



ASFPM Coastal Issues Committee Status Report 2019

Association of State Floodplain Managers

Co-chairs Lori Cary-Kothera & Tom McDonald, CFM

May 7, 2019



1.0 Overview

The primary mission of the [Coastal Issues Committee](#) is to support ASFPM membership by promoting education, policies and activities aimed at reducing the costs and impacts of coastal flooding, and protecting and preserving the natural and beneficial functions of coastal floodplains associated coastal ecosystems and the services they provide.

To help fulfill this mission, the committee focuses its work in four areas:

- Fostering communication and dialogue and strengthen working relationships among the various professionals (e.g., floodplain managers, coastal zone managers, other government officials, interest groups) engaged in managing and/or protecting coastal floodplains and resources;
- Linking coastal floodplain managers with information and resources that will enable them to enhance their knowledge, develop skills and meet their professional responsibilities vis a vis floodplain management;
- Identifying and, where possible, aiding in the resolution of technical and policy related issues concerning coastal flood-risk identification and floodplain management; and
- Promoting progressive coastal floodplain policy at the national and state levels.

1.1 Committee co-chairs:

- Lori Cary-Kothera
- Tom McDonald, CFM

1.2 Liaisons:

- Allison Hardin, CFM
- Tim Hillier, P.E., CFM
- Maria Honeycutt, Ph.D., CFM
- Mark Mauriello
- Wes Shaw

2.0 Accomplishments

Provided below is a summary of progress and accomplishments achieved by Coastal Issues Committee for 2018-2019.

2.1 Ongoing Work Items

A summary of progress on the Coastal Issues Committee ongoing work items for 2018-2019 is as follows:

1. Participate in ASFPM Policy Committee Conference Calls and Retreat.

The co-chairs participated in ASFPM Policy Committee Conference calls Oct. 9 and Dec. 11, 2018 and Feb. 12 and April 9, 2019. Due to Hurricane Florence co-chairs participated via phone to the ASFPM Policy Committee Retreat Sept. 11-13, 2018. Additionally the co-chairs gave a committee update at the Board of Directors meeting Jan. 15, 2019.

2. Attend Policy Committee Chair Meeting at the annual conference and hold an annual meeting.

Both co-chairs led the Coastal National Policy Discussions annual meeting June 18, 2018 in Phoenix, AZ.

3. Organize, facilitate and complete action items associated with bimonthly committee conference calls

Committee conference calls were not held.

4. Organize , facilitate and complete action items associated with quarterly subcommittee conference calls

Co-chairs set up a lunch and learn quarterly webinar series. See details below.

5. Develop and maintain committee websites (public and internal)

The Coastal Committee webpage was updated November 2018.

6. Assist with ASFPM participation on FEMA Operating Partners meetings

Due to reduced coastal focus of Operating Partners meetings, participation by Coastal Issues Committee was limited for 2018-2019.

7. Assist with ASFPM's website redesign as requested

Support was not requested.

2.2 Work Items for the 2018-2019 Year

A summary of progress on Coastal Issues Committee work items that were specific to 2018-2019:

1. Digital Coast Support

ASFPM and the Coastal Issues Committee were active in support of the Digital Coast Partnership. Jeff Stone, Executive Office, serves as the primary Point of Contact for ASFPM within the partnership. Bill Brown, Dave Fowler and joint CSO/ASFPM Digital Coast Fellow Alexis Cunningham also participate in the partnership. ASFPM participated in the Digital Coast Partnership meeting held Jan. 15-16, 2019 in Washington, D.C. Due to the government furlough, Lori Cary-Kothera was not able to participate in the meeting.

2. Green Infrastructure

During the 2016 Grand Rapids and 2017 Kansas City Conferences, committee attendees identified green infrastructure as an opportunity to advance coastal issues. The objective would be to develop a handout that will provide brief description, techniques and benefits of a specific GI topic and objectives. Due to the fall hurricanes and government shut down, the co-

chairs have not had time to explore this topic further. We will reassess the need and desired materials post-annual conference.

3. Lunch and Learn Series

Using feedback from the coastal meeting at ASFPM's 2018 annual national conference, which indicted a strong desire to have forums that help coastal members build their understanding and skills around a number of technical issues, the Coastal Issues Committee co-chairs established a quarterly lunch and learn series. In August, Alex Trahan, P.E., ESA, presented the first webinar called "Coastal Hazards from Fjords to Lagoons." In November a joint webinar with National Geodetic Survey highlighted upcoming changes to geodetic control and how it will impact floodplain managers. In April Kim Cobb and Russ Clark from Georgia Tech presented a webinar Smart Sea Level Sensors.

4. Explore opportunities with the new CRS Coastal Committee.

The co-chairs have been participating on the CRS Coastal Committee workgroup calls. A series of calls have been set up to get feedback from subject matter experts. The committee is working on updating guidance in the CRS manual around coastal issues. Specifically they are looking at revising the guidance around the sea level rise recommendations; Coastal A zone credits, and set back regulations that pertain to section 430.

5. Support ASFPM Foundation with its Elevation Certificate Diagram guidance project.

6. Participated in the ASFPM Foundation Gilbert White Forum

Co-chair Lori Cary-Kothera attended the Gilbert White Forum on Urban Flooding in Washington D.C. March 12. While urban flooding is a national issue, it is of particular interest to coastal areas that are dealing with increased precipitation events as well as rising sea level issues.

7. National Policy

Committee members provided input to ASFPM's letter to FEMA expressing disapproval in FEMA's action of removing the CBRA zone from FIRMs. Additionally two letters of support for both of the CBRA zone updates were submitted on behalf of ASFPM.