



# NEWS & VIEWS

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ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, INC.

## WARMER PLANET CERTAIN, IPCC SAYS

In a somber report issued February 2, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change declared, with 90% certainty, that global warming is “evident from observations of increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice, and rising global mean sea level” and is due to increased “anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations.” *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis—Summary for Policymakers* was a six-year cooperative effort by hundreds of authors who relied on research by more than 2,500 scientists from 130 countries. The IPCC’s level of certainty about its conclusions is higher now, up from 66% in its 2001 report.

The IPCC was established in 1988 by the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization to assess the potential problem of global climate change. It consists of several working groups that review and synthesize existing climate and related research and modeling worldwide, but do not conduct independent research.

The panel projects an increase in temperature of 0.2°C for each of the next two decades, with further warming expected throughout the next century. Accompanying this warming would be a continued rise in relative sea level, wider variations in precipitation and runoff patterns, increased storminess, more intense hurricanes and related storm surge in some parts of the world, as well as other meteorological impacts.

Scientists cannot say with certainty what the precise effects of warming may be at any given location. But concern for public safety and a commitment to minimizing flood losses dictate that floodplain managers consider whether actions could or should be taken to prepare for flood events of a size, extent, or intensity that may not have been anticipated under past scenarios.

There are a great many unexplored questions at hand about managing floodplains in a different climatic regime. For example, much of floodplain management policy and practice is based on projected flood levels that are in turn based in part on historical records of precipitation, stream flow, and other meteorological data. With those long-standing averages being altered, predictions of flood levels may need to be altered as well. Wider extremes may mean that margins of safety, such as that provided by freeboard, need to be broadened. What effect would rising sea levels have on projected hurricane damage and other coastal flooding, or on the rates and extent of coastal erosion? Should there be a re-examination of the use of beach nourishment and other shoreline protection strategies?

The ASFPM has commenced work on a White Paper that will set out policy positions and recommendations on the flood-related implications of climate change. A draft will be posted on the ASFPM website soon, or you may contact [asfpm@floods.org](mailto:asfpm@floods.org) to express your interest. Other work is under way, as well. ASFPM Chair Pam Pogue has been sitting on a National Research Council panel on the use of climate-related science in the coastal and water resources programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. In addition, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is heading up a study of the impacts of sea level rise on the coastal wetlands and floodplains of the mid-Atlantic; Bill Nechamen represents the ASFPM in that effort.

The reports from two other IPCC Working Groups are expected this spring. Of the most interest to floodplain managers will be the findings of Working Group II, on the vulnerability of social, economic, and natural systems to climate change, and the options for human adaptation. The third group’s report will outline ways to limit greenhouse gas emissions or otherwise mitigate changes in climate. An overall report synthesizing all the findings will be published late this year.

>>> The IPCC summary report is 18 pages, with tables and charts of data. It is available at

<http://www.ipcc.ch/SPM2feb07.pdf>

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# from the Chair

*Pamela Mayer Pogue, CFM*

Lately I have been reminded, again, that weather is relative. With the exception of our members in the South and Southwest, I suspect that the rest of you are struggling with these frigid winter temperatures just as I am. This past week, Larry Larson and I traveled to Washington, D.C., and we smirked as we read the *Washington Post* headlines warning about the “shockingly” cold temperatures (in the 20s). Heck, Rhode Island hit single digits. Okay, Wisconsin had us all beat with wind chill measuring 20 or so below zero! With that said, I am very much looking forward to meeting the Florida Chapter on their turf at the end of February!

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If you think there was a lull in ASFPM activity during the holidays and into January, you are wrong! In mid-December the ASFPM and the National Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA) hosted the National Flood Risk Policy Summit at the Aspen Wye River Conference Center in Queenstown, Maryland. About 70 participants represented over 50 agencies at the federal, state, and local levels and national non-profit groups. The aim was to formulate recommendations for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to resolve policy and program conflicts and gaps in floodplain management.

This past week, Larry Larson, Doug Placencia, and I met with Susan Gilson, Executive Director of NAFMSA, and one of their Board members (Herb Nakasone of Orange County, California). We reviewed the 60-plus pages of notes from the work sessions at the December Policy Summit and drafted a list of recommendations. After preparing a more complete report by fleshing out the policy and operational suggestions, we plan to brief the FEMA and Corps leadership with NAFSMA in the next month.

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Work continues on the draft of our *National Floodplain Policies and Programs in Review 2007*. I believe this document will become very important and timely, as it has grown substantially from the last review, which was issued in 2000. During the week of February 11th your ASFPM  
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## **Mission: Mitigation Gulf Coast Recovery Workshop**

**April 9-12, 2007 in New Orleans, Louisiana**

This special workshop will help staff and decisionmakers from Gulf Coast states and communities find ways to minimize future flood and hurricane damage while they work through the recovery and reconstruction of damaged areas.

It will cover flood mitigation planning and program options, funding sources, construction standards, lessons learned, success stories, insurance issues, recovery mapping, grant applications, coastal challenges, and legal implications. There will be two training classes and a field tour in addition to more structured sessions. The speakers are experienced practitioners who have many successes to share from working with multiple programs, organizations, and agencies through the years.

> > > For more information see <http://www.floods.org/missionmitigation>.

*Hosted by the ASFPM and sponsored by the FEMA Transitional Recovery Offices for the Gulf Coast States and in cooperation with state floodplain management associations and the NFIP Coordinators from Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas; the University of New Orleans' Center for Hazard Assessment, Response and Technology (CHART); NOAA's Coastal Services Center and Louisiana Sea Grant Program; Louisiana State University Agricultural Center; and the Corps of Engineers' National Nonstructural Floodproofing Committee.*



## No Adverse Impact Floodplain Management

Workshops and briefings on the legal aspects of No Adverse Impact Floodplain Management are being presented throughout the United States through the cooperative efforts of the ASFPM and Edward A. Thomas of Michael Baker, Inc. The No Adverse Impact principle calls for ensuring that the actions of one property owner do not adversely impact the rights of other property owners, as measured by increased flood peaks, flood stage, flood velocity, erosion and sedimentation, or degradation of water quality or habitat.

The workshops review the legal issues and principles relevant to floodplain management, including key federal and state court cases; explain how the law supports the No Adverse Impact floodplain management concept; demonstrate how floodplain management can be structured to avoid much, if not all, of the uncertainty surrounding the “takings” issue; examine legal risks for areas protected from flooding by dams and levees, and additional issues as indicated by audience interest.

The NAI Legal Workshops and briefings scheduled to date are listed below. Note that the specific day and time of the NAI session during the conferences may not have been finalized.

