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ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, INC.

EARLY PROGRESS MADE ON NATIONAL SHORELINE MANAGEMENT STUDY

For the first time in 30 years, the nation's shoreline is being comprehensively examined with an eye toward providing a scientific and technical basis for federal actions in shoreline management for the foreseeable future. During 2002, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began the initial scoping and plan development for the National Shoreline Management Study, which had been authorized under Section 215 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999.

According to the Corps's Institute for Water Resources, which will be managing the study and working with the Engineer Research and Development Center Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, the study will summarize existing information about shoreline changes nationwide (erosion and accretion) and examine the causes of these changes and their economic and environmental impacts. The study will identify and describe the federal, state, and local programs and resources related to shore restoration and nourishment, and explore ideas for a systems approach to sand management. The assessment of the nation's shorelines will take into account the regional diversity of geomorphology, geology, oceanography, ecology, commerce, and development patterns.

Meetings to develop inter-agency cooperation have been held with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Geological Survey, Office of Management and Budget, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Coastal States Organization. The governors of all coastal states have been invited to designate state participants. Input from additional experts also will be sought. Several interim reports are expected as the study progresses.

This year's work has involved updating the 1966 Corps reports on shore protection projects and expenditures; examining demographic changes along critical erosion-prone shorelines identified in the 1971 Corps National Shoreline Study; beginning the development of a protocol for the economic analysis; preliminary review of

literature and shoreline data to assess the status of knowledge, data needs, and availability; and an examination of a systems or regional approach to sand management. The last activity is being carried out in conjunction with the Regional Sediment Management Demonstration Project, being conducted by six Corps offices. An overview of the initial implementation of regional sediment management is available online at http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/iwr/pdf/02ps2sed_man.pdf.

For the 2002 start-up work, the Corps received \$300,000 for a project that is estimated to cost about \$7 million. The 2003 appropriation is \$500,000 and the FY2004 budget request includes another \$500,000. The pace of the study, which is already behind the initial direction set by Congress, will depend largely on the level of funding provided.

>>>> For more information on the NSMS, see <http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/iwr/services/shoremanag.htm>.

[Thanks to J. Michael Hemsley of Dewberry, and Mark Mauriello, Coastal Issues Committee Chair, for this information.]

Meet us in St. Louis

The Association of State Floodplain Managers will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the 1993 Midwest Floods at its annual national conference to be held May 11–16, 2003, in St. Louis, Missouri. "Lessons Learned: Gateway to Flood Mitigation" will be the theme followed throughout the week in formal presentations, casual discussion groups, technical field trips, opportunities for networking, training sessions, and more.

The conference brochure, registration forms, and hotel information are posted on the ASFPM website at <http://www.floods.org/stlouis>, and the website also has other instructions, sponsorship information, and links to exciting things to see and do in St. Louis.

from the Chair

George Riedel

As I prepared to write my final column as Chair of the Association of State Floodplain Managers, I had some trouble choosing a topic. However, the recent death of a good and close friend, Nick Winter, made me decide to write about this incredible organization.

Nick exemplified what this organization is really about—people working together to make a difference. Nick did not work daily with the National Flood Insurance Program or with floodplain management. He was the head operator of the Charles River Dam in the City of Boston—this is the flowage you see on television when the Boston Pops Orchestra plays each Fourth of July. So he was surely involved with flooding. However, he did become actively involved with the Association after attending his first ASFPM annual conference in Portland, Maine, because he believed in our goals and objectives and was particularly impressed with the commitment of our members. As the ASFPM's Treasurer, Nick volunteered countless hours of his own time to make sure we were professional and solvent. We will miss him.

It is people like Nick and other members who offer their time, energy, and expertise that makes the ASFPM strong. I've heard this from agency and elected officials who marvel at our volunteer organization's commitment. The ASFPM continues to grow in both membership and in stature. Federal agencies and other organizations look to the ASFPM for leadership and input in the reduction of flood damage in this country. The ASFPM is listened to as a voice with real ideas and solutions.

As Chair over the past two years, I have been pleased by what the ASFPM has accomplished. This

success has been achieved due to the support and hard work provided by the Board and the members. The Executive Office, the officers, and I were consistently supported by the Board, which allowed us to act quickly and with confidence. Over the past two years, the ASFPM has been faced with internal and external issues. Not once did the Board or the membership fail to act or provide direction in a timely and positive manner.

I am exceedingly proud of what the ASFPM has accomplished these past two years. I want to thank the many individuals and groups that have helped with these accomplishments. I would also like to thank the members for their confidence and trust in allowing me to serve as their Chair.

The ASFPM is only as strong as you, the members, allow it to be. Your input, participation, and support in any and all of the ASFPM's activities is encouraged and needed. I know that this participation will continue to grow and that it will lead to the realization of our mutual goal of improving floodplain management in the nation.

* * *

My term may be ending, but we are still in the midst of an active period in terms of legislation and appropriations. There is a proposal to zero out the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds in the coming year's budget [*see article on page 3*] so it is very important to let Congress know how valuable this program has become. This is a clear area in which individual members of Congress need and want specific information about how the HMGP funds have been used in their own home states—and what the effect would be if those funds were lost. I very much hope that you will be able to contact your members of Congress to let them know the amount of HMGP funding received by your state in the last five years, how many projects were funded that way, and what has been accomplished through those projects. Also be sure to let them know of our ongoing support for the map modernization program, for which \$200 million is requested in the budget. □

ASCE'S FLOOD STANDARD COMMITTEE TO MEET IN ST. LOUIS

As states and communities across the United States make the transition to the new model buildings codes, engineers and architects will have to use the *Flood Resistant Design and Construction Standard* (ASCE 24-98), which is referenced in the codes. The standard was first published in 1998 by the American Society of Civil Engineers, and is currently being revised. The revision process includes the opportunity for public comment. The committee of volunteers charged with considering revisions to *Flood Resistant Design and Construction Standard* will meet on Wednesday, May 14, during the Association of State Floodplain Managers' annual conference in St. Louis. Conference attendees are welcome to stop by to learn what is being considered and how to contribute.

