

THE INSIDER

A Publication for Members

The Association of State Floodplain Managers **November 2002**

2809 Fish Hatchery Road, Madison, WI 53713 Website: www.floods.org
Phone: 608-274-0123 Fax: 608-274-0696 Email: asfpm@floods.org

Executive Director's Report - Larry Larson

Washington DC meetings

George, Chad, Merrie, Rebecca and I have been meeting with numerous folks in DC over the past couple of months. Our focus has been on mapping funding and implementation, mitigation funding, interagency program integration and NAI. All of you are aware of the federal budget issues---there may or may not be a new federal budget---and if so, when? We try to stay focused on what should be done, whenever it gets done. So far, mapping money looks good for between \$200 and \$300 million. Major concerns with HMGP funding---the House put the money in Pre-disaster competitive grants and cut HMGP to 7-½ %. We continue to work on that. We also continue to be concerned about how the mapping will be done, if the money does come through one of these days. FEMA, the states and CTPs must be ready to leap forward as soon as the money is there. And in a way that produces quality maps, with longevity---not maps which communities will complain to their Congressionals are not an improvement. Everyone must be on the same page and working together if we expect to produce quality maps on a timely basis.

We have met with a number of agencies to discuss how their programs fit into the flood loss reduction process, and how we need to get their program information out to our members around the nation. This includes NRCS, EPA, National Park Service, and others. In our meeting with Tracy Mehan, head of Water in EPA, we discussed the opportunity their new watershed grants (see article elsewhere in this issue) provides for innovative multi-objective watershed approaches for communities. In addition to discussions on program integration we are promoting participation at our St. Louis conference. Cindy is getting lots of papers in, and Oz, Roger and George are working on the conference logistics. Diane is coordinating all of this, so we can get the conference brochure out in a timely fashion--around the end of the year.

National Water Policy

Chad and I attended the "National Water Resources Policy Dialogue" in DC in September. This was organized by AWRA, with the General Chair of the Dialogue being Gerry Galloway. The purpose was to review existing federal water policies and how they impact state and local entities, and to look to identify future federal policy issues. Participants representing a broad range of disciplines and agencies discussed six key issues: Restoring and Protecting the Environment, Water Resources Infrastructure, Safety and Security Issues, Managing Watersheds Holistically, Sustainable Water Use and Drought Management and Floodplain and Coastal Zone Management. Major presentations were given by Governor Glendening of Maryland, Senator Reid of Nevada, numerous Bush Administration officials including James Connaughton, the head of CEQ, Tracy Mehan, Asst. Administrator of Water in EPA (we met with him last week), Gen. Flowers the Chief of Civil Works for the Corps of Engineers, John Keyes, Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation and many others we work with. We will share the information which will be coming from this, and working with these many partners to implement needed actions to improve the nation's water resources policies. It would not surprise most of you to know the discussion brought up many of the issues ASFPM has been promoting for some time.

The ASFPM Board of Directors has created a position of Project Manager to increase the Association's capability to more effectively meet our mission and goals and better serve our members. This professional staff position, located in the ASFPM Executive Office in Madison, will develop, procure and manage grants and contracts for policy analysis, educational programs and workshops. See the full position description and application process at www.floods.org/projmgr.pdf

We ask that you pass this information on to anyone you may know who could have an interest in this position.

No Adverse Impact

George, Chad and I, along with others in ASFPM continue to make presentation about the NAI approach. We get calls and emails from other members who are making presentations on NAI to varied audiences, spreading the word to new partners and

old. Many of you have seen copies of the new NAI Status Report and Poster---they are on the web with order forms. We are about to put a new version of the NAI PowerPoint on the web for all of you to use. It has notes to assist you in presentation.

Jon Kusler is undertaking legal research to produce a report on the legal aspects of NAI. We expect to have that report by year-end, and to use the information in it to produce related documents for the public and for community decision-makers. We want to work with Jon on legal issues training sessions over the next year or so. Regarding training sessions, I will present a 3 hour training session on NAI November 13 in New York, as part of a floodplain-wetland-riparian restoration workshop Kusler is doing at Bear Mountain. We plan to build off that for an even longer training session at St. Louis.

