ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS  
FY-16 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES  
Adopted – May 31, 2015

1.0 IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS CRITICAL ISSUES FACING FLOOD LOSS REDUCTION IN THE NATION

1.1 Promote the shared responsibility of flood risk management between the Federal/State/Regional/Local governments, Tribes, the private sector, and citizens.
   1.1.1 Promote policies that remove incentives for increasing flood risks by establishing new policy incentive mechanisms such as sliding cost shares that reward good state and local programs.
   1.1.2 Support and work to empower and strengthen state and local floodplain management programs to improve support for local entities through disaster coordination, recovery, enforcement, funding, training, mentoring, and increased regulatory authority to build state capability in floodplain management (FPM). Work with Chapters, Regional Organizations and local entities to provide input to State legislators.
   1.1.3 Assist activities such as the Federal Interagency Floodplain Management Task Force (FIFM-TF), the Mitigation Framework Leadership Group (Mit-FLG), and implementation of the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) to better integrate policies and programs for improved floodplain management. Encourage FIFM-TF and MitFLG to accept input from state, tribal and local (non-federal) partners.
   1.1.4 Promote the designation of clearly defined roles and responsibilities at the federal, state and local levels (to include individual and property owner roles and responsibilities) for pre-disaster, during-disaster and post disaster preparedness, mitigation and recovery.
   1.1.5 Promote removal of FEMA from DHS umbrella and advocate for restoration of the FEMA Director as a Cabinet position. (Move to 2.1)
   1.1.6 Provide input and support for greater consequences/enforcement for community noncompliance in NFIP including CRS retrograde, probation, and suspension.
   1.1.7 Promote incorporation of mitigation and resiliency activities in the Public Assistance (PA) program to eliminate rebuilding as-is and decrease dependency and long-term use of PA.
   1.1.8 Promote programs and policies that incentivize individual mitigation actions and make mitigation more affordable.

1.2 Develop strategies to promote support for the ongoing identification, updating and maintenance of flood hazard and flood risk data, for the purpose of improved hazard mitigation, development standards and flood insurance.
   1.2.1 Facilitate outreach to Congress about basic concepts of floodplain and flood risk management, including use of “Flood Mapping for the Nation” (with Technical Mapping Advisory Council, TMAC, updates) to promote funding for the National Flood Mapping Program and improved understanding of the role that Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), including future conditions mapping, can play in communicating flood risk and integration with flood insurance.
   1.2.2 Promote the acceptance of flood mapping products and updates by developing tools and processes for improved communication about flood risks, mapping
and insurance (especially in coastal areas, areas behind levees, and other residual risk areas). Emphasize local involvement in map development and outreach to owners of property with flood risk and integration with flood insurance.

1.2.3 Participate in the Technical Mapping Advisory Council (TMAC) and provide input to FEMA regarding National Flood Mapping Program metrics, implementation, policies and products, including the needs of small communities, rural areas, and catastrophically or repetitively flooded areas.

1.2.4 Promote an independent National Levee Safety Program as part of a national flood risk management strategy focused on states. Promote non-structural alternatives to levees. Support the completion of a national levee inventory, as required by the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014.

1.2.5 Build and support state and local capacity through Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) program and expand CTP funding to effectively manage programs, in partnership with FEMA, and support flood mapping and risk reduction goals, including locally led production and maintenance of adequately funded National Flood Mapping Program, to support “Risk Reduction and Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) products.

1.2.6 Support increased funding for stream gage maintenance and new stream/rain gage placement for modeling and flood study calibration.

1.2.7 Support mapping of erosion and other flood related hazards.

1.3 Promote strategies that provide research, policies, and actions to incorporate adaptations to account for climate change, and its variability and uncertainty.

1.3.1 Promote strategies that provide information on climate change impacts at the local and regional level, and specifically, impacts to coastal and riverine flood maps, management and mitigation.

1.3.2 Promote integration of adaptation to climate change into federal, state, regional, tribal and local plans and policies such as Comprehensive Plans, Capital Improvement Plans, CRS, land use ordinances, technical standards, guidelines, and mitigation, including state and local Hazard Mitigation Plans and projects.

