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ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, INC.

## CHANGES IN MAP MODERNIZATION

The course of Flood Map Modernization (Map Mod) is being adjusted to better meet the needs of map users by focusing more closely on communities at greatest flood risk, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The announcement comes after a mid-course evaluation of the Map Mod initiative, taking into account the two years of experience to date, input from Congress and federal agencies, stakeholder feedback, adoption of the Floodplain Boundary Standard (which addresses the difference between the ground elevation and the flood elevation of a given area), and requests for engineering updates submitted by states in their annual state business plans.

Pursuant to the mid-course adjustment, FEMA will provide additional engineering data and will increase the number of stream miles of delineation that are compliant with the Floodplain Boundary Standard for the communities most at risk from flooding.

This course adjustment constitutes a change from the original primary focus of Map Mod, which called for producing digital flood maps for 100% of the nation within a 5-year period. The original plan called for converting all flood maps from paper to digital format, updating roughly 20% of map panels with new flood risk information, and adding 13,700 completely new digital map panels to cover communities that previously had not been mapped.

FEMA remains committed to the original vision of 100% coverage nationwide, but the immediate goal of providing digital maps for the entire country will be delayed in favor of focusing on the areas of highest risk.

FEMA estimates that three-quarters of all mapped stream and coastal miles will meet the new Floodplain Boundary Standard. Under original Map Mod plans, just 57% of coastal and stream miles and only 32% of the population would have had maps meeting the standard.

The mid-course adjustment also will free additional funds for engineering analysis. This will increase the percentage of mapped streams and coastal miles with new, updated, or validated engineering analyses, as well as the percentage of population covered by maps with new or revised engineering information.

With the course adjustment, at the conclusion of the 5-year Map Mod initiative, 92% of the U.S. population will be covered by digital maps. An estimated 65% of the nation's continental land mass will be covered by digital maps by the end of Map Mod, rather than the 100% originally sought. Much of the land that will not be mapped, however, is sparsely populated.

To accomplish this, FEMA is changing the way it prioritizes funding beginning in 2006, by analyzing flood risk at the census block group level rather than at the county level. Census block groups are the smallest geographic units for which the U.S. Census Bureau develops data and will allow FEMA to focus more specifically on the areas that are more populated but do not meet the Floodplain Boundary Standard.

The mid-course adjustment recognizes that the necessary quantity of new flood data and mapping far exceeds the scope originally envisioned. FEMA believes that delaying completion of digital mapping and increasing the amount of money available for engineering analysis will best meet the needs of the nation. □

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# from the Chair

*Pamela Mayer Pogue, CFM*

What a year! Some extraordinary accomplishments have been made by the members of the Association in the face of some of the worst flood damage ever experienced in this country.

*It comes as no surprise to anyone that the Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma have had an impact of varying degrees on the country as a whole.* The ASFPM has responded and been very actively involved at the local, state, and national levels addressing everything from Katrina recovery issues to new elevation standards and national policy initiatives. This column is not just a back-patting exercise on the swiftness and effectiveness with which members of the ASFPM responded to and continue to be involved in Katrina-related issues. Rather, this is also a reflection on lessons learned for next time, because there WILL be a next time . . .

*For the first time ever, the ASFPM became directly involved in disaster response efforts.* Our first challenge was in attempting to extend assistance to our friends and colleagues in the Gulf through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) network. As members of the ASFPM you should be proud of your fellow colleagues who traveled to the Gulf Coast to share their experience and expertise. The ASFPM worked with the state of Mississippi, New Orleans, and FEMA to recruit and share EMAC requests for assistance. Unfortunately, EMAC is limited in that this system of national “mutual aid” shuts down once it is deemed that the response efforts are finished. I think we all know now that the recovery work has only truly begun and will continue for many, many years and that our counterparts in Mississippi and Louisiana have many difficult challenges ahead. Perhaps over the next year the EMAC system can be improved to allow those with floodplain management and mitigation experience to assist states and communities in need. Perhaps the time frame for disaster assistance can be extended beyond the final helicopter takeoff or HAZ MAT vehicle transfer.

*The Association worked extremely efficiently with national organizations and federal agencies this past year to address policy and program change.* Within three weeks of Hurricane Katrina, the ASFPM and the National Wildlife Federation held a press conference at the National Press Club and released the first draft of the white paper advocating needed national policy changes and wise rebuilding efforts on the Gulf Coast. One month later, the ASFPM held a well-attended workshop at the Hall of States in Washington, D.C., with the Coastal States Organization and the Association of State Wetland Managers on Katrina rebuilding efforts.

The ASFPM has been working very closely with FEMA, the Corps of Engineers, and the National Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Management Agencies on levee reform. The ASFPM has been the primary catalyst in the efforts to steward the FEMA/Corps partnership in addressing the very serious nature of levee reform.

This past year the ASFPM continued its support of the U.S. Geological Survey for streamgage funding and we have been primary signatories on two letters to Congress and the Department of Interior to urge better funding of the National Streamgage Program.

In the past five months, ASFPM has forged a strong working relationship with the American Meteorological Society to address the issue of NFIP reform and the role of the insurance industry. Two meetings have been held in Washington with insurance industry leaders, including representatives from Property and Casualty Insurers, Protecting America, Reinsurance Association of America, the Institute for Business and Home Safety, National Flood Determination Association, Nationwide, and Allstate, to name a few. The objective of these meetings is to identify areas of NFIP reform that we can mutually support and to join forces to steer sound national policy change. The greatest benefit so far has been the exchange of information on insurance and mitigation issues.

*[continued on page 6]*

# JUST A FEW DAYS LEFT ON TWO JOBS . . .

## Wisconsin Seeks Chief for Floodplain/Dam Safety

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is seeking a manager for the state's Dam Safety and Floodplain Program within the Watershed Management Bureau. The person in the position is responsible for (1) establishing policy and strategies for consistent dam safety and floodplain program activities throughout the state and for monitoring and assessing their implementation and consistent application statewide; (2) establishing engineering standards and procedures and guidelines for dam safety, dam breaks, and floodplain designations; (3) supervising and training section staff; and (4) establishing partnerships with state, local, and national professional groups and agencies. Considerable expertise in dam safety and floodplain engineering, development of policy and regulations, communication, and leadership are required. Starting salary range is \$71,719 to \$76,367, plus benefits.