- February 21, 2007 at the workshop of the Colorado Association of Stormwater and Floodplain Managers, FEMA, and the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, Denver, Colorado
- March 9, 2007 at the Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute, Denver, Colorado (to be presented jointly with Maher Hazine of Peoria, Arizona, and Doug Plasencia of Michael Baker, Inc.)
- April 11, 2007 at Mission Mitigation: the Gulf Coast Floods Recovery Workshop, New Orleans, Louisiana
- April 14, 2007 at the American Planning Association conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- June 3-8, 2007 at the ASFPM Annual Conference in Norfolk, Virginia
- August 27-29, 2007 at the Association of State Wetlands Managers annual conference in Williamsburg, Virginia
- November 14-15, 2007 at the Minnesota Floodplain Managers conference in St. Cloud, Minnesota
- September 24-26, 2007 at the Arkansas Floodplain Managers conference in Eureka Springs, Arkansas

>>> For more information, check the website for the individual conference listings in the Calendar section of this issue. To find out about setting up an NAI workshop in your area, contact the ASFPM Executive Office at (608) 274-0123 or [asfpm@floods.org](mailto:asfpm@floods.org).

>>> Learn more about the concept of NAI and how it is being applied across the United States by clicking on “No Adverse Impact” at the ASFPM’s website at <http://www.floods.org>.

# USGS RELEASES FIRST ANNUAL STREAMFLOW SUMMARY

This past year has produced some record-breaking high streamflow conditions in the northeastern United States, as well as some near-record lows in other areas, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). In a new USGS publication, *Streamflow of 2006—Water Year Summary*, changes in streamflow over the course of 2006 are examined in relation to conditions over the past 75 years.

Last year, parts of New England recorded their highest annual flows since 1930. At the same time, below-normal conditions were prevalent in Texas and other states in the central and southern Great Plains, parts of the Southeast, and Alaska.

“Despite these regional highs and lows, however, streamflow conditions nationwide were relatively typical,” says Harry Lins, hydrologist with the USGS surface-water program. “We expect in any given year that 1% of streamgages will experience a new all-time record high flow or all-time record low. In 2006, 2% of streamgages reported record highs, most in New England, and 1% experienced new lows.”

The USGS plans to provide similar summaries every year. Robert Hirsch, Associate Director for Water, said, “These types of summaries are very important as they place annual streamflow in a historic context and help to provide insights on whether conditions reflect short-term (year to year or seasonal) hydrologic fluctuations or longer term, more global influences. They also reinforce the critical need for a stable streamflow monitoring network over the long term.”

>>> This first-ever USGS summary of seasonal, regional, and national streamflow for water year 2006 can be accessed at <http://water.usgs.gov/waterwatch/2006summary/>.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO NOAA 200 Years and Counting . . .

President Thomas Jefferson founded the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey (as the Survey of the Coast) in 1807 to provide nautical charts to the maritime community for safe passage into American ports and along the extensive coastline. The Weather Bureau was founded 1870 and, one year later, the U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries. These organizations were, respectively, America’s first physical science agency, its first agency dedicated specifically to the atmospheric sciences, and its first conservation agency.

The cultures of these three early agencies—scientific accuracy and precision, service to protect life and property, and stewardship of resources—were brought together in 1970 with the establishment of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), an agency within the Department of Commerce.

Today, NOAA’s Office of Coast Survey holds more than 20,000 historical nautical charts and continually updates its collection of 1,000 current charts. NOAA also operates a system of 16 satellites, the National Weather Service, and oversees coastal zone management. NOAA’s researchers and employees work to enhance weather forecasts; provide longer warning lead times for natural disasters; and enhance understanding and management of our climate, oceans, and atmosphere.

All year NOAA will be sponsoring activities to celebrate its two-century legacy and its vision for future public service. There will be photo contests, events at Monticello (Jefferson’s historic home), commissioning and launching of new NOAA ships, receptions at various sites around the country of significance to the agency’s mission, burial of a time capsule, and presentations of awards, among numerous others. A new website is devoted to the celebration, featuring a wealth of historical information, new feature stories every month, and kid-friendly activities and educational materials.

>>> Visit at <http://celebrating200years.noaa.gov/welcome.html>.

# EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW . . . ABOUT STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

Rebecca Quinn  
RCQuinn Consulting, Inc.

Were you ever curious about how your state's floodplain management program and requirements stacked up against other states? Have you wondered which states have adopted some of the "higher standards" and No Adverse Impact policies that we hear so much about? It turns out that there is tremendous variety among programs. How do I know? Because I keep a valuable reference close at hand—the ASFPM's *Floodplain Management 2003: State and Local Programs*, known as *FPM03*.

I have used *FPM03* several times in recent months and I want to share what I've learned and encourage you to get a copy. When the issue of including freeboard into the International Residential Code came up, I turned to *FPM03* to see how many states already require freeboard. Within minutes I found that 14 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico have requirements for freeboard ranging from 6 inches to 2 feet. Between them, they have nearly 7,500 communities or about one-third of all communities that participate in the NFIP. The next time I reached for *FPM03* I was researching a question about dam safety regulations.

*FPM03* has a lot of other valuable information compiled from an extensive questionnaire completed by the NFIP State Coordinators. It is organized around the guiding principles that are embodied in *Effective State Floodplain Management Programs*, a companion document in which the ASFPM has set out the most significant attributes of a successful state program. *FPM03* contains 51 tables that summarize comparative information and are preceded by several chapters of narrative, illustrated with examples of state and local activities. The text describes the ways state programs are organized and their varying authorities, funding, and staffing. Policies that influence development are described, including planning, growth management, building codes, regulations, and other assistance programs. Approaches to managing natural floodplain resources are outlined, along with programs for mitigation and for the safety of dams and levees. How states go about encouraging public awareness, developing local capabilities, and dealing with flood mapping and risk assessment are highlighted. *FPM03* takes a look at how programs have changed, trends in floodplain management, and shifts in federal programs and funding, and offers some recommendations for the future.

>>> Order a hard copy of *Floodplain Management 2003* (member price \$10; nonmembers \$15) or download it free at [http://www.floods.org/PDF/FPM\\_2003\\_Final.pdf](http://www.floods.org/PDF/FPM_2003_Final.pdf) (for the main text) and at [http://www.floods.org/PDF/FPM\\_2003\\_Appendix\\_Final.pdf](http://www.floods.org/PDF/FPM_2003_Appendix_Final.pdf) (for the Tables of Data). *Effective State Floodplain Management Programs 2003* can be downloaded at [http://www.floods.org/PDF/Effective\\_State\\_Programs\\_Final.pdf](http://www.floods.org/PDF/Effective_State_Programs_Final.pdf).

