In 2008/2009 the PDC launched a consolidated effort to address ethics in floodplain management. The PDC subcommittee drafted a Ethics in Floodplain Management Training Workshop and two technical sessions during the ASFPM Orlando Conference include presentations regarding ethics in floodplain management. The PDC has recommended introduction of a mandatory floodplain management ethics training for all CFMs where a minimum of 1 hour of ethics training (1 CEC) every two years. This has not become a requirement for CFM certification renewal but the issue is being discussed by CBOR.

The PDC is now part of the ASFPM Training, Outreach and Education POD that includes:

- ASFPM International Committee
- ASFPM Training and Outreach Committee
- ASFPM Professional Development Committee

The POD facilitator, Dale Lehman, conducts periodic conference calls, assists the various committee efforts to prepare and execute annual Work Plans, and conducts a POD Meeting as part of the ASFPM annual conference.

The PDC prepared the 2008/2009 Work Plan that contained two (2) on-going work items and three (3) work tasks for 2009:

**Background:** A major task for the Professional Development Committee (PDC) since the 1999 ASFPM Conference in Portland, Oregon has been support for the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Program. In 2008, the PDC created the PDC CFM Exam Subcommittee and assigned the responsibility to manage the CFM Exam, assist the ASFPM Executive Office to administer the CFM Program and submit annual reports to the PDC and the Certified Board of Regents (CBOR).

**Progress on the Professional Development Committee 2008-2009 Goals and Objectives and 2008-2009 Work Plan:**

1. Attend CBOR Board meetings and retreats and participate in quarterly CBOR conference calls:

   John Ivey, PDC Exam Committee Chair, attended the following CBOR Board Meetings and retreats:
   - CBOR Retreat Fort Worth, Texas February 2008
   - CBOR Annual Meeting Reno, NV May 2008
   - CBOR meeting with Accredited State Chapters, Reno, NV May 2008
   - ASFPM Board Retreat Madison, WI August 2008
   - CBOR Retreat Fort Worth, TX October 2008
   - CBOR Board Retreat, New Orleans, LA March 2009
2. Promote Professionalism and Ethics in the Floodplain Management Profession

John Ivey, working with Bill Tingle and other PDC committee members is preparing a Floodplain Management Ethics Workshop that will be available for ASFPM Chapters for floodplain management training. The purpose of the Ethics Workshop is to promote professionalism in Certified Floodplain Managers and the floodplain management profession.

Technical Session A-3 at the ASFPM Orlando Conference will be “Ethics in Floodplain Management.

The PDC is considering incorporating a CEC requirement for ethics in floodplain management.

3. Assist the ASFPM Training Committee, the ASFPM Executive Office, EMI and others in developing basic and advanced educational and training opportunities for Floodplain Managers and support online FPM training courses such as Disaster Response and Recovery, Coastal Construction, Reasonably Safe from Flooding, Elevation Certificates, NAI, MOM, Section 404 Wetland Permits, Endangered Species Act (ESA), Substantial Damage, LOMC, HMGP, FMA, and ICC.

In 2008-2009, the PDC participated in development of ASFPM’s FPM 101 and ASFPM CFM Refresher workshops.

The CBOR Training Committee, working with Tom Hirt, EMI’s Representative on CBOR, Warren Campbell, Civil Engineering Professor at Western Kentucky University and CBOR academia representative, and Bob Freitag, ASFPM Region 10 Director and Professor at the University of Washington, have worked together to establish the Floodplain Management Body of Knowledge. The PDC provides input regarding advanced training needs for floodplain managers, however there is an urgent need to develop additional educational and training opportunities in a multitude of floodplain management specialties. This is a long term work item that must be coordinated with the ASFPM Training Committee, CBOR and the ASFPM Executive Office.

4. Evaluate and find common ground to promote continuing education opportunities for parallel certification programs such as engineers, surveyors, planners, emergency managers, architects, landscape architects, hydrologists, wetland and storm water professionals, and others.

The PDC conducts an annual certification survey to compare the CFM Program to other certifications to identify areas where the CFM Program can be improved and to identify common interests between various professions and certifications. One common goal is continued education. ASFPM identified “core” and “parallel” training that is eligible for CECs for CFMs. This also establishes common ground between CFMs and engineers, planners, surveyors, hydrologists, wetland scientists, architects and other professions. This is an exciting venue for the PDC.

The PDC Certification Survey was completed November 26, 2008 and submitted to the ASFPM Board and CBOR.

