

ASFPM NATURAL & BENEFICIAL FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT

Annual Conference—Grand Rapids, Michigan (2016)



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2015-2016 NBF Committee Mission

The mission of the [Natural and Beneficial Functions Committee](#) is to promote understanding and appreciation of the benefits provided by naturally functioning floodplains by the public, policy makers, and the Association membership. The committee champions the capacity of naturally functioning floodplains to provide multiple benefits to communities, including but not limited to flood damage reduction, water quality protection, habitat conservation, opportunities for recreation, and aesthetically pleasing landscapes. By raising awareness of and promoting the benefits provided by naturally functioning floodplains, the Committee builds support for their protection and restoration.

Committee Liaisons:

Dave Carlton P.E., CFM, D.WRE; dkcarlton & associates, Seattle, Washington – CRS and USGS Climate Change Workgroup representative

Dave Fowler, Stantec, Milwaukee, Wisconsin – NFFA & ASWM liaison

2015-2016 Tasks

New Work Items:

1. Provide comments/feedback to the [No Adverse Impact Committee](#) for the "[How-to Guides](#)" focusing on Mapping and Hazard Identification and Higher Regulatory Standards.
2. Provide comments and recommendations for the condensed version of ASFPM's "[National Flood Programs and Policies in Review.](#)"
3. Continue to complete the "Riverine Erosion Hazard Discussion Paper" for public use and explore the possibility for it to become a White Paper for adoption by the board.
4. Begin and develop the second in a short series of discussion papers with NBF-related content, following up on the Riverine Erosion Hazard discussion paper.
5. Support and provide content and feedback to ASFPM Science Services as they update and evolve the ASFPM committee web pages.
6. Explore the possibility to partner with the APA's Water Task Force to help promote their key recommendations.

Standard On-going Work Items:

7. Participate in ASFPM policy committee conference calls and retreat.
8. Attend committee chair meeting at the annual conference and hold an annual meeting.
9. Support NAI education and outreach efforts.
10. Coordinate with (and promote ASFPM goals and objectives to) the [Association of State Wetland Managers](#).
11. Outreach to environmental organizations on behalf of the association as volunteers are identified and as requested by the board.
12. Support NFFA efforts, including a meeting at the annual conference.
13. Promote an NBF track and early bird session at the upcoming national conference.
14. Represent ASFPM on the USGS Climate Change Workgroup.
15. Support the [Higher Education Committee](#) and their pursuit of a master's degree program in floodplain management.
16. Support the executive office on providing feedback and expertise to promote natural floodplain function considerations for the policies and procedures issued by FEMA or other entities, including mitigation policies.
17. Collaborate with the Science Services program effort on integrating ecosystem services with floodplain planning.
18. Support CBOR on NBF-related CFM exam question development.
19. Provide input on the "NAI How-to-Guides," including writing sections on the natural and beneficial function benefits of NAI or tools that achieve multiple objectives.
20. Be prepared to provide comments and support regarding the Pacific Northwest Biological Opinion
21. Act as a liaison for ASFPM with the [Green Infrastructure Collaboration](#) that has been organized by the EPA.
22. Provide support to [American Rivers](#) use and development of the "successful NBF project" template.

Details:**Riverine Erosion Hazard White Paper**

The ASFPM Board of Directors voted to adopt the Riverine Erosion Hazard Discussion Paper as a White Paper February 2016. This was after the culmination of more than a year's worth of work to develop a comprehensive paper that discussed the current state and issues and offer recommendations. The paper is currently available on the NBF and Arid Regions Committee websites.

NAI Mapping How-to Guide

Although this how-to guide's release has been delayed, the NBF Committee has and will continue to provide input and support into this effort around higher mapping standards.

Hosted Early Bird Session for 2015 ASFPM Annual Conference in Atlanta, GA

- Early Bird Session: *Riverine Erosion Hazard Discussion Paper*
- Natural Floodplain Function Alliance (NFFA) meeting participation

General Outreach and Coordination

- *National Flood Programs and Policies in Review (NFPPR)*
 - The NBF Committee provided input on the NFPPR to support ASFPM's update.
- Natural Floodplain Function Alliance (NFFA):
 - The NBF committee participated in NFFA webinars and conference calls