## MORE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR MITIGATION OF REPETITIVE FLOOD LOSSES

The Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) Grant Program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) completed a successful first year in 2006. Nearly \$10 million was provided by FEMA during that first year for the acquisition of 41 properties in 16 communities in 10 different states. This competitive program was created under the authority of the 2004 National Flood Insurance Reform Act, to mitigate repetitive loss properties with one or more flood insurance claims. The program supports communities that have difficulty providing the non-federal cost share through FEMA's other flood grant program, the Flood Mitigation Assistance program, by providing 100% federal funding. Participation in the \$10 million 2007 program is expected to be strong.

>>> The application period for 2007 closes February 28th. Communities should contact their State NFIP Coordinator or Hazard Mitigation Officer to discuss the submission of applications.

# SOME LEVEE CHALLENGES

The issues surrounding the use of levees as a flood risk reduction measure are front and center today. The failure and overtopping of the levees in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina led to catastrophic damage that caught the public and media eye—and may well have been the trigger needed to induce closer examination not only of other levee systems but also of the policies and procedures that shape their effectiveness or counterproductivity in reducing flood losses.

## Right Decision on Natomas Levees

In January, the Federal Emergency Management Agency announced that areas behind the Natomas-area levees in California's Sacramento Valley will be assigned flood zones that will make flood insurance mandatory under the provisions of the National Flood Insurance Program. There had been some local hope that new flood maps could be postponed until the levees were repaired (a several-year process) but fresh information from the Corps of Engineers [see below] indicated that the levees were more prone to weakening than previously believed. Until November, property owners may purchase flood insurance at the lower preferred-risk rates; after that, standard rates will go into effect.

The *Sacramento Bee*, two-time winner of the ASFPM's Media Award for its brave and insightful reporting on the relationship between levees, flood damage, and flood insurance, again did its readers the great service of clearly stating the facts of the levee/insurance situation, recommending that they purchase insurance, and praising FEMA for its decision to require flood insurance behind the levees. "Tough call, FEMA, but the right one," declared the paper's January 6, 2007, editorial. "To do otherwise would be to expose U.S. taxpayers to billions of dollars in disaster relief and liabilities that the NFIP was created to avoid."

In a letter to the editor, ASFPM Executive Director Larry Larson commended the *Sacramento Bee* for its "diligent work" and called its advice to local property owners "well founded." He reiterated the wisdom of purchasing flood insurance, particularly at the preferred risk rates available for the next several months. Perhaps even more important is the need for the people behind those levees to understand the risk they face and take responsibility to accept and act on that risk, Larson noted. Those actions should include not just the purchase of flood insurance, but also evacuation plans in case the levee fails or is overtopped, community action to prevent added development behind those levees, and urging the community to establish a fund to assure adequate operation and maintenance of those levees. Living behind a well-maintained levee is risky, but living behind a poorly maintained one is foolhardy.

## Right Decision on Operation and Maintenance

The Corps of Engineers released in January a list of 146 levees in 29 states and territories (including some Natomas levees, as noted above) that pose an unacceptable risk of failing during a flood. The levees are of varying sizes, types, and purposes: some protect populated areas while others are in more rural areas and were built to minimize flood damage to lower-value agricultural land or in some cases to critical facilities such as a water treatment plant. The report was a result of heightened emphasis on inspection as ordered by Congress after Hurricane Katrina. Most of the substandard levee conditions are a result of inadequate maintenance. Operation and maintenance are the responsibility of the levee owner—in most cases a local government—even if the levee was initially constructed by a federal agency. The Corps is allowing a one-year grace period during which levee owners must make repairs, or they will become ineligible for the federal rehabilitation program if the levee is damaged or destroyed.

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# Some Levee Challenges (cont.)

## Action by the ASFPM

These two situations, and others, have vividly pointed out how inadequate current national levee policies have been to date, and how poorly they have been integrated among agencies. For many months, the ASFPM Board, Committee Chairs, members, and partners in the Corps, FEMA, the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies, and others have been discussing these and other levee issues in various forums. The ASFPM has been working to develop a White Paper that will state ASFPM positions and make recommendations for the best ways to ensure nationwide levee safety, reduce levee-related flood damage, and minimize associated public costs for flood losses. The latest draft will be considered by the Board during February and the ASFPM positions and recommendations will be posted on the website. A joint report with NAFSMA will recommend policy changes the Administration and Congress should address, as well as operational changes the agencies can make. That report will be released in late February, and also will be posted on the ASFPM website. Both reports, along with other pressing concerns about levees in the United States will be explored in the April issue of *News & Views*. ■

### Request for 2007 Applications – The Mary Fran Myers Scholarship –

Applications are being accepted for the Mary Fran Myers Scholarship, which funds travel expenses for one or more deserving hazards managers to the Natural Hazards Center's annual invitational workshop in Boulder, Colorado, and thereby further their research, community work, or careers.

The scholarship is supported by contributions from the ASFPM and others, and is awarded in memory of Myers, a dedicated floodplain manager and former Co-Director of the Natural Hazards Center. She worked to foster the integration of scientific research and its application to real-world problems and was particularly concerned that financial need not preclude qualified and enthusiastic professionals from participating in the workshop, the most significant gathering of both scientists and research users in the hazards field.

Each year, the scholarship recipient or recipients are recognized at the workshop and may be asked to serve as panel discussants, where they can highlight their research or practical experience in the hazards and disasters field. All hazards researchers, students, and practitioners are eligible for the Mary Fran Myers Scholarship. However, preference is given to individuals with demonstrated financial need and those who have not previously attended the Hazards Workshop.

>>> Applicants must complete the 2007 application form, available from the Hazards Center's website at <http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/awards/myers-scholarship/html> or by calling the Hazards Center at (303) 492-6818. Applications are due April 13, 2007.

# Washington Report

## OFF AND RUNNING

In an interesting change from years past, the 110th Congress checked in on January 4th and immediately got to work. The more usual practice has been to assemble in early January to be sworn in and officially open the session and then leave town until the President's State of the Union address toward the end of the month.

With the change in majority party leadership comes major upheaval. The voting so far has focused on the Democrats' "First 100 Hours" agenda of legislation to pass at the outset of their new leadership, although there have also been bills introduced and hearings held or scheduled. The new Congress has also had to deal with the unfinished work on the Fiscal Year 2007 budget: 9 of the 11 regular appropriations bills and consideration of another Continuing Resolution since the one passed by the previous Congress expires on February 15th. The many staff people who do so much to make things happen on Capitol Hill also deal with additional disruption when leadership shifts. Because the majority party staff traditionally occupy the larger offices, everybody must move to a new office. This, in addition to shuffling of offices by incumbent Members and newly elected Representatives and Senators moving in, hiring staff, and getting organized, has formed the backdrop for the legislative activity this January.

The President's Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2008 was set to be released on February 5th. That kicks off a multitude of agency budget briefings and the spring round of Appropriations Committee hearings when federal agencies defend and explain their budget requests.