The new model building codes include the International Code Series—a single family of codes. The I-Codes are the result of many years of effort to merge the model codes of the Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc. (BOCA), the International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO), and the Southern Building Code Congress International, Inc. (SBCCI) [*see News & Views, June 2002, p. 1 and August 2000, p. 3*]. One or more of the I-Codes has been adopted by 18 states and hundreds of communities. The *NFPA 5000*, developed by the National Fire Protection Association, has recently become available for adoption.

>>>> For information on the ASCE 24 Standards Committee, contact Jim Rossberg, Director of SEI/ASCE, at 1-800-548-2723 or jrossberg@asce.org.

Washington Report

HMGP MAY BE ELIMINATED

A critical issue for the ASFPM in the proposed Fiscal Year 2004 budget for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (or the Emergency Preparedness and Response Division of the Department of Homeland Security) is the plan to eliminate funding for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), the formula-based post-disaster mitigation program, and to replace it with a nationwide, competitive pre-disaster mitigation initiative. This same proposal was made in the FY2003 budget, apparently based on the thought that a competitive grant program would assure that the money is well spent. After a major effort to explain to members of Congress and to then-Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Joe Allbaugh, that the pre-and post-disaster mitigation programs are not interchangeable, Allbaugh in effect testified against his own budget by stating that he thought a balance between the grant program and HMGP would be a better approach. Congress struck a balance, simply splitting the money between the two programs, believing this would please everyone. They appropriated half the money requested for the grant program and reduced the percentage of disaster funds for post-disaster mitigation by half. The reality is that, at that level of funding, the HMGP cannot be effective, and the competitive pre-disaster program has major flaws. The result will be that mitigation reverts back to its pre-1993, ineffective status.

Now, for FY2004, the Administration has again made the same proposal as it did for FY2003. This year, the budget will be reviewed by new House and Senate appropriations subcommittees. Only a few members of the new Subcommittees on Homeland Security served on the VA-HUD-Independent Agencies subcommittees, which previously had jurisdiction. Since the members of the new subcommittees will be dealing with the budgets of all 22 agencies folded into DHS and since most are not familiar with the details of FEMA's programs, this issue must be highlighted for the subcommittees and for all members of Congress. In addition, FEMA has taken the position that it has the authority to eliminate the HMGP without any Congressional approval. In other words, if Congress wishes to retain the HMGP, it will be necessary to make a clear statement to that effect in the appropriations bill. It would be very helpful to members of Congress, in evaluating this question, to have information about the way in which HMGP has functioned in their own states and the amount of mitigation funding their states have received over the past several years [see the Chair's column on page 2].

The ASFPM's outside witness testimony to the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on this issue [see article below] points out that the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 instituted a requirement that communities have a mitigation plan in place in order to

access HMGP funds after a Presidentially declared disaster. This requirement assures that post-disaster mitigation will be guided by pre-disaster mitigation plans. It also assures the availability of mitigation funds at the very time when citizens and elected officials are most receptive to undertaking projects and initiatives to reduce future losses and most willing to provide the necessary cost share. The testimony suggests that pre-disaster mitigation is especially useful for mitigation planning and points out that there are concerns about a pre-disaster competitive grant program that would produce counterproductive competition among types of natural disasters; among geographic areas; and among localities of varying sizes, capabilities, and "grantsmanship" skills.

Educating members of Congress about this problem and about the ways in which HMGP has been used so far are critical next steps for ASFPM members. It is very helpful to your Representatives and Senators to have state-specific information so they can make well-informed decisions. Let them know via email or fax how many and what types of projects have been completed in your state with HMGP funds, what the amounts of funding were, and what the benefits have been.

>>>> Email your Representative by going to <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>. This site looks up your representative based on your zip code, provides a screen for composing a message, and then emails it. Contact information for senators is listed at http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm. Messages can be composed and sent simply by clicking on the senator's email address.

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

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Many of the unknowns of the past three months have been resolved, and Congress is in full swing with hearings on appropriations and proposed authorizing legislation and is making significant progress towards a budget resolution. Since early January,

- The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) was reauthorized for one year (P.L. 108-3). As described below, the House Financial Services Committee has already held a hearing on the next NFIP reauthorization and other topics.
- The FY2003 omnibus appropriations bill was finally passed, resolving budget uncertainty that had prevailed through 12 Continuing Resolutions since September 30. The President signed the measure on February 20, making it P.L. 108-7.
- The President's FY2004 budget was released on February 3, answering questions about budget

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request levels and the organization of the budget for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

- FEMA became part of DHS on March 1, beginning a period of settling into a new structure, with accompanying organizational and personnel changes and movement. Staff of the former FEMA are now scattered among three locations in Washington, D.C.—some are still at FEMA headquarters, some at the transition office, and others at the temporary headquarters of DHS.
- The Congress has created new Appropriations Subcommittees on Homeland Security, shifting the jurisdictions and membership of other subcommittees. Most agencies folded into DHS will be dealing with a new group of Congressional members charged with reviewing their budgets.
- The House created a Select Committee on Homeland Security to deal with many authorizing and other issues related to the new department. The Senate chose not to do so and has retained authority for DHS in the existing Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs.
- DHS Secretary Ridge has already testified in both the House and Senate on the proposed DHS budget for FY2004.
- On April 3 the Senate unanimously passed its version (S. 762) of a Supplemental Appropriations bill for FY2003 for war and homeland security, approving \$76 billion for those purposes.
- The budget resolutions for the year are nearing completion.

The Budget and Appropriations

As Congress works on House and Senate budget resolutions, which will set the spending parameters for FY2004 appropriations bills, the appropriations subcommittees are in the midst of their hearings with federal agency representatives defending and explaining their budget requests.

Only a few appropriations subcommittees hear testimony from “outside witnesses,” but most do accept written testimony from them. The ASFPM submitted outside witness testimony to the House Homeland Security Subcommittee (1) opposing elimination of the HMGP [see article above], (2) preserving the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program, (3) supporting continued funding of map modernization, and (4) discussing the financial status of the NFIP. The testimony is posted on the ASFPM website at <http://www.floods.org>.

The ASFPM has also submitted letters of support to the appropriations subcommittees for the \$1.5 million increase in the budget request for the National Park Service’s Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program. This program provides technical and consensus-building help to communities working to develop green spaces and can be an important source of assistance to facilitate floodplain management objectives as well. The additional funds will help the program to establish more small field offices around the nation.

The ASFPM will submit letters to the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittees expressing

concern about small reductions in several programs of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that have proven helpful for floodplain management, particularly Flood Plain Management Services and the Section 22 Planning Assistance to States programs.