This position has Career Executive status in the State of Wisconsin Civil Service. Persons who do not already possess that status must apply through the state employment website by going to <http://www.wiscjobs.state.wi.us/public/index.asp> and entering this announcement code in the "search jobs" screen: 06-01499. Those who already have Career Executive status use an Application for State Employment Form (OSER-DMRS-38) available at <http://oser.state.wi.us/docview.asp?docid=1121>.

>>> The application deadline is June 9, 2006. Questions about applications may be directed to Jackie Kaufmann at (608) 266-9236.

## Two Program Specialists needed at FEMA Headquarters

The Mitigation Division of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Washington, D.C., has two openings for Program Specialists in its Risk Analysis Branch: one in the Engineering Management Section and one in the Assessment and Planning Section. These positions are open to all qualified applicants—no prior federal service is required.

Applicants must meet the qualifications noted in the Office of Personnel Management's Qualification Operating Manual (see <http://www.opm.gov>), which states that one year of specialized experience equivalent to the next lower grade in the federal service is required. In addition, applicants should have knowledge of (1) theories, principles, practices, and techniques of floodplain mapping, hydrology, hydraulics, surveying, coastal engineering, ortho-imagery, geographic information systems, and/or structural flood control works; (2) qualitative and/or quantitative methods; (3) performance management, including budget planning, resource allocations, schedule management, and measurement of outcomes; and (4) the National Flood Insurance Program; along with ability in oral and written communication. Both positions are at GS-14 level, salary range \$91,407 to \$118,828, plus benefits.

>>> The application deadline is June 7, 2006. Application may be made by mail, fax, or email. To begin, go to <http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/dhscareers/> and enter the vacancy announcement number (RB-06-332-JP) in the keyword search box.

### Meet us at the Floodplain Management Crossroads

The ASFPM's 30th annual conference will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from June 11 to June 16, 2006. Over one thousand floodplain managers are expected, from every level of government, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations—all involved in different aspects of reducing flood losses, making communities more sustainable, and managing fragile riparian and coastal resources. There will be workshops, training, the Certified Floodplain Manager exam, exhibits, field trips, and much more.

>>> See the conference brochure, program, highlights of New Mexico, and other information at <http://www.floods.org>.

# THE THREATENED STREAMGAGE LIST

The U.S. Geological Survey is maintaining a list of 196 streamgages nationwide whose survival is threatened due to lack of funding for operation and maintenance. Accurate, continuous records from streamgages are vital at all levels of government for flood mapping, prediction of flood flows, flood warning, and other water resources-related activities. Unfortunately, the most comprehensive and reliable system for collecting these data—the stream gage network of the U.S. Geological Survey—has slowly been shrinking as federal funding to the USGS decreases and the budgets of other federal agencies, states, and localities (who collectively maintain about half of the gages) are reduced. The ASFPM and the USGS Coalition are working continuously to find ways to support the streamgage network.

The USGS site includes a map of the United States showing the locations of all the gages and also lists the threatened gages, by state. Linked pages give detailed information about each gage, including its name, number, geographic location, date at which it is expected to be discontinued and the reason, length of record, type of data recorded (discharge, stage, peak flow, low flow, etc.), drainage area, entity retaining the data from the gage, and the name of a person to contact for more information.

All 50 USGS stream gages in Georgia narrowly escaped extinction this spring when, in the course of its budget deliberations, the state legislature first decided not to fund the state's portion of the USGS Cooperative Water Program, which supports operation and maintenance of the gages. Vigorous input from stakeholders, who made clear the possible impacts of loss of the gages, was a factor in having the funding restored to the state budget for the coming year.

>>> The streamgage list is at [http://water.usgs.gov/osw/lost\\_streamgages.html](http://water.usgs.gov/osw/lost_streamgages.html).

## COURT UPHOLDS STATE AUTHORITY OVER DAMS

In a unanimous decision on May 15, the U.S. Supreme Court rejected a South African company's bid to exempt five hydroelectric dams it owns in Maine from the Clean Water Act. The decision in the case of *S.D. Warren Company v. Maine Board of Environmental Protection*, 547 U.S. \_\_\_ (2006), recognizes the well-established scientific fact that dams can have a huge impact on water quality. Although dams provide benefits, they can also cause considerable harm to rivers and to local communities. Dams have depleted fisheries, degraded river ecosystems, and diminished recreational and economic opportunities on rivers across the nation.

Since 1970, states have used their authority under the Clean Water Act to require hydroelectric dams to mitigate their detrimental effects on water quality. S.D. Warren's challenge could have rendered states incapable of setting even basic conditions for the operation of hydropower dams within their borders. Instead, the Court strongly supported the state of Maine's right to establish requirements for dams on its rivers, noting that "Changes in the river like these [inhibiting flow, blocking the passage of fish, and preventing recreational access and use] fall within a State's legitimate legislative business, and the Clean Water Act provides for a system that respects the States' concerns."

Formal parties to the case, American Rivers and Friends of the Presumpscot River, were joined by the Bush Administration, a bipartisan group of 36 state attorneys general, a coalition of more than four dozen conservation and fishing groups, American Indian tribes, leading river scientists and engineers, and others that filed *amicus* or "friend of the Court" briefs in opposition to the requested exemption.

>>> The decision is posted at <http://www.americanrivers.org/site/DocServer/04-1527o.pdf?docID=4142>.

# NEWS FROM THE NFIP

## Revision to the Flood Determination Form

In late April FEMA released a new version of the Standard Flood Hazard Determination Form. It has been revised only slightly, to provide new contact information and online resources, include the DHS header, and provide a new OMB authorization number and expiration date. The new version of the form must be used after July 1, 2006. During the interim, both versions of the form will be accepted for regulatory and rating purposes. The new form is effective until October 31, 2008.

