

THE INSIDER

A Publication
for Members

November
2008

The Association of State Floodplain Managers

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Deputy Executive Director's Report George Riedel, CFM

The Executive Office has been very busy since the annual conference in May. The Executive Office has spent a lot of time dealing with current National issues such as the Presidential election, the National Levee Safety Act, the Corps of Engineers Principles and Guidelines, etc. In addition, there have been many activities regarding internal growth and needs of the Association members that have occurred since the conference. I would like to provide you with a summary of those items.

ASFPM Board

At the annual conference, new board members were installed. The board members assuming new positions are: Judy Watanabe, Secretary; Bill Nechamen, Treasurer; Heidi Carlin, Region 6 Director; and Bob Freitag, Region 10 Director. For a listing of the entire Board, Committee Co-Chairs, and liaisons, go to www.floods.org/TheOrganization/board.asp, and click on the link provided.

Membership

ASFPM continues to experience growth, in part attributable to the Certified Floodplain Manager Program and the annual conference. Our membership includes state and local floodplain managers and a broad representation of federal agency staff, private industry, academia, research, and related organizations. New memberships continue to steadily increase. We have over 13,000 members between our national and Chapter members. We now have 27 Chapters: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, FMA (CA, NV and HI), Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin. We also coordinate with State Associations in Kansas, Nebraska, Montana, Utah, and a regional organization in the Northwest (NORFMA).

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Member Alert: The 2008 Directory of Floodplain Managers is now available! You can view a copy at:
<http://www.floods.org/directory8890/>

Certified Floodplain Manager Program (CFM)

This program is a phenomenal success and in great demand. As of November 1, 2008, we have certified approximately 6,100 professionals. This represents CFMs accredited by ASFPM and the six states accredited by ASFPM: Arkansas, Illinois, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and

Texas. The certification exam schedule is updated weekly on our website. We have asked Chapters, State NFIP Coordinators, and CFMs to help increase the number of CFMs by scheduling exams in their states. You must be a CFM to proctor an exam. If you are interested in helping and would like to proctor an exam, please contact Anita Larson in the Executive Office at (608) 274-0123 or cfm@floods.org.

ASFPM Training

ASFPM continues to work on developing training for CFMs and our members. Two training modules will be completed and distributed this year. These training modules are Floodplain Management 101 and a CFM Refresher course. This training will be sent to State Coordinators and all State Chapters for their use. These training modules will consist of a powerpoint presentation, instructor guide, and student manual.

Two other training modules: No Adverse Impact 101 and Building Public Support 101 are also currently being developed. You can find more information on the Building Public Support module on page 4 of this newsletter.

Conferences and Workshops

ASFPM's 33rd Annual Conference will be held in Orlando, Florida, June 7-12, 2009. The entire conference will be under one roof at the Rosen Centre Hotel. To make reservations, call (800) 204-7234. The deadline for abstracts for the national conference was October 31, 2008, so we are currently in the process of selecting the presenters for the conference. Those selected will be notified of their placement in the program by December 31st, 2008.

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**National Floodproofing Conference IV:
Sustainable, Nonstructural Flood Protection for Buildings
and Communities
November 16 - 20, 2008
Astor Crowne Plaza - New Orleans**

It's not too late to register for the National Floodproofing Conference IV! Elevation, wet floodproofing, dry floodproofing, buyout, acquisition, relocation, and the policies surrounding these issues will be discussed in detail. You don't want to miss these five jam-packed days of outstanding presentations, training workshops, a technical field tour, products and services exposition, and networking opportunities. Please visit www.floods.org/nfpc4 for more information and to register.

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River Conservation Fellowship – Now Accepting Applications

American Rivers has now begun to accept applications for the 2009-2010 Anthony A. Lapham River Conservation Fellowship. The Lapham Fellowship was established in 2008 in honor of the memory of Anthony Lapham, lifelong champion for rivers and former chairman of the American Rivers Board of Directors.

The Fellowship gives talented post-graduates the opportunity to engage in an applied research project and gain valuable experience and exposure to the field of river conservation and advocacy. Our first Lapham Fellow is currently producing a report exploring how communities can use healthy rivers to be more resilient to the impending impacts of climate change. This "blueprint for resilience" will be used to educate decision makers at the local, state and federal level and help us advance sustainable policies and practices.