In addition to the House and Senate floor activity on the First 100 Hours agenda and related House-Senate conference negotiations, most of the Congressional committees held their organizational meetings to settle on their subcommittee structures and outline their planned activities for the session. At the beginning of February, all committee chairmanships and ranking minority member posts have been settled and most subcommittee leadership is settled. Most committees and subcommittees have now announced their membership for this Congressional session.

Leadership in both the House and Senate has indicated that a priority for this Congress will be improving and strengthening Congressional oversight of federal agency programs and practices. Such oversight has been a key role for Congress in the past, but the focus on oversight had tended to lessen in recent years.

## What's Happening? On Floods, Insurance, and the NFIP

New House Financial Services Chairman, Barney Frank (D-MA) is likely to introduce a flood insurance reform bill very soon. The measure reportedly will be much like the bill that passed the House in the last Congress (HR 4973) but with some modifications. Chairman Frank has indicated his intent to move the legislation during this Congressional session. New Senate Banking Committee Chairman Christopher Dodd (D-CT) has announced his priorities for legislation this session and flood insurance is on that list. Introduction of flood insurance reform legislation is not as imminent on the Senate side, but it appears that it will look very much like the bill the Banking Committee reported out in the last Congress (S. 3589).

The House Financial Services Committee scheduled a day-long hearing on February 6th primarily to examine the housing issues associated with recovery from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Another hearing is scheduled for February 28th on the wind and flood issues associated with insurance coverage. Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee Chairman Melvin Watt (D-NC) said, "it is important for the Subcommittee to begin the process of examining the claims paying process by private insurance companies following Hurricane Katrina to establish a factual record for

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## Washington Report (cont.)

the Committee to consider going forward.” The Housing Subcommittee will hold a field hearing in New Orleans mid-month. Gene Taylor (D-MS) is developing legislation to expand the National Flood Insurance Program to include multiple perils, particularly wind. The Financial Services Committee may hold a hearing on that measure (not yet introduced) in March. Once the reform legislation is introduced, the committee likely will schedule a hearing specifically on flood insurance.

During the 110th Congress, the Senate Banking Committee Chairman is Christopher Dodd (D-CT) and the Ranking Minority Member is Richard Shelby (R-AL). The Senate Housing, Transportation and Community Development Subcommittee is chaired by Charles Schumer (D-NY) and the Ranking Minority Member is Mike Crapo (R-ID).

The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs has established a new Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery. Mary Landrieu (D-LA) will chair it and Ted Stevens (R-AK) will serve as Ranking Minority Member. Joe Lieberman (D-CT), chair of the full committee, and Landrieu held a field hearing in New Orleans on January 29th to “examine the slow pace of federal, state, and local programs designed to help the Gulf Coast recover.”

### What’s Happening? On Levees, Dams, and Infrastructure

Both the House and Senate committees of jurisdiction plan early action to pass a Water Resources Development Act. Despite versions having passed both the House and Senate in the last Congress, time ran out in early December before negotiations could be completed. Those bills contained some significant policy provisions to revise Corps of Engineers processes, but apparently most of the differences over those had been resolved with only a few project-related issues remaining. The Senate bill included establishment of a levee safety program modeled on the existing Dam Safety Program. The House had made progress on a separate levee safety bill, but indications are that agreement was reached during conference negotiations to include those provisions in a new WRDA.

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will probably mark up a bill by mid-March and there are indications that the Senate leadership will move it to the Senate floor quickly. A hearing on WRDA proposals has been tentatively scheduled for February 15th. The House Transportation and Infrastructure’s Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee expects to hold a hearing on WRDA in mid February and to move a bill through committee and to the House floor promptly.

A new Dam Rehabilitation and Repair Act (H.R. 389) has been introduced in the House and referred to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Like the bill that did not get to the House floor last Congress, this one provides grant assistance to states for repair or removal of problem dams. The last Congress did pass a bill reauthorizing the Dam Safety Program.

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and the Environment marked up three water-related bills on January 31st. The Water Quality Financing Act (H.R. 720) reauthorizes the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and provides increased flexibility for finance packages that states can offer to localities. An amendment by Charles Boustany (R-LA) was agreed to, which calls for a study of other “potential funding and investment mechanisms and revenue sources for meeting the nation’s water infrastructure needs.” The other bills marked up were the Healthy Communities Water Supply Act (H.R. 700) and the Water Quality Investment Act (H.R. 569). These bills will be marked up in the full Committee on February 7th.

During this Congress, the House’s full Transportation and Infrastructure Committee is chaired by James Oberstar (D-MN). The Ranking Minority Member is John Mica (R-FL). The Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment is chaired by Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) and the Ranking Minority Member is Richard Baker (R-LA). The Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management (which has jurisdiction over the

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## Washington Report (cont.)

Stafford Act programs) is chaired by Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) and Sam Graves (R-MO) is the Ranking Minority Member.

### What's Happening? On Climate Change

Exploration of many aspects of climate change from the basic science to potential impacts on a wide range of government programs and policies will receive considerable attention during this Congress, according to the Congressional leadership and many committee chairs.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has established a new committee for this Congress only: the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming. It will have no legislative authority, but will provide focus, analysis, and direction to climate change issues, which fall within the jurisdictions of several House committees. The panel will be chaired by Ed Markey (D-MA). The Speaker has also asked that the Select Committee and other committees work together to have legislation addressing global warming/climate change issues ready for consideration on the House floor in June.

In the House, the committee of primary jurisdiction is the Energy and Commerce Committee, chaired by John Dingell (D-MI) and the Ranking Minority Member is Joe Barton (R-TX). Several hearings on climate change issues are planned for February, but not yet scheduled.

On the Senate side, the new Majority Leader, Harry Reid (D-NV), has said that both climate and energy will figure prominently in this Congressional session. The new Chair of the Environment and Public Works Committee, Barbara Boxer (D-CA), has established two new subcommittees to specifically address climate change issues: the Subcommittee on Private Sector and Consumer Solutions to Global Warming and Wildlife Protection and the Subcommittee on Public Sector Solutions to Global Warming, Oversight and Children's Health Protection. The first of these subcommittees scheduled a hearing for February 7th. The full committee held a hearing on oversight of recent Environmental Protection Agency decisions on February 6th. On January 30th, the full committee held its first hearing on global warming, giving both Democratic and Republican Senators the opportunity to address the Committee with their views and suggestions.

Several bills have already been introduced in the Senate to address climate change, largely proposing various ways to cap greenhouse gas emissions.

