

THE INSIDER

A Publication
for Members

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The Association of State Floodplain Managers

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Deputy Executive Director's Report - George Riedel, CFM

The 2009 National ASFPM Conference in Orlando, Florida, is only four weeks away. The ASFPM staff is busy putting the final preparations together for the conference. This year's conference again appears to be the most comprehensive floodplain management conference in the world. All week long, participants will hear from over 200 experts in plenary and concurrent sessions regarding ways for improvement in flood risk management, flood damage reduction, and national policy. The program has been finalized and the complete program can be viewed on the ASFPM website. Rooms are still available at the Rosen Centre Hotel, where the conference is being held. You can find the hotel's telephone number and other important information at: www.floods.org/Conferences,%20Calendar/Orlando.asp.

Besides preparing for the annual conference, staff in the Executive Office are working on several initiatives that we feel will better serve our members. The Association is in the final stage of revising and updating the ASFPM website. Our goal is to make our website easy to use for members, local officials, the general public, and media in obtaining information. Staff have been reviewing the new website for accuracy, content, and format.

The Association has entered into an agreement with Ohio State University to conduct a Reliability and Validity Test of the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Program. This testing of the CFM Program by Ohio State University helps ensure the credibility, continued relevancy, and quality of the CFM Program. This testing project will involve current CFMs to help identify the general knowledge and skills required of CFMs. This testing project should be completed by the end of the year.

ASFPM continues to track the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act" (Stimulus Package) and how this act affects the various Federal agencies that we work with. There is a matrix on our website that shows which agencies received funds and whether those funds can be applied to projects and actions related to flood loss reduction, flood risk management, and natural and beneficial functions. To view the matrix and other information regarding the Stimulus Package go to: <http://www.floods.org/NewUrgent/Stimulus.asp>.

I hope to see old friends and make new ones at the upcoming Annual Conference in Orlando!

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ASFPM 33rd Annual National Conference

Green Works to Reduce Flood Losses

ASFPM 33rd Annual National Conference

June 7 – 12, 2009 – Rosen Centre, Orlando, Florida

Don't forget to sign up for the 2009 Annual Golf Tournament! - The 2009 annual ASFPM Golf Tournament, hosted by the Florida Floodplain Managers Association, will be held on Sunday, June 7, 2009, at the Rosen Shingle Creek Golf Club. We are still looking for people who would like to participate in this event - foursomes and singles are all welcome. Cost of \$75 dollars includes range balls, green fees, cart, lunch, and prizes. More information can be found by clicking the "golf" link at the top of the conference page at www.floods.org/orlando.

If you have any questions about the Golf Tournament, please contact Rick Howard with the City of Orlando at rhoward@cityoforlando.net or 407-246-3222. Or you can click below to download the registration form:

http://www.floods.org/Conferences,%20Calendar/Orlando/FFMA_2009_Golf_Flyer.pdf.

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Clean Water Restoration Act (CWRA)

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) recently signed a letter with other associations requesting Congress to take action in clearing up uncertainty over interpretation of the program authority regarding the Clean Water Restoration Act (CWRA). We are recommending a two-part process built on restoring the definition of "waters of the United States" used in regulation prior to the court cases (SWANCC and Carabell/Rapanos) plus changes designed to allow for more straightforward transfer of Section 404 program implementation to willing States. To read the entire letter, go to:

http://www.floods.org/PDF/Letters/State_Associations_Letter_on_CWA_Jurisdiction_4_09.pdf.

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ASFPM Board Sets 2009 Legislative Priorities

Your Board of Directors approved a number of legislative priorities in April for the coming year. The categories include:

- Overarching National Issues Impacting Flood Risk Management
- Economic Stimulus Package
- Legislative positions in 2009
- Appropriations/ Budgets
- Flood Risk Management, including Managing Catastrophic Losses

Detail on the issues within each category can be found on our website at:

<http://www.floods.org/NewUrgent/Legislation.asp>

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ASFPM Hosted Workshop for Agencies on Economic Stimulus

On Thursday, April 16, 2009, ASFPM and partners hosted an interagency stimulus workshop at the Hall of the States in Washington, D.C. to identify and build upon opportunities for collaboration and coordination among agencies and programs receiving funds under the ARRA. Co-hosts included National Wildlife Federation, American Rivers, The Conservation Fund, and Coastal States Organization, and it was moderated by Gerry Galloway. The following issues were addressed by representatives from EPA, USACE, FEMA, DOT, NOAA, NRCS, Fish & Wildlife Service, and National Park Service.

