

Association of State FloodPlain Managers

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Conference Call: FEMA-Washington and ASFPM

Subject: Map Modernization

Date: August 7, 2003

Participants: FEMA – Mike Howard, Mary Anne Lyle, Allyson Lichtenfels
ASFPM – Alan Lulloff, and Brian Hyde

I. Status of Procurement of National Mapping Contractor

Though there have been some delays, FEMA still hopes to award the contract in FY 03. Once the contract is awarded, the contractor is required to establish a geospatial framework within 90 days. This does not mean that all of the existing maps will be digitized within 90 days, nor that the nationwide map index will be completed. It does mean that a web based distribution system will be established within that 90 day timeframe. This system will be compliant with the Federal Geospatial One Stop initiative. Efforts are ongoing to develop guidelines for digital data quality.

II. FY03 Spending Plan

FEMA handed out printouts of a power point presentation at the Mapping Coalition meeting held in Washington DC on July 28, 2003. In this power point presentation, FEMA provided some estimates for approximately half of the \$150 million of the map mod funding. This information will be posted on the Mapping & Engineering Standards web page when finalized by FEMA. Another document provided at the Map Coalition meeting was titled: “FY 2003 Budget Decisions Overview”. This document summarized the analysis that was conducted to select projects for FY03. ASFPM has been receiving questions regarding this process and felt it would be useful for ASFPM members. FEMA indicated that they would include additional background information before it would be posted on the ASFPM web page.

III Development of “State Business Case”

FEMA-National has sent out draft documents review and comments to volunteers that attended the meeting in Atlanta. This draft was also provided to ASFPM. Comments are requested by August 15th so that the document can be finalized by the end of the August.

IV Miscellaneous

1. GAO has been requested by Congress to evaluate how FEMA plans to manage the program
2. ASFPM members have submitted questions regarding “Mapping Activities Statements”. Some states have been told that the “scoping” work effort cannot be reimbursed. While it is recognized that the effort needed to complete the CTP application cannot be reimbursed, the work effort to complete FEMA’s Appendix I is substantial. In some states, completing Appendix I has been the only item funded for some of their projects in FY 03. ASFPM suggested two options: a) that scoping be funded initially and that the CTP agreement then be revised to include detailed work to be completed for that project or b) that estimates be included along with scoping that would be refined when the Appendix I is completed. ASFPM suggested that FEMA use a process similar to one FEMA would use if they were working with contractors in a state that does not have the staff capability to participate.
3. FEMA Hdqrs is meeting with Regional staff at the end of August.
4. ASFPM wanted some information on how comments on the Guidelines & Specifications should be submitted. There is an item at the bottom of web page on which the Guidelines & Specifications are posted where people can submit comments.
5. The Coastal methodology evaluation project will get underway in October.
6. Some states have received indications from their respective FEMA regional office that FEMA will fund topographic data development. It is understood that this funding would be limited to the floodplain areas. FEMA is in the process of preparing written guidance on this issue.