> > > Download the form from <http://www.fema.gov/pdf/nfip/sfhdf.pdf>.

## New Grant Program for Repetitive Losses

Program guidance for a new grant program, the Repetitive Flood Claims program (previously referred to as the “Direct” program) was sent to Regional Offices in April for dissemination to the states. The program was authorized under Section 1323 of the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004. Its priority is to provide grants to buy out Severe Repetitive Loss properties, but applications will be reviewed for any property that has sustained at least one claim. The authorizing legislation requires FEMA to award funds in order of the greatest amount of savings to the National Flood Insurance Fund. As a proxy for that in FY ‘06, FEMA is using the benefit/cost ratio to prioritize applications.

- The application period will remain open through June 30, 2006.
- \$10 million is available for FY 2006. The cost share will be up to 100% federal share.
- Funds will be used for acquisition/demolition or relocation with deed restriction to open space. The property must be currently insured.
- A state mitigation plan is required; no local mitigation is plan required

> > > The program guidance, fact sheets, and FAQs can be found at <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/rfc/index.shtm>.

## Comments Wanted on Bridge Damage Research

In response to the damage to and destruction of bridges during Hurricanes Katrina and Ivan, the Federal Highway Administration requested a study of the mechanism by which these structures were damaged, and what could be done about it. The study was undertaken by a multidisciplinary team of coastal and geotechnical engineers and a draft report of their work has been released for comment and review.

Preliminary laboratory tests combined with post-storm inspections of the damaged bridges, numerical model hindcasts of the wave and surge conditions during the storms, and the existing methods for estimating wave loads provided an answer to the question of how certain bridges were damaged. The paper concludes that the damage is principally caused as the storm surge raises the water level to an elevation where larger waves can strike the bridge superstructure. The individual waves produce both an uplift force and a horizontal force on the deck. The magnitude of wave uplift force from individual waves can exceed the weight of the simple span bridge decks. The total resultant wave force is able to overcome any resistance provided by the (typically small) connections. Then the decks begin to progressively slide or “hop” across the pile caps in the downwave direction until they fall off. This can occur before the storm surge elevation exceeds the bridge deck elevation.

The authors suggest a new method for estimating wave loads on bridge decks and recommend that FHWA apply it as interim guidance. Under the method, which is consistent with the existing coastal engineering research literature, wave loads are assumed to be proportional to a form of “hydrostatic” pressure as measured from the crest of the largest waves in the sea-state. The new method does a good job of explaining the damage to bridges in Hurricanes Katrina and Ivan.

The draft report, “Wave Forces on Bridge Decks,” by Scott L. Douglass, Qin “Jim” Chen, Joseph M. Olsen, Billy L. Edge, and Dan Brown, is posted at <http://www.southalabama.edu/usacterec/waveforces.html>. There is a link on that page for forwarding comments to the authors.

## from the Chair (cont.)

*The ASFPM's expertise has been shared with our country's national policymakers in Congressional hearings, meetings, and testimony.* On many occasions this past year ASFPM members have testified before Congress on issues relating to the Katrina response, NFIP reform, and the need for levee safety standards. In addition to providing testimony, ASFPM members have reviewed and assisted in the development of legislation pouring forth in record amounts on the Hill. In the past 30 years of the ASFPM, there has never been so much legislation and activity to address and act upon. I would personally like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Merrie Inderfurth and Rebecca Quinn for their tireless and tenacious efforts to flag everything and miss nothing!

*In the past year the ASFPM has developed several white papers addressing specific issues related to better policy and programs in floodplain management.* ASFPM Policy Committees contributed to the development of the original ASFPM Katrina white paper and its subsequent revisions. All are to be commended for their efforts. As a result of the overwhelming interest and wide distribution of that paper, at a fall Board meeting it was decided to further explore several specific issues from that white paper into a series of additional white papers on such topics as higher regulatory standards; the FEMA benefit/cost analyses; the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program; demolish/rebuild mitigation; coastal area regulations; and Increased Cost of Compliance coverage. (Needless to say all these will be found on the ASFPM website as they are developed). Again, ASFPM members, in particular, Policy Committee members, contributed their time, knowledge, and viewpoints throughout the development of these papers, which we will use to guide national policy toward sounder practices in floodplain management and mitigation. Please take an opportunity to read these papers as they become available and personally thank their authors.

*What have we learned and what are the challenges in the year ahead?* We have been told—and we hope that our national policymakers believe—that last year's storm season was no fluke. We are in for the long haul, or in meteorological terms we are at the beginning of a long climatic cycle of more serious storm patterns. Therefore, it is obviously imperative that we continue to forge ahead in promoting better national policy and program implementation because it affects this entire country, not simply the Gulf and coastal regions. We all have a critical stake in the betterment of our flood resistance. The destruction that Mississippi and New Orleans have faced is truly mind boggling. I am sure we can all imagine the same “what-if scenarios” for other areas throughout this country, with possibly much more to lose.

*Dedicated to reducing flood losses in the nation.* This year we need to reframe and possible “resize” floodplain management issues. While we in the field understand that the NFIP was not intended to handle catastrophic events, nonetheless it is time for reform to address the inevitable. Change is rarely easy, but often necessary. I ask for your help and involvement in addressing these critical and challenging problems. It is incumbent upon us to promote sounder floodplain management and to share our practices, philosophies, expertise, and knowledge with non-traditional partners.

I also want to extend my deepest appreciation to those members who have worked so hard this past year. Finally, my warmest appreciation, thanks, and kudos to the best professional staff who tirelessly dedicate their efforts to the continued growth of ASFPM—thank you, thank you, thank you to the Executive Office of ASFPM: Becky, Anita, Debbie, Chad, Diane, Alan, George, and Larry! ☐

# Washington Report

## MOVEMENT ON A NUMBER OF LEGISLATIVE FRONTS

As the Congress recessed for its Memorial Day “District work period,” several issues of interest to floodplain managers had taken steps forward. All are still a distance from the finish line, so there is time for evaluation and recommendations. Of particular significance are flood insurance program reform, the status of FEMA with regard to the Department of Homeland Security, and provision for levee safety and an inventory of levees. Also moving along are the appropriations bills for DHS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Park Service, and the Department of Agriculture.