If you know any exceptional postgraduates interested in contributing to American Rivers' work on river conservation with a special interest in the impacts of climate change, please direct her/him to www.americanrivers.org/fellowship. These positions are one year (full time), with a stipend and benefits.

Any further questions can be directed to Rob Kimball (202-347-7550 or rkimball@americanrivers.org).

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FEMA Updates

Floodplain Management Bulletin on Historic Structures

There is a new Floodplain Management Bulletin available on how the NFIP defines historic structures and how it gives relief to historic structures from NFIP floodplain management requirements (44 CFR §60.3). This bulletin also provides guidance on mitigation measures that can be taken to minimize the devastating effects of flooding to historic structures.

This new Bulletin is available on FEMA's website at:
<http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3282>

ICC and Substantial Damage Bulletin

There was also a memorandum sent out to further clarify the information presented in Bulletin W-06067, which was originally released back in September 2006. This memorandum is meant to help clarify WYO and NFIP Servicing Agent's roles relating to substantial damage letters in conjunction with ICC claims as the result of flooding events.

You can view a copy of this memorandum on the web at:
http://www.floods.org/pdf/Substnl_Damage_NFIP_Bulletin_1108.pdf

FEMA Guidance Memo on the Placement of Temporary Structures

On October 17th FEMA issued a guidance memorandum titled "Abbreviated Decision Process for the Placement of Mobile Homes and Other Readily Fabricated Dwellings". This guidance is meant to establish a standard, consistent decision-making process to govern the placement of mobile homes and other readily fabricated dwellings.

You can view a copy of this memo on the web at:
www.floods.org/pdf/Abbreviated_Decision_Process_for_THU_Placement_Guidance_Memo_FINAL.pdf

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Building Public Support for Floodplain Management

As any Floodplain Administrator knows, building public understanding and support is vital to the success of floodplain management. Those who know how to harness the support of the many “publics” they interact with are more able to successfully administer best practices in floodplain management and reduce risk in their communities. In response to requests received from our members and chapters, ASFPM has developed and just deployed the first two pilots of our newest training module: Building Public Support 101. This three hour workshop was piloted this fall at the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association and the Arizona Floodplain Management Association conferences.

BPS 101 is designed to be presented as a toolkit for Floodplain Managers on how to educate and enlist the support of the public, local officials, the media, and policy makers in support of good floodplain management practices. This interactive workshop includes hands-on practice with the tools introduced in the resource guide, *Building Public Support for Floodplain Management* which was written by French & Associates, Ltd. in conjunction with the ASFPM Building Public Support Advisory Committee. The resource guide is now available on the ASFPM website for members to access at: http://www.floods.org/PDF/Training/ASFPM_Building_Public_Support_Guide_1108.pdf. Members are encouraged to read and provide feedback to the ASFPM on the resource guide. There is an embedded link on the last page of the guide that connects to the online survey for submitting feedback. If you have resources you'd like to share on ways to build public support, or questions please submit them to Kait Laufenberg, Training and Chapter Coordinator at Kait@floods.org.

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ASDSO Technical Seminar Development – Request for Proposals

The ASDSO Technical Seminars subcommittee has released a Request for Proposals for the development and instruction of a new Advanced Course, "Structural Behavior Monitoring for Dam Safety". The deadline for proposals is January 5, 2009. You can find the full Request for Proposals on the ASDSO website at: <http://www.damsafety.org/conferences/?p=ce3e417f-d8cd-47e6-808a-0dd1c7ccda62>

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News Release:

Counties Join Forces to Reduce Flood Damage & Protect Floodplain Lands

For Immediate Release: September 19, 2008

Contact: Genie Azad, 775-887-9005, genie@cwsd.org

CARSON CITY, Nev. – The Carson Water Subconservancy District, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, and the Nevada Division of Water Resources announced today that the Carson River Watershed Regional Floodplain Management Plan has been formally adopted by all five counties along the Carson River. These counties are Alpine County in California, and Douglas, Carson City, Lyon and Churchill Counties in Nevada. This watershed-based approach to flood reduction and floodplain management is unique and serves as an example for other watersheds to follow to help reduce our escalating national flood damage costs.