CAP program report

The ASFPM has gathered information from most states to identify what activities and resources states are devoting to floodplain management in their states, as well as what goes into the NFIP part of floodplain management which is addressed by the CAP agreement with FEMA. We are preparing the summary report, findings and recommendations—which will be shared with FEMA in our ongoing efforts to reduce flood losses and protect the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains. A number of state members have been volunteering to produce this document, and we thank them. We hope to have the document ready for distribution to FEMA and the States before the end of the year.

Projects

We are just now getting two projects funded that we have been working toward for a long time. One is an update of Floodplain Management—State and Local programs—2003. The last version we were able to do was the in 1995. Another part of that project is to develop what a “model” state floodplain management program would look like. Our intent is not to set some utopian model, but to define the various program elements, then to describe what the best state programs in the nation are striving to do in those elements. With that model in mind, we can then look at the various federal and state programs and resources that might move states in those directions. FEMA, and the ASFPM Foundation funded this effort, and we look forward to working with them to produce some important and useful products.

We have started another project funded by the EPA Source Water program. This is a program integration effort to help federal and state programs obtain the needed information to integrate the source water program activities and resources into your watershed planning and protection/restoration efforts to reduce flood losses in the nation. These integration efforts try to link not only programs, but need to establish the personnel links all of us need. After all, people do the integration. Program elements can identify how integration can work, but appropriate persons must also be there.

ASFPM Administrative activity

The Certification Board of Regents (CBOR) will be meeting over the weekend of November 7-10 at EMI. Their focus continues to be improvement of training opportunities for CFMs in the nation, and working with those states who see the need and opportunity presented by a state specific exam. The opportunity for web based training for our CFMs seems a real option the Board will consider. The Certification Program is just now going through the first round of de-certification for those CFMs who did not renew their certification. The other major certification projects involves participating with FEMA as they develop a new training strategy for floodplain management and developing a catalog of training courses.

News in Brief

EPA Launches the WATERSHED INITIATIVE

In celebration of the Year of Clean Water and the 30th anniversary of the Clean Water Act, \$21 million has been requested for next year's EPA budget for this new Watershed Initiative. EPA plans to select up to 20 watersheds throughout the country for grants to support promising watershed-based efforts toward cleaner water. EPA has issued a call for nominations from Governors and Tribal Leaders of the most meritorious watersheds and accompanying protection or restoration plans. Focusing on results, broad support and partnerships, innovation, and compatibility with other federal or state programs will be key to a successful nomination proposal. If the FY 2003 appropriations request for the program is approved, awards will range from \$300,000 to \$1,300,000. The nomination deadline is 11/21/02.

Selections are expected to be announced in January, 2003 so that work to improve watershed health can begin as soon as possible. <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/initiative>.

USGS Introduces A Web-Searchable Database of Environmental Methods

On the 30th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) today announced a new standardized web-searchable database of environmental methods that will allow scientists and managers monitoring water quality to compare data collection methods at a glance and find the method that best meets their needs. The tool also allows monitoring data to be shared among different agencies and organizations that use different methods at different times. This database was developed in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and other partners in the federal, state, and private sectors.

Called NEMI ? the National Environmental Methods Index, the tool is a free, web-based online clearinghouse of environmental monitoring methods. The NEMI database contains chemical, micro-biological and radio chemical method summaries of lab and field protocols for regulatory and non-regulatory water quality analyses. It is searchable over the World Wide Web, providing up-to-date methods information through a standard Internet connection and browser. By visiting www.nemi.gov users can directly access current methods information. In the future, NEMI will be expanded to meet the needs of the monitoring community. For example, biological methods will be added to NEMI, along with additional field and laboratory methods of importance to the monitoring community.

