



Arid Regions Committee Status Report 2020

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**ASSOCIATION OF STATE
FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS**

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Introduction and Overview

The primary mission of the Arid Regions Committee is to provide policy guidance and support of the Arid Regions' floodplain management issues to foster reduction of future losses, costs, and human suffering caused by flooding. Historically, this committee has influenced FEMA's Flood Mapping Program through education and outreach in the arid areas. This has been accomplished through forwarding local Arid Regions' floodplain concerns to ASFPM for actions, disseminating ASFPM policies and questions to local floodplain decision makers for action, and sharing information between communities in the Arid Regions.

Current Priorities and Status

- Promote enhanced land use practices, building on the committee's previous review of the NFIP to reduce flood damages in Arid Regions. In progress.
- Research and make recommendations for analyzing hydrology and hydraulics in arid regions projects. This continues to be an ongoing issue the committee will pursue. In progress.
- A recently identified gap between existing regulations and modeling practice has been identified for mapping on alluvial fans. Regulations call for mapping flood depths between 1 and 3 feet on alluvial fans, but current mapping practices may indicate depths greater than 3 feet, particularly at the apex. The committee is pursuing a change to the mapping standards in 2020 to clarify mapping on alluvial fans. This effort is being furthered by regular discussions on our committee calls to better understand the issue(s). Coordination with the Engineering and Mapping Committee to get and incorporate that committees input is being solicited.
- Continue to work with the Natural and Beneficial Functions committee to stand up a working group/support group for the Riverine Erosion issue. In progress.
- Work on adding Arid Regions Stormwater BMPs to the Arid Regions website, in coordination with the Stormwater Committee. Stalled.
- Our committee strives to have monthly committee calls and disseminate Arid Regions Floodplain Management News.