- Ensure that federal resources are wisely, safely and sustainably invested;
- Promote federal investments in jobs and infrastructure that protect public safety and environmental health in future floods and storm events;
- Identify complimentary initiatives across programs and agencies to ensure the most efficient and effective use of ARRA resources; and
- Network with allied agencies, program staff and money managers.

Those present felt that it was a very valuable exercise and would appreciate future such gatherings.

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NFIP 2009 Biennial Report

FEMA will begin to distribute the NFIP 2009 Biennial Report forms during the week of April 20-24, 2009 for the calendar years 2007 and 2008. As in past years, the mailing contains a cover letter, addressed to the Chief Executive Officer or Floodplain Administrator of the community; a Biennial Report form; and an informational brochure that provides important information on how to complete the forms and keeps local communities up to date on the latest programs and initiatives in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The completed NFIP Biennial Report needs to be submitted no later than September 30, 2009. As in past years, local community officials have several ways in which to provide their NFIP Biennial Report to FEMA:

- Online at <http://www.floodmaps.net/br2009/default.asp>,
- Mail the completed report to FEMA, Biennial Report Coordinator, 3601 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304,
- Call the Biennial Report Coordinator toll free at 1-877-336-2114, or
- Fax the completed report to 1-877-634-7271.

The NFIP Biennial Report is an important tool that gathers data that helps FEMA respond to the on-going changes that occur in each participating community's flood hazard area.

Communities should call the Biennial Report Coordinator at 1-877-336-2114 if they have any questions while gather, completing, or submitting their data.

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News from CSO

The following is information from the May 1, 2009 issue of The CSO Weekly Report

CSO To Host Climate Change Briefing on May 11

On May 11, CSO is hosting a climate change briefing, *Living by the Changing Coasts: Coastal Communities and Climate Change Adaptation*. This briefing brings together state and local managers who are working to protect coastal communities from the impacts of climate change including adapting the built environment, preserving the natural environment, and protecting infrastructure necessary to public health and welfare. Speakers include Brandon Wade, Deputy City Manager of Galveston, Texas, who will discuss impacts on Galveston, Texas after Hurricane Ike, and the city's efforts to rebuild important public infrastructure. Steven Goldbeck, the Deputy Director of the San Francisco Bay Conservation, will present the efforts underway by the San Francisco Bay area to adapt the Bay for anticipated sea level rise. The final speaker, Zoë Johnson, from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, will share Maryland's Climate Action Plan as a model for all coastal states. CSO member David Carter, Environmental Program Manager of the Delaware Coastal Program, will moderate the panel. The briefing will take place at 2 PM in the Congressional Meeting Room, South, U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, Washington, DC. Non-Congressional staff, please RSVP to: Julia Wyman, jwyman@coastalstates.org.

EPA Gulf of Mexico Alliance Funding Opportunity

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Gulf of Mexico Program Office (GMP) is seeking requests for proposals for projects strengthening and supporting the Gulf of Mexico Alliance. The Gulf of Mexico Alliance is a Federal Workgroup co-led by EPA and NOAA and includes thirteen federal agencies committed to supporting the Gulf of Mexico. Approximately 10 to 50 cooperative agreements will be chosen to receive up to \$3,000,000 for projects that improve the health of the Gulf of Mexico by addressing improved water quality and public health, priority coastal habitat conservation and restoration, more effective coastal environmental education, improved ecosystems integration and assessment, strategic nutrient reductions, and coastal community resilience. Proposals for funding are due June 15. For more information: <http://www.epa.gov/gmpo/>.