NOAA Seeks Comments on Draft Guidance for the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program - The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announces the availability of and seeks comments on the Draft Guidance for the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program. The program was established to protect important coastal and estuarine areas that have significant conservational, recreational, ecological and historical value. The guidance delineates criteria for grant awards and distributing funds in consultation with the state agencies. Comments: Nov. 21, 2002. Contact: Elaine Vaudreuil, (301) 703-3155 ext. 103; e-mail, Elaine.Vaudreuil@noaa.gov. Published: Oct. 22, 2002.

ASFPM MESSAGE BOARD

In order to enhance communication among members, the Association is investigating the use of a message board.

To get a message board up quickly to address issues associated with the implementation of Map Modernization, Pat Skinner, Chair of the Floodproofing/Retrofitting Committee volunteered to set up a forum on the Louisiana State University (LSU) Agricultural Center site. The LSU Ag Center is part of the LSU Cooperative Extension Service. To get to this message board, click on the link on ASFPM home page. The item under the NEW/URGENT items related to "discussion on Map Modernization" includes the link. Pat Skinner has created a private forum that requires people wishing to participate to register on the site. The information you provide during registration is not outsourced nor used for any advertising by LSU. Pat has provided a suggested user naming convention of last name _ affiliation to avoid weird user names that some of us recall when CBs were popular. Al Lulloff, Chair of the Mapping & Engineering Standards Committee has posted a question under the topic titled "MapMod – State Capacity for Floodplain Mapping". Check it out at <http://www.lsuagcenter.com/utilities/forum/default.asp>. If you can answer his question or have a question in any of the other topic areas, create a posting. We are very interested in your feedback on this or other possible communication tools for ASFPM members.

ASFPM MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS WERE MAILED OUT THIS WEEK. PLEASE CALL THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT 608-274-0123 (mid-November) IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE YOUR RENEWAL NOTICE. THANKS.

\$50 Million Available for Private Conservation Efforts

Wildlife agencies, tribes and private landowners can now apply for some of the \$50 million in grants available to help conserve natural habitat.

The Landowner Incentive Program, a \$40 million competitive grant program for state and territorial fish and wildlife agencies and tribes, supports collaborative efforts with private landowners interested in conserving natural habitat while they continue to engage in traditional land use practices. It establishes or supplements existing landowner incentive programs that provide technical or financial assistance to private landowners for the protection, restoration and management of habitat to benefit

species at risk, including federally listed endangered or threatened species as well as proposed or candidate species on private land.

Landowners interested in participating in the LIP should contact their state fish and wildlife agency. The deadline for states to submit proposals to the USFWS is December 2, 2002. Further guidance specific to tribes is being developed. The Private Stewardship Grants Program provides \$10 million in federal grants and other assistance on a competitive basis to individuals and groups engaged in voluntary conservation efforts on private lands that benefit at risk species. To be eligible, projects must be voluntary conservation efforts carried out on private lands, including Native lands.

A minimum of 10 percent of the cost of the project must be provided by non-federal sources. Landowners and their partners should submit proposals to the USFWS by December 2, 2002.

For more information, visit: http://endangered.fws.gov/grants/private_stewardship.html, or visit: <http://www.fws.gov> and click on "grants."

CORNERSTONE

The ASFPM Foundation was founded in 1996 to support the mission, goals and objectives of ASFPM.

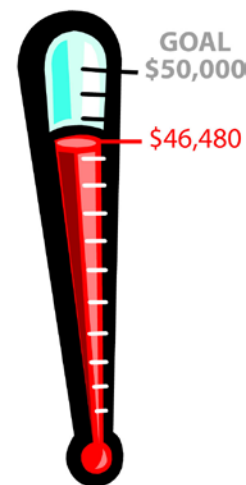
The ASFPM Foundation wants to thank all the members for your support of our \$50,000 goal for the end on the 2002 calendar year. Your generous pledges and donations in the amount of \$46,480 continue to support ASFPM projects as we all approach our fundraising goal. The Illinois Chapter continued its challenge to other Chapters to match up to another \$5,000 in donations. Chapters, in the near future, you will be receiving a letter from Bill Brown with the details of this great-idea challenge. To date, chapter donations have been received from: Illinois, Indiana, New Mexico, and South Carolina.