Letters will also be sent to the two appropriations subcommittees commenting on some of the increases and decreases in the U.S. Geological Survey’s budget for stream gaging, mapping, and water programs.

The ASFPM will continue to monitor and provide input as needed on the budgets of floodplain-related activities of other agencies as well, notably the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

National Flood Insurance Program

On April 1, Chad Berginnis, ASFPM Vice Chair, testified at a hearing before the House Financial Services Committee’s Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity on oversight and re-authorization of the NFIP and repetitive flood losses. The ASFPM’s testimony recommended firm directions on key issues, including the increased criticality of maintaining Congressional support for the NFIP now that the program is couched within the large DHS; ways to ensure that any new repetitive flood loss strategy is cost-effective, flexible, and coordinated with existing programs; and needed revisions to the Increased Cost of Compliance insurance coverage. The hearing had a specific focus on the two bills introduced by Doug Bereuter (R-NE) and Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) (H.R. 253) and Richard Baker (R-LA) (H.R. 670), both of which address the repetitive loss problem. On the panel with Berginnis were Fletcher Willey of the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America; Gerald Nielsen of Nielsen Law Firm, Louisiana; and Rick Willetts, III, representing America’s Community Bankers. Other panels were a Congressional contingent made up of Bereuter, Blumenauer, and Baker and a one-person panel featuring Anthony Lowe, Director of Mitigation and Federal Insurance Administrator for DHS. The Subcommittee likely will mark up the legislation later this spring.

>>>> The ASFPM’s testimony is available at <http://www.floods.org>.

Department of Homeland Security

The Department of Homeland Security is headed by Secretary Tom Ridge and Deputy Secretary Gordon England. Ridge, a former governor, has established an Office of State and Local Coordination within the Secretary’s office that will be headed by Josh Filler. There will be four divisions within DHS, each headed by an Under Secretary. Asa Hutchinson, a former senator who has recently been serving as Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, has been nominated to be Under Secretary for Border and Transportation Security. Charles E. McQueary has been nominated to be Under Secretary for Science and Technology. Janet Hale, who has been serving as Assistant Secretary of the

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Department of Health and Human Services for Budget, Technology and Finance, has been nominated to be Under Secretary for Management. Michael Brown, who served as FEMA's General Counsel and then Deputy Director, has been nominated to be Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response [see *News & Views*, February 2003, p. 7]. Most or all of FEMA's programs will fall within the division headed by Brown, whose nomination awaits consideration by the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee. Former FEMA Director Joe Allbaugh resigned as of March 1, the date when FEMA became part of DHS. A number of Assistant Secretaries remain to be appointed.

There has been understandable confusion over whether the acronym "FEMA" will still be used. There have been official indications that the title will persist because so many Americans are familiar with it and it represents a certain set of emergency management functions. FEMA employees themselves have received conflicting guidance, but it does appear likely that the familiar "FEMA" can still be used.

Budget highlights released by the new department focused on improving information analysis and infrastructure protection; advancing science and technology; preparing for and responding to national emergencies; securing the nation's borders, transportation system, ports, and waterways; improving immigration services; protecting national leaders; and suppressing counterfeiting. There was no specific mention of natural disasters and hazards or mitigation. Clearly, the programs of the former FEMA will be functioning in a different environment. Maintaining the visibility of natural hazards in this context will be crucial to protecting lives and property from the natural disasters that do occur with frequency.

Upcoming Activities and Issues

- Confirmation hearing and vote on Mike Brown as DHS Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response;
- Markup of the NFIP reauthorization and repetitive loss bills;
- Reauthorization of the Stafford Act (which includes HMGP and pre-disaster mitigation);
- Work on a Water Resources Development Act;
- Possible action on legislation providing some interpretation of the SWANCC decision on wetlands jurisdiction;
- House and Senate appropriations hearings and markups in April, May, and June;
- Re-activation of the Congressional Caucus on Natural Hazards;
- Re-activation of the Stafford Act coalition of groups concerned about HMGP/pre-disaster mitigation;
- Ongoing work of the Flood Map Coalition of groups supporting map modernization; and
- Ongoing work of the Rivers and Trails Coalition to support the increased funding for the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program.

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

COMMENT PERIOD ON WETLANDS RULE EXTENDED

As a result of requests from the public for an extension of the comment period, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have extended until April 16, 2003, the time available for responses to their Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published in the *Federal Register* on January 15, 2003 (Vol. 68, No. 10, pp. 1991–1998). The notice pertains to the jurisdictional status of isolated intrastate non-navigable waters under the Clean Water Act, in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County vs. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*, 531 U.S. 159 (2001) [see *News & Views*, February 2003, pp. 4–5].

>>>> Information on the proposed rule is posted at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/swanccnav.html>.

PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION FUNDS AVAILABLE

The Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration of FEMA announced in the March 3 *Federal Register* (Vol. 68, No. 41, pp 10018–10020) the availability of Fiscal Year 2003 funds under the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program. Each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa are requested to submit a grant application for these hazard mitigation planning funds. FEMA will contribute up to 75% of the cost of eligible activities for a maximum of \$248,375 per state.

Funds may be used to develop state, tribal, and local hazard mitigation plans that meet the planning criteria outlined in 44 *CFR* Part 201, which implements Section 322 of the Stafford Act. This may include developing countywide or multi-jurisdictional plans. Multi-hazard mitigation planning may include hazards caused by non-natural forces but must focus primarily on natural hazards. Risk assessments for mitigation plans are also eligible. As part of the planning grant, up to 10% of the funds may be used to disseminate information on cost-effective mitigation technologies via marketing, outreach, and training and education.

>>>> Applications may be obtained from the appropriate FEMA Regional Office, and are due back there by April 30, 2003, although special arrangements can be made if state or local budget issues related to the cost share prohibit meeting this schedule. More information about the program, and the *Federal Register* notice, are available at <http://www.fema.gov/fima/pdm.shtm>.