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Develop Greenways and Assist Grassroots Organizations

The Conservation Fund, Eastman Kodak, and the National Geographic Society have joined forces to offer the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program. This program provides grants to stimulate the planning and design of greenways in communities throughout America. The deadline to apply for the Kodak Greenways Program is June 30, 2009, and it is open to local, regional, or statewide nonprofits. Public agencies also may apply, but note that community, nonprofits, and organizations will receive top preference. The goals of the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program are to: develop new, action-oriented greenway projects; assist grassroots greenway organizations; leverage additional money for conservation and greenway development; and recognize and encourage greenway proponents and organizations. If you have any questions about the program, send an email to: kodakawards@conservationfund.org.

For more information, visit http://www.conservationfund.org/kodak_awards.

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Climate Change and River Flow

A recent article in *My Way News* indicates that the flow of water in the world's largest rivers has declined over the past half-century, with significant changes found in about a third of the big rivers. An analysis of 925 major rivers from 1948 to 2004 showed an overall decline in total discharge. The reduction in inflow to the Pacific Ocean alone was about equal to shutting off the Mississippi River, according to the new study appearing in the May 15th edition of the *American Meteorological Society's Journal of Climate*. To view the entire article from *My Way News*, go to:

<http://apnews.myway.com/article/20090421/D97MT2R00.html>

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Risk MAP Multi-Year Plan

FEMA has prepared a "Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Multi-Year Plan: Fiscal Years 2010-2014" in response to reporting requirements set forth in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Act (P.L. 110-329). The plan was approved by DHS and is available for you to download from the FEMA website at: www.fema.gov/plan/ffmm.shtm. You will find it on the Flood Hazard Mapping home page and Flood Hazard Mapping "What's New" pages. The plan was provided to members of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security and Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security.

This Risk MAP Multi-Year Plan outlines FEMA's plan for enhancing and maintaining quality flood hazard data and maps, building on the success of Flood Map Modernization, to enable the Risk MAP vision: Through collaboration with State, local, and Tribal entities, deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to action that reduces risk to life and property.

The Risk MAP Multi-Year Plan outlines five key goals to achieve the vision:

1. Address gaps in flood hazard data to form a solid foundation for risk assessment, floodplain management and actuarial soundness of the National Flood Insurance Program.
2. Ensure a measurable increase of public awareness and understanding of risk results in a measurable reduction of current and future vulnerability to flooding.
3. Lead and support States, local and Tribal communities to effectively engage in risk-based mitigation planning resulting in sustainable actions to reduce or eliminate risks to life and property from hazards.
4. Provide an enhanced digital platform that improves management of Risk MAP, stewards the information produced by Risk MAP and improves the communication and sharing of risk data and related products with all levels of government and the public.
5. Align Risk Analysis programs and develop synergies to enhance decision making capabilities through effective risk communication and management.

FEMA is initiating flood map update projects with Flood Hazard Mapping funding provided in FY09 to support transition from Map Mod to Risk MAP. Details regarding the plan for FY09 Risk MAP flood map update projects will be provided in a separate document.

If you have any questions regarding the Risk MAP Multi-Year Plan, contact FEMA-RiskMaps@dhs.gov.

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EPA Releases "Watershed Central" Web Site and a "Watershed Wiki"

EPA recently posted a new Web site called "Watershed Central" to help watershed organizations and others find key information they need to implement watershed management projects. The primary purpose of the new Watershed Central Web site is to make it easy for organizations to find the information that they need in a timely manner to help protect and restore their water resources. Watershed Central helps users find environmental data, watershed models, nearby local organizations, and guidance documents -- and other information depending on the task at hand. Watershed Central also contains links to watershed technical resources, funding sources, mapping applications and information specific to named watersheds. The site includes a "Watershed Central Wiki" that users may use to collaborate and share information. We encourage all watershed practitioners to use this new Watershed Wiki to share tools, scientific findings, expertise, and local approaches to watershed management. Watershed Central not only links to EPA Web resources but also links to other valuable funding, guidance and tools on Web sites of state, tribal, and federal partners, universities, and nonprofit organizations. EPA's new site is located at: www.epa.gov/watershedcentral

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

Here's Something You Might Find Interesting . . .