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee is also expected to be active on climate change. Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) is the Chairman and Pete Domenici (R-NM) is the Ranking Minority Member. The Chairman announced draft legislation on capping greenhouse gases, which can be reviewed by going to the Committee website at <http://thomas.loc.gov>. On February 13th, the full committee will hold a hearing to receive testimony on the Stern Review of the Economics of Climate Change. The Committee has already reported out a number of bills on other matters during January, notably S. 232, the Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Agreements Act and S. 240, the National Geologic Mapping Reauthorization Act of 2007.

### Other Matters to Watch

**Bio-fuels and Erosion**—The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee sponsored a Transportation Biofuels Conference on February 1st. That same day, Chairman Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) and Environment and Public Works Chair Barbara Boxer (D-CA) held a news conference to discuss the United Nations' new report detailing long-term impacts of global warming [*see article on p. 1 of this issue*] and to call for a new direction in America's energy policies. On February 13th, the Energy and Natural Resources Committee will hold a full committee hearing on the Stern Review of the Economics of Climate Change.

It will be important to monitor the recognition of the impacts on soil erosion and flood risk of the anticipated increase in crop growth for biofuels.

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## Washington Report (cont.)

**Farm Bill and Conservation**—All signs point to an active spring in development of a 2007 Farm Bill. Conservation components and agricultural levee issues will be important to monitor. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns released his proposals for the Farm Bill on January 31st. The Senate Agriculture Committee held a hearing on January 17th to examine the Conservation Security Program and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program relating to working land conservation. Chairman Tom Harkin (D-IA) expects to have a bill to the Senate floor by July and House Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson (D-MN) intends to have a House bill to the floor by July as well. Biofuels will play an important role in the Farm Bill.

**Oceans Initiative and Budget Increase**—The President's FY '08 budget request includes \$143 million in new funding for ocean-related projects and programs as well as a provision to identify ocean research priorities for the next 10 years. Development of the research plan is to be funded at \$40 million to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Science Foundation, and the U.S. Geological Survey. NOAA would receive another \$40 million "to develop an operation ocean monitoring network." About \$30 million will fund the "federal government to work with states and localities on protection coastal and marine habitat." NOAA's Coastal and Estuarine Land Protection program is requested to be funded at \$15 million.

The Senate Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard plans to examine links between climate change and ocean health and status.

**Oversight of FEMA Reorganization**—The House Appropriations Committee's Homeland Security Subcommittee has held a hearing with Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff to discuss management issues. The hearing included considerable attention by subcommittee members to paperwork delays and other inefficiencies. There was also considerable focus on the risk-based funding criteria used across the board by DHS and whether or not this method is appropriate for emergency management and natural disaster programs.

Members of Congress and staff have indicated their intent to aggressively pursue oversight of the FEMA restructuring provided for in the FY '07 DHS Appropriations bill.

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

## NEW CHIEF NAMED FOR CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Lieutenant General Robert L. Van Antwerp has been nominated to serve as the Chief of Engineers of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Washington, D.C.. Van Antwerp, who would replace Lieutenant General Carl A. Strock, graduated from West Point in 1972 and subsequently earned a master's degree in engineering from the University of Michigan and a MBA from Long Island University. His long record of both command and staff assignments includes a posting as chief of staff for Lieutenant General Henry J. Hatch during his tenure as Chief of Engineers in the late 1980s. Confirmation hearings have not yet been scheduled.

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

## from the Chair (cont.)

Board of Directors will be meeting at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Maryland, to cull through a matrix of over 260 potential ASFPM policy positions to reach consensus on these and associated recommendations. I am thankful that we have such a talented Board, because this will not be an easy exercise. There will be at least one more opportunity for members to contribute to this very important document before final Board approval (we hope during the April Board call) and then final submission to the printer so that it can be distributed at our annual meeting this June. Many thanks to you all for your contributions so far and especially to Jacki Monday for producing several drafts of the text and a very comprehensive and thorough matrix of these ASFPM policy positions.

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Other exciting developments include the ongoing meetings with the national leaders of the insurance industry. In January we met again with this group and have put together a preliminary program for a Congressional workshop to be held on Capitol Hill on March 19th. At that event we will discuss the insurance components of the National Flood Insurance Program, including the importance of Map Modernization and an overview of the roles and responsibilities of federal, state, and local governments. With the transition resulting from the 2006 elections, there are new Members of Congress and staff and it is essential to hold such a session to supply clear, salient information about the NFIP.

The plan is to hold one workshop on the House side in the morning and another on the Senate side that afternoon. Should you be in D.C. on that day, please join us. Details on the logistics will be available soon. Just as important, during meetings with insurance industry representatives we developed a list of common items that we would all like to see in the next NFIP reform legislation. As you can imagine, many bills are floating around the Hill, so it is important not only to identify how the NFIP can be improved, but also how to achieve this in partnership with the insurance industry.

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I am very proud of the ongoing accomplishments we have made in “Little Rhody” toward establishing the Rhode Island Flood Mitigation Association—the first, and only such association in New England. This month the RIFMA Board of Directors unanimously voted to apply for ASFPM National Chapter status. We scheduled our first annual meeting for April 24th. Our website and newsletter will be operational in the next week. What makes me proudest is that all of this has been accomplished by a very diverse core group of about 20 people. The fact that we have local, state agency, and federal representatives as well as terrific leadership from the insurance industry, engineers, architects, and our FEMA contractors is highly encouraging. If we can pull this off, then the rest of you states can, too. Now is the time!

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On tap for the rest of February and March are opportunities to meet with the local chapters in Florida and South Carolina (brrrr, I can't wait). As I mentioned, there will be the Congressional workshops on insurance and the briefings to occur with FEMA and Corps leadership on recommendations for improving national floodplain management policies. In late March I will be delivering a presentation about Coastal NAI to the annual meeting of the American Shore and Beach Preservation Society and then traveling to Norfolk, Virginia, for the annual meeting of the ASFPM Administrative Council (ADCO) where we will discuss ASFPM goals and objectives for 2008.

I hope the rest of the winter finds you as comfortable as can be expected and if you have the chance to visit warmer areas . . . go! And remember to sign up for the ASFPM annual conference in June! ■

# Publications, Software, AV & the Web

■ The *U.S. National Report on Population and the Environment* gives an overview of how human population affects America's environment and natural resources. The report confirms the disproportionate growth of and intensive development in coastal areas; notes that each U.S. resident now effectively occupies 20% more developed land (shopping centers, roads, schools, housing) than 20 years ago; and reports that a significant amount of prime farmland and wetlands have been and are continuing to be developed. Victoria D. Markham. 2006. 69 pp. Center for the Environment and Population. Available at <http://www.cepnet.org/documents/USNatlReptFinal.pdf>.