All referenced legislation and committee reports can be viewed at <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

State and Local Report

FLOODPRONE ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGES TO BE ASSESSED

The U.S. General Accounting Office has been directed by Congress to conduct a study of Alaska Native villages affected by flooding and erosion, including but not limited to Kaktovik, Barrow, Point Hope, Kivalina, Unalakleet, and Bethel. Among the issues the GAO is to consider are (1) which villages can “reasonably be protected” through construction of seawalls, riprap, and other engineered structures and at what cost; (2) which villages cannot reasonably be protected and must instead be relocated; (3) what potential relocation sites are available, including federal lands and existing villages; (4) what the cost will be of constructing housing, water and sewer systems, health facilities, power systems, airports, roads, and dock facilities in relocated villages.

As part of their consultation, GAO staff met with the State NFIP Coordinator for Alaska, Christy L. Miller, who briefed them on pertinent aspects of the state and national programs, the limitations of flood study data for many parts of Alaska, and other issues. The study may have national implications if the GAO’s final report defines “reasonable protection” or sets a threshold for “affected by flooding and erosion.”

The report is due to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on October 1, 2003.

CONNECTICUT TO RECONSIDER FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT BILL

Legislation has been re-introduced in the Connecticut legislature that would create a state and local mitigation planning requirement, compensatory flood storage and equal conveyance, floodprone real estate disclosure, and a land use fee to fund hazard mitigation planning grants for local jurisdictions. Grants could also be used to initiate participation in the National Flood Insurance Program’s Community Rating System.

The idea was born from State Representative Steve Fontana’s attendance at a National Conference of Insurance Legislators meeting in Chicago at which he heard about the ASFPM’s No Adverse Impact initiative. When Fontana returned from Chicago he held a series of discussions, met with real estate and home builder groups, formed an advisory committee (including the New England Floodplain & Stormwater Managers Association, Inc.) and drafted proposed legislation. Those meetings included strategy development using both ASFPM’s No Adverse Impact initiative as a base and the Community Land Use Evaluation for Natural Hazards, completed by the Institute for Business and Home Safety’s Land Use Planning Committee.

The legislation failed in the first round due in large part to its perceived fiscal impact in a session where

budget woes dominated. However, the coalition succeeded in building a strong ally in Fontana, who is Vice Chairman of the Connecticut General Assembly’s Planning and Development Committee and also sits on the Insurance Committee. He is committed to the cause and reintroduced the legislation early in this session. The interim months provided time for additional outreach to the rest of the Assembly and other stakeholders, which may improve the bill’s chances this year.

>>>> For information, contact Scott Choquette at schoquette@dewberry.com.

STREAM AND PARK RESTORATION FUNDED IN CENTRAL TEXAS

The City of Blanco has received a \$200,000 Partnerships in Parks grant from the Lower Colorado River Authority. The city, in cooperation with the Citizens’ Assembly of Blanco County Wheels & Feet Task Force, was recognized for the groundbreaking nature of the coalition. Supported by the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program, Wheels & Feet led a two-year planning effort to act upon the needs of diverse organizations and to assemble the financing to realize their vision. Local government, non-profit groups, businesses, and individuals were supplemented by pro bono engineering and design support from HDR Engineering, Inc. and Ford, Powell, and Carson Architects of San Antonio, as well as a local grant match from the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. The project will restore Town Creek, re-establish riparian habitat, and create an interpretive trail, arbor, amphitheater, and picnic tables for cultural and recreational activities.

>>>> For more information, contact Steve Bonner, Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program Community Planner, Austin, Texas, at (512) 916-5163; steve_bonner@nps.gov.

NORTH CAROLINA’S WETLANDS RULES STAND UP TO CHALLENGE

The North Carolina Supreme Court on March 28 denied a challenge to the state’s wetlands protection rules. The action upholds the state’s right to treat wetlands as it does other water bodies and to regulate activities that impact them. A spokesperson for the state’s Division of Water Quality welcomed the “reaffirmation that wetlands are indeed waters of the state and should be protected for the benefits that they provide, including flood prevention, water quality improvement and aquatic life habitat,” particularly in view of the fact that the scope of federal jurisdiction recently has been reduced. The denial of the Petition for Discretionary Review was

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the most recent step in a four-year legal battle over whether the state's Environmental Management Commission had statutory authority to adopt the wetlands rules, and the validity of the procedure by which the rules were adopted in March 1996. Challenged by the North Carolina Home Builder's Association, the North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry, as well as other groups and individuals, the EMC's authority and validation of the rulemaking procedure had already been upheld in Wake County Superior Court in October 2001, and then by the Court of Appeals in September 2002.

INDIANA GROUP OPPOSES PERMISSIVE FLOODWAY BILL

The Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management has gone on record in opposition to a proposal to allow the construction of new residences in the floodway of the Ohio River. The measure, House Bill 1222, has passed the Indiana House and is currently under consideration in the Senate's Committee on Insurance and Financial Institutions. In a letter to committee members in the Indiana Senate, the INAFSM board noted that "the very reason why IC 14-28-1, the State Flood Control Act, was passed in Indiana was due to the catastrophic flood losses that occurred due to flooding which included the loss of life on the Ohio River. This bill [HB 1222] proposes to allow homes to be placed in the area of greatest flood risk on the Ohio River." The letter further noted that the INAFSM fails to see "why our state law should be modified to put new homes back into a hazardous location and at an expense for taxpayers."

>>>> The bill and the INAFSM's letter can be viewed on the INAFSM's website at <http://www.geology.iupui.edu/Outreach/INAFSM/>.

CALIFORNIA TASK FORCE COMPLETES WORK

California's Floodplain Management Task Force, established pursuant to Assembly Bill 1147, passed in 2000, has finished its examination of floodplain management within the state to identify ways the state can be more effective in reducing its flood losses [see *News & Views*, June 2002, p. 8]. The Task Force, which included representatives of numerous state, local, and federal agencies as well as the private sector, environmental groups, and the California-based Floodplain Management Association, made 38 specific recommendations. Among them were the updating of state statutes and executive orders, designation of a

state-level coordinator for the Community Rating System, review of the state building code, promotion of best management practices and multi-objective management approaches, maximizing opportunities for agricultural conservation and ecosystem restoration, creating additional incentives for coordination among floodplain stakeholders, convening an alluvial fan flooding task force, and increasing state assistance to localities for flood warning systems.

>>>> The *California Floodplain Management Report* can be viewed or downloaded from <http://fpmtaskforce.water.ca.gov>.

