. If you have something you’d like us to share, please contact Kait Laufenberg at Kait@floods.org.

Keyword Search Field

The ASFPM website now has a new tool the old version didn’t, the keyword search field. If you go to www.floods.org and look in the upper right corner of any page on our website, you’ll see the search field. Type in what you’re looking for and it will even allow you to limit results within our website by: Calendar, Documents, Web Pages or All. This feature is also helps to find items you know are on the website, but you aren’t sure where they might be located. Rather than searching each menu, you can do a keyword or phrase search

- *Tip: If you type in a state’s initials in parenthesis, for example, “(WI)” into the keyword search field and click on box next to Calendar to limit results, it will pull all the events (training, conferences, etc.) on the current calendar for your state. What a great way to find upcoming training for CECs! The only events without a state listed in the event title are EMI courses which are all held in Emmitsburg, MD.*

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

CFM® Corner

Email for certification questions is cfm@floods.org. This section will appear in each issue of the Insider. For suggestions on specific topics or questions to be covered, please send an email to Anita at this address in the ASFPM Office.

CBOR President

After six years being the leader of CBOR Diane Calhoun, CFM is stepping down and a new person has been selected to take her place. A lot has happened in those six years- thanks Diane for guiding us and for all your hard work and dedication to certification!!! Diane will remain on the Board for now.

Congratulations to Tom Morey, CFM, Kansas Dept of Agriculture, who has been appointed by the ASFPM Chair as the new CBOR President. Tom joined CBOR in 2008 and knows he has a big job ahead of him.

Keeping us updated - Please remember to notify Anita at cfm@floods.org when you move. CFM renewals and other certification related mailed material is sent to your **HOME ADDRESS**. Also, make sure we always have your current employment information and correct email address.

CFM Renewal 1/31/2010 - ASFPM CFMs who are up for their biennial CFM® certification renewal January 31, 2010 have been sent a letter and renewal form via snail mail. If you have not received yours in the mail, please contact Anita Larson at cfm@floods.org so your CFM does not lapse.

CFM Success Story

This was recently submitted by Steve Curtindale, CFM

I recently attained the CFM Certification. As a result, the jurisdiction in which I work posted this accomplishment on the City's website. They also framed the CFM Certification in a plaque frame and presented it to me at one of our City council meetings with congratulations. Our department is currently working on an incentive program which will include pay raises for continuing education and/or Certification.

<http://diberville.ms.us/news/steven-curtindale-becomes-certified-floodplain-manager-3803/>

Great to hear Steve, thanks for sharing!

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

News from Chapters

Chapter Chairs or Chapter newsletter editors are encouraged to email Kait Laufenberg at kait@floods.org with articles or information happening in your Chapter.

As we near the end to the year, ASFPM is updating our 2010 calendar. If you have an upcoming training, meeting, or conference that you would like to promote on the ASFPM Event Calendar, please email ASFPM to get it posted on website. Please allow 1-2 weeks for posting.

If you have an upcoming conference and would like to promote to your surrounding states, ASFPM will provide your chapter with a list of our members and CFMs in those states that you can contact to notify them of your conference upon request. Contact ASFPM to request the member listing for the states you would like to contact.

Would you like an ASFPM board, foundation, or staff representative to attend your conference in 2010? Please send your request for representation and reason to ASFPM and we will do our best to accommodate your request as availability and financial resources are available. Requests will be handled on a first come, first serve bases as resources are available.

Contact Kait Laufenberg, Training & Chapter Coordinator at Kait@floods.org to submit your information or requests for any of the above activities.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Floodplain Management Training Calendar

Below are just several of the upcoming conferences & training opportunities, for a full listing, visit our online calendar at <http://www.floods.org/Conferences,%20Calendar/calendar.asp>.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| February 16 – 20, 2010 | International Erosion Control Association Conference, Dallas, TX | International Erosion Control Association |
| February 23 -25, 2010 | State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting, Shepherdstown, WV | Association of State Wetlands Managers |
| March 1 – 4, 2010 | AMFM (MT) Conference, Pray, MT | Association of Montana Floodplain Managers |
| March 2 – 5, 2010 | MSFA (MI) Conference, Bay City, MI | Michigan Stormwater-Floodplain Association |
| March 2 – 5, 2010 | Int'l LiDAR Mapping Forum, Denver, CO | View Conference Website |
| March 3 – 5, 2010 | FFMA (FL) Conference, Lake Mary, FL | Florida Floodplain Managers Association |
| March 7 – 9, 2010 | VFMA (VA) Conference, Richmond, VA | Virginia Floodplain Management Association |
| March 9 – 12, 2010 | SCAHM (SC) Conference, North Myrtle Beach, SC | South Carolina Association for Hazard Mitigation |
| March 10 – 11, 2010 | IAFSM (IL) Conference, Tinley Park, IL | Illinois Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management |
| March 10 – 12, 2010 | NMFMA (NM) Conference, Socorro, NM | New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association |
| May 16 – 21, 2010 | ASFPM 34 th Annual National Conference, Oklahoma City, OK | Association of State Floodplain Managers |

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Job Corner

Below are just a few of the job openings currently posted on our website. To view all of the listings, visit our online job corner at <http://www.floods.org/n-jobpost/index.asp>.

