Memo:

To: To the ASFPM informal Climate Change Discussion Group (Those attending the June 19, 2020 meeting (Zoom call)).

From: Bob Freitag

Date: June 24, 2020

Subject: Notes

Here are notes transcribed from our June 19 Zoom meeting. For those that could not attend, feel free to listen to the recording. Recorded Link

Our Next meeting will be at 9am PT, July 17th Friday and will address Mapping concerns and opportunities and will be led by Darryl Hatheway. To join the meeting, on July 17th at 9am Pacific Time, click here.

Those attending the June 19th meeting:

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At May 24th meeting it was decided that future meetings would grouped into the discussion of specific areas of concern. This meeting June 19th meeting was devoted largely to a discussion of climate mitigation.

Climate Mitigation Discussion notes:

Purpose of these discussion are to provide areas of concern to be fleshed out by ASFPM committee structure. The items presented below should not be thought of as anything but areas of interest/concern/point of embarkation. They in no way should be viewed as recommendations. The

items were include if only mentioned by one individual and most often they were not evaluated. The purpose of these discussion was to raise concerns and opportunities to driver deeper dives.

Climate Mitigation Discussion

Climate mitigation was defined as the ability to store/sequester carbon / greenhouse gases as compared to Hazards Mitigation /adaptation as the ability to reduce risks over the long term.

Concerns/Opportunism for resolution:

These concerns mentioned below were ordered, although there is considerable overlap, as to areas of impact by Freitag – social, natural and human causes. Where opportunities were mentioned that could address the concern, they too were included.

1. Social (network/organizations) Impacts:
    a. Concerns:
        i. Overall release of carbon from floodplain activities – construction, reduction of wetlands or riparian areas, forests.
        ii. Need to make every attempt to reduce the release of carbon in the overall pursuit of well-being.
    b. Opportunities:
        i. ASFPM conferences should make every attempt to reduce carbon release. This could include fewer trips, hybrid on-line efforts. On-line component.
        ii. Carbon offset should be include when evaluate activities.
        iii. Education of membership – tools for ASFPM and chapters
        iv. Questions for the CFM exam
        v. Car dependent vs walkable
        vi. Ask chapters be required to have a CC policy?
        vii. Encouraging ASFPM to do both an in-person and video conferencing option in the future for all of their conferences!
        viii. FEMA could adopt a climate change action plan. Plan could include climate mitigation as well as adaptation / hazards mitigation measures.
        ix. ASFPM could require sub-committees to include climate mitigation elements within annual work program.

2. Natural
    a. Concerns:
        i. The carbon offset benefits are not being include when evaluating many green solutions including:
            1. Wetland protection
            2. River corridor buffers and expansion
            3. Watershed forest preservation
        ii. Concerns of the importance of blue carbon restoration is underrepresented d
    b. Opportunities
        i. Expand coastal and riverine wetlands
        ii. Promote riparian forests

iii. Give CRS points similar to open space points for carbon sequestering/reduced carbon generation measures. Points for ecosystem services that sequester carbon or reduce release
iv. Blue carbon concerns should be addressed within FEMA regulations and within the CRS

3. Built environment:
    a. Concerns
        i. Floodplain management B/C assessments to not factor in carbon
        ii. Different methods of construction have different carbon costs.
        iii. Importance of retrofitting vs new construction
        iv. Minimizing energy use during construction - Use of Green construction methods
    b. Opportunities
        i. Native riparian areas sequester more carbon than "developed"
        ii. Assign benefits of restoring natural areas
        iii. FEMA Public Assistance Program could incentivize carbon friendly green re-pair and replacement
        iv. Energy related EO (Bush Administration.
        v. Have B/C tools include benefits of carbon sequestering and cost of carbon generation.

Future Meetings.

It is important to note these discussion will recognize that sea level rise (SLR) is important and has become somewhat iconic, but for many it may represent the least of the problems associated with a changing climate. Future discussion are as follows

c. Climate Mitigation – Bob Freitag Niki Pace, Lori Cary-Kothera (held June 19, 2020)
d. Mapping / Scenario - Darryl Hatheway, Meg Galloway (topic for July 17th meeting)
e. Resilience – Jeanne Ruefer, Niki Pace, Lori
f. Hazards Mitigation – Mitch Pain
g. Floodplain Regulations – Bill Nechamen (added after the meeting)
h. NAI –Lori Cary-Kothera

Next steps:

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Next meeting 9am July 17th