Main goals of the plan are to help protect community members from flooding hazards, reduce flood-related costs, lower flood insurance rates, and to provide proactive strategies for floodplain management that can be applied regionally as well as locally. The regional plan calls for the protection of floodplain lands as the primary method of reducing flood damage versus structural approaches, such as levees and large flood control projects. In addition, the plan calls for watershed-wide consistency for data collection and management, flood insurance rate mapping, outreach and education, monitoring, and reduction of infrastructure impacts.

The plan was developed through a cooperative process involving numerous organizations, agencies, and landowners, including all five counties, Carson Water Subconservancy District, Nevada Division of Water Resources, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection Bureau of Water Quality Planning, Nevada Division of State Lands, the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, Carson Valley Conservation District, Dayton Valley Conservation District, The Nature Conservancy, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, HDR, Western Nevada Resource Conservation and Development, Lahontan Valley Environmental Alliance, Alpine Watershed Group, Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, National Weather Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Community members throughout the five counties provided input to the plan strategies through a series of public workshops.

A copy of the plan is available at www.cwsd.org. For any questions or more information, please contact Genie Azad, Carson Water Subconservancy District at 775-887-9005 or genie@cwsd.org.

Carson Water Subconservancy District

777 E. William Street, #110A, Carson City, NV 89701 (775) 887-7450 www.cwsd.org

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19th World Conference on Disaster Management - Call for Papers

The Canadian Centre for Emergency Preparedness (CCEP) is calling for presentations for the 19th World Conference on Disaster Management (WCDM). The Conference will be held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Canada from June 21-24, 2009.

WCDM is the premier annual event that addresses issues common to all aspects of disaster management. The conference program includes speakers from many parts of the world and provides excellent opportunities for training and networking among those in the fields of Emergency Planning/Management, Business Continuity, Emergency Response, Risk Management, IT Disaster Recovery, Disaster Management Research, Emergency Communications, Emergency Health, Security, HR, Environmental, Community Planning, as well as for the organizations which supply and service these professions. The 2009 Conference is expected to attract over 2,000 attendees from Canada, the United States, and from around the globe.

The Conference theme will be: A Climate for Change - Communication, Collaboration and Co-operation

A major goal of the 19th WCDM is to offer a program that challenges delegates by examining traditional concepts and methods, and provides:

- new ideas and approaches to problem solving
- both leading edge and topical presentations
- opportunities to connect with key individuals and organizations across the disaster management spectrum

Presentations should fall into one or more of the following categories: 1) Real Events/Lessons Learned, 2) Emerging Trends in Disaster Management, 3) The Human Element in Disaster Management, 4) Technical Issues/Threats, 5) Disaster Management Principles & Practices, 6) Academic/Research and Development.

Presentation abstracts must be submitted by December 5, 2008.

If you have some knowledge to share and would like to submit an abstract, or know of someone who might be interested in presenting, please visit our web site at <http://www.wcdm.org/> to access the Call for Papers and to see a more detailed description of the program outline. If you have any questions please call Adrian Gordon at (905) 331-2552 Ext: 221 or email: agordon@ccep.ca

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National Park Service: Wild and Scenic Rivers

The following information was taken from the October 2008 edition of the National Park Service's Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Update

Why it Matters?

How should America balance development with protecting our most important, spectacular rivers? Congress settled this question 40 years ago by passing the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The Act declared that certain rivers "shall be preserved in free-flowing condition for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations." On October 2, 1968, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Act into law, and in so doing, protected several rivers named in the Act.

However, the Act also created methods by which the American people could go on to name other rivers to be legally protected as well. In the 40 year life of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, 166 rivers have come to form the [Wild and Scenic Rivers System](#). These rivers have special attributes - scenic vistas, important fish and wildlife habitats, outstanding recreational opportunities, or geologic, historic, or cultural significance - that merit their preservation in free-flowing condition.