Floodplain Coordinator

Richland County Government

Job Description:

Conducts Reviews and inspections of commercial, industrial and residential construction sites to determine compliance with Richland County Floodplain Management Ordinance. Prepares and submits reports of plan reviews and inspections, notices of violations and stop work orders as necessary. Revokes or suspends permits and recommends fines for ordinance violations. Supervises one employee.

Qualifications:

An Associate Degree, Vocational Technical Degree or specialized training that is equivalent to satisfactory completion of two years of college education with emphasis in engineering, landscape architecture, water resource manager or 3 – 5 years experience in a closely related field. Must possess a valid state driver's license.

Benefits:

Salary - \$41,645 - \$66,632 Annually. Employer supported health, dental and life insurance, matched retirement contribution and Deferred Comp, 22 combined accrued sick and annual days, 10 paid holidays and many optional benefits.

To apply contact Jo McRant at 803-576-2467 or visit: <http://www.richlandonline.com/> or <http://www.richlandonline.com/departments/humanresources/forms/jobapp.pdf>

Senior Water Resources Engineer

EMH&T Inc.

Job Description:

This key position in the EMH&T Water Resources department serves as project manager, overseeing the completion of floodplain studies and FEMA permit applications, including steady and unsteady state hydraulic/hydrologic modeling. This position will also lead and perform QA/QC for Letter of Map Correction (LOMA/LOMR) applications. Additionally, the incumbent prepares and reviews engineering documents and proposals. This position must serve as a client liaison, coordinating project schedules, budgets and quality work products. Written work products must have order, clarity, and conciseness.

Qualifications:

Successful candidates will have a BS in Civil Engineering and a minimum of 8 years of experience in water resource engineering (hydrology /hydraulics) in a consulting firm or regulating agency or an advanced degree preferred and 6 years of relative experience. The preferred candidate will have public sector project experience. Candidates should have expertise in implementing and applying regional-scale hydrologic models and interpreting and analyzing their input and output. Additionally, expertise in FEMA flood studies and permit process, stormwater improvement studies, design and watershed planning, and environmental-based studies are required.

Candidates should have expertise in the use of HEC engineering software, specifically HEC-RAS, HEC-

geoRAS, and HEC-HMS; proficient use of Pondpack, TR-55, StormCAD, and Microsoft office suite. Experience with PC-SWMM and GIS-based model applications is desired.

Candidates must have the demonstrated ability to write in an organized, concise manner with technical clarity. The ability to manage multiple projects and deadlines is critical to success in this position, as well as, the ability to recognize and promote business opportunities. Must be able to establish and maintain effective relationships internally and externally with elected officials, regulatory agency personnel and the general public.

To apply contact Andrea Jones at ajones@emht.com or visit the company web page at: <http://www.emht.com/careers/>

Chief Building Official/Floodplain Administrator City of Baytown, TX

Job Description:

This is an exciting and rewarding public service position with excellent benefits and retirement plan. We are looking for someone who will take pride in having a positive impact on the community we serve, its citizens, businesses and visitors. This is your opportunity to be part of a great team.

Leads the Building Services Division and is an integral team player in community building. Administers the City's floodplain program. Supervises subordinate inspectors. Provides outstanding customer service while protecting the health, safety and welfare of the community. Provides outstanding and creative leadership to the substandard buildings programs. Reports to Department Director.

Qualifications:

1. Bachelor's degree in construction management, business administration or related field from an accredited college or university.
2. Five years progressive experience as the professional responsible for the work (as an architect, engineer, inspector, building contractor, or plans reviewer).
3. Supervisory and management experience as a director, assistant director or equivalent in the private sector.
4. Valid Texas driver's license with acceptable driving record.
5. Certified Building Official through ICC.
6. Working knowledge of the International Building Codes, National Electric Codes, etc.
7. Certified Floodplain Administrator.

To apply contact Deanna Allison at 281-422-8281 or visit the company web page at: <http://www.baytown.org/default.htm>

[Return to Table of Contents](#)