CONNECTICUT TO RESTORE MARSHLAND FUNCTIONS

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has proposed design plans for the restoration of the degraded Old Field Creek tidal marsh in West Haven. Efforts will focus on stopping the ongoing degradation, restoring wetland functions and values, and assuring that the restoration will not increase flood frequency to low-lying properties. The restoration of Old Field Creek is estimated to cost \$800,000. Since 1980, the DEP's Office of Long Island Sound Programs, in partnership with federal, municipal, and private non-profit organizations, has been systematically restoring degraded tidal wetlands along Connecticut's coast. To date, over 1700 acres of wetlands have been restored through these efforts.

>>>> For more information, see <http://dep.state.ct.us/whatshap/press/2003/mf0218.htm>.

A Stroll Down Memory Lane

A senior (but still alert) reader has reminded us that Thomas Ridge, Secretary of the new Department of Homeland Security, is no stranger to issues surrounding the reduction of flood losses. Back in 1988, Ridge, then one of Pennsylvania's members in the U.S. House of Representatives, was instrumental in the passage of the Disaster Relief Act Amendments, which included mitigation measures and sources of mitigation funding. The Association of State Floodplain Managers presented Certificates of Appreciation to then-Representative Thomas Ridge and then-Representative Jim Olin of Virginia, in recognition of their efforts in getting the amendments initiated and passed. In turn, Ridge thanked the ASFPM, in a formal letter, for its support and input during the process, saying, "Enactment of the Act marked the end of over a decade of work on the part of many who have been seeking to make these vital changes in our disaster relief policy. Because of your work and work of others, disaster victims can now count on the kind of compassionate and efficient care that the original law intended."

The Show Must Go On ... Almost Always

The curtain rose on schedule for this year's Academy Awards show, in spite of the war with Iraq. But did you know that the Academy Awards presentation has been postponed three times in its 75-year history? One of those delays was because of flooding in Los Angeles, where the awards ceremony is held. Winter storms in the mountains and five days of rain in March 1938 caused floods on the Los Angeles, Santa Ana, and nearby rivers. It was estimated that 15% of the greater Los Angeles basin was inundated; bridges, roads, and railroad beds were washed out; communication was disrupted. There were over 100 deaths, and the damage amounted to almost \$1 billion in current dollars. That was the flood that triggered federal involvement in flood control for the area, and culminated in the massive project to channelize the Los Angeles River and construct many reservoirs in the region's watersheds. (The Academy Awards ceremony was held one week late.)

What were the other two occasions on which the Academy Awards were postponed? The answer appears on page 13.

FASCINATING FLOOD FACTS

Based on National Flood Insurance Program data available online, as of the end of 2001 the NFIP had paid a total of 843,608 claims. Interestingly, this represents 76% of the total claims filed. What about the claims that were filed but not paid? While a small number of those are still open (being processed), nearly all of the others were "closed without payment" (CWOP). Claims are closed without payment for a number of reasons, for example, if the loss was less than the deductible, if the loss was for items not covered (such as in basements), or if the event did not qualify under the insurance definition of a flood.

The percentage of claims filed that are closed without payment varies considerably from state to state.

- At 52%, Guam tops the list with the highest percent of claims CWOP.
- States with more than 40% of claims CWOP are New Mexico, the Virgin Islands, Wyoming, and Colorado.
- At 14%, Missouri has the lowest proportion of claims CWOP.
- States with less than 20% of claims CWOP are Arkansas, Texas, Mississippi, Oklahoma, North Dakota, West Virginia, Minnesota, Kentucky, and Louisiana.

>>>> See <http://www.fema.gov/nfip/pcstat.htm>.

REMINDERS ON GRANTS

River Restoration Grants

American Rivers is seeking proposals for community-based river restoration grants as part of its partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Community-Based Restoration Program. The grants are intended to support local communities that are utilizing dam removal or fish passage to restore and protect the ecological integrity of their rivers and improve freshwater habitats important to migratory fish. Grants will be limited to projects in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and California.

Eligible groups must demonstrate how their project (1) will successfully restore anadromous fish habitat, access to existing anadromous fish habitat, or natural riverine functions; (2) is the correct approach, based on ecological, social, economic, and engineering considerations; (3) will minimize any identifiable short- or long-term negative impacts to the river system as a result of the project; (4) has had community involvement in project decision making and may have community involvement in the implementation; and (5) will have the potential for public outreach and education.

Applications for fiscal year 2004 will be considered in two cycles with the first deadline falling on November 1, 2003. The second cycle's deadline will be in the spring of 2004. Potential applicants are encouraged to contact American Rivers to discuss their projects before submitting an application.

>>>> Applications and eligibility guidelines are at <http://www.amrivers.org/feature/restorationgrants.htm>. For more information on the NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program and its partners, visit www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/community/index.html.

Grants for Greenways

Each year, the Kodak American Greenways Awards, a partnership project of the Eastman Kodak Company, The Conservation Fund, and the National Geographic Society, provide small grants (up to \$2,500) to stimulate development of greenways in communities throughout the United States. Grants may be used for virtually any activity that furthers work on a greenway, from building a foot bridge to mapping a riparian corridor, conducting a habitat assessment, holding a conference, producing a brochure, or incorporating a land trust. Applications may be submitted from March 1 to June 1 each year. Although preference is given to local or state non-profit groups, public entities are eligible as well. This is a good partnering opportunity.

>>>> Application forms, eligibility information, and a list of the many interesting and varied projects that have been done with these grant funds since 1993 are available for viewing at <http://www.conservationfund.org/?article=2372>.

NFDA CERTIFICATION PROGRAM GETS UNDERWAY

The National Flood Determination Association (NFDA) has created a voluntary certification program. Its intent is to further the industry as professional businesses committed to the critical services provided to mortgage lenders and insurance agencies. The NFDA is an active participant in a variety of activities in support of the National Flood Insurance Program.

George Riedel, Chair of the Association of State Floodplain Managers, was invited to recommend a representative to serve on the NFDA Certification Committee. Rebecca Quinn, ASFPM Legislative Officer, has agreed to serve in that capacity. The ASFPM's participation will provide a stronger link between the organizations.

The NFDA certification program is rigorous, including on-site audits conducted by a Certified Professional Accountant of numerous business practices. Business practices include having a business recovery plan, adequate financial viability, a quality assurance program, adequate record keeping, and a staff training program that includes specific elements.