Financial support from all members is urgently needed to support the Association's vital work.

The foundation is proceeding with the steps required to obtain the services of a Consultant for Development and Fundraising. The Consultant will develop strategic plans and fundraising goals to secure funding from individual, corporate, government and foundation donors to support the infrastructure and current initiatives of the ASFPM Foundation. More information about the consultant's responsibilities and activities can be found on www.asfpm@floods.org. The Foundation has interviewed four firms and will interview one more. Our goal is to have a Consultant on board by January 2003.

Larry Olinger, ASFPM Foundation President

2002 Goal Thermometer



WASHINGTON LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Meredith R. Inderfurth and Rebecca Quinn

Where We Are Now

The Congress is in temporary recess to allow Members to campaign before the November 5th election. Because only 2 of the 13 regular appropriations bills for Fiscal Year 2003 have been passed and signed into law, the Congress will have to return in a Lamé Duck session after the election.

At present, the government is operating under a Continuing Resolution which extends FY '02 funding levels until November 22nd. After passing other one week CRs, this longer version was signed by the President on October 18th. (P.L. 107-244). It

is unclear what actions will be undertaken during the lame duck session to deal with the FY '03 budget. Speculation ranges from another long-term CR extending into the spring (when the FY '04 budget will already be under consideration), to intensive scheduling of appropriations bills for votes and then for House-Senate Conferences, to an Omnibus Appropriations bill which would fold in House or Senate passed versions of the regular bills. Although the Senate had some time ago completed all Committee action on its bills, the House Committee scheduled action on many of its bills in the last weeks before the recess. Most bills are now ready for floor action in the House and Senate. The major difficulty is that the Senate bills are marked up at a higher level than the House bills for the most part, reflecting the restrictive Budget Resolution passed by the House. To some extent, the plans for continued consideration of Appropriations bills will be affected by election outcomes. It is even possible that there could be a Republican majority in the Senate for the lame duck session. If the majority party will change in either House after the first of the year, there may be an interest in delaying final action on the FY '03 budget until that time.

In any event, very little about the FY '03 budget is definitive right now. It is also unclear just now how long it will be before agency and program budgets are finalized.

In September and October, there was final action on a flood forecasting measure and a dam safety measure. Other measures were acted on at the committee level or in one House of Congress. These included the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA) and wetlands conservation. Appropriations for Energy and Water and VA-HUD-Independent Agencies (FEMA, EPA) were marked up in the House. The Homeland Security bill to create a new federal department was debated on the Senate floor for several weeks without coming to a vote.

When the lame duck session begins, all these will be on the table. There is some indication that the session could last much of December.

Significant developments in mark-up of FY '03 budget for FEMA

The House Appropriations Committee did mark up its version of the VA-HUD-Independent Agencies Appropriations bill and reported it out on October 9th (H.R. 5605 and H. Rpt. 107-740). The Senate bill had been filed on July 25th (S.2797 and S. Rpt. 107-222).

Map Modernization

The bill includes \$200 million for FEMA's map modernization plan. The Senate bill provides \$300 million which was the Administration's budget request. Language in the House Report accompanying the bill recognizes the "overwhelming need to update maps which are on average close to 14 years old" which often renders them "of little use in determining the true risk to homes or buildings." There are two major directives. FEMA is directed to use no less than \$75 million for "basin-wide" analyses and up to \$45 million "shall be dedicated to working with State and local communities to build on local knowledge and capabilities through Cooperating Technical Partnership agreements." Language also states the expectation of voluntary contributions, either monetary or in-kind, to leverage the federal dollars. "Recognizing that some communities can commit significantly more resources than others and that accurately mapping risk serves the national interest and assists in reducing natural disaster costs to the nation, cost shares will vary on a case by case basis but a goal of 20% is to be sought." The Report also states that the Committee wants to emphasize that modernization of flood maps should not sacrifice quality for quantity and program performance goals should not emphasize short-term quantity over product quality."