In the last issue I ran a list of questions and issues and several readers answered my call to let me know which topics they'd like to see addressed. I'll get to the list in future columns. This time, however, I'll take a somewhat bigger picture look.

If you're as busy as the rest of us, you probably haven't found the time to plow through the several reports that make up the NFIP Evaluation Reports. Thirteen reports were released between 2001 and 2006. Not surprisingly, the findings and recommendations have started to influence our floodplain management activities.

Two of the NFIP Evaluation Reports contain the same statement: "The success of the NFIP depends on communities ensuring that buildings and other development within their jurisdictions are constructed and maintained according to these standards so that flood losses will be minimized." This same statement also appears in FEMA's FY09 guidance for the Community Assistance Program through which funding is provided to states to "provide technical assistance to NFIP communities and to evaluate community performance."

Since my early days as Maryland's NFIP State Coordinator (mid-80s!) I've been a big believer in the value of Community Assistance Visits. Nothing beats getting to know community officials in person and seeing what they face on a daily basis. I'll bet that every state employee and FEMA staffer who has conducted CAVs will tell you the same thing: every visit is a great opportunity to sort out the many misunderstandings of the basic requirements of the NFIP.

The FY09 CAP guidance goes on to highlight a finding of the NFIP Evaluation Report, An Evaluation of Compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program Part B: Are Minimum Building Requirements

Being Met? The field inspections and surveys of a sample of post-FIRM buildings in communities across the country indicate that we're getting the Lowest Floor elevated to or above the Base Flood Elevation most of the time. Many of us have spent our careers working toward this result, and I was greatly encouraged to see it confirmed by research. More recently, I've heard that the majority of post-FIRM buildings insured by the NFIP are rated as having their lowest floors above the BFE.

However, that same NFIP Evaluation Report also points out that we've been missing some of the other details that go into making buildings compliant. Specifically, just over half of the "violations" identified involved noncompliant mechanical/utility equipment and flood openings.

FEMA recently issued revised Technical Bulletin, TB-1, Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures Below Elevated Buildings in Special Flood Hazard Areas (see announcement in the September issue of *News & Views*). My suggestion for state folks and community officials is to download this bulletin and read it. Read it before you issue the next permit for an enclosure, crawlspace, or accessory structure in any A Zone. And definitely read it before your next CAV because FEMA expects greater attention to be focused on enclosures during these visits.

There's another factor at play when it comes to enclosures and flood openings that should prompt closer attention to these aspects of compliant buildings. The Write-Your-Own companies and underwriters are starting to pay more attention to enclosures. I expect this also is a direct result of the NFIP Evaluation Report. In particular, now that Elevation Certificates include photographs, they're paying attention to flood openings – the number, net open area, and height above grade (see the revised TB-1 for guidance on these aspects of openings) and whether acceptable documentation is provided if engineered openings are installed (individual certification prepared for the building or an Evaluation Report issued by the ICC Evaluation Service).

Local officials may be aware that insurance agents and underwriters are looking at enclosures. Many owners are seeing a significant increase in their premium costs and it might be a direct result of having a noncompliant enclosure. Owners might call the building department for advice on retrofitting to bring the enclosure into compliance.

Keep this in mind when you get complaints of cost increases, the increases might be a direct result of noncompliant enclosures. Also keep in mind that sometimes the fix is easy – not enough openings? Install more. Finished materials in that foyer? Remove or replace with flood damage-resistant materials. Water heater on the floor? Raise it on a platform.

There's something rather cool that we're spending less of our time struggling to get people to accept that buildings have to be elevated – and now can focus on some of these finer points of compliance.

Now, back to the notion that the success of the NFIP depends on communities ensuring that buildings are in compliance with the minimum requirements. This reinforces the importance of technical assistance, whether delivered through telephone/email consultations, training courses, workshops, manuals, Quick Guides, or CAVs and Community Assistance Contacts (CACs). It comes as no surprise that I believe that nothing beats the CAV (although I expect there are some local floodplain managers who might take exception to that statement!).

