ASFPM District 4 Chapter Director Annual Report

Annual Conference-Atlanta, Georgia

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ASFPM DISTRICT 4 CHAPTER DIRECTOR
ANNUAL REPORT

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District 4 encompasses FEMA Regions 7 and 8. The states included are: Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming and Utah.

State Chapters operating within District 4:
Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Montana and Utah.

Chapter Activities

Iowa – Iowa Floodplain and Stormwater Management Association

IFMSA’s activities are outlined below:

• Board members represented IFSMA in the Cedar River Watershed Committee, Watershed Planning Advisory Council, County Planning and Zoning Officials of Iowa, Iowa Flood Risk Management Workgroup, and Iowa Silver Jackets Flood Risk Management Team.

• 2nd annual IFSMA fall conference was held Oct. 9, 2014 and saw a 25 percent increase in attendance from the 2013 conference.

• IFSMA completed the final floodplain training modules; Iowa Floodplain Management Desk Reference, Iowa Flood Response Toolkit, Community Rating System guide, and the guide for Delegated Communities. The modules are available on the Iowa DNR website: http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryLand/FloodPlainManagement/NationalFloodInsProgram.aspx

• IFSMA received the Tom Lee Award for Excellence from the Association of State Floodplain Managers for the Flood Response Toolkit and the CRS Toolkit.

• Two IFSMA board members became Master River Stewards under the tutelage of the Iowa Rivers Revival group.

IFMSA’s next annual conference will be held in October 2015. Information related to IFSMA can be found on: www.iowafloods.org
Nebraska – Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association

In addition to its annual conference and annual membership meeting, association members assisted with the following events:

- April 24, 2014 – NeFSMA Spring Meeting; Lincoln, Nebraska
- July 16-17, 2014 – Joint Workshop with Nebraska Silver Jackets, NDOR Stormwater Workshop, and 6th Annual NeFSMA Conference; Kearney, NE
- Lincoln Green Infrastructure Tour – Sept. 25, 2014
- Nov. 20, 2014 – Membership Meeting; Ashland, NE

NeFSMA’s new committee structure (below) seems to be working well.

- Executive Committee – comprised of officers to facilitate day-to-day business decisions.
- Public Outreach Committee – responsible for developing materials and attending events that benefit the general public.
- Professional Development Committee – responsible for developing content and providing opportunities for their members to receive education.
- Publication Committee – responsible for maintaining their website and blog and composing their quarterly newsletter.
- Promotions Committee – responsible for creating opportunities to expand their membership and engage with other organizations with similar interests.

NeFSMA continues to maintain a blog to provide members with current information: [http://nefsma.com/wp-blog/](http://nefsma.com/wp-blog/)

Missouri – Missouri Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association

MfSMA’s 2015 annual conference was held April 8-10 at the Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach, MO. A sample of concurrent sessions are as follows:

- Detention Basin Retrofits and Stream Restoration
- Implementing CRS
- Variances to the Floodplain Development Requirements
- Riparian Protection as a Watershed Restoration
- New Approaches in Flood Forecasting and Warning
- How to Effectively Communicate Complicated Floodplain Issues to the Public
- Floodplain Regulations from a Banker’s Perspective
- Design Storms for Hydrologic Modeling
- Emergency Action Plan Guidebook, How to Create an Emergency Action Plan

M/SMA’s next annual conference will be held in April 2016. Information related to M/SMA can be found on its website: [www.mfsma.org](http://www.mfsma.org)

In addition to the annual conference, the members are particularly excited about the brand new website design: [http://www.mfsma.org/](http://www.mfsma.org/)

**Kansas – Kansas Association for Floodplain Management, Inc.**

KAFM continues to be very active and completed several activities within the state in 2014. Association membership has grown from 63 members in 2005 to 117 members in 2014. One of the highlights of the year was the 11th anniversary for KAFM. The 11th year conference was held in Wichita on Sept. 3-4, 2014. Several pertinent topics were presented to the conference attendees and included the following:

- CRS 101 & Record Keeping
- National Flood Insurance Program Vision
- Elevation Certificates (Two Parts)
- Nonstructural Floodproofing
- NWS: Predictive Modeling & Forecasting
- Floodplain Management – Legal Aspects
- BW-12 NFIP Reform Act
- Floodplain 101 (Three Sessions)
- DFIRM to/from Stormwater Business Plan
- CRS: Debris and Solid Waste in the Floodplain
- Stormwater Management (Two Parts)
- CRS: StormReady Community
- CRS: Building Code Effective Grading System
- Challenges of a Stormwater Engineer
- CRS: Missouri Kansas (MOKAN) Business Meeting

In addition to the annual conference, KAFM continues to support state NFIP coordinator’s office within the division of water resources, as well as the MOKAN CRS Users Group, which was established to help enhance CRS programs in communities within Kansas and Missouri.

