The primary mission of the Arid Regions Committee is to provide policy guidance and support of Arid Regions floodplain management issues to foster reduction of future losses, costs, and human suffering caused by flooding. Historically, this committee has influenced FEMA's Flood Mapping Program through education and outreach in the arid areas. This has been accomplished through forwarding local Arid Regions floodplain concerns to ASFPM for actions, disseminating ASFPM policies and questions to local floodplain decision makers for action, and sharing information between communities in the Arid Regions.

The Arid Regions Committee has the following standard work items that are ongoing in nature:

1. Conduct committee coordination and planning – The annual workplan was developed and approved by the Committee at a monthly conference call.

2. Attend Policy Committee Chair Meeting at National Conference and conduct annual committee meeting. – The co-chairs both attended the Policy Committee Chair Meeting and conducted the annual committee meeting at the National Conference.


The Arid Regions Committee completed four major work items in 2010/2011. These items are:

   a. Conference & Symposium held November 2 – 5, 2011. Over 400 participants attended. The Arid Regions Symposium section was well attended, with over 100 participants in some of the sessions.
   b. Planning has started for the next symposium, with an invitation to the Arid Regions Chapters to sponsor the event in 2013.

2. Develop a white paper promote mapping of riverine erosion flood hazard zones. (FEMA goal 1.3.5)
   a. A draft outline of this paper is in circulation amongst the committee members.

3. Finalize and have the board accept the white Paper on the Need for Updating Alluvial Fan Floodplain Delineations Guidelines.
   a. A Discussion Paper titled Need for Updating Alluvial Fan Floodplain Delineation Guidelines, was approved by the Executive Board and forwarded to FEMA in February 2011.

4. Continue to conduct monthly Committee Conference Calls with interested people.
   a. Conference calls are conducted monthly, the first Tuesday of the month. The conference calls allow the co-chairs to share information from the Board Calls and the Policy Committee Calls with our membership. Thanks to Becky and Jason for setting up the call and posting the agenda!