One of the biggest variables between state programs is the frequency of community visits. Ideally, communities with active development in their floodplains should be visited every few years. My experience in Maryland suggests that frequent visits not only made sure that community officials knew who to call, it helped them resist pressures to "soften" the requirements. I recall a number of times when

a community's floodplain manager asked me to write "one of those letters" cautioning about the importance of strictly administering the ordinance.

Now, I know that my experience is based in Maryland which is one of the smaller states – just 133 NFIP-participating communities (23 counties, Baltimore City, and 109 incorporated municipalities). And I know that many states have large numbers of communities and it's not feasible to do CAVs every few years (I believe Pennsylvania tops the chart with nearly 2,500 communities!). Still, life would be boring if it was easy, right?

Anyway, thanks in large part to FEMA being able to increase the CAP funding levels, over the past several years many states have been able to expand their programs and staffs. When you consider where this profession was 30 years ago, we've come a long way. Yes, there are challenges and there will always be challenges. But what's nice about our challenge is how good we can feel when we know our communities and our citizens are benefiting from our combined efforts to make floodplain management – and the NFIP – a success to minimize flood losses.

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Washington Legislative Report

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



Much Activity; Not Much Legislation Yet

After a two week Spring Recess, the Congress is back for an already busy work period. Final action was taken on the Budget Resolution after resolving differences between House and Senate passed versions. Many hearings are scheduled on issues and topics of interest to ASFPM members and the association has been asked to testify at two hearings. There is much discussion and consideration of issues and bills that have been introduced among Members of Congress and at the staff level and expectations of legislation to be introduced or acted upon in the near future. Included are bills and prospective bills dealing with flood issues, levee and mapping concerns and climate issues.

While most of the action is in committees just now, the House did pass a bill on April 27th reauthorizing the Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant program for three years, H.R. 1746. The measure increases the annual authorization (not appropriation) to \$250 million and increases the allocation to each state to \$575,000 from \$500,000. The bill has now been referred to the Senate.

The House also passed a bill on April 23rd to implement a National Water Research and Development Initiative, H.R. 1145. The initiative is intended to improve the federal government's role in water research and development, data collection, dissemination, education and consideration of changes in water use and supply. It establishes an interagency committee to develop a National Water Research and Assessment Plan and sets up a National Water Initiative Coordination Office to support the committee. Among other elements, the Plan is to include plans for a national water census, research into watershed hydrology, development of a plan to assist state and local regions regarding land conservation, and identification of further research needs. A floor amendment was adopted which directs agencies under the interagency committee to assess the impact of natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes and tornadoes on water resources. The bill has now been referred to the Senate and its Environment and Public Works Committee.

The Senate has taken action on many nominees for appointive positions in the Obama Administration. That process is actively continuing now to include sub-cabinet posts, ambassadorial posts and others now that the full Cabinet has been confirmed.

ASFPM to Testify

1. On May 14th, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will hold a full Committee hearing on whether or not FEMA should be restored to independent agency status. ASFPM's Board of Directors has consistently supported restoration to independent status and has communicated this position to appropriate Congressional committees as well as to the current Administration. Executive Director Larry Larson will present testimony for ASFPM. T & I Committee Chairman James Oberstar (D-MN) and Ranking Republican John Mica (R-FL) have introduced a bill, H.R. 1174 that would establish FEMA as a cabinet-level independent agency. A similar bill was introduced in the Senate by Senator James Inhofe (R-OK), S. 412.
2. On May 19th, the Water Resources Subcommittee of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will hold a hearing to consider the Report of the Levee Safety Committee created in the Water Resources Development Act of 2007. The Committee report was finalized on time in January, but has not yet been released by OMB. The draft report and ASFPM's comments are available on the ASFPM website. Sam Riley Medlock, ASFPM Policy and Partnerships Coordinator, was a non-voting participant in the work of the committee and Sally McConkey represented ASFPM on the review panel and oversaw preparation of ASFPM's comments. Executive Director Larry Larson will present ASFPM's testimony.

