

Association of State Floodplain Managers

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ASFPM Arid Regions Committee Status Report



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The primary mission of the Arid Regions Committee is to provide policy guidance and support of 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 damage in arid regions. In progress.
- Research and make recommendations for analyzing hydrology and hydraulics in arid regions projects. (Issue 2) This continues to be an ongoing issue the committee will pursue. In progress.
- 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 Committee website, in coordination with the Stormwater Management Committee. Stalled.
- Support an arid west/western states track at ASFPM's 2018 annual national conference. Declaring Victory this year!

Future Work Items

The following list of items was discussed at the last annual meeting in Kansas City.

- Alluvial fan mapping and use of 2-D models. Gain consensus on the state of practice for delineations.
- Clearly identify why arid regions floodplain management concerns are different from the rest of the nation.
- Irrigation ditches – Clean Water Act, Stormwater. Discussions are ongoing regarding how roadway v-ditches may be come jurisdictional.
- Levee like structures and canal stability issues.
- Impacts of building a boundary wall along the border with Mexico.