It should be noted that the training opportunities and other efforts of the association have resulted in an increase of 92 Certified Floodplain Managers from 24 in 2005 to 116 in 2014.
Information related to KAFM can be found on the association website: www.kafm.org

**Colorado – Colorado Association of Stormwater and Floodplain Managers**

The Colorado chapter was the proud recipient of the 2014 ASFPM Outstanding Chapter award. The award was presented to Brian Varrella, as the chair, at the 2014 ASFPM annual conference in Seattle, WA. The chapter was recognized for showing great poise and action with their recent catastrophic flooding.

This was a great honor and kicked things well into high gear for 2014, which was already high with expectation. Why you may ask? CASFM celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2014 with the organization being created in 1989, which was also the year Taylor Swift was born (as their current Vice Chair Shea Thomas points out in one of her recent articles).

Although they are holding their 26th annual conference in Vail, CO in September 2015, they have already started planning for their 2016 conference. To plan for maximum benefit and attendance from their membership they have already sent out a survey and tallied results of preferred places. In descending order the membership chose: Breckenridge, Crested Butte, Estes Park, Beaver Creek, Steamboat Springs, and then Snowmass. They will begin reaching out to locations based on these results.

Huge thanks would like to be extended to the following members for long-term validity of CASFM:

- **Brian Murphy**, outgoing treasurer (CDM Smith): He moved CASFM accounts to QuickBooks and worked with our accountant to align the budget with the new system, and helped CASFM stay profitable two years in a row.

- **Kevin Gingery**, outgoing Membership Committee chair (City of Loveland): He maintained the database of CASFM members with Barb Meier, collected fees, and worked closely with our web master to keep our contact info update.

- **Barb Meier**: Will be missed for her behind-the-scenes labors for more than a decade.

- **Roberto Becerril**, outgoing SE region representative (City of Lamar):
He recently accepted a new position in Florida, but will be missed in southeast Colorado.

**Rick Dorris**, outgoing NW region representative (City of Grand Junction): He volunteered to fill a mid-season vacancy and still works alongside Betsy Suerth to help keep the NW Region engaged.

**Keith Curtis**, outgoing and incoming SE region representative (Pikes Peak RBD): Keith graciously volunteered to fill in for Roberto Becerril in his absence, and was voted in by the board as SE region representative again (also reached out to Lamar to help them following Roberto’s transition).

**Montana – Association of Montana Floodplain Managers**
AMFM held its 16th annual workshop: “Living in the Floodplain; if the flood doesn’t get you the insurance will” in Helena, MT March 16-19, 2015. Several great topics were discussed with attendees such as:

- Three separate sessions of four hours in length on CRS elements
- The CLOMR/LOMR Process
- Flood Modeling Following the Removal of a Dam
- If the Flood Doesn’t Get You… then Channel Migration or Ice Jams Might
- Getting Permits for Your Projects, From Several Different Agencies, All with Different Requirements
- Ecological Restoration
- De-Mystifying the Floodplain Mapping Process
- Montana StreamStats
- Talking Points for Speaking with Elected Officials and the Public about Floodplains
- HEC-RAS 5.0 with 2-D Hydrodynamic Flow Routing

The workshop was a roaring success and attendees left energized and with renewed vigor for the cause of proper floodplain management.

**Utah – Utah Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association**
Although one of the newer chapters within ASFPM, UFSMA does not lack energy for floodplain management. That might be because they actually created their organization in 1993, or they are just as crazy as the rest of us. I am going to give them the benefit of the doubt and go with the former. UFSMA held their annual conference in Bryce Canyon National Park, UT Sept. 3-5, 2014. The location was absolutely perfect for the conference and it was considered a success.
Conference presentations included:

- New technologies in floodplain management
- FEMA policies
- Stormwater management phase II regulations
- Wetland issues
- National Flood Insurance Program
- Floodplain and Stormwater Certification
- LOMR process
- Mitigation successes
- Stormwater management projects
- Keeping floodplains as open space
- Flood mitigation grants
- Stormwater audits