Appropriations and Budget

Now that the House and Senate have agreed on their Budget Resolution, a framework is in place for considering the President's budget request for FY 2010. A budget blueprint was delivered to the Hill in February, but the "real" budget is expected on the Hill by May 7th or soon thereafter. Appropriations subcommittees have already begun hearings to consider agency budgets so that they can move more quickly to mark-up bills when they have the actual budget. The House Appropriations Committee hopes to have subcommittee bills ready for full Committee by late May or early June.

Flood Insurance and Related Bills

It appears likely that this year's version of flood insurance reform legislation will be introduced in the House soon by Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA), Chair of the Housing and Community Opportunity Subcommittee of the House Financial Services Committee. Although the bill is expected to look much like the version of H.R. 3121 passed by the House in the last Congress, some considerations remain to be resolved. Some of those could involve whether or not to include other flood insurance or mapping bills that have been separately introduced. They include the following bills [ASFPM position noted]:

H.R. 777 introduced by Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ) [ASFPM opposes]

The bill would prohibit further updating of flood maps until FEMA provides Congress with a community outreach plan.

H.R. 1264 introduced by Rep. Gene Taylor (D-MS) [ASFPM opposes]

This bill would provide for an optional multi-peril (wind and water) policy under the NFIP.

H.R. 1316 introduced by Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-WI) [developing position]

The bill would provide for "appropriate notification of communities and homeowners of Establishment of flood elevations for the purposes of the NFIP".

H.R. 1524 introduced by Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA) [ASFPM would not oppose if the buildings were built to standards and properly permitted by the community]

This measure would allow flood insurance coverage for new structures in a floodplain associated with public safety functions.

H.R. 1525 introduced by Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA) [ASFPM has some concerns and see opportunities that are being explored]

The bill would require FEMA to consider reconstruction and improvement of flood protection systems in the establishment of flood insurance premium rates.

Climate Change

Both the House and Senate have been engaged in numerous hearings on the topic of climate change geared toward development of major climate change legislation in this Congressional session. The House Committee on Energy and Commerce held a series of four hearings in late April focused on a draft bill (posted on the Committee's website) entitled "The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009". The hearings dealt with a wide range of considerations such as: green jobs and economic benefits, allocation policies to assist consumers, ensuring U.S. competitiveness and international participation, low carbon electricity, carbon capture and Storage, renewables and grid modernization, energy efficiency, transportation, building appliances and utilities, carbon market assurance, state roles, Clean Air Act, and adaptation. A group of House Republicans is reportedly developing their own legislative proposal and the House Ways and Means Committee has begun consideration of the tax elements of the draft bill. Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Henry Waxman (D-CA) would like to begin full committee consideration of the bill the week of May 11th and have it ready for the House floor by Memorial Day. The Senate's target for floor consideration of a bill is this fall.

More Confirmations and Nominations

Confirmed

Jane Holl Lute as Deputy Secretary of DHS

Tom Strickland as Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Nominees Ready for Floor Vote but "Holds" placed

Craig Fugate for FEMA Administrator, DHS

David Hayes for Deputy Secretary of Interior

Confirmation Hearings Held

Mike Connor for Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, Dept. of Interior

Jo-Ellen Darcy for Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works

Tim Manning for Deputy FEMA Administrator for National Preparedness

Nominations

Jan Jensen for Deputy Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment

Mathy Stanslaus for Assistant Administrator of EPA for Solid Waste and Emergency Response

David Heyman as Assistant Secretary of DHS for Policy

Arif Alikhan as Assistant Secretary of DHS for Policy Development

Information on all bills referenced can be found by going to: <http://thomas.loc.gov> and typing in the bill number or subject matter.

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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.

CFM Renewal

ASFPM CFMs who are up for this biennial CFM® certification renewal July 31, 2009 are being sent a letter and renewal form via snail mail. If you have not received yours in the mail by May 25th, please contact Anita Larson at cfm@floods.org so that your CFM does not expire.

