ASFPM 2009 Legislative Priorities List (4-25-09)
List for ASFPM Web Site

Overarching National Issues Impacting Flood Risk Management
1. Re-establish FEMA as an Independent Agency no longer part of DHS---Hearing 5-14-09
2. Closely follow and provide input to Climate change bills in the 11th Congress to ensure flood hazard considerations and adaptations are incorporated--promote needed research on impacts

Economic Stimulus Package
1. Educate Members of Congress on the public safety and cost saving aspects of including hazard mitigation in conjunction with any stimulus investment in infrastructure
2. Promote sustainable infrastructure and the lower O & M costs associated with green infrastructure and non-structural mitigation, while creating same number of jobs
3. Assist Federal agencies with Stimulus funding to effectively administer/leverage funds
4. Host workshop for all federal agencies with stimulus funds that impact water and floods

Legislative positions in 2009
1. Support NIFP Reform 2009 bill that promotes effective, sustainable NFIP, with strong provisions/improvements on mapping, insurance and mitigation to ensure a solvent NFIP.
2. Promote effective flood policy issues in any WRDA bill in 2009 and in broad national policies, such as the Principles and Guidelines
3. Work with the Administration and Congress on legislation to establish a national levee program that ties land use to federal funding, and provides incentives for state delegation
4. Support legislative initiatives that promote building state capability for flood risk mgt and that provide a sliding cost share for state and local programs that go beyond national minimums
5. Support laws and policies that require actuarial flood insurance in residual risk areas
6. Stafford Act revisions---support provisions that promote effective mitigation both pre and post disaster, in a shared responsibility with all levels of gov’t and property owners
7. Promote legislation and policies that require mitigation in reconstruction post disaster, and that allows mutual aid for post-disaster damage determinations and permitting
8. Promote effective laws to map and manage coastal hazards, with strong state involvement
9. Promote establishment of entity to foster federal water program and policy integration
10. Urge Congress to clarify jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act
Appropriations/ Budgets  (written prior to release of FY ’10 President’s budget request)
1. Review and comment (testify if asked) on all appropriate FY ’10 federal budget requests associated with flood risk management; (FEMA, Corps, Interior – USGS, RTCA, USFWS, EPA, NRCS (EQIP, CRP, WRP, Watersheds), Commerce (NOAA, NWS), DOT,
2. Support federal programs that provide base data to all governments and the private sector for managing flood risk, such as mapping, streamgages, forecasts for floods and storms, etc.
3. Support mitigation funding to meet voluntary demand---and oppose earmarking funds

Flood Risk Management, including Managing Catastrophic Losses
1. Continue strong participation in the Intergovernmental Flood Risk Management Committee (IFRMC), with ASFPM, NAFSMA, USACE, FEMA to help integrate national flood policy.
3. Educate decision makers, media and public on the need for public policy that supports the basic concepts of “those who live at risk should pay for the cost of living at risk” and not externalize that cost to others, especially the federal taxpayers.
4. Work to support a national levee inventory and urge rapid progress thereof.
5. Support mandatory flood insurance in residual risk areas behind levees
6. Seek and pursue opportunities to include hazard mitigation considerations in other federal programs – such as Transportation, Agriculture and HUD.
7. Provide input to the revisions of major national policy issues impacting communities and states, including:
   a. Federal executive order #11988,
   b. Principles and Guidelines for federal water resource projects,
   c. Stafford Disaster Act provisions that support mitigation and post disaster mutual aid,
   d. Clean Water Act Jurisdiction,
   e. National Levee Safety Program
   f. Sliding cost share to foster incentives for locals and states who go beyond minimums
   g. Considerations for any form of federal natural catastrophe fund.
   h. Reauthorization of the Coastal Zone Management Act
   i. Creating a federal coordinating mechanism for national water policy, including flood.