Over 3,400 other rivers are potentially eligible for protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Act spells out how advocates can seek additional designations. A nonprofit organization, [American Rivers](#), has launched a campaign to designate 40 new rivers in recognition of the Act's 40th anniversary, and community advocates can also organize efforts to have their local rivers recognized. Securing Wild and Scenic status for our last, best rivers is a powerful way to protect them.



Lamprey River, New Hampshire

Generation Next: Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers

Many Wild & Scenic Rivers are located on federally owned lands—for instance, rivers that flow through national parks. But there is a new model emerging for rivers that travel along privately-owned land: [Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers](#). This collaborative approach is vital, says NPS staffer [Joan Harn](#), because "We can't protect these rivers on our own—not even the ones that are exclusively in parks—because the watershed often extends well beyond our boundaries." It takes community effort and awareness to safeguard these resources.

The Lamprey River in coastal New Hampshire, is a good example of the Partnership Wild & Scenic model. Celebrating 12 years of stewardship since federal designation, the Lamprey River Advisory Committee has helped conserve more than 1800 acres in the 26-mile river corridor, which support wildlife, protect clean, and maintain scenic and rural character. In 2008, the Committee published a river tour brochure about the river's special places. With its sister organization, the Lamprey River Watershed Association, the Committee embarked on an invasive species project and became a leader in eradicating Japanese knotweed. "2008 was also a banner year for land conservation with conservation easements placed on 5 parcels totaling 420 acres and almost a mile of riverfront," says [Julie Isbill](#), NPS liaison to the Committee.

The first step in becoming a Partnership Wild & Scenic River is conducting a study, in partnership with the National Park Service, to determine what is special about your river. A bill must be passed authorizing the National Park Service to conduct a study. The process takes 2-3 years and is funded by the federal government (there is no local match required, except time). Initiating a study evolves through grassroots organizing in the river communities, and usually culminates in a written request for a study from local officials to your members of Congress. After the study is completed, the study committee and communities will make a determination about seeking Partnership Wild & Scenic River designation.

Catalysts

To learn more about the history of Wild & Scenic Rivers, check out the [National Parks Conservation Association's](#) recent [article](#). For river-related funding or grants, search our [NPS grants database](#). For research on the economic benefits of river protection, see our [NPS annotated bibliography](#).

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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!

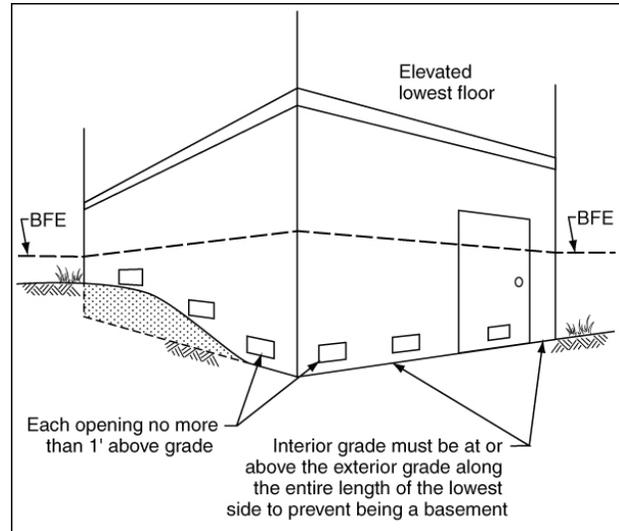
Here's Something You Might Find Interesting . . .

Recently, I've fielded some questions about building on sloping sites – questions about how to satisfy the floodplain management requirements for enclosures below elevated buildings that are constructed on sloping sites. Let me say up front that some people think that complying with the requirement for flood openings in this situation is “impossible” or “not practical.” That makes me wonder – how have they been handling sloping sites for the past 40 years?

I'm not saying anyone actually said it, but those reactions suggest that there might be a sentiment that if it is difficult to comply, then the requirements should be waived, or at least bent to be more accommodating. Of course, that's not the right response. Haven't we all see situations where a site isn't compatible with the owner's desires?

Bending rules, waiving requirements – or granting variances – for sloping sites clearly are not good answers because there are other ways to elevate buildings. If a sloping site makes it difficult to use a crawlspace, then the right answer, the easy answer, is use a different type of foundation that doesn't involve enclosures (e.g., slab-on-grade on fill, pilings or columns).