ASFPM Conference – Orlando – CFM Activities

Besides earning 12 core CECs for attending the conference, you don't want to miss this opportunity! Join us for the Certification Early Bird Session, Wednesday, June 10, 2009, from 7:00am-8:15am. Did you know that the CFM Certification Program is evaluated annually and compared to 23 different certification programs? Come and learn how we stack up. Your CFM is valuable, however you must maintain your certification. Attend this Session and share your experiences, frustrations and recommendations on how to improve the system. Diane Calhoun, CBOR Chair, and John Ivey, Chair of the PDC CFM Exam Committee will wear body armor and be ready to take your best shot!

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Honors & Awards

Jon Kusler has received the Society of Wetland Scientists 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award. It is given every other year to honor a distinguished and extensive career of consistent meritorious contributions to wetland science and management, and includes life membership in The Society. Jon's role in linking wetland stormwater and floodplain management together was part of the basis for the award. We send him our hearty congratulations for this most deserved honor!

The Missouri Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association conferred to its namesake a new award at their annual state conference this year -- the **George Riedel Floodplain Management Award**. It is designed to recognize outstanding individual efforts for the development of a distinguished program or activity or someone who struggles to implement local flood hazard reduction in the absence of sophisticated programs and support. George was honored for his outstanding leadership in the promotion of floodplain management throughout the state of Missouri. Congratulations George!



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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>.

May 17 – 21, 2009	World Environmental & Water Resources Congress, Kansas City, MO	ASCE EWRI
May 17 – 22, 2009	Strategic Conservation Planning for Green Infrastructure, Shepherdstown WV	The Conservation Fund
May 18 – 21, 2009	National Hydrologic Warning Council Conference, Vail, CO	National Hydrologic Warning Council
May 19 – 22, 2009	New England Mitigation Conference Newport, RI	FEMA Region 1
June 7 – 12, 2009	ASFPM 33 rd Annual National Conference, Orlando, FL	Association of State Floodplain Managers
June 21 – 24, 2009	19 th World Conference on Disaster Management, Toronto, Canada	WCDM
June 21 – 26, 2009	WI Wetlands Association & the Wetland Biogeochemistry Symposium, Madison, WI	Central Chapter of the Society of Wetland Scientists
July 15 – 18, 2009	2009 Natural Hazards Research & Applications Workshop, Broomfield, CO	University of Colorado at Boulder, Natural Hazards Center
July 19 – 23, 2009	Coastal Zone '09, Boston, MA	NOAA Coastal Services Center
October 7 – 9, 2009	Floods Know No Boundaries, Superior, WI	Joint Wisconsin & Minnesota ASFPM Chapters Contact: Dave Fowler or Jeremy Walgrave
May 16 – 21, 2010	ASFPM 34 th Annual National Conference, Oklahoma City, OK	Association of State Floodplain Managers

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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/StatePOCs/jobs.asp>.

Accenture/ DHI

Program Managers - Multiple Locations

The Accenture/DHI team is performing the national program management for the Risk MAP Program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). One of the requirements is the staffing of one or more persons in each of the ten federal regions to perform program management functions, technical support, technical methodology review, coordination, teambuilding and stakeholder outreach efforts. Accenture is seeking expressions of interest from qualified personnel who would be interested in joining the team to fulfill regional liaison roles in the following locations:

- Atlanta, GA
- Boston, MA
- Chicago, IL
- Denton, TX
- Denver, CO
- Kansas City, MO
- Oakland, CA
- Philadelphia, PA
- Seattle, WA

GENERAL CANDIDATE CAPABILITIES

The position requires a combination of program management skills, technical knowledge of the National Flood Insurance Program's mapping program, and strong communication and relationship building skills. The candidate should be experienced with program management processes and skill domains, including Earned Value Management (EVM), program planning and scheduling, change control, risk and quality management. The candidate must also be technically qualified, in one or more fields: hydrology and hydraulics, coastal hydrodynamics, hazard mitigation, GIS and a thorough understanding of flood mapping processes.