■ *Shoreline Management Technical Assistance Toolbox* provides coastal managers with information about the variety of approaches available to minimize loss of life and property caused by erosion and sea level rise while continuing to protect natural coastal resources. The toolbox emphasizes “soft” techniques such as planning, resource preservation, nonstructural mitigation, and alternatives to the seawalls and other hard shoreline stabilization structures that can disrupt natural shoreline processes and destroy shoreline habitats such as wetlands and intertidal beaches. General resource information, case studies, and links to other useful resources are also included. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Coastal Services Center. 2006. Free at <http://www.coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/shoreline.html>.

■ *Disasters and the Law: Katrina and Beyond* integrates knowledge and experience from urban planning, bankruptcy law, and wetlands law to argue that the legal system is insufficiently addressing problems brought about by hurricanes and other natural disasters. Examples of legal issues in disaster response, reconstruction, and mitigation are drawn from Hurricane Andrew and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The book also analyzes the legal aspects of environmental concerns raised by Corps of Engineers levees and other reconstruction in floodplains. The authors point out the magnitude of the situation by noting that Katrina alone will involve at least a hundred billion dollars in compensation, insurance, and rebuilding, and that legal disputes over these funds will extend to the end of the decade. They recommend increased attention in law school curricula to the legal issues brought about by disasters. Daniel A. Farber and Jim Chen. 2006. 370 pp. \$35.00. Aspen Publishers. Order from <http://lawschool.aspenpublishers.com>.

■ “Community Disaster Resilience: A Summary of the March 20, 2006 Workshop of the Disasters Roundtable” highlights the discussions at a workshop that brought together researchers, policy makers, and practitioners to focus on community resilience in the face of disaster. Participants discussed such issues as the nature of local resilience to disaster, what can further or inhibit it, and how progress can be measured. 2006. Byron Mason, editor. 15 pp. National Research Council. Available free at <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/11769.html>.

■ “Beach Nourishment: A Guide for Local Government Officials” is a website developed by the Coastal Services Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with the aim of providing states, localities, and organizations with information that can be used to make wise decisions about this controversial approach to managing beaches. The site's four main categories—coastal geology, coastal ecology, human dimensions, and engineering—contain a wealth of data, illustrations, and clear explanations of the many aspects of beach nourishment. Of particular interest to floodplain managers is a discussion of using the National Environmental Policy Act review process to select a project design that will avoid adverse impacts, including cumulative ones (click on “Human Dimension,” then on “Law and Policy,” then on “NEPA”). Case studies round out this informative website. See <http://www.csc.noa.gov/beachnourishment/>.

■ *Rebuilding Urban Places after Disaster: Lessons from Hurricane Katrina* helps illuminate why that hurricane's impact may have seemed unusually disastrous. In a collection of essays, this book shows that the density of cities, both in population and in development, and their resultant

complexity are bound to result in increased vulnerability to natural and other disasters. The purpose of rebuilding is debated in one essay: restoring the character of what was there before the disaster vs. making it “better.” Other contributions explore the role of race and ethnicity, discuss how to build urban sustainability, highlight economic issues, and give historical perspectives on urban disasters. Eugenie L. Birch and Susan M. Wachter, editors. 2006. 375 pp. \$34.95 from University of Pennsylvania Press, (215) 898-6261; <http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/>.

■ *Floods in Bangladesh: History, Dynamics and Rethinking the Role of the Himalayas* is a detailed, well-researched exploration of a theme floodplain managers know well: that activities upstream in a watershed have flooding and other impacts on the lower regions. In this case, the long-standing argument has been that the land use—including deforestation—practiced by the Himalayan farmers who live in the uplands of the river basins are responsible for the more severe flooding experienced on the plains of Bangladesh below. In fact, however, the authors’ conclude, floods in Bangladesh are the result of complex conditions that make large-scale flooding almost inevitable, even were the Himalayan areas unpopulated. The delta region of Bangladesh is subject to simultaneous discharge peaks of several major rivers; heavy rainfall; high groundwater tables; and spring tides. This potential for flooding in the lowlands has been exacerbated by the construction there of river embankments for roads and railways and by human alteration of the natural water storage areas. The book is informative as well for the study method: subdivision of the entire region into catchment basins and sub-basins and detailed quantification and historical analysis of precipitation, runoff, groundwater, surface cover, and other factors within each of the smaller areas. Thomas Hofer and Bruno Messerli. 2006. 468 pp. \$38.00 from the United Nations University Press at (202) 963-6387; <http://www.unu.edu>.

■ *Flood Risk Management: Hazards, Vulnerability and Mitigation Measures* is the proceedings volume for the NATO Advanced Research Workshop on Flood Risk Management: Hazards, Vulnerability and Mitigation Measures that was held in the Czech Republic in October 2004. The participants at that meeting were attempting to develop a framework for integrated and sustainable flood risk management in light of the serious flooding experienced in central Europe in the years up to and including 2002. The papers are based on research and experience, and cover risk and vulnerability assessment, weather forecasting, modeling, mitigation, and management techniques. Jochen Schanze, Evzen Zeman, and Jiri Marsalek, editors. 2006. NATO Earth and Environmental Sciences Series, Volume 67. \$79.95 from Springer Press at <http://www.springer.com>.

■ *Performance of Physical Structures in Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita: A Reconnaissance Report* documents the post-disaster observations and analysis of damage to major buildings, infrastructure, residences, roofing, and floodwalls and levees. The research was conducted by teams from the National Institute of Science and Technology who visited the Mississippi coast, southeast Texas, and New Orleans shortly after the disaster. It concludes that better enforcement of construction codes and standards and more emphasis on storm surge are essential to minimize future damage from hurricanes. Detailed recommendations are provided to improve this situation. 2006. 270 pp. NIST Technical Note #1476. Free online, along with a press release, summary, and illustrations at <http://www.bfrl.nist.gov/investigations/investigations.htm>.

■ The *2006 Annual Climate Review: U.S. Summary* notes, not surprisingly, that 2006 was the warmest year on record in the contiguous United States, based on average annual temperatures. Precipitation in the United States during 2006 was variable, with periods of excessive rainfall across the Northwest, Great Lakes, and the Northeast, and persistent and developing drought in other areas. There were many fewer tornadoes than is average, and the Atlantic basin hurricane season was near the 1950-2000 average with nine named storms, of which five were hurricanes. North American snow cover was below average, consistent with a decades-long trend. Numerous graphs, maps, and tables make this latest of annual reports from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration particularly useful. National Climatic Data Center, U.S. Department of Commerce. 2006. Available at <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/research/2006/ann/us-summary.html>.

# Calendar

See more flood-related meetings, conferences, and training at <http://www.floods.org/Conferences,%20Calendar/calendar.asp>.

**February 20–23, 2007:** 10TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE MICHIGAN STORMWATER-FLOODPLAIN ASSOCIATION, Grand Rapids, Michigan. See <http://mi.floods.org/conferences.htm>.