Because this is an election year, there will be considerable pressure to move legislation, but there is already talk of a “lame duck” session after the election to complete business.

### National Flood Insurance Program Reform

The Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs has reported out its Flood Insurance Reform and Modernization Act of 2006. A draft bill served as the basis for the markup session and was only released to Committee members two and one-half days beforehand. Since the Senate has recessed at present, the bill has not been filed and there is no bill number. The ASFPM’s comments on the bill will be available on the website soon.

The Senate bill is bolder than the one reported out of the House Financial Services Committee in April (H.R. 4973). It tracks the House bill in a number of areas, but differs in several ways. The ASFPM has not completed its analysis of the bill and its potential effects. However, it is notable that it provides for

- Mandatory purchase of flood insurance in “residual risk” areas behind levees and below dams. (This would not take effect until mapping of these areas is complete.)
- A Catastrophe Reserve Fund, totaling 1% of NFIP loss exposure, to be created from premium income over a 10-year period.
- Forgiveness of the NFIP debt to the U.S. Treasury from the 2005 hurricane season claims payments (about \$21 billion).

The bill would also

- Require states to ensure that state-regulated lending institutions also require mandatory purchase of flood insurance in the 100-year floodplain;
- Require escrow of all flood insurance premiums;
- Increase lender penalties from \$350 to \$2,000 per violation and remove annual cap;
- Require notification of the availability of flood insurance at real estate settlements;
- Move these categories of properties toward actuarial rates with 25% per year rate increases: (1) non-primary residences; (2) severe repetitive loss properties (4 or more losses of \$5,000 or more and cumulative losses of at least \$20,000); (3) commercial properties; (4) substantially damaged properties; and (5) properties improved by over 30% of the home’s value;
- Require that all new policies be written at actuarially sound rates;
- Increase the allowable annual rate increase from 10% to 15%;
- Increase deductibles from \$500 to \$1,000 for post-FIRM properties and from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for pre-FIRM;
- Permit FEMA to adjust rates after revision of flood maps; and
- Require FEMA to use accepted actuarial principles in determining rates and require inclusion of catastrophic loss years in calculation of average loss year.

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## Washington Report (cont.)

For Map Modernization, the bill would

- Authorize \$400 million per year FY '07 through FY '12 ;
- Re-establish the Technical Mapping Advisory Council;
- Establish mapping standards including use of latest technology and elevation data;
- Eliminate state contribution caps for maps, which are currently 50%; and
- Provide for FEMA testing of floodproofing technologies.

Some policyholder provisions would

- Provide for FEMA participation in state-sponsored non-binding mediation when there are multiple insurance claims on the same property (generally wind vs. flood damage);
- Reiterate the consumer provisions of the 2004 Reform Act concerning minimum education and training for insurance agents and implementation of an appeals process.

Several studies would be authorized under the bill:

- A Government Accountability Office study of the Write Your Own program, its fees and expenses as compared to other insurance products; FEMA's monitoring of disbursements; analysis of the benefits of the WYO system as well as of the feasibility of a competitive bidding process for the program or other alternative to the current fee structure;
- A GAO report on the effects of expanding coverage (i.e., business interruption and alternative living coverage);
- A GAO audit of the NFIP;
- An annual report on the financial condition of the NFIP to be submitted by FEMA;
- A GAO evaluation of the NFIP's fulfillment of its purpose, its benefits and burdens, recommendations for increased effectiveness, and an assessment of whether the NFIP should be moved out of FEMA;
- A Treasury study of properties in the flood program, focused on pre-FIRM structures and their subsidies; and
- A GAO study on allowing the purchase of flood insurance for properties not in participating communities.

### FEMA and DHS

Two bills have been reported out of the three House committees with some jurisdiction over activities of FEMA that deal with FEMA's structure and position in or out of DHS. H.R. 5316, the RESPOND Act of 2006, would reconstitute FEMA's programs and restore it to independent agency status, with the Director serving as a Cabinet member. That bill was reported out of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on May 17th and out of the House Committee on Government Reform on May 18. Another bill, H.R. 5351, would reconstitute FEMA, add some terrorism preparedness responsibilities, provide for the FEMA Director to have direct access to the President only during catastrophic events, but keep FEMA within DHS. That measure was reported out of the House Committee on Homeland Security on May 17th. House floor consideration of these measures involves interesting parliamentary questions, but the matter likely will be taken up in June.

In the Senate, jurisdiction resides more completely (although not entirely) within the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. That Committee has recently issued its major report on the response to Hurricane Katrina and its implications for FEMA [*see article on page 14*]. It recommends reconstituting FEMA (particularly noting the importance of reconnecting preparedness with response), but recommends a new name: National Preparedness and Response Agency. It also recommends that NPRA remain in DHS but that the Director have the rank of Undersecretary and have direct access to the President during catastrophic events. The

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## Washington Report (cont.)

Senate bill is expected to track this report closely. No measure has been introduced, but indications are that a bill can be expected in June.

### Levee Safety and Inventory

H.R. 4650, the National Levee Safety Program Act, has been introduced by Chairman John Duncan (R-TN) of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Subcommittee on Water Resources and the Environment. The bill provides for a national inventory of levees, including those privately, locally, or federally owned, built, or maintained. It requires a general finding of condition and establishes a levee safety program patterned on the existing dam safety program.

ASFPM Chair Pam Pogue testified at a hearing on this bill on April 6th [*see News & Views, April, p. 10*]. The testimony is on the ASFPM website at [http://www.floods.org/PDF/ASFPM\\_Testimony\\_2005\\_Levee\\_Safety\\_Bill.pdf](http://www.floods.org/PDF/ASFPM_Testimony_2005_Levee_Safety_Bill.pdf).

ASFPM representatives met with Committee staff on May 23rd to further discuss the legislation. The staff expects to make some changes to the bill and to have it ready for markup in a few weeks.