HMGP and Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants

The House bill includes a statutory change to 7 1/2% of disaster expenditures for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The Senate bill leaves HMGP as it is at 15% with the possibility of qualifying for 20% and has language indicating that any change should be considered by the authorizing committee. The Administration budget request had planned to discontinue HMGP entirely and replace it with a competitive pre-disaster mitigation grant program. House Report language recognizes the value of mitigation assistance made available during disaster recovery, but expresses concern about funds not being utilized in a timely manner. The language directs FEMA "to take any steps necessary to ensure that mitigation projects are approved quickly and work is accomplished within a reasonable amount of time. At a minimum, FEMA should consider rules or regulations which will recapture any funds not spent within four years."

The House bill provides \$250 million for the nationwide competitive grant program. The Senate provides \$25 million and the Administration had requested \$300 million. Echoing the Administration's budget request, the House Report says that the Committee feels that Project Impact achieved its goals and that it is "now time to move on to a more robust competitive program to undertake mitigation projects that will significantly reduce damages from the costs of natural disasters." The bill

does provide \$250,000/year to each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam and American Samoa for planning pre-disaster mitigation projects.

After the budget request included substituting this grant program for HMGP, a broad consensus developed that there should be retention of HMGP and a balance between post-disaster formula mitigation assistance and pre-disaster competitive mitigation assistance. FEMA Director Allbaugh acknowledged this in his Congressional testimony. In the meantime, FEMA held a Listening Session in July (in which several ASFPM representatives participated) which made it clear that there are many questions and issues to be addressed about a program which would involve competition between types of disasters, sizes of communities and capabilities of communities.

ASFPM has expressed concern about reduction in the HMGP program and suggests a smaller pilot program for pre-disaster mitigation grants. Members of Congress are very interested in information about the amount of assistance their states have received through HMGP. Any information you would like to make available to Members of Congress from your state on this subject would certainly be useful to them during further House and Senate floor and Conference Committee deliberations on the FEMA budget for FY '03.

Energy and Water Appropriations

The House bill was reported out on September 5th (H.R.5431 and H. Rpt. 107-681) and the Senate bill was reported out on July 24th (S. 2784 and S. Rpt. 107-220).

Both contain funding at significantly higher levels than the Administration's request. Both fund programs such as Section 22 Planning Assistance to States, Flood Plain Management Services and Section 206 Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration at levels higher than requested. See the report in "News and Views", October, 2002 for further specifics.

November CFM Corner

CFM is now Trademarked by ASFPM!

Yes, this means that your official title as a "CFM" is now protected by law. Any person that claims to be a "CFM" in the floodplain management field, must have obtained the title through the formal ASFPM Certification program. This means the national program or a State Certification Program after it has been accredited by ASFPM.

FEMA's IS-9 Course

FEMA's course "Managing Floodplains Through the NFIP" (Independent Study 9) has been discontinued. FEMA is working on up-dating and revising the course. However, there are still copies of the Student Manual available through FEMA's Independent Study Office (301-447-1835). The Student Manual includes the text only and does not have the additional course materials. The course can also be downloaded, in chapters, from the ASFPM website (<http://www.floods.org/IS9/is9.htm>)



Al Goodman– CFM Success Story

Al Goodman is the Mississippi NFIP State Coordinator. When Al obtained his CFM designation, he received an "Education Benchmark" pay increase from the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. The raise was equivalent to those employees that attain a Master's Degree. It is now a requirement that the Mississippi State NFIP Coordinator obtain the CFM designation. Congratulations Al on a great job! We appreciate all that you do for ASFPM!

If you have a certification success story to share, please notify the Executive Office.

Conferences -

Join Us in St. Louis May 11-16, 2003 for ***Lessons Learned - Gateway to Flood Mitigation***, ASFPM's 27th **National Conference**, St. Louis, Missouri. ASFPM's 27th annual conference will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel at the foot of the famed Arch. www.floods.org/stlouis.