**February 28—March 2, 2007:** ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE FLORIDA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION, Stuart, Florida. Contact Dawn Burkhart at (863) 534-6767; [dawn.burkhart@polk-county.net](mailto:dawn.burkhart@polk-county.net) or see <http://www.ffma.net/hazards.htm>.

**March 5–8, 2007:** NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM (E278), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

**March 6–8, 2007:** COASTAL GEO-TOOLS CONFERENCE, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Services Center. See <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/geotools/index.htm>.

**March 7–9, 2007:** ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION FOR HAZARD MITIGATION, North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. See <http://www.scahm.kk5.org/>.

**March 12–14, 2007:** INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WATER AND FLOOD MANAGEMENT, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Sponsored by the Institute of Water and Flood Management, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology. Contact the IWFM Conference Secretariat; +880 2 9665601 (Bangladesh); [icwfm@iwfm.buet.ac.bd](mailto:icwfm@iwfm.buet.ac.bd) or see <http://www.buet.ac.bd/icwfm/>.

**March 12–14, 2007:** SECOND ANNUAL LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE, Wilmington, North Carolina. Sponsored by American Rivers, North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, American Society of Civil Engineers, and numerous others. See <http://www.soil.ncsu.edu/swetc/lid/home.htm>.

**March 13–14, 2007:** SAME PROBLEMS—DIFFERENT SOLUTIONS: ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR FLOODPLAIN AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT, Springfield, Illinois. Contact IAFSM at (708) 747-5273 or see <http://www.illinoisfloods.org/>.

## Call for Applications

### *Weather and Society Integrated Studies Workshop (WAS\*IS)*

The National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) Societal Impacts Program (SIP) is accepting applications for the 2007 Summer WAS\*IS workshop. WAS\*IS is a movement to integrate social science into meteorological research and practice by building an interdisciplinary community of practitioners, researchers, and stakeholders who want to explore new tools, methods, and concepts for the more effective use of weather products.

Visit <http://www.sip.ucar.edu/wasis/> to read more about WAS\*IS and to apply for the 2007 Summer WAS\*IS workshop. Applications are due Monday, March 26, 2007.

>>> Direct questions to Eve Gruntfest at [ecg@uccs.edu](mailto:ecg@uccs.edu) or Julie Demuth at [jdemuth@ucar.edu](mailto:jdemuth@ucar.edu).

- March 20–23, 2007:** FIFTH CLIMATE PREDICTION APPLICATIONS SCIENCE WORKSHOP, Seattle, Washington. Sponsored by the National Weather Service, and the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group. Contact Diana Perfect, NWS Climate Services Division at (301) 713-1970 x132, [diana.perfect@noaa.gov](mailto:diana.perfect@noaa.gov) or see <http://www.cses.washington.edu/cig/outreach/workshopfiles/cpasw07>.
- March 21–23, 2007:** COASTAL SUMMIT: AMERICA’S COASTS, AMERICA’S TREASURES, Washington, D.C.. Sponsored by the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association. See <http://www.asbpa.org/conferences/conferences.htm>.
- April 2–5, 2007:** BACK TO THE BASICS: EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MONTANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, Bozeman, Montana. See <http://www.mtfloods.org/callforabstracts2007.pdf>.
- April 2–6, 2007:** 2007 NATIONAL HURRICANE CONFERENCE, New Orleans, Louisiana. Numerous sponsors. Contact (850) 906-9224 or see <http://www.hurricanemeeting.com/>.
- April 9–12, 2007:** MISSION MITIGATION: GULF COAST FLOODS RECOVERY, New Orleans, Louisiana. Sponsored by the ASFPM and FEMA. Contact (608) 274-0123 or see <http://www.floods.org/Conferences,%20Calendar/MissionMitigation.asp>.
- April 10–13, 2007:** SPRING CONFERENCE OF THE NEW MEXICO FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION, Socorro, New Mexico. Contact Les Bond at (505) 682-1359 or see <http://www.nmfma.org/>.
- April 14–18, 2007:** ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. See <http://www.planning.org/2007conference/>.
- April 19–20, 2007:** EARTH SUMMIT FOR GLOBAL WARMING MITIGATION: 18TH GLOBAL WARMING INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO, Miami, Florida. Sponsored by the Global Warming International Center. Call (630) 910-1551 or see <http://gw18.globalwarming.net/>.
- April 25–27, 2007:** 24TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, Alexandria, Louisiana. See <http://www.lfma.org/>.
- April 26–27, 2007:** SPRING WORKSHOP OF THE ARKANSAS FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, Jacksonville, Arkansas. Contact Conrad Battreal at [cjb@ftn-assoc.com](mailto:cjb@ftn-assoc.com) or see <http://www.arkansasflood.com/>.
- April 29—May 3, 2007:** NATIONAL FLOOD CONFERENCE, Denver, Colorado. Sponsored by the National Flood Insurance Program. See [http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/natl\\_fldconf.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/natl_fldconf.shtm).
- May 1–3, 2007:** CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS OF MISSISSIPPI, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. Contact Stuart Williamson at (228) 575-4125; [williamsons@cdm.com](mailto:williamsons@cdm.com).
- May 2–4, 2007:** CONFERENCE OF THE NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina. See <http://www.ncafpm.org/>.
- May 8–10, 2007:** ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF MITIGATION MANAGERS, Gilbertsville, Kentucky. Contact Carey Johnson at (502) 564-3410 or see <http://www.kymitigation.org/index.html>.

**May 9–11, 2007:** ANNUAL MISSOURI FLOODPLAIN AND STORMWATER MANAGERS' CONFERENCE, Lake Ozark, Missouri. See <http://www.mfsma.com/index.php>.

**May 14–17, 2007:** NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM (E278), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

**May 15–19, 2007:** 2007 WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES CONGRESS: FOCUS ON HABITAT RESTORATION, Tampa, Florida. Sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers. See <http://content.asce.org/conferences/ewri2007/index.html>.

**May 20–22, 2007:** WEST REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE DAM SAFETY OFFICIALS, Omaha, Nebraska. Contact Mark Noble, Nebraska Dam Safety Program at (402) 471-0581, [mnoble@dnr.ne.gov](mailto:mnoble@dnr.ne.gov) or see <http://www.damsafety.org>.

**May 20–23, 2007:** SECOND NATIONAL FORUM ON SOCIOECONOMIC RESEARCH IN COASTAL SYSTEMS, New Orleans, Louisiana. Sponsored by the Center for Natural Resources Economics and Policy, Louisiana State University. See <http://www.cnrep.lsu.edu/>.

**May 20–24, 2007:** SPRING CONFERENCE OF THE TEXAS FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, College Station, Texas. Contact John Espinoza at [jespinoza@halff.com](mailto:jespinoza@halff.com) or see <http://www.tfma.org/displayconvention.cfm>.