Meanwhile, on the Senate side, much of the language of H.R. 4650 has been inserted into the draft substitute Water Resources Development Act. That bill had been awaiting action for some time with Chairman James Inhofe (R-OK) not wanting to act on other related bills separately, but rather to keep them within WRDA. The development of this Chairman's substitute bill offers a better prospect of moving the WRDA bill this session.

### Other Legislative Activity

#### Dam Safety Act

The bill reauthorizes the Dam Safety Program through FY 2011. The Senate version, S. 2735, was reported out of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on May 23rd. No action has yet been taken on the House version. Another set of companion bills (S. 2444 and HR. 1105) to provide grant assistance to states for repair and rehabilitation of deficient dams is also pending consideration.

#### Coastal Barrier Reauthorization Act

S. 1189, which reauthorizes the Coastal Barrier Resources Act program through FY 2010, passed the House. It also provides for finalizing the Digital Mapping Pilot Project and directs the digitizing of all other CBRA maps.

#### Recovery and Mitigation

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Emergency Management Subcommittee is developing legislation to make some Stafford Act changes, particularly with regard to mitigation programs. The measure has not been introduced, but can be expected to move quickly once it is.

The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is likely to include some Stafford Act changes in its bill on restructuring FEMA. That bill, too, is in development.

#### Removal of Disaster Housing from DHS

A bill may be introduced in the House to move disaster housing assistance to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for administration 90 days after a disaster.

*[continued on page 10]*

# Washington Report (cont.)

## Appropriations

The House Appropriations Committee has begun markup of its FY '07 appropriations bills. A few bills have already passed the House. When Congress recessed, the DHS appropriations bill was on the House floor, but consideration will resume after the recess. The Senate Appropriations Committee has not yet marked up any of its bills, but will do so in June. The Senate had not yet completed action on the FY '06 Supplemental Appropriations bill, which provides significant post-Katrina funding along with funds for the situation in Iraq.

**Supplemental**—As reported out of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the bill (H.R. 4939) totaled \$108.9 billion. It included some \$28.9 billion for Gulf Coast recovery. The President's request had been for \$94.5 billion. The White House has made clear that the President will not sign a bill larger than his request. Consequently, consideration of this bill consumed a significant amount of time before the recess without resulting in its passage.

**Department of Homeland Security/FEMA**—This bill (H.R. 5441, H. Rept. 109-476) was under consideration on the House floor when the recess began. The House will continue to work on amendments to the bill when the Congress returns. The measure provides \$1 million less than requested. The bill included the full transfer funds for the new repetitive loss programs, but provided only \$31 million for the regular Flood Mitigation Assistance program, rather than the authorized \$40 million. It provided \$100 million for Pre-Disaster Mitigation, which is less than the \$150 million requested but more than the \$50 million appropriated in FY '06. Map Modernization was funded at the full request level of \$198.98 million. There are a number of earmarks of specific mapping efforts that FEMA is directed to fund. There is also language in the report expressing concern about use of outdated and inaccurate data for the production of maps.

**Energy and Water**—The bill (H.R. 5427 and H. Rept. 109-474) funds, among other agencies, the Corps of Engineers. The Corps is funded at \$5 billion in the bill reported out of committee, which is \$251 million above the President's request. It includes some reforms dealing with project execution, management, and long-term financial planning. Section 22 Planning Assistance to States was funded at the budget request of \$4.5 million. Flood Plain Management Services, however, was funded at \$6.2 million or \$6 million over the request. Section 206, Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration was funded at \$10 million above the request, as was Section 1135, Project Modifications for Improvement of the Environment. The Administration had requested \$20 million to continue the national inventory of levees that began in FY '06 with \$30 million provided in a supplemental appropriations bill. The Committee provided no funds for this effort.

**Interior and Environment**—The House passed this bill (H.R. 5386 and H. Rept. 109-465) on May 18th. It includes \$7.56 billion for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, \$257 million more than the Administration's request but \$55 million less than FY '06. The Administration had requested only \$6.9 million for the Targeted Watersheds program, down from a funding level of \$16.6 million for FY '06. The bill provides \$15.9 million, however. The Fish and Wildlife Service is funded in the bill at \$1.3 billion, which is \$50 million less than FY '06 and \$2 million less than the request. Its Coastal Program was funded at \$13.8 million when the request and FY '06 level had been \$12.9 million. The USGS budget included an additional \$2 million for the National Streamflow Information System.

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

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# Washington Report (cont.)

## DIRECTOR NAMED FOR U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

President Bush has nominated Mark D. Myers to be the new director of the U.S. Geological Survey, succeeding Charles G. Groat, who resigned last year. Myers, an expert in North Slope sedimentology and geology, brings over 22 years of experience in geological science and management. He is the former State Geologist and head of Alaska's Geological Survey; past president and board member of the Alaska Geological Society; and is certified by the American Institute of Professional Geologists and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. Until Myers is confirmed by the Senate, Dr. P. Patrick Leahy will continue to serve in an acting capacity.

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

### Mary Fran Myers Scholarship Awarded

The Natural Hazards Center has chosen three recipients for the 2006 Mary Fran Myers Scholarship, which provides funds for a deserving person to travel to and attend the invitational Natural Hazards Workshop held in Boulder, Colorado, every July. Out of 41 applicants from 17 different nations, the panel selected the three listed below.

Aurélie Brunie—a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of City and Regional Planning at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Her dissertation research examines the factors that affect the sustainability of community preparedness in underdeveloped countries. Her fieldwork was conducted in six communities in Dominica in the Caribbean.

Elenka Jarolimek—an emergency management specialist with the University of Washington Office of Emergency Management. She works with campus units to identify and develop mitigation projects, organize training for staff and faculty, and design outreach materials to the campus population. Jarolimek developed the University of Washington Campus Emergency Response Team program in the summer of 2004, and in 2005 organized a symposium on Best Practices in Risk Reduction for Colleges and Universities.