Forester Communications, publisher of Stormwater magazine, invites you to

participate in StormCon '03, the North American Surface Water Quality Conference & Exposition. StormCon is the only nationwide forum dedicated exclusively to the needs and concerns of surface water quality professionals. StormCon '03 will take place July 28-31, 2003, in San Antonio, Texas, at the San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter on the city's famous Riverwalk.

If you are involved in managing or funding a stormwater program or stormwater utility, researching or designing best management practices, developing regulations or helping your community comply with them, consider sharing your experience and expertise at StormCon. We are seeking presentations in the following conference tracks:

- * Meeting the Regulatory Challenge
- * Choosing the Right BMPs
- * Monitoring Water Quality
- * Public Education & Outreach

You can submit your abstract on-line at www.stormcon.com. December 13, 2002, and final papers for those that are accepted will be due April 1, 2003. For more information on the conference and registration, www.stormcon.com.

Training Opportunities

IBHS - Conference Agenda Addition

The upcoming Institute of Business and Home Safety (IBHS) Congress in New Orleans, Louisiana, Nov. 13-15, 2002, has added a Commercial Flood Summit, sponsored by the IBHS Commercial Lines Committee (see www.ibhs.org/congress/ for complete information). The summit will take place the first day of the Congress, Nov. 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. While specifically addressing issues of concern to commercial insurers, the summit will also address matters of importance to all companies, such as tropical storm Allison and the potential for repeats of this kind of event, land use planning and its impact on flooding, the status of FEMA's flood mapping program and how insurers can better use this tool, and adjusting the commercial flood loss. A major issue of concern to insurers is the residual risk behind levees, coupled with construction and maintenance standards. Vice-Chair Chad Berginnis will represent ASFPM at this meeting. Contact: Myriam Keenan; (813) 286-3400, ext. 100; e-mail: mkeen@ibhs.org

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Services Center (CSC) offers a number of training programs for coastal resource managers. Some classes are taught at the center's Charleston, South Carolina training facility, others are offered off-site, and a few are available via the Internet. Specifically, the CSC offers a course entitled "Hazards Training" - a region-specific workshop that focuses on risk and vulnerability assessments to be used by local and state managers. Other programs fall into one of three tracks: coastal management training, geospatial technology, and building process skills. For more information see www.csc.noaa.gov/training or (for the hazards course) contact Lynne Hinkey, CSC, 2234 South Hobson Avenue, Charleston, SC 29405-2413; (843) 740-1200; e-mail: lynne.hinkey@noaa.gov.

This following information was excerpted from: The UMBRA *Update* is produced by the staff of the Upper Mississippi River Basin Association, an organization formed by the Governors of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin to represent the states' common water resource interests. Please direct questions and comments to bnaramore@umrba.org. The Update is also available on the UMRBA's web site at <http://www.umbra.org/newsletter.htm>.

GAO Report on FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Programs---In a September 30 report to the Senate Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services, GAO analyzes FEMA's current hazard mitigation programs and proposed changes to those programs. A GAO survey of state mitigation officials revealed that states generally view the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) as "highly successful" because it provides mitigation funding assistance as part of disaster relief. Thus, funding for projects such as relocating structures is offered during the post disaster period, when interest in such projects from communities and citizens is greatest. However, the Administration, concerned about the cost-effectiveness of HMGP projects, has proposed eliminating the post disaster HMGP in favor of a new predisaster program that would fund mitigation on a nationally competitive basis. The GAO report explores a variety of concerns with this new approach, including (1) FEMA and the states may not be able to take advantage of the interest in mitigation that emerges after a disaster; (2) some states might be entirely excluded from mitigation funding; (3) outreach and planning activities that help increase participation in mitigation might be curtailed; and (4) FEMA may have difficulty establishing a viable process for comparing the relative costs and benefits of competing mitigation projects. The GAO report also discusses a number of issues related to hazard mitigation that have been raised as a result of the heightened focus on homeland security. In particular, the current emphasis on terrorism and FEMA's potential inclusion in a new Department of Homeland Security may result in less focus on natural hazard mitigation activities. In addition, the proliferation of new mitigation planning and preparedness programs, most resulting from heightened homeland security concerns, may cause duplication and confusion. And finally, it is not clear how the HMGP could effectively be used to reduce the risk of terrorism damage, although HMGP funds are being made available as part of the disaster relief funding provided to New York following the World Trade Center disaster. The GAO report is available at <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d021035.pdf>.

