New Business: Two Proposals Submitted to FEMA

Today, the MOD team delivered the second of two proposals to FEMA for year two, which began on April 1. Program Executive Roz Trojan said, "I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all who worked together on the proposal efforts and to those team members who absorbed the workload and continued to deliver while some of us were dedicated to the proposals. While we are in the negotiations phase, we can only provide you with a top-level summary of both proposals, which were developed in collaboration with FEMA. But, I want you to know that one of our goals was to minimize the impact on staffing levels, despite the smaller program scope going forward."

1. MIP Extension
The first proposal is for work on the Multihazard Information Platform (MIP), which will support production, management, extraction, and sharing of digital flood maps (DFIRMs) for a distributed stakeholder community.

Because flood hazards are dynamic and change over time as a result of development and natural processes, the inventory of flood maps must be continually updated and maintained. This will provide communities, property owners, and lenders with up-to-date flood data so that they may make prudent site, design, and flood insurance purchase decisions, thereby reducing long-term flood disaster costs to the nation.

- 1999 Project Impact Report

2. Year Two
The second proposal is for work that is grouped into five business process areas:
- Planning, programming, and funding
- Map production and adoption
- Dissemination and use of mapping products and services
- Map amendments and revisions
- Program management and IT
This will be work that uses the MIP and other tools to help FEMA and its partners update and produce digital maps and support FEMA’s goals of saving lives and reducing losses caused by floods.

Source: Fernando Pasquel, 703-317-6219

Hundreds Have Completed SharePoint™ Training

In just one month since we rolled out the pilot learning management system (LMS) with SharePoint training modules, nearly 400 people have completed one or more of the modules. Training is available online, 24-7, for your convenience at: https://learning.hazards.fema.gov/elms/learner/login.jsp

Your user name for the LMS SharePoint training pilot will be your first name combined with your last name. For example: KristineMcLaughlin (no space between names and case sensitive). Your initial password for the SharePoint training pilot is STUDENT (all caps).

To review the web-based training after you have completed it, click on "Learning" in the top menu bar of the LMS application, and then select "Learning History." There you will see the completion date for each previous training you have taken. Select the drop down box in the "Action" column, and choose "Review Online Structure." Then you will be able to review the on-line content as often as you wish.

Source: LMS Administrator, LMS.Admin@mapmodteam.com
FEMA and MOD Team Leaders Tour Alexandria Library

FEMA representatives inspected the Alexandria library last week, with several members of the MOD team in attendance. The inspection included a presentation in the Alexandria office, followed by an inspection of the library facility.

The presentation included the following:
- Introduction of library staff managers
- Overview of library operations
- Data management—scan as you touch process
- Inventory Management System overview

During the library inspection, the group discussed how “scan as you touch” is being implemented for internal and external data requests. As part of the scan as you touch process, the library staff initiated the scanning of all new MT-1 and MT-2 case files as they are received by the library. The scanned PDF files are placed on the network, making them conveniently accessible to end users, thereby eliminating the need to request the hard copy.

Cooperating Technical Partners’ Overview Course Rolled Out Last Week

Since the inception of the Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) Program, FEMA has offered training for CTP participants. In response to feedback received from previous CTP training courses, FEMA revised the courses available to CTPs in order to provide up-to-date training at the locations where it is needed most.

The roll-out of the introductory course, the CTP Overview Course, was held March 29-30 in Princeton, NJ, and was met with great success. This course was developed by the CTP Development Group for use by the FEMA Regions and RMCs and is intended for new and potential CTPs. The two-day course involves lectures and activities covering the following topics:
- Map Modernization (Map Mod)
- Mapping Process Overview
- CTP Program
- Community Rating System Program
- CTP Support
- Standards and Guidelines
- Managing Cooperative Agreements

FEMA Region II, Regional Management Centers (RMCs) 2, 3, and 8, and the CTP Development Group hosted the introductory training course, which included a total of 17 participants and facilitators. Not only did the course provide useful information to the new and potential CTPs in attendance, it gave those involved an opportunity to work together as a successful team. In addition to learning from presentation materials, participants interacted with State and county reps and learned from them. The MOD team RMCs worked as a cohesive unit to represent Map Mod and develop partnering opportunities alongside FEMA.

“I think it was beneficial for all involved,” a FEMA attendee later commented regarding the second day of the course. “The day concluded with some vigorous debate about the NFIP, best practices for using maps, and the motivation of why we all do this work.” As an added benefit of this training session, FEMA Region II identified a potential countywide dataset that could be used in a future mapping project instead of spending time and money developing the data.

The FEMA Regions and the RMCs will receive a copy of the introductory training for use in their respective regions. For specific information about the training modules and updates to the training calendar on FEMA’s website, please contact Necolle Maccherone at necolle.maccherone@mapmodteam.com.

Source: Necolle Maccherone, 410-424-2210
MIP Content in QuickPlace Moves to SharePoint This Weekend

This weekend, the final QuickPlace migration will occur to move information from the MIP QuickPlace site into the Map Mod SharePoint environment. The SharePoint team has done an initial migration and review with MIP team representatives. Based on this review a few changes and a final push of documents will occur this weekend. As of Monday, April 11, the MIP QuickPlace will become read-only and SharePoint will serve as the document repository for MIP development related documents. Thank you to the team who worked to make this migration possible.

Source: SharePoint@mapmodteam.com

News Clips Now in SharePoint

Through a news clips service used by Michael Baker Corporation, MOD team members can now see daily clips in SharePoint > News and Reference Materials. Examples phrases used to find daily news clips include:
- Department of Homeland Security
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Map Modernization
- Association of State Floodplain Managers
- Geo One-Stop
- National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies
- National Flood Insurance Program
- National States Geographic Information Council

Source: Chris Campbell, 703-960-8800, ext. 3044

Review Proposed Changes in SharePoint Content Organization

Now that non-MIP content has been in SharePoint for more than a month, our Office Tools Working Group is planning to move some content. The plan is to provide up-front information about changes before they occur. Please review the proposed change (right column) and send your comments to SharePoint@mapmodteam.com.

The MOD team Regional Management Centers (RMCs) site and FEMA Regions site may be combined. This will centralize RMC and Region information to make it easier for collaboration and exchange of information. This should also improve and enhance the workflow shared by RMC and Region employees.

Source: SharePoint@mapmodteam.com

Clip & Save: E-Mail Addresses to Improve Online Capability

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