Alessandra Jerolleman—a Masters of Public Administration student and graduate assistant at the Center for Hazards Assessment and Resource Technology (CHART) at the University of New Orleans. She has been involved with several projects in the New Orleans area, including conducting benefit-cost analyses for the potential retrofitting of university buildings, flood mitigation planning for suburban New Orleans neighborhoods, and community outreach related to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

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 annual gathering of both scientists and research users in the hazards field.

> > > Application information is available at <http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/>.

# State & Local Report

## FLORIDA GETS INSURANCE REFORMS

In May the governor of Florida signed into law a measure that provides significant reform to Citizens Insurance (the state's insurer of last resort) and Florida's private insurance market. The law uses financial and regulatory tools to provide short-term relief for policyholders and long-term reform for the industry.

An unprecedented series of hurricanes and tropical storms over two seasons pushed Florida to the brink of an insurance crisis. During 2004 and 2005, private companies collected about \$18 billion in premiums from 11.9 million residential policyholders, but they paid out \$38.5 billion in claims for damage. Citizens Insurance collected \$1.2 billion in premiums from about 815,000 policyholders and paid out more than \$3.9 billion in claims, amassing a \$2.2 billion deficit. These figures represent an unsustainable business model for the insurance market. The loss of the private insurance market would drive up the cost of insurance and simultaneously dry up investment in the state.

The bill is the first step in a multi-year approach to attract more private capital, spread out the risk, encourage hurricane preparedness, and reduce the risk assumed by Citizens Insurance.

To ease the pressure on Floridians of a strained insurance market, the law provides \$250 million in loans to insurance companies to help them leverage their equity to write new policies or assume existing policies from Citizens or other private insurers leaving the market. In addition, \$715 million in surplus cash is provided to offset Citizens' current deficit, which will translate to about a \$200 reduction in each property owners' next insurance premium payment (which includes a surcharge to cover Citizens' deficit).

In the long term, the state's goal is to foster a private insurance market that continues to attract investment from the private sector. Increased competition in the marketplace will ultimately spread the risk and stabilize the price of premiums. Under the new law,

- Private insurance companies may adjust rates by 5% statewide and 10% in regions.
- Citizens Insurance will be required to collect enough premiums to prevent a deficit and must have enough money to pay claims on a "worst-case scenario" storm likely to strike only once in 70 years. In a deficit, Citizens would tap its policyholders first.
- The law provides \$250 million to make older homes more resistant to hurricane damage—the first program of its kind in the nation. A new state program will provide free home inspections and funding for home improvements that could reduce premiums. Homeowners of primary residences valued at less than \$500,000 that can benefit most from a retrofit will be eligible for a grant of half the project cost, up to \$5000.

## GREEN GROWTH GUIDELINES FOR GEORGIA

The Georgia Coastal Program, with funding from the Coastal Nonpoint Program, has developed a manual to demonstrate how quality growth development strategies can help protect coastal resources while enhancing social and economic outcomes as well. The *Green Growth Guidelines* outline the environmental and socioeconomic benefits of using sustainable development strategies compared to conventional approaches. The guide (1) demonstrates how site fingerprinting and sensitive land planning can identify and protect natural resources; (2) provide developers with instructions on how to build with minimal impact to the environment; (3) demonstrate alternative stormwater drainage solutions that protect the quality of receiving waterbodies; and (5) introduce various soft engineering techniques used to protect and stabilize coastal stream banks from erosion. The *Guidelines* and a companion industry recognition program under development will help address urban watershed protection, site development, onsite sewage disposal systems siting, and streambank and channelization management.

>>> The *Guidelines* are available at <http://crd.dnr.state.ga.us/content/displaycontent.asp?txtDocument=969>. For more information, contact [Jeannie\\_Butler@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:Jeannie_Butler@dnr.state.ga.us).

# Publications, Software, AV & the Web

The *2006 Risk Management Yearbook* explores the current challenges facing local governments, small businesses, and non-profit organizations. It features insightful articles by experts (many from the ASFPM) on topics such as levee maintenance, hazard mitigation, and disaster recovery. The *Yearbook* takes a lessons-learned approach, examining emerging trends and recent events, such as Hurricane Katrina, to improve the ability of all communities to plan and respond to the uncertainties they face in their own regions. In addition to the featured articles listed below, the *Yearbook* also provides an extensive listing of risk and disaster resources. 2006. Public Entity Risk Institute. \$29 from PERI bookstore at <http://www.riskinstitute.org>.

- “Establishing Mitigation as the Cornerstone for Community Resilience,” by Andre LeDuc, Director, Oregon Natural Hazards Workshop, University of Oregon
- “Levees—Taking the Long View,” by Patricia Skinner, Disaster Programs Coordinator, Louisiana State Agricultural Center
- “Chronicle of the Levee Failures in Hurricane Katrina,” by Ivor van Heerden, Director, Louisiana State University Hurricane Center
- “Planning to Reduce Wildfire Hazards in the Wildland Urban Interface,” by Michele Steinberg, Institute for Business & Home Safety
- “Beyond Waiting for Disaster: A New Architecture for Flood Risk Education,” by Marshall Frech, producer/writer of educational public service projects
- “What Works: Local Government Efforts to Recover from Extreme Events,” by Daniel J. Alesch, Emeritus Professor and Director and James N. Holly, Center for Organizational Studies, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay
- “The Future Outlook for Disasters,” by William H. Hooke, Senior Policy Fellow and Director, American Meteorological Society
- “LawFit: A Job-Related Health and Fitness Program for Law Enforcement Personnel,” by David L. Bever, Associate Professor, School of Recreation, Health and Tourism, Purdue University
- “The Changing Workers’ Compensation Environment in California,” by Gregory L. Trout, Principal and Chief Operating Office, Bickmore Risk Services

“All About Presidential Disaster Declarations” is a new web page by the Public Entity Risk Institute that provides data on disaster declarations made since the Reagan administration in 1981. Users can access county, state, or territory-based data by clicking on a map of the United States or by selecting from drop-down menus. Information provided includes the date and type of the disaster, FEMA region, state, county, governor, and official cost of the disaster (adjusted for inflation), among other data. There is an item-by-item explanation of how the data were derived, and what the source is, because of the complexity of how disaster funds are distributed and recorded. An interesting feature is information on disaster declaration requests that were turned down. A helpful 10-page article (*Presidents, Disasters and Policy*, by Richard Sylves) explains clearly how the declaration process works, what funding it triggers, and how it has changed during the four Presidential administrations covered by the data. The site also has links to summary data and a vehicle by which customized tables can be prepared, along with links to other sources of disaster and emergency information. Access it at <http://www.peripresdecusa.org/mainframe.htm>.