The figure to the right is copied from the recently revised Technical Bulletin, TB-1, *Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures Below Elevated Buildings in Special Flood Hazard Areas* (see link below and the announcement in the September issue of News & Views). While it shows a full-height enclosure, the situation could easily be illustrated by showing a typical crawlspace built into the sloping site, in which case the interior grade may more or less follow the original slope of the land.



These three questions have come my way in recent weeks.

Why does the interior grade have to be at or above the exterior grade along the entire length of the lowest side?

Let's start with the basics. The NFIP regulations define a basement to be "any area of the building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides." In the sloping site scenario shown, if the exterior grade was at/above the interior grade along only part of the lower side – how much must be "at/above grade" to avoid being a basement? Suppose the final grading pushes some dirt against the foundation such that it wraps around on both sides and only half the length of the side was "at/above grade"? Would that be enough? Suppose only 12 inches of the lower side was "at/above grade"? How about 6 inches? To avoid those judgments, the only logical answer is that the interior grade of the crawlspace or the elevation of the interior slab must be at or above the exterior grade across the entire length of the lower side.

Won't it be too difficult to get enough openings in the foundation wall (or enough net open area) to meet the prescriptive requirement (1 sq in per sq ft enclosed area)? What makes it difficult? As shown, openings can be all around the perimeter as long as they're with 12 inches of grade and also below the BFE (see TB-1 for the obvious explanation as to why flood openings must be below the BFE). I can see that it might be more difficult to fit in enough openings if the base flood depth isn't as deep as shown. In those cases, see the easy answer (elevate the building using a method that doesn't create a crawlspace or an enclosure).

The flood openings will allow the enclosure to fill up as floodwaters rise and drain as floodwaters recede. If the soil becomes saturated, won't hydrostatic pressure against the wall cause them to buckle inward as floodwaters recede? Other than the easy answer, there's no generic way to reply to this question because the answer can vary with the nature of the surrounding soil and the way foundation drainage is provided. Architects, engineers, builders and local officials deal with whole buildings that have to be designed and built to satisfy a host of requirements, not just the flood requirements. Local officials have the authority to require foundations to be designed if there are special conditions that may

not be accounted for in prescriptive designs. I looked to the *International Residential Code* for more detail. Section R401.2 states that "[f]ill soils that support footings and foundations shall be designed, installed and tested in accordance with accepted engineering practice." In addition, foundation walls are required to be designed per Chapter 4, which has content related to surface drainage, soil tests, etc. Specifically, R404.1.3 requires design of concrete or masonry foundation walls in accordance with accepted engineered practice when either "Walls are subject to hydrostatic pressure from groundwater" or "(2) Walls supporting more than 48 inches of unbalanced backfill that do not have permanent lateral support at the top or bottom." Thus, the local official can require applicants to demonstrate that the fill soils are adequately compacted and the foundation walls are designed for anticipated site conditions, in this case the anticipated flooding and saturation.

Download the revised TB-1 from <http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1579>.

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Washington Legislative Report

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



Some Knowns; Lots of Unknowns

Now that the elections have finally happened, we know that our next President will be Barack Obama. We know that the Senate Democrats will have a stronger majority, although not the magic 60 members to control floor activity. We know the House Democratic majority has gained at least 20 seats, with a few elections yet to be called. We can surmise that these results will produce new directions in activity on climate change, environmental issues, energy issues and others.

We don't know, however, who will lead the executive branch departments and agencies and who will be appointed to the several thousand jobs to be filled by political appointment. We also don't know who will be the Chairs and Ranking Minority Members of several key Congressional committees. The players in all of these roles can have a significant influence over the nature and direction of policy and programs. Over the next several weeks, some of this will become clearer, but Congressional assignments will not be finalized until January. Political appointments will continue to be made well into the spring and summer. We know that President-Elect Obama and the Democratic leadership of the House and Senate favor passage of a second economic stimulus package which would include significant emphasis on investment in infrastructure. We don't know whether that will take place during a Lame Duck Session beginning the week of November 17th. Ongoing negotiations between the Congress and the current Administration will determine the feasibility of securing President Bush's signature on another economic stimulus package.