WORK FACTORS

Successful hires will be working in or near the FEMA Mitigation Branch regional offices. They must be able to work well on their own with little day to day direction, although national oversight and management is implied. They will report to a national director of the regional liaisons. Travel will be about 20% of their time.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Basic Qualifications:

- Minimum 10 years of experience with a combination of program or project management experience; engineering experience (hydrology and hydraulics); coastal hydrodynamics, hazard mitigation, or geospatial information systems and flood mapping
- Minimum 7 years work experience in engineering
- Must be a U.S. Citizen and be able to hold a Public Trust position
- Bachelor's Degree or 4 additional years of program management and engineering work experience in lieu of a Degree

Preferred Skills and Qualifications:

- Program Management skills and some technical knowledge of the National Flood Insurance Program's mapping program

- Technical field knowledge of hydrology and hydraulics, coastal hydrodynamics, hazard mitigation, or geospatial information systems and flood mapping
- Knowledge of the Map Modernization Program or Mitigation programs
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to work with senior level management of the Client

Candidates who are currently employed by a client of Accenture or an affiliated Accenture business may not be eligible for consideration. Applicants for employment in the U.S. must possess work authorization which does not require sponsorship by the employer for a visa. Accenture is an Equal Opportunity Employer. If interested in being considered for one of these positions, please send an e-mail, including resume to Jessica.ODonnell@accenture.com.

W.K. Dickson & Co., Inc.

Water Resources Project Manager

W.K. Dickson & Co., Inc., a Civil Engineering Consulting firm, is seeking a Project Manager in our Columbia, SC Regional Office. Individual must have experience with a background in Water Resources. The position will include monitoring projects and their budgets, marketing services to potential, current and former clients, among additional duties.

Proven experience with water resources projects, business development and project management is a must. A minimum of 5 years experience and your South Carolina PE is required. Strong communication, interpersonal, and supervisory skills is required.

Company offers a very competitive salary and other excellent benefits in a progressive, career oriented work environment. Interested candidates may respond in confidence with resume to:

hrdept@wkdickson.com.

www.wkdickson.com

ISO

Technical Coordinator - Community Hazard Mitigation

We're ISO — the leading source of information about risk. We supply data, analytics, and decision-support services for professionals in many fields, including insurance, finance, real estate, health services, government, and human resources. Our products help customers measure, manage, and reduce risk. We offer a competitive salary, a solid benefits package with medical, dental, 401(k) and ESOP.

Currently we have an excellent opportunity for a Technical Coordinator Community Hazard Mitigation Programs at our home office location in Jersey City, NJ or in our Regional Processing Centers located in Marlton, NJ (outside Philadelphia) or Chicago, IL. Your major responsibilities will involve:

- Coordinating activities associated with Community Rating System (Flood) Program with other community mitigation programs (Building Code Evaluation and Public Protection)
- Coordinating Flood Program with other ISO programs and services
- Providing technical support for the Flood Program
- Coordinating flood publications distribution with ISO Vendors and ISO Customer Service
- Coordinating and providing program support to Information Technology staff for software development and testing

- Providing technical support to Corporate Communications for marketing and advertising flood program products and services (brochures, displays/booths, etc.)
- May assist as the need arises with corporate policy support for the Building Code Evaluation and Public Protection Programs

We are looking for individuals who possess some of the following knowledge and skills, and/or experience:

- College Degree with a minimum of 4-6 years work related experience in floodplain management, emergency management, evaluation of community building code, and/or municipal fire protection analysis
- Undergraduate/graduate degree in fire protection, occupational/industrial safety, risk management, homeland security, engineering, or insurance-related program
- Thorough understanding of municipal fire department administration, building construction, hazards associated with building occupancies, and loss mitigation techniques
- A working knowledge of computers including Microsoft Word, Excel, Access and Power Point
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, public speaking and good math skills
- A working knowledge and/or understanding of hydrology and hydraulics, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), topographic mapping and map reading skills, surveying, planning, construction plan review, storm water regulations, etc.
- Applicant must have good customer service skills, be self motivated, detail oriented and possess good organizational skills
- Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) certificate required (if not currently a CFM, must complete course of study and attain CFM certification within one year of employment)

If you would like to apply for this position, please visit our website: www.jobs-isofamily.icims.com, keyword search; 18868. ISO is an equal opportunity employer.

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