New Bills

FY 03 Energy and Water Appropriations---On September 24, the House Appropriations Committee reported its FY 03 energy and water development appropriations bill (H.R. 5431, H. Rpt. 107-681). This is the measure that provides annual funding for the Corps of Engineers. In providing \$4.61 billion for the Corps of Engineers' civil works program, the Committee expressed its "growing concern with the continuing low levels of funding requested by the Administration." According to the Committee's report, even adding \$584 million to the President's request leaves many projects funded "at well below their

optimum levels.” The Committee increased the President’s request for almost all of the Corps’ major accounts. The \$144 million general investigations (GI) allocation includes \$6.5 million for Section 22 planning assistance, \$600,000 for stream gauging, and \$9.0 million for floodplain management services.

Conservation and Reinvestment Act---On October 16, the House Resources Committee filed its report on the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA) (H.R. 701, H.Rpt. 107-758 Part 1), having marked up the legislation in July 2001. The bill is substantially similar to the CARA bill passed by the House in 2000, but which was never enacted because the Senate failed to vote on it. It creates a Conservation and Reinvestment Act Fund with up to \$3.125 billion of revenue annually from outer continental shelf oil and gas royalties. Money from the Fund would be allocated as follows: \$900 million to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), \$1.0 billion to coastal states, \$350 million to federal wildlife conservation and restoration under Pittman-Robertson, \$125 million to DOI for urban park and recreation grants, \$150 million to DOI for historic preservation, \$200 million to DOI and USDA for restoration of federal and tribal lands, \$150 million to DOI for endangered and threatened species recovery agreements, and \$350 million to DOI for payment in-lieu of taxes and refuge revenue sharing. Of the \$900 million in LWCF money, half would go to states and half to federal agencies. Thirty percent of the \$450 million in state LWCF funding would be apportioned equally among the states and 70 percent would be distributed based on population. Recipient states would have to develop action agendas with public input.

Dam Safety---On September 26, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee reported the Dam Safety and Security Act (H.R. 4727) without amendment. No written report was filed. The bill would require FEMA to prepare a strategic plan to establish national goals, priorities, and target dates to improve dam safety. FEMA would also be required to assist states in their dam safety programs and establish a review board to monitor the state programs. Annual appropriations for FY 03 through FY 06 would be authorized at \$6 million for state dam safety grants, \$1.5 million for dam safety research, and \$500,000 for dam safety training.

Clean Water Act---The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee heard from a wide range of witnesses at an October 8 hearing that marked the 30th anniversary of the Clean Water Act. According to Tracy Mehan, EPA Assistant Administrator for Water, “we have made tremendous progress in cleaning up our waters over the past three decades -- an achievement that is even more remarkable in coming alongside substantial increases in our population growth and often-dramatic economic growth.” However, Mehan went on to emphasize that “the remaining problems impacting water quality are not easily remedied -- they come not just from pipes, but from diffuse sources such as farming and forestry operations, construction sites, urban streets, automobiles, atmospheric deposition, and even suburban homes and yards.” Mehan called for an increased focus on nonpoint sources of pollution and for attention to physical and biological causes of water quality impairment, not simply chemical pollutants. He endorsed a range of tools, including a watershed approach to establishing total maximum daily loads, water quality trading, increased funding for water quality-related infrastructure, and water conservation. Thomas Weber of the Natural Resources Conservation Service cited the potential for Farm Bill programs, such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Wetlands Reserve Program, to contribute to CWA goals through the reduction of sediment and nutrient delivery to waterways. Testimony from the hearing is available at http://www.senate.gov/~epw/stm1_107.htm#10-08-02.