The biennial status reports on each of the five Great Lakes were released by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in May. These comprehensive, binational environmental plans provide lake-by-lake details on the steps needed to ensure protection, restoration and environmental maintenance of Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario. The Lakewide Management Plans (LaMPs) for Superior, Michigan, Erie and Ontario, and the Lake Huron Binational Partnership for Lake Huron, outline each lake’s environmental status, highlight successes, identify problems,

and propose solutions. The LaMPs, a requirement of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement between the United States and Canada to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Great Lakes, are collaborative efforts of the state, federal, tribal and provincial governments, and stakeholder organizations. The plans also identify the environmental consequences of shoreline development, including loss of habitat, and loss of wetlands. The LaMPs are posted on the EPA website at <http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/gl2000/lamps/index.html>.

## **Katrina, Katrina**

“Current Tally of Hurricane-Related Spending” is the summary, issued in mid May by the U.S. Senate Budget Committee, of the cost of legislative measures enacted in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. It includes supplemental appropriations, increases in National Flood Insurance Program borrowing authority, disaster assistance and loans, tax relief, and other measures. A bar graph compares the cost of those two hurricanes so far with Hurricane Andrew, the September 11th terrorist attack, the Los Angeles earthquake, and the 2004 hurricane season. 2006. 2 pp. <http://budget.senate.gov/republican/pressarchive/2006-05-12k-tally.pdf>.

*Hurricane Katrina: A Nation Still Unprepared* is the much-quoted report of the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs, based on its investigation into the disaster. As noted in the press at the time of the report’s release last month, criticism is leveled at most of the players at all levels in the Katrina preparedness and response scenario, and the report culminates in the recommendation to abolish FEMA and replace it with another, “more capable structure” within the Department of Homeland Security. “Additional reports,” including that of Senator Joseph I. Lieberman, who was harshly critical of the White House’s lack of cooperation with the Committee during its investigation, are also available through this link. 749 pp. <http://hsgac.senate.gov/index.cfm?Fuseaction=Links.Katrina>.

*Federal Emergency Management and Homeland Security Organization: Historical Developments and Legislative Options* gives background information on the establishment and evolution of federal emergency management organizational arrangements since the end of World War II and briefly summarizes current legislative proposals. In its conclusion, the report notes that history has shown that reorganizing the entities responsible for federal emergency management, civil defense, or homeland security may address certain shortcomings and problems, but that the challenges go beyond such changes. The authors quote H.L. Mencken, “There is always an easy solution to every human problem—neat, plausible, and wrong” and observe that Congressional agreement on the “best” organizational structure will be part of the solution to effective disaster preparedness and response. However, they say, the extent to which a reorganization contributes to the improvement of problems evident after Hurricane Katrina is a matter of conjecture. Henry B. Hogue and Keith Bea. 2006. 39 pp. Congressional Research Service. <http://www.hlswatch.com/sitedocs/RL33369.pdf>.

*Demographic Characteristics of Katrina-Impacted Areas* estimates that 700,000 or more people may have been acutely impacted by Hurricane Katrina as a result of residing in areas that flooded or sustained significant structural damage. The report also provides estimates on the social and economic composition of this population, including that 44% of the victims are African Americans and 30% of the victims had incomes below one and one-half times the poverty line. Congressional Research Service. 2005. 35 pp. [http://www.katrina.lsu.edu/downloads/research/HurricaneKatrina\\_Social\\_Demographic\\_Characteristics\\_of\\_Impacted\\_Areas.pdf](http://www.katrina.lsu.edu/downloads/research/HurricaneKatrina_Social_Demographic_Characteristics_of_Impacted_Areas.pdf).

The final High Water Mark Reports from Katrina’s incursion into Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama have been posted on the FEMA website. Check at [http://www.fema.gov/hazard/flood/recoverydata/katrina/katrina\\_la\\_resources.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/hazard/flood/recoverydata/katrina/katrina_la_resources.shtm).

# Calendar

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

**June 4–7, 2006:** 2006 NATIONAL MAIN STREETS CONFERENCE, New Orleans, Louisiana. Sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. See <http://conference.mainstreet.org/>.

**June 11–16, 2006:** FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT CROSSROADS: 30TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Contact the ASFPM at (608) 274-0123, [asfpm@floods.org](mailto:asfpm@floods.org) or see <http://www.floods.org>.

**June 26–29, 2006:** ADVANCED FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS (E194), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

**June 27–30, 2006:** SOMETHING GOOD IS BREWING: ACHIEVING ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS THROUGH COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Contact Lisa Gebler at (301) 589-5318 or [ciconference@emsus.com](mailto:ciconference@emsus.com) or see <http://www.epa.gov/ciconference/2006>.

**July 10–13, 2006:** BASIC HAZUS-MULTIHAZARDS (E313), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

**July 10–13, 2006:** TRAIN-THE-TRAINER: MANAGING FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE NFIP (E270), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

**July 18–20, 2006:** HEC-RAS WORKSHOP, Carson City, Nevada. Sponsored by the Floodplain Management Association. Program information is available at <http://www.hec.usace.army.mil/software/hec-hms/hechms-hechms.html>. To register, see <http://www.floodplain.org>.

**July 24–27, 2006:** STORMCON: THE NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE WATER QUALITY CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION, Denver, Colorado. Sponsored by StormCon and *Stormwater Magazine*. For information, see <http://www.forester.net/stormcon/nashville/index.html>.

