

# **POLICY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN**

## **Arid Regions Committee**

### **2017 – 2018**

(Sept. 22, 2017)

#### **1.0 Overview**

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.

#### **Committee co-chairs:**

Bob Davies

Jeanne Ruefer with Tetra Tech, Inc.

#### **Liaisons:**

Tom Walker

#### **Active members:**

Steve Dolan, Anthony Barry, Siavash Beik, Robert Bezek, Ashley Couch, Bob Davies, Mark Forrest, Jon Fuller, Teri George, Tim Murphy, Jeanne Ruefer, Valerie Swick, Tom Walker, Massoud Rezakhani and Ted Johnson.

#### **2.0 Task Outline**

2.1 Ongoing work items (see table):

1. Participate in ASFPM Policy Committee Conference Calls, routine Pod calls and Retreat.
2. Attend Policy Committee Chair Meeting at the annual conference and hold an annual Arid Regions Committee meeting.
3. Organize and Facilitate Regular (monthly) Committee Conference Calls.
4. Prepare Annual Reports and Develop Workplans.

2.2 Work items for the 2017/2018 year:

The following work items are ongoing from last year. The committee intends to begin and/or continue work on at least one of the priority arid issues this year and is committed to identify sub-tasks to initiate evaluation and progress of those efforts.

1. Promote enhanced land use practices, building on the committee's previous review of the NFIP to reduce flood damages in arid regions.
2. Research and make recommendations for analyzing hydrology and hydraulics in arid regions projects. This continues to be an ongoing issue the committee will pursue.
3. Continue to work with the Natural and Beneficial Functions Committee to stand up a working group/support group for the riverine erosion issue.
4. Work on adding Arid Regions Stormwater BMPs to the Arid Regions webpage, in coordination with the Stormwater Committee.
5. Support an Arid West/Western States Track at the upcoming 2018 Phoenix annual conference.

### **2.3 Parking lot of work items for the future:**

The following list of work items was discussed at the annual meeting in Kansas City. This list of items will be reviewed one by one, and decide whether to add new items, leave/delete or embellish each item for consideration in upcoming or future workplans. Some items may be of a similar nature and could be combined. How do these items support the ASFPM Board national policy goals?

- Alluvial fan mapping and use of 2-D models. Get consensus on state of practice for delineations.
- Clearly identify why arid regions floodplain management concerns are different. Political? Property values higher as we get near waterways.
- Irrigation ditches – Clean Water Act, stormwater. Discussions are ongoing regarding how roadway v-ditches may become jurisdictional.
- Levee-like structures, canal stability issues.
- Impacts of building a boundary wall along the border with Mexico.

## Ongoing Work Items

<b>Task Name</b>	<b>Task Leader</b>	<b>Approx Hrs to complete</b>	<b>Detailed Task Description</b>
Conference Calls & Committee Retreat	Bob Davies/ Jeanne Ruefer	44 hours	A co-chair or the liaison should attend all conference calls and one of co-chairs should attend the conference retreat.
Annual Conference	Bob Davies/ Jeanne Ruefer	16 hours	Prepare for the policy committee co-chairs meeting, the Arid Regions committee meeting, and optional 'early bird' arid topic meeting. Prepare notes of annual meeting for distribution.
Committee Coordination and Conference Calls	Bob Davies/ Jeanne Ruefer	48 hours	Organize and facilitate regular monthly conference calls with active committee members (hours assume both co-chairs participating, 90% of 12 calls per year, and prep/post meeting tasks)
Prepare Annual Reports and Develop Workplans.	Bob Davies/ Jeanne Ruefer	40 hours	Prepare annual progress report and solicit committee feedback to establish workplan tasks for upcoming year.