Transition

Both of the Presidential campaigns quietly had transition activities in place for some time, although more is now becoming known about the Obama transition work. Obama's transition team has analyzed the structure and operation of the federal departments and agencies as well as their current policies. They have compiled lists of positions that will need to be filled as well as some possible candidates for positions. All this was going on very much behind the scenes.

The President-Elect formally announced his Transition Team and its leadership the day after the election. It is now called the Obama-Biden Transition Project and is a 501(c)(4) non-profit organization headed by John Podesta, Valerie Jarrett and Pete Rouse. The team will be making recommendations for policy and

program changes, prioritizing the recommendations, reviewing recent Presidential regulatory actions and further developing lists of candidates for Administration positions.

The Bush Administration has had a significant transition operation in place for many months as well. Each department and agency has its own transition office which has been directing preparations for briefing incoming appointees and smoothly turning over federal activities to the new team. The Office of Management and Budget is getting ready to assist the incoming administration with development of its budget request for FY 2010, which must be done very early next year.

Economic Stimulus and Infrastructure

Two House of Representatives committees held hearings on October 29th to consider the need for another economic stimulus package and what it should include. The Ways and Means Committee hearing was entitled: “Economic Recovery, Job Creation and Investment in America”. Witnesses included governors, local officials, education and teacher associations, the American Society of Civil Engineers, various economic policy entities, as well as academic witnesses.

The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee hearing, however, focused particularly on infrastructure needs and the relationship of infrastructure investment to economic stimulus. The Committee heard from 19 witnesses including governors, state and local officials, construction companies and associations and a labor association. ASFPM representatives met with committee staff to discuss this and other issues and provided written testimony for the hearing record. A number of ASFPM members actively participated in developing the testimony which is available on the ASFPM website at:

http://www.floods.org/PDF/Testimony/ASFPM_Testimony_on_Infrastructure_1108.pdf

The ASFPM testimony supported investment in infrastructure for economic stimulus, but called for inclusion of hazard mitigation in projects. The testimony cites a recent article by Paul Krugman (2008 Nobel Prize in Economics) pointing out that the traditional concern that infrastructure projects take too long to effectively stimulate the economy does not apply in the current situation because the downturn is expected to last for a long time. ASFPM’s testimony reminds policymakers of the mistakes made in the 1930s when infrastructure investment ignored threats to life and property from natural hazards. It suggests investment in water infrastructure, in coastal water and storm damage reduction structures, and in green infrastructure systems. It urges that (1) all infrastructure work include consideration of hazard mitigation, (2) critical infrastructure be built to a 500-year level of flood protection and use ICC code standards, (3) key (national security) road systems and bridges be built to resist damage from the 500-year storm, (4) identification of hazard information continue through floodplain mapping, (5) use of flood proofing and redundancy for critical utility systems, and (6) emphasis of sustainability when rebuilding infrastructure.

Lame Duck Session

The Congress is scheduled to return for a Lame Duck Session from November 17 – 21. In addition to possible consideration of an economic stimulus package, other legislation which could be taken up includes an omnibus package of about 50 bills dealing with public lands and other land-related issues. It is also possible that the so-called “Tomnibus” could be resurrected in the Senate. It is a large package of bills placed on “hold” by Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK), usually due to fiscal concerns. An earlier attempt by the Senate Democratic leadership to pass the package failed to win the necessary 60 votes to overcome the “holds”.

Also during this next week, the office lottery will take place, offering returning Members of Congress the chance to move to more desirable office space. Newly elected Member orientations will get underway. Jockeying for leadership positions, for committee chairman and ranking minority member positions, and for committee assignments will escalate. In the Senate, long-time Chairman Robert Byrd (D-WVA) of

the Appropriations Committee will relinquish his gavel to Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI). Senator Byrd is 90 years old and in deteriorating health. He will, however, retain his chairmanship of the Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee, which funds FEMA. A major issue is whether or not Chairman Joe Lieberman (I-CT) of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee will retain his chairmanship and membership in the Democratic Caucus, given his strong support of Senator McCain's Presidential campaign.