**May 23–25, 2007:** RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT 2007, Kos, Greece. Sponsored by Wessex Institute of Technology. Contact Zoey Bluff, Wessex Institute of Technology; +44 (0)238 029 3223 (United Kingdom) or see <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2007/rm07/>.

**June 3–6, 2007:** STRENGTHENING THE ROLES OF LAND TRUSTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN PROTECTING AND RESTORING WETLANDS AND RIPARIANS AREAS: WESTERN STATE WORKSHOP, Park City, Utah. Abstracts are due February 15, 2007. Sponsored by the Association of State Wetland Managers. See <http://www.aswm.org/>.

## Charting the Course: New Perspectives in Floodplain Management

### 31st Annual ASFPM Conference

June 3-8, 2007

Norfolk, Virginia



- Download the conference brochure, schedule, registration information, and exhibitors' forms at <http://www.floods.org/norfolk>. Early registration discount available until April 15. Continuing education credits (CECs) will be granted.
- Nominations for awards for Excellence in Floodplain Management are due March 1st. Get the nomination form from <http://www.floods.org/Awards/Nomination.asp>.
- Silent Auction to benefit the ASFPM Foundation is taking donations. Contact David Fluhart at [dfluhart@co.accomack.va.us](mailto:dfluhart@co.accomack.va.us).
- Sponsors see <http://www.floods.org/Conferences,%20Calendar/norfolk.asp#sponsors>.

- June 3–8, 2007:** 31ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, Norfolk Virginia. See <http://www.floods.org>.
- June 11–14, 2006:** BASIC HAZUS-MULTIHAZARD (E313), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact EMI at (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.
- June 11–14, 2007:** 7TH CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL HYDROLOGIC WARNING COUNCIL, Savannah, Georgia. Sponsored by the ALERT Users Group, Southwestern Association of ALERT Systems, ALERT-Flows East Coast Users Group, and the U.S. Geological Survey. See <http://nhwc.udfcd.org/>.
- June 25–28, 2007:** ADVANCED HAZUS-MH FOR FLOOD (E172), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Call (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.
- June 25–29, 2007:** 32ND INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON REMOTE SENSING OF THE ENVIRONMENT, San Jose, Costa Rica. Sponsored by the International Center for Remote Sensing of Environment and others. See <http://www.cenat.ac.cr/simposio/callforpapers.htm>.
- July 9–13, 2007:** RESIDENTIAL COASTAL CONSTRUCTION (E386), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact EMI at (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.
- July 22–26, 2007:** BREWING SOLUTIONS TO YOUR COASTAL PROBLEMS: BIENNIAL COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE, Portland, Oregon. Sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Services Center. See <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cz>.
- July 24–26, 2007:** HAZARDS IN WATER RESOURCES, Boise, Idaho. Sponsored by the Universities Council on Water Resources and the National Institutes for Water Resources. See <http://www.ucowr.siu.edu>.
- August 13–16, 2007:** ADVANCED HAZUS-MH FOR FLOOD (E172), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Call EMI at (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.
- August 22–23, 2007:** OHIO STATEWIDE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE, Dublin, Ohio. See <http://www.ofma.org/ofma/>.
- August 20-23, 2007:** STORMCON '07: THE NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE WATER QUALITY CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION, Phoenix, Arizona. See <http://www.stormcon.com/sc.html>.
- August 27–29, 2007:** WETLANDS 2007: WATERSHED STRATEGIES TO PROTECT AND RESTORE WETLAND ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES, Williamsburg, Virginia. Sponsored by the Association of State Wetland Managers. Contact Laura Birchill at (207) 892-3399, [laura@aswm.org](mailto:laura@aswm.org) or see <http://www.aswm.org/>.
- August 27–30, 2007:** MANAGING FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (E273), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact EMI at (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.
- September 4–7, 2007:** ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, South Lake Tahoe, Nevada. Contact Iovanka Todt at (619) 204-4380 or see <http://www.floodplain.org/>.

- September 10–13, 2007:** TRAIN-THE-TRAINER: MANAGING FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE NFIP (E270), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact EMI at (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.
- September 11-14, 2007:** ARID REGIONS CONFERENCE, Breckenridge, Colorado. Sponsored by the Colorado Association of Stormwater and Floodplain Managers and the Association of State Floodplain Managers. Contact Kevin Houck at (303) 866-4805 or see <http://www.casfm.org/> or <http://www.floods.org>.
- September 16-19, 2007:** ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION, Tulsa, Oklahoma. See <http://www.okflood.org/>.
- September 24–27, 2007:** NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM (E278), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.
- September 24–26, 2007:** FALL CONFERENCE OF THE ARKANSAS FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, Eureka Springs, Arkansas. Contact Contact Conrad Battreal at [cjb@ftn-assoc.com](mailto:cjb@ftn-assoc.com) or see <http://www.arkansasflood.com/>.
- October 9–12, 2007:** 34TH ANNUAL NATURAL AREAS CONFERENCE, Cleveland, Ohio. Sponsored by the Natural Areas Association and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Abstracts are due April 2, 2007. Contact the Natural Areas Association, P.O. Box 1504, Bend, Oregon 97709, (541) 317-0199 or see <http://www.naturalarea.org/conference.asp>.
- October 18–19, 2007:** THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION FOR FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT, Somerset, New Jersey. See <http://www.njafm.org/>.
- October 21–24, 2007:** FALL CONFERENCE OF THE TEXAS FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, Lubbock, Texas. See <http://www.tfma.org/displayconvention.cfm>.
- October 22–24, 2007:** FALL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAN SHORE & BEACH PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION, Galveston, Texas. See <http://www.asbpa.org/conferences/conferences.htm>.
- November 6–8, 2007:** FOURTH ANNUAL CANADIAN RISK AND HAZARDS NETWORK SYMPOSIUM Richmond, British Columbia. Sponsored by Justice Institute of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, and University of British Columbia. Abstracts are due March 31, 2007. Contact Stephanie Chang at [stephanie.chang@ucb.ca](mailto:stephanie.chang@ucb.ca) or see <http://www.jibc.ca/crhnet/papers/papers.htm>.
- November 14–15, 2007:** ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, St. Cloud, Minnesota. Information will be posted at <http://www.mnafpm.org/default.htm>.
- November 27–30, 2007:** TRAIN-THE-TRAINER: MANAGING FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE NFIP (E270), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact EMI at (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.
- April 27—May 1, 2008:** SPRING CONFERENCE OF THE TEXAS FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, League City, Texas. See <http://www.tfma.org/displayconvention.cfm>.
- May 18–23, 2008:** 32ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, Reno, Nevada. See <http://www.floods.org>.



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

For address changes and member services, contact the ASFPM Executive Office at the address in the box above.

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