The NFDA acknowledges that accuracy is the most significant factor when making flood zoning determin-

ations. Therefore, the certification of any individual company depends on the results of an accuracy validation process that demonstrates 99% accuracy in identifying Special Flood Hazard Areas. The independent auditor, supported by an independent data management company, will generate a random sample for accuracy review. The review will be conducted by three separate flood determination providers chosen from a pool of companies that have volunteered their services.

The certification program has been delayed due to unprecedented lending activity in the last two years prompted by low interest rates. Vicki Chenault, NFDA President, reports that over 25 million flood determinations were made in 2001. Activity for 2002 should be available soon, and so far 2003 looks to be another high-volume year.

>>>> For more about the National Flood Determination Association and its certification program, see <http://www.floodassoc.com>.

—reported by Rebecca Quinn, RCQuinn Consulting, Inc.

Publications, Software, AV & the Web

The Natural and Beneficial Functions of Floodplains: Reducing Flood Losses by Protecting and Restoring the Floodplain Environment, is now available as the final report of the Task Force on the Natural and Beneficial Functions of the Floodplain, established by Section 562 of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994. The Act required the Task Force to identify the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains that reduce flood damage, make recommendations on how to protect those functions, and prepare a report on its findings. The Task Force, chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, included representatives of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Park Service, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The report examines the relationship between the natural functions of floodplains and flood loss reduction. It includes summaries of the current state of floodplain management in the United States, the challenges facing the nation in the area of floodplain management, and the emerging opportunities for intergovernmental partnerships in managing floodplains to reduce the loss of life and property caused by floods by protecting and restoring the floodplains' natural functions. The report concludes that the nation's approach to flood loss reduction must be changed to fully reflect multi-objective floodplain management goals that focus on sustainability, and the protection of natural and beneficial floodplain functions. Protecting and restoring floodplain functions will reduce flood losses, preserve wildlife habitat, improve the quality of waterways, and enhance quality of life. Copies are free from FEMA Publications, P.O. Box 2012, Jessup, MD 20794-2012; 1-800-480-2520. FEMA also plans to eventually make the report available on its website.

BOSS International, in association with Amazon.com, has launched an on-line bookstore of publications on civil engineering topics. At civilbookstore.com there are over 72,000 engineering books available for sale, and reviewed by other engineers. Users can search by keyword, author, or ISBN number, or browse through broad categories. Although all of the books are of interest to engineers, there are many valuable for floodplain managers who are non-engineers, too. Among the topics covered are dam engineering (dam safety and failure, slope stability); environmental engineering (sustainable development, water quality); harbors and coastal engineering; hydraulic engineering; hydrology; surveying; remote sensing; building codes; and use of software in civil engineering. Visit at <http://www.civilbookstore.com>.

Vital Water Graphics is an on-line overview of the state of the world's fresh and marine water resources, issued by the United Nations Environment Programme to highlight World Water Day, which was March 22. The report uses graphics, maps and other illustrations to highlight the causes, effects, trends, and threats to water sources, with examples of areas of major concern and future scenarios for the use and management of fresh, coastal, and marine waters. Among the graphics and maps are those showing the number of new dams under construction worldwide in 1998; areas most affected by river channel fragmentation and flow regulation; devastation to the Mesopotamian marshlands in the Tigris and Euphrates river basins from damming and river channelization; effects of climate change and sea level rise; global river runoff through the 20th century (by continent); and suspended sediment discharged (by region). Produced by UNEP in conjunction with other United Nations agencies, individual experts, and international organizations. 40 graphics and accompanying text. Available at <http://www.waterday2003.org/vital-water-graphics.htm>.

Exploring Dam Removal: A Decision-Making Guide provides information useful to a variety of stakeholders in their decisions whether or not to remove a dam. The two organizations that produced the document, Trout Unlimited and American Rivers, have been approached in the last few years by an increasing number of communities seeking help in making the dam removal decision. Although each situation involving a dam is different, there are always basic considerations in ecological, social, economic, and technical arenas. The report walks readers through a narration of the fundamental issues and provides a series of questions to guide them and increase the likelihood of making an informed decision. The guide can be downloaded from <http://www.AmericanRivers.org/DamRemovalToolkit> or from http://www.TU.org/Small_Dams/.

“Getting in Step: Engaging and Involving Stakeholders in Your Watershed” is the second in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Getting in Step series. It features information on how to generate interest and participation in watershed assessment, planning, and management. A web-based version of the new guide (along with the previous “Guide to Effective Outreach in Your Watershed”) is posted online at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/outreach/documents/>

FloodSafety.com produces a website, companion CD-ROMs, public service announcements, and videos with the goal of reducing flood-related fatalities and property damage. Their effort centers on Texas, but many aspects are applicable to other parts of the country. Among their activities are promotions of flood safety in driver education programs, and providing flood hazard information to homebuyers, those living in or near floodplains, newcomers to Texas, and the public. The website is an engaging and varied information resource. Among its many tidbits (besides relevant links to other sites) are flood damage and fatality statistics from the U.S. and Texas; data on how people die in floods (mostly in vehicle-related incidents); a collection of slide shows, photographs, and video clips of Texas floods; maps; and explanations of floodplains, the National Flood Insurance Program, and other technical terms and initiatives. One interesting item on the website is the chart in the box at right. FloodSafety.com is a project of the the Texas Environmental Center, which promotes environmental awareness through interactive media. Website sponsors are Disaster-Ready Austin (formerly a Project Impact initiative), Harris County Flood Control District, City of Austin Watershed Protection, San Antonio River Authority, Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, and the U.S. Geological Survey. Visit at <http://www.floodsafety.com>. For more on the Texas Environmental Center, see <http://www.tec.org/about.html>.

