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 work plan was updated with active committee member input. The work plan will be refined and finalized at the annual meeting in San Antonio.

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 or made significant progress on four major work items in 2011/2012. These items are:

1. Successfully identify location for next Arid Regions Conference October, 2013 in Phoenix, AZ.
   a. Arid Regions Committee is partnering with AFMA to conduct this conference. Many thanks to AFMA. Excellent venue selected at Fort McDowell Conference Center/Casino.
   b. Planning has started for the conference, with an invitation to the Arid Regions Chapters to participate in the event. Mark Forest volunteered to lead the Arid Planning efforts.

2. An Arid Regions Issue Survey questionnaire has been developed and circulated to Arid Regions Chapters to get feedback and establish a clear direction on what the issues/concerns and needs are in the Arid Regions. The results should be very helpful in determining what the key Arid concerns are as well as their prioritization. Results from the survey should be available by the annual meeting.

3. A sub-committee of highly interested and well qualified participants has been formed to discuss concerns regarding Alluvial Fan Issues including how hazards are delineated and mapped in the Arid Regions. Monthly
calls have begun. The participants will first identify key concerns, then outline problem statements and stepwise how to approach these concerns and who will volunteer to assist in the work.

4. Continue to conduct monthly Committee Conference Calls with active committee members and new participants.

   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 ASFPM staff for setting up the call and posting the agenda.

   b. The committee has revisited the present Goals and Objectives and has streamlined them for this year and is providing welcome input for the upcoming Goals and Objectives for 2012/2013.