Vice President-Elect Joe Biden will be vacating his chairmanship of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Although there had been speculation that Senator Chris Dodd (D-CT) might relinquish his chairmanship of the Banking Committee to take over Foreign Relations, he has now indicated his plans to stay with Banking. In the House, Chairman Henry Waxman (D-CA) of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee would like to replace Chairman John Dingell (D-MI) of the Energy and Commerce Committee, although Chairman Dingell has indicated no intent to leave.

Flood Insurance Reform

Although there is some possibility that there could be action on resolving differences between the House and Senate passed versions of the flood reform legislation during the recess, it is very unlikely. That means the bills will have to be reintroduced in the next Congress. It is likely that each will be introduced as the versions passed in the two bodies and further action will begin from that starting point. At present, the flood insurance program has been extended only until March 6, 2009, so early action of some kind will be necessary, with the most likely action just another extension of the program to later this Fiscal year.

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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 1/31/2009

ASFPM CFMs who are up for their biennial CFM renewal January 31, 2009 will be receiving a letter and renewal form via "snail" mail in the next couple of weeks. If you do not receive yours in the mail by December 1, 2008, please contact Anita Larson at cfm@floods.org or (608)274-0123 so your CFM certification does not lapse.

Certification Board of Regents Meeting

The Certification Board of Regents (CBOR) oversees the administration of the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM[®]) Program. CBOR recently met on October 7-9, 2008 in Fort Worth, Texas to discuss the certification program. Items discussed by CBOR were: Accredited States CFM exam, CFM Reciprocity Policy, CFM Exam's Reliability and Validity Test, CFM Training Needs, and CBOR's FY-09 Work Plan.

Cindy Crecelius, CFM, recently resigned from CBOR. Thank you Cindy for the hard work that you provided to CBOR. Tom Morey, CFM, State of Kansas – NFIP State Coordinator, has been appointed to CBOR to replace Cindy as the State Government representative. ASFPM welcomes Tom to CBOR and looks forward to working with him.

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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>.

November 15 – 20, 2008	IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX Exhibit, Overland Park, KS	IAEM
November 16, 2008	Community Rebuilding and Flood Protection Expo, New Orleans, LA	LSU Ag Center
November 16, 2008	Coastal Construction Techniques for No Adverse Impact (CNAI), New Orleans, LA	View Brochure
November 17 – 20, 2008	ASFPM 4 th National Floodproofing Conference, New Orleans, LA	Association of State Floodplain Managers
November 17 – 20, 2008	AWRA Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA	American Water Resources Association
November 19 – 20, 2008	MnAFPM 2008 Annual Conference, Bloomington, MN	Minnesota Association of Floodplain Managers
January 26 – 28, 2009	International Lidar Mapping Forum (ILMF), New Orleans, LA	View Website
February 11 – 13, 2009	GAFM Annual Conference, Columbus, GA	Georgia Association of Floodplain Management
March 2 – 5, 2009	Coastal GeoTools '09, Myrtle Beach, SC	View Website
March 10 – 13, 2009	SCAHM Annual Conference, North Myrtle Beach, SC	South Carolina Association for Hazard Mitigation
June 7 – 12, 2009	ASFPM 33 rd Annual National Conference, Orlando, FL	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>.

AMEC Earth & Environmental

Hazard Mitigation Project Manager / Planner
Lakewood, CO

AMEC Earth & Environmental (AMEC) is a leading full-service environmental engineering and construction/remediation services firm in North America, providing environmental and geotechnical engineering and scientific consulting services.

AMEC is a focused supplier of high-value consultancy, engineering, and project management services to the world's energy, power and process industries. With annual revenues of over \$4.6 billion, AMEC designs, delivers and maintains strategic and complex assets for its customers. AMEC's Natural Resources, Power and Process and Earth and Environmental (E&E) businesses employ approximately 22,000 people in more than 30 countries globally. AMEC shares are traded on the London Stock Exchange where the company is listed in the Oil Equipment and Services sector (LSE: AMEC.L). www.amec.com. Since 2000, Engineering News Record magazine has ranked AMEC among the top International Design Firms. AMEC has also ranked at the top of its sector in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index since 2005.