Sea Grant Program---On October 11, by unanimous consent, the Senate approved an amended version of H.R. 3389, the National Sea Grant College Program Act. The bill extends and increases the appropriations authorization for the Sea Grant program and makes various administrative changes. It also authorizes funding for a number of specific activities, including \$5 million annually for competitive research grants on the biology and control of zebra mussels and other non-native species and \$5 million annually for competitive research grants on the biology, prevention, and forecasting of harmful algal blooms. Rejecting the Administration’s proposal to transfer the Sea Grant program from NOAA to the National Science Foundation (NSF), the bill instead directs the two agencies to report to Congress on how they intend to coordinate their efforts and avoid duplication.

Flood Forecasting---On October 16, the Senate passed H.R. 2486, the Inland Flood Forecasting and Warning System Act, by unanimous consent. The bill authorizes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to develop, test, and deploy an inland flood-warning index to provide more accurate information about the risk posed by expected floods. In addition, NOAA is to assess the long-term trends in the frequency and severity of inland flooding and how shifts in climate, development, and erosion patterns might make certain regions vulnerable to escalating flood damage in the future. The bill is now cleared for the President, having passed the House in July.

Job Corner

See www.floods.org/jobs.htm for links to other current listings. Email asfpm@floods.org to post your job openings in *The Insider*.

SEE PAGE 1 for information on ASFPM's new Project Manager Position!

Source Water Protection Specialist

New York Rural Water Association (NYRWA), a non-profit organization, seeks a *Source Water Protection Specialist* to provide technical assistance to rural and small communities in the formation of source water protection plans. Qualified candidates must have multi-years experience or educational background in water resources planning and conservation, watershed management, and/or source water protection. Applicants must possess technical knowledge of surface water and ground water; water resource protection strategies and pollution prevention measures; and geographic information systems. Excellent communication and presentation skills are necessary, as is willingness to travel and provide presentations at evening meetings. Interested persons should submit a cover letter, resume, salary requirements, and three references to Patricia Scalera, NYRWA, P.O. Box 487, Claverack, NY 12513. Fax: 518-828-3155. Email: Scalera@nyruralwater.org.

ASFPM Calendar

See www.floods.org/calendar.htm for latest updates or to post your meeting or event
--

November 12-14, 2002. Mid-Atlantic/Northeast Stream, Floodplain and Wetland Restoration Workshop. Bear Mountain Inn, Bear Mountain, NY. The three-day workshop is directed to promoting and building the capabilities of local governments, states, federal agencies, not for profits and others in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast to utilize stream stability and natural channel design concepts in stream, riverine wetland, floodplain and watershed management and restoration.

Visit <http://www.aswm.org/calendar/midatlantic02/index.htm> for more information.

February 17-20, 2003 – Urban Storm Water: Enhancing Programs at the Local Level, Westin Hotel on Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL. Learn about state-of-the-art technologies and implementation programs that have proven success in local communities and to meet new NPDES permit requirements. Staff and engineers representing local municipalities will find the conference particularly useful, as will water resource managers, conservation groups, local officials, researchers, educators, and state agency personnel. To submit an abstract or get future conference announcements and program mailings, please contact Bob Kirschner at bkirschn@chicagobotanic.org.

May 11-16, 2003 – Lessons Learned - Gateway to Flood Mitigation, ASFPM's 27th National Conference, St. Louis, Missouri. See page 4 in this issue and on the web at www.floods.org/stlouis.

May 16-21, 2004 - ASFPM's 28th annual conference, Beau Rivage Hotel, Gulf Coast, Louisiana.

June 12-17, 2005 - ASFPM's 29th annual conference, Frank Lloyd Wright Convention Center, Madison, Wisconsin.

For a listing of ASFPM Chapter Meetings, and scheduled dates for the CFM Exam, see the ASFPM website above.