**July 31—August 3, 2006:** MANAGING FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (E273), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

**August 14–17, 2006:** 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/>.

**August 14–17, 2005:** ADVANCED HAZUS-MH FOR FLOOD (E172), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Call (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

- August 21–25, 2006:** RETROFITTING FLOODPRONE RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS (E279), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.
- August 26–27, 2006:** ENGINEERING ESSENTIALS FOR WETLANDS AND WETLAND REGULATIONS (NCES 8271), Denver, Colorado. Sponsored by the University of Colorado at Denver Continuing Engineering Education Center. Call (303) 556-4907 or see <http://www.cudenver.edu/engineer/cont>.
- August 27—September 1, 2006:** INTERNATIONAL DISASTER REDUCTION CONFERENCE 2006, Davos, Switzerland. Contact Conference Secretariat, IDRC Davos 2006, SLF, Fluelastrasse 11, CH-7260 Davos Dorf, Switzerland; +41 (0)81 417 02 25 or see <http://www.davos2006.ch/1stannouncement.html>.
- August 28–31, 2006:** ADVANCED FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS (E194), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.
- September 3–8, 2006:** THIRTIETH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COASTAL ENGINEERING, San Diego, California. Sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers. Contact the ICCE Conference Secretariat, Diane Dennell, BETA, Inc., PO Box 4219, Santa Barbara, CA 93140-4219; (805) 965-6210 or info@icce2006.com or see <http://www.icce2006.com/>.
- September 5–9, 2006:** ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, San Diego, California. See <http://www.floodplain.org>.
- September 6–8, 2006:** ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FLOOD AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCIES, San Antonio, Texas. Contact NAFSMA at 1301 K Street NW, Eighth Floor East Tower, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 478-1734 or see [http://www.nafsma.org/Meetings/meetings\\_upcoming.htm](http://www.nafsma.org/Meetings/meetings_upcoming.htm).
- September 10–14, 2006:** DAM SAFETY 2006, Boston, Massachusetts. Sponsored by the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. Contact Susan Sorrell at ASDSO, 450 Old Vine St., Lexington, KY 40507, (859) 257-5146, [sasorrell@damsafety.org](mailto:sasorrell@damsafety.org) or see <http://www.damsafety.org>.
- September 13–15, 2006:** CONFERENCE OF THE INDIANA ASSOCIATION FOR FLOODPLAIN AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT, Nashville, Indiana. Contact Maria Cisco at (317) 306-9883, [info@inafsm.net](mailto:info@inafsm.net) or see <http://www.inafsm.net/Conference06.htm>.
- September 18–20, 2006:** SIXTEENTH ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE OF THE OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION, Norman, Oklahoma. Contact OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101; or see <http://www.okflood.org>.
- September 18–21, 2006:** 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 24–27, 2006:** ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE OF THE ARKANSAS FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, Hot Springs, Arkansas. Contact (501) 682-3969 or see <http://www.arkansasflood.com>.

- September 25–28, 2006:** TRAIN-THE-TRAINER: MANAGING FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE NFIP (E270), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.
- September 27–29, 2006:** ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF STORMWATER AND FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Contact David Bennetts, Urban Drainage & Flood Control District, 2480 W. 26th Ave., Suite #156B, Denver, CO 80211, (303) 455-6277, [bennetts@udfcd.org](mailto:bennetts@udfcd.org) or see <http://www.casfm.org/>.
- October 23–26, 2006:** 2006 WATERSHED INSTITUTE, Columbus, Ohio. Sponsored by the Center for Watershed Protection. Contact Rebecca Winer, Center for Watershed Protection, (410) 461-8323; [rrw@cwpp.org](mailto:rrw@cwpp.org) or see <http://www.cwp.org/WI06/wi06info.html>.
- October 26–27, 2006:** SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION FOR FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT, Somerset, New Jersey. Abstracts are due August 1, 2006. Contact Cleighton Smith at (856) 802-0843 x 3107 or [Cleighton.smith@dewberry.com](mailto:Cleighton.smith@dewberry.com).
- November 2–3, 2006:** ECOSYSTEMS: RESTORATION & CREATION, Plant City, Florida. Sponsored by Hillsborough Community College. Abstracts are due June 30, 2006. Call (813) 253-7523 or see <http://www.hccfl.edu/depts/detp/ecoconf.html>.
- November 2–3, 2006:** FALL MEETING OF THE ARIZONA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, Douglas, Arizona. See [http://azfma.org/page/qldr/Fall\\_Meeting\\_2006.html](http://azfma.org/page/qldr/Fall_Meeting_2006.html).
- November 6–9, 2006:** ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION, Baltimore, Maryland. See <http://www.awra.org/meetings/Baltimore2006/>.
- November 8–10, 2006:** MAKING CONNECTIONS—PEOPLE, LAKES, WATERSHEDS. 26TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE NORTH AMERICAN LAKE MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, Indianapolis, Indiana. Hosted by the Indiana Lakes Management Society. See <http://www.nalms.org./symposia/indianapolis/home.htm>.
- November 12–15, 2006:** GOING ALL THE WAY . . . PUTTING PLANS INTO ACTION: ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBIT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGERS, Orlando, Florida. For more information, contact IAEM at 201 Park Washington Ct., Falls Church, VA 22046 or see <http://www.iaem.com>.
- December 9–13, 2006:** FORGING THE NATIONAL IMPERATIVE: THIRD COASTAL AND ESTUARINE HABITAT RESTORATION CONFERENCE, New Orleans, Louisiana. Sponsored by Restore American Estuaries. For more information, see <http://www.estuaries.org/conference>.
- February 21–23, 2007:** 10TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE MICHIGAN STORMWATER-FLOODPLAIN ASSOCIATION, Grand Rapids, Michigan. See <http://mi.floods.org/conferences.htm>.
- June 3–8, 2007:** 30TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, Norfolk, Virginia. See <http://www.floods.org>.
- 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://www.alertsystems.org>.
- September 10-15, 2007:** ARID REGIONS CONFERENCE, Breckenridge, Colorado. Sponsored by the Colorado Association of Stormwater and Floodplain Managers and the Association of State Floodplain Managers. See <http://www.casfm.org/> or <http://www.floods.org>.



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