

MOD Team Times

E-Newsletter for MOD Team Members

Inside This Issue

- ◆ **NFIP Biennial Report**
- ◆ **MIP Release 2.2**
- ◆ **CTP Training & CECs**
- ◆ **Message from Roz**

NFIP Biennial Report Mailed to Communities

On May 31, FEMA mailed the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP's) Biennial Report to the 20,000 communities that participate in the NFIP. The Biennial Report is sent to communities every two years to collect information on the status of each community's floodplain management program.

"The Report is a great tool to help FEMA assess the program and how it can improve," said Joan Flack, the MOD team's National Compliance and Map Adoption Manager who helped FEMA prepare the Biennial Report. "Given the aggressive goals of Flood Map Modernization, this information will be very important in helping

FEMA and the MOD team reach those goals."

To make it easier for communities to respond to the Biennial Report, community officials may complete and submit answers to the Report online at www.floodmaps.fema.gov/br2005. The MOD team also will have live operators available to answer questions toll free at [1-877-FEMA-114](tel:1-877-FEMA-114) (1-877-336-2114).

The data gathered from the Biennial Report shows nationwide trends that will be used to plan mapping activities, organize training opportunities, and plan technical assistance meetings and other activities with local officials.

Source: Dana Decker (703) 960-8800, ext. 5501

Activity	Use
Changes in Mapping Needs	Helps FEMA create an inventory of mapping needs and identify communities to be re-mapped or have additional flood hazards identified.
Floodplain Management	Helps FEMA determine if training or technical assistance is needed, develop national priorities, and evaluate national progress.

Cause for Celebration: MIP Release 2.2 Progresses to User Testing

On May 27, MIP Release 2.2 moved into user acceptance test (UAT) – ahead of the June 1 projection. That accomplishment followed months of defining and shaping what would go into this release, building and testing software, and finding and fixing defects by a dedicated and determined team of developers, testers, and subject matter experts.

To celebrate this significant milestone, MOD team management hosted a recognition celebration for the Mapping Information Platform team on June 1. "In the 11 years I have worked for Baker, I have visited or worked in every office, in both domestic and

international locations," said Bruce Higgins, representing Baker management, "this is the hardest working project team I have ever seen, and I congratulate you."

Laura Herron, representing IBM management, said that it was just about a year ago when she was in the Alexandria office celebrating the first MIP release. "Through collaboration, what were ideas in people's minds are now documented on paper and the code is written and we're well on our way to offer workflow functions to mapping partners. I really appreciate everyone's hard work," she said.



Please Submit Article Ideas to:

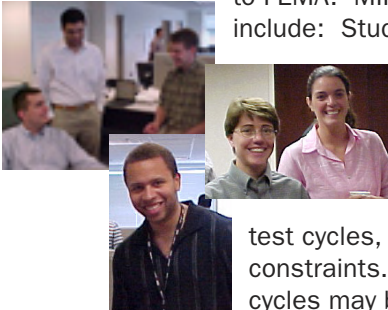
Ben Accurti
 (703) 960-8800 ext. 5304
benjamin.accurti@mapmodteam.com

Testing

Continued from page 1

What's Next?

UAT is being conducted by an independent Assessment Office before the MOD team can deliver MIP Release 2.2 to FEMA. MIP functions being tested include: Studies Workflow, Amendments, Revisions, Reports, MT-EZ, the Dashboard, and other functions.



The Assessment Office anticipates conducting two test cycles, based on schedule constraints. However, additional test cycles may be conducted if required. Discrepancies identified during each test

cycle will be reported to the Development and System Test teams on a daily basis. After completion of the first test cycle, the Development and System Team will resolve the discrepancies and the Acceptance Test team will begin test cycle 2. Once all discrepancies are resolved, the Assessment Office will verify that MIP Release 2.2 is ready to be delivered.

The Acceptance Test team is planning to conduct two 10-day test cycles for MIP Release 2.2 by June 24. They will then compile test results and submit a Test Results Report to the Program Management Office on June 28, for delivery to FEMA by June 30.

Source: Kris McLaughlin (703) 960-8800, ext. 5316

CECs Awarded for CTP Training

In Year 1, the MOD team developed and implemented three new training courses to provide Cooperating Technical Partners (CTPs) with the training they need to be successful mapping partners. These courses include an introductory course titled “Cooperating Technical Partners Overview,” an intermediate course titled “Cooperating Technical Partners Floodplain Mapping Overview,” and an advanced technical Geographic Information System course titled “Advanced Cooperating Technical Partners Course.”

Recently, the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) reviewed these courses and awarded 12 core Continuing Education Credits (CECs) for each course. This is great news because it means that a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) will earn the maximum CECs that ASFPM awards in any given year. (A total of 16 CECs must be earned over a 2-year period to maintain certification.)

The CFM certification has become more popular over the years and is now sought by many floodplain professionals,

including CTPs. Maintaining this certification has been difficult for some because many courses and conferences that are worth CECs are cost prohibitive. Therefore, these courses provide valuable floodplain mapping information and satisfy the CEC requirements for CFMs.

The MOD team’s CTP Development Group in Alexandria, VA, has provided each FEMA Region and Regional Management Center with CDs containing the “Cooperating Technical Partners Overview,” and the “Cooperating Technical Partners Floodplain Mapping Overview,” courses. These trainings are also available at [SharePoint>Training>Partner Technical Training](#). If current or potential CTPs in your Region ask you for training, we encourage you to use these training resources in coordination with the FEMA Regional Office. The CTP Development Group will be happy to provide assistance with these trainings as much as possible.

Source: Necolle Maccherone (410) 424-2210

A Message from Roz

Good Afternoon,

Last week, we received direction from Mike Howard, Chief, Risk Identification Branch, regarding how we reference three commonly used terms:

Flood Map Modernization: Reference the project as Flood Map Modernization. It also is acceptable to refer to the project as Flood Map Modernization (Map Mod) and use Map Mod each subsequent time. Please note that Flood Map Modernization is not a program or an initiative—simply refer to it as Flood Map Modernization. For example, instead of saying, “A goal of the Flood Map Modernization program is to update the Nation’s flood hazard maps,” use, “A goal of Flood Map Modernization is to update the Nation’s flood hazard maps.”

MIP: The name of the MIP has officially changed from Multihazard Information Platform to Mapping Information Platform.

Multi-hazard: Do not use multi-hazard.

To keep our messaging consistent, please note these three changes and use Mike’s direction in all documents, reports, and presentations (such as the upcoming Association of State Floodplain Managers presentations).

Thank you,

Roz Trojan

Program Executive