5. Assist ASFPM State and Regional Chapters with the development and maintenance of State Chapter CFM Programs and state specific exams.

Following the CBOR meeting with six accredited State Chapters in May 2008, the PDC CFM Exam Subcommittee prepared national CFM Exam Packets and submitted them to the accredited state chapters for review. The Subcommittee assisted the AR, NM and TX transition from State Specific CFM Exams to the National ASFPM CFM Exam.


The 2008 CFM Exam Review by the CFM Exam Review Committee was initiated during the PDC committee meeting held during the 2008 ASFPM Conference in Reno, NV (May 2008).
7. Complete the annual update of the CFM Exam Pool and incorporate new questions submitted by State Chapters, the ASFPM Membership and members of the CFM Exam Review Committee.

The 2008 CFM Exam Review was completed in March 2008 and minor editorial changes made through the end of 2008.

The 2009 CFM Exam Review will be initiated at the ASFPM Conference in Orlando.

8. Maintain the CFM Exam Pool and verify cross-references to FEMA 480, "Floodplain Management Requirements, A Study Guide and Desk Reference for Local Officials”.

Cross reference to FEMA 480 has now been incorporated into the annual CFM Review.

9. Assist the ASFPM Training Committee, the ASFPM Executive Office, EMI and others in developing educational and training opportunities for Floodplain Managers and support Red Vector on line FPM training courses.

The CBOR developed the CFM Exam Prep Workshop that was offered at the 2008 ASFPM Conference in Reno. The PDC assisted in updating the CFM Exam Prep Workshop.

10. Identify advance FPM training topics, identify experts for each advance topic and support EMI’s efforts to create advanced training opportunities for the FPM community.

This is a primary goal of the CBOR Training Committee and Tom Hirt, EMI’s Representative on CBOR. The PDC provides input regarding advanced training needs for floodplain managers.

11. Provide input to the CBOR Strategic Plan including long range plans to promote professionalism for CFMs and the FPM community.

This is a long range and on-going task that is shared by all representatives of CBOR including the PDC representative. The 5-year CBOR Strategic Plan was updated during the March 2009 CBOR retreat in New Orleans.

12. Evaluate and find common ground to promote continuing education opportunities for parallel certification programs such as floodplain managers, engineers, surveyors, planners, emergency managers, architects, landscape architects, hydrologists, wetland and storm water professionals and others.

The PDC has expanded the annual Certification Survey to include 23 different certification programs including CFM. This survey is shared with the ASFPM Board and other ASFPM Committees to help evaluate the national CFM program. The latest Certification Survey is dated November 2008.

13. Identify training opportunities to suggest to State Chapters, such as Disaster Response and Recovery, Reasonably Safe from Flooding, Elevation Certificates, NAI, MOM, Section 404 Wetland Permits, Endangered Species Act (ESA), Substantial Damage, LOMC, HMGP, FMA, and ICC.

This function has been assumed by ASFPM Training Committee. The PDC provides assistance upon request.

The PDC participated in the Texas Floodplain Management Association 2009 Freeboard Survey distributed to the TFMA membership in April 2009.

14. Create leadership roles within the PDC.

Bill Tingle, CFM, and Debbie Heiden, CFM are the 2009 PDC co-chairs. The PDC established the PDC CFM Review Subcommittee and appointed John Ivey as Chair. The Subcommittee consists of 17 members from Federal and State agencies, flood control districts, county and municipal employees, insurance industry representatives and private consultants.
15. Provide technical assistance to ASFPM and State Chapters related to CFM Programs.

Throughout the year, the PDC handles protests and appeals associated with the CFM Exam. The PDC also assists the six accredited State Chapters with CFM Exam reviews and updates. [See item #5 above]


The PDC maintains two important documents:
- CFM Program History
- National CFM Program Issues and Recommendations

Both documents were updated in 2009 and submitted to CBOR.

17. Perform assignments from CBOR and the ASFPM Executive Office.

Reliability and Validity Contract:
The PDC participated in proposal evaluations to select the contractor to conduct the Reliability and Validity evaluation of the ASFPM CFM Program and the CFM Exam.

On behalf of the PDC and the CFM Exam Review Committee we are happy to report that major progress was accomplished by the PDC on the 2008-2009 Work Plan and Goals and Objectives.

Bill Tingle
Bill Tingle, P.G., CFM
PDC Co-Chair

Debbie Heiden
Debbie Heiden, CFM
PDC Co-Chair

John Ivey
John P. Ivey, PE, CFM
PDC Exam Subcommittee Chair