AMEC offers competitive salaries along with a complete benefits package including: medical, vision, & dental coverage, 401K Matching, Educational Reimbursement, and a variety of Training and Development Programs to help you develop the skills you need to succeed in your chosen career path. Additional information can be obtained from our website at www.amec.com.

Full time position in AMEC's highly-regarded Hazard Mitigation and Emergency Management (HM & EM) program for a planner to manage, perform and market hazard mitigation and emergency management services for state and local governments.

Responsibilities

- Manage, develop, and update Hazard Mitigation Plans that meet Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) standards. This includes:
 - Coordinating planning team and public meetings and perform or oversee data collection, documentation, plan development, and plan approval by FEMA
 - Evaluating clients' existing mitigation "capabilities" through on-line research of local plans, regulations, policies and programs, and review of programs and documents
 - Identifying and incorporating data into HM/EM plans and other documents; performing risk assessment analyses on hazard data and write significant portions of planning documents
 - Assisting with the identification and description of cost effective, technically feasible, and environmentally sound mitigation actions
 - Identify opportunities to implement actions recommended in HM Plans
 - Participate in client and project development – track opportunities, identify client needs, write proposals
 - Support clients in identifying, pursuing, and developing grant funding opportunities relative to HM & EM programs
 - Provide other research and writing tasks as necessary to support a wide range of mitigation planning tasks and overall plan development
 - Assist with other emergency management projects including the development and execution of training and exercises

Knowledge and Qualifications

- BS in planning, emergency management, Civil/Environmental engineering, geography, environmental science, or related field. MS preferred
- 5+ yrs experience in the hazard mitigation planning/emergency management/floodplain management field and experience developing or reviewing DMA 2000 hazard mitigation plans preferred
- Strong writing skills a must
- Experience working in FEMA disaster management preferred, including working knowledge of federal pre- and post-disaster grant programs including HMA, PDM-C, HMGP and FMA
- Knowledge of HAZUS/GIS, FEMA Benefit Cost software, EMAP, NFIP and CRS a plus.
- Strong work ethic, self-motivated and capable of independent work, but demonstrated ability to work on project teams.
- Strong MS Office skills (Word, Excel, PowerPoint).

AMEC is committed to the principle of equal opportunity in employment.

By submitting your resume, you consent to AMEC Americas Limited sharing this information within its divisions in order to identify other employment opportunities that you may be suitable for
To Apply: Please apply online by copy and pasting the following link into your browser or email resume to david.bennion@amec.com.

https://amec.recruitmax.com/ENG/CareerPortal/job_profile.cfm?szOrderID=7792&szUniqueCareerPortalID=cc8e1101-aaaf-4f78-beea-13ad1d90685c

Michael Baker Jr., Inc.

Water Resources Civil Engineer and Civil Associate II

Michael Baker Jr. Inc., a division of Michael Baker Corporation, seeks a Civil Engineer and Civil Associate II to work in Baker's Seattle Water Resources Group.

Michael Baker Corporation (<http://www.mbakercorp.com>) provides engineering and operations and maintenance services for its clients' most complex challenges worldwide. The firm's primary business areas are aviation, environmental, facilities, geospatial information technologies, pipelines and utilities, transportation, water/wastewater, and oil and gas. With more than 4,000 employees in over 50 offices across the United States and internationally, Baker is focused on delivering innovative and sustainable solutions for infrastructure and the environment. Michael Baker Corporation is ranked among the top 50 national design firms (ENR 2007).

The specialized skills needed for these positions include experience working with surface water and drainage system studies, flood control, use of hydrologic and hydraulic models as well as master planning and design.

Requirements:

- 4-yr degree in Civil Engineering or related field
- 3-5 years of related experience for Civil Engineer; 2-4 years for Civil Associate II. A Master's degree can be substituted for 1-2 years of experience.
- Professional Engineer registration for Civil Engineer; EIT for Civil Associate
- Computer Skills: Hydrologic and Hydraulic modeling, GIS, MS Office

To apply for this position, please log on to <http://www.mbakercorp.com/careers> and reference IRC30645 for the Civil Engineer and IRC30646 for the Civil Associate II. If you have problems applying on line please contact bakerhrms@mbakercorp.com.