Compare Risks	
Your chances of being flooded are much greater than some other risks you face daily. If you live in a 100-year floodplain, there is more than a 1 in 4 chance that you will be flooded during your 30-year mortgage. During the life of that mortgage, you are 27 times more likely to experience a flood than a fire.	
<u>Event</u>	<u>% chance of happening in the next year</u>
25-year flood	4 chances in 100
Involved in a car accident	3 chances in 100
Some form of cancer	3 chances in 100
Victim of larceny	2 chances in 100
50-year flood	2 chances in 100
Victim of burglary	1 chance in 100
Injured in a car accident	1 chance in 100
100-year flood	1 chance in 100
Victim of auto theft	1 chance in 300
Victim of aggravated assault	1 chance in 500
Victim of robbery	1 chance in 1,000
Residential fire	4 chances in 10,000
Killed in car accident	3 chances in 10,000
<i>Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, “Floods and Your Family”</i>	

Version 3 of the “National Flood Frequency Program” software provides estimates of flood flows having recurrence intervals of 2 to 500 years for user-selected sites on rural and urban streams. The NFF compiles more than 2,000 flood-flow equations developed by the U.S. Geological Survey for 289 regions of the nation into a single, user-friendly package. The equations relate the flood flows to physical and climatic characteristics, such as the land area that drains to the site of interest and the mean annual precipitation for the area. Users can enter the characteristics into NFF to obtain flood-flow estimates, which are provided onscreen as tables or as plots that can be saved by users onto files on their computers. The estimates provided by NFF are used as a basis for flood hazard area maps, planning and management decisions, and the design of bridges, culverts, and flood control structures. A previous version of the software was released in 1994, and since then, new equations have been developed for more than 30 states. “The National Flood Frequency Program, Version 3: A Computer Program for Estimating Magnitude and Frequency of Floods for Ungaged Sites.” K.G. Ries III, and M.Y. Crouse, compilers. USGS Water Resources Investigations Report 02-4168. Digital copies of the report and the software can be downloaded from <http://water.usgs.gov/software/nff.html>. The website also contains links to documentation to help users solve the equations for each state. Paper copies of the report, which include a CD-ROM of the software, can be purchased by contacting the U.S. Geological Survey, Information Services, Box 25286, Denver, CO 80225-0286; (303) 202-4700.

Calendar

The Association of State Floodplain Managers maintains a list of flood-related meetings, conferences, and training at <http://www.floods.org/calendar.htm>.

April 13–16, 2003: INAUGURAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COASTAL AND ESTUARINE HABITAT RESTORATION, Baltimore, Maryland. Sponsored by Restore America’s Estuaries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana, and many others. Contact Heather Bradley, Conference Coordinator, Restore America’s Estuaries, 3801 North Fairfax Dr., Ste. 53, Arlington, VA 22203; (703) 524-0248; hbradley@estuaries.org or see <http://www.estuaries.org>.

May 1–4, 2003: AMERICAN WETLANDS CONFERENCE, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Sponsored by the Izaak Walton League. Contact the League at 1-800-284-4952 or (301) 548-0150 x 219 or see the website for the meeting at <http://www.iwla.org/sos/awm/conference>.

May 11–16, 2003: LESSONS LEARNED, GATEWAY TO FLOOD MITIGATION—TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, St. Louis, Missouri. Contact the ASFPM Executive Office, 2809 Fish Hatchery Rd., Ste. 204, Madison, WI 53713-3120; (608) 274-0123; fax: (608) 274-0696; asfpm@floods.org or see <http://www.floods.org/StLouis>.

May 12–15, 2003: DIGITAL HAZARD DATA, Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact EMI at 1-800-238-3358 or see <http://www.fema.gov/emi/>.

May 12–15, 2003: WATER FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD—LIMITED SUPPLIES AND EXPANDING DEMAND, SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE, Phoenix, Arizona. Sponsored by the United States Committee on Irrigation and Drainage. Contact the U.S. Committee on Irrigation and Drainage, 1616 17th St., Ste. 483, Denver, CO 80202; (303) 628-5430; fax: (303) 628-5431; stephens@uscid.org or see <http://www.uscid.org>.

May 13–15, 2003: LARGE RIVER SYSTEMS—UNDER STRESS, Cornwall, Ontario, Canada. Sponsored by the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences. See <http://www.navcanada.ca/ncti/english/efacil.htm>.

May 27–30, 2003: KEEPING RISK AT BAY—NATIONAL FLOOD CONFERENCE, San Francisco, California. Sponsored by the National Flood Insurance Program, Federal Emergency Management Agency. Contact Catherine King at (301) 918-1439; fax: (301) 918-1471 or see <http://www.fema.gov/nfip/2003conf.htm>.

June 8–11, 2003: EIGHTH NATIONAL WATERSHED CONFERENCE, Council Bluffs, Iowa. Contact Tammy Sawatzky, National Watershed Coalition, P.O. Box 7793, Edmond, OK 73083; (405) 521-4823; NWCTammy@aol.com; <http://www.watershedcoalition.org>.

- June 8–13, 2003:** WETLAND STEWARDSHIP: SOCIETY OF WETLAND SCIENTISTS 24TH ANNUAL MEETING, New Orleans, Louisiana. Contact Lisa C. Gandy at (501) 225-1552; gandyjc@swbell.net.
- June 11–13, 2003:** WATER STEWARDSHIP: HOW ARE WE MANAGING? 56TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CWRA CONFERENCE, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Sponsored by the Canadian Water Resources Association. Contact Stefan Joyce at (605) 875-6391; s_joyce@hayco.com or see <http://www.hayco.com>.
- June 16–20, 2003:** 21ST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON LARGE DAMS, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Sponsored by the Canadian Dam Association and others. Contact Lise Pinsonneault, Communications Committee, CIGB-ICOLD Montreal 2003, 75 W. Renee-Levesque Blvd., 21st Floor, Montreal, Quebec, H27 1A4, Canada; (514) 289-4628; fax: (514) 289-4546; pinsonneault.lise@hydro.qc.ca or see <http://www.cigb-icold.org>.
- June 22–25, 2003:** WORKING TOGETHER: 13TH WORLD CONFERENCE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Sponsored by the Canadian Centre for Emergency Preparedness. Contact World Conference on Disaster Management, (416) 595-1414 or see <http://www.wcdm.org>.
- July 13–17, 2003:** COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT THROUGH TIME, Baltimore, Maryland. Sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coastal Services Center. Contact Jan Kucklick, NOAA Coastal Services Center, 2234 So. Hobson Ave., Charleston, SC 29405-2413; (843) 740-1279; Jan.Kucklick@noaa.gov or see <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cz2003/>.
- July 28–31, 2003:** STORMCON '03, THE NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE WATER QUALITY CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION, San Antonio, Texas. Sponsored by Forester Communications and *Stormwater* magazine. For more information, see <http://www.stormcon.com>.
- August 11–15, 2003:** MANAGING FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM, Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact 1-800-238-3358; <http://www.fema.gov/emi/>.
- August 27–29, 2003:** FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE OHIO FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, Columbus, Ohio. Contact Christopher Thoms, Conference Chair, at (614) 265-6752 or see <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/>.
- September 7–10, 2003:** DAM SAFETY 2003, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Sponsored by the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. Contact ASDSO at 450 Old Vine St., 2nd Floor, Lexington, KY 40507; (859) 257-5140; fax: (859) 323-1958; info@damsafety.org or see <http://www.damsafety.org/conferences.cfm?content=annual>.
- September 10–12, 2003:** 7TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE INDIANA ASSOCIATION FOR FLOODPLAIN AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT, Lake Monroe, Indiana. Abstracts are due May 2. Contact Jon Stolz, INAFSM Vice President and 2003 Conference Chair, at jstolz@cbbel-in.com.
- September 10–12, 2003:** SAFER SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: 2003 AUSTRALIAN DISASTERS CONFERENCE, Canberra, Australia. Sponsored by Emergency Management Australia. Contact EMA at P.O. Box 1020, Dickson, Australian Capital Territory 2602, Australia; 61 (0) 2 6232 4240; enquiry@einsteinandedison.com.au; http://www.ema.gov.au/fs-call_for_abstracts.html.
- September 14–17, 2003:** FLOODING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES FOR VENICE AND ITS LAGOON: STATE OF KNOWLEDGE 2003, Cambridge, England. Sponsored by Churchill College. Abstracts are due April 25. Contact Venice 2003, Cambridge Coastal Research Unit, Department of Geography, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 3EN U.K.; phone: +44-1223-766578; venice2003@geog.cam.ac.uk; or see <http://ccru.geog.cam.ac.uk/events/venice2003>.
- September 15–19, 2003:** MANAGING FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM, Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact EMI at 1-800-238-3358; <http://www.fema.gov/emi/>.
- September 22–26, 2003:** THE COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM OF THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM, Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Call 1-800-238-3358 or see <http://www.fema.gov/emi/>.
- September 28—October 3, 2003:** RESIDENTIAL COASTAL CONSTRUCTION, Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact EMI at 1-800-238-3358 or see <http://www.fema.gov/emi/>.

- October 5–9, 2003:** XI WORLD WATER CONGRESS: WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN THE 21ST CENTURY, Madrid, Spain. Sponsored by the International Water Resources Association (IWRA). Contact the XI Water Congress, Centro de Estudios Hidrograficos, Paseo Bajo Virgen del Puerto, 3, 280005, Madrid, Spain; mwwater2003@cedex.es or see http://www.cedex.es/iwracongress2003/en/hoja2_en.htm.
- October 20–24, 2003:** LANDSCAPE SCALE WETLAND ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT: ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE WETLAND MANAGERS, Nashua, New Hampshire. Abstracts are due May 9, 2003. See <http://aswm.org/calendar/2003am/>.
- October 30–31, 2003:** ECOSYSTEMS: RESTORATION & CREATION: 30TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Tampa, Florida. Sponsored by Hillsborough Community College. Abstracts are due June 30, 2003. See <http://www.hccfl.edu/depts/detp/eco-conf.html>.
- November 3–6, 2003:** ANNUAL WATER RESOURCE CONFERENCE, San Diego, California. Sponsored by the American Water Resources Association. See <http://www.awra.org/meetings/California2003/index.html>.
- November 10–14, 2003:** 30TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON REMOTE SENSING OF THE ENVIRONMENT, Honolulu, Hawaii. See <http://www.symposia.org>.
- November 15–19, 2003:** ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGERS, Orlando, Florida. Contact IAEM, 111 Park Place, Falls Church, VA 22046; (703) 538-1795; fax: (703) 241-5603; info@iaem.com or see <http://www.iaem.com>.
- November 16–18, 2003:** THIRD NATIONAL TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD SCIENCE AND POLICY CONFERENCE, Chicago, Illinois. Sponsored by the Water Environment Federation, Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Geological Survey, and others. See <http://www.wef.org/pdffiles/TMDL03Call.pdf>.
- November 17–19, 2003:** RESTORING STREAMS, RIPARIAN AREAS, AND FLOODPLAINS IN THE SOUTHWEST: SECOND SOUTHWEST TRAINING WORKSHOP AND SYMPOSIUM, Socorro, New Mexico. Sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and others. Abstracts are due June 2. Contact Jon Kusler at (518) 872-1804; aswm@aswm.org or see the call for papers at <http://www.aswm.org/calendar/southwest/index2003.htm>.
- May 16–21, 2004:** TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, Biloxi, Mississippi. Contact the ASFPM Executive Office, 2809 Fish Hatchery Rd., Ste. 204, Madison, WI 53713-3120; (608) 274-0123; fax: (608) 274-0696; asfpm@floods.org or see <http://www.floods.org>.
- July 11–14, 2004:** WATERSHED 2004, Dearborn, Michigan. Sponsored by the Water Environment Federation. Abstracts are due August 1, 2003. See <http://www.wef.org/Conferences/>.
- November 1–4, 2004:** ANNUAL WATER RESOURCE CONFERENCE, Orlando, Florida. Sponsored by the American Water Resources Association. See <http://www.awra.org>.
- November 6–9, 2004:** ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBIT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGERS, Dallas, Texas. Contact IAEM, 111 Park Place, Falls Church, VA 22046; (703) 538-1795; fax: (703) 241-5603; info@iaem.com or see <http://www.iaem.com>.
- June 12–17, 2005:** TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, Madison, Wisconsin. Contact the ASFPM Executive Office, 2809 Fish Hatchery Rd., Ste. 204, Madison, WI 53713-3120; (608) 274-0123; fax: (608) 274-0696; asfpm@floods.org or see <http://www.floods.org>.

ACADEMY AWARDS ANSWER

The 1968 Academy Awards ceremony was scheduled for April 8, but earlier that week Martin Luther King, Jr., was assassinated and his funeral was held on April 8.

The awards ceremony was postponed until April 10, 1968.

In 1981, the awards ceremony was delayed for 24 hours after the attempted assassination of President Ronald Reagan.

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Deadline is the 18th day of odd-numbered months.

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