1.3.3 Establish partnerships with other organizations to promote commonly aligned climate change and resilience strategies and outcomes.

1.3.4 Promote policy and funding for mapping implementation that incorporates future conditions and climate change in order to accurately reflect current and future flood risk.

1.3.5 Support implementation of Executive Order 13690 and the new Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS). Promote higher standards and setbacks for all projects (federal and non-federal) to accommodate climate and future land development changes.

2.0 REFINE EXISTING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO IMPROVE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT IN THE NATION

2.1 Promote evaluation and reforms of federal programs and policies.

2.1.1 Engage in discussions related to 2017 National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) reform legislation, including alternative insurance mechanisms.
2.1.2 Provide input on the guidance and implementation of Federal Executive Order 13690 by federal agencies.
2.1.3 Promote reform of the Stafford Act programs in alignment with recommendations in the 2015 National Flood Programs and Policies in Review.
2.1.4 Support timely funding and implementation of federal hazard mitigation programs for non-structural flood risk reduction.
2.1.5 Participate directly and with willing partners/coalitions with respect to legislation that promotes ongoing flood reduction and holistic floodplain management.
2.1.6 Provide input on implementation of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) and the Principles, Requirements, and Guidelines (PR&G).
2.1.7 Promote research and applications that acknowledge and support ecosystem service benefits provided by floods and floodplains.
2.1.8 Update the “Flood Mapping for the Nation” report.

2.2 Promote improved national policy through coordination with partners on papers, publications, webinars, and discussions with Congressional, Administration and other decision makers.
2.2.1 Provide technical input, review, testimony and comments on draft legislation, budgets and policy affecting floodplain and flood risk management and mitigation at the local, state and federal levels, and urge Chapters to provide direct support.
2.2.2 Increase coordination with academia through promotion and strengthening of the new Higher Education Policy Committee.
2.2.3 Continue to participate in and/or coordinate with intergovernmental policy groups (i.e. FIFM-TF and MitFLG) and partner organizations, supporting key policies and programs.
2.2.4 Participate in, support, and lead coalitions and alliances. Focus efforts in leading the Natural Floodplain Functions Alliance (NFFA), the Digital Coast Partners, the Mapping Coalition & the Stafford Coalition and Flood Insurance Producers National Council (FIPNC).
2.2.5 Offer training and resources to Chapters on how to approach national policy issues and communicate with their membership.
2.2.6 Promote interaction with FEMA on updating and field delivery of L273 (Managing Floodplain Development through the National Flood Insurance Program) and other training.
2.2.7 Utilize the updated 2015 “National Flood Programs and Policies in Review” to work toward developing a unified national (not federal) vision, policies and supporting organizational framework for flood risk management.
2.2.8 Promote enhanced land use and development practices to further reduce flood damages.
2.2.9 Promote development of a nationwide flood public education strategy.

2.3 Expand the application of the No Adverse Impact (NAI) principles to watershed and community growth management approaches along with enhanced NAI training.
2.3.1 In partnership with the ASFPM Foundation, complete the series of NAI “How to Guides” and develop web resources and training on NAI approaches for administration and implementation by local officials.
2.3.2 Provide and support training for local officials in policy and legal aspects of development in flood risk areas.

2.3.3 Support efforts to identify and incorporate the benefits of mitigation, open space, natural and beneficial functions of floodplains and ecosystem services.

2.3.4 Promote implementation of Green Infrastructure (GI) and Low Impact Development (LID) in stormwater practices to reduce flood losses.

2.3.5 Promote the preservation and restoration of natural riparian corridors and implementation of natural stream restoration techniques.

2.4 Ensure that the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Certification Program maintains the highest degree of professional standards, practice and training for floodplain managers.

2.4.1 Enhance floodplain management (FPM) training for CFMs and decision makers through development and deployment of workshops and web-based training, including train-the-trainer components.

2.4.2 Promote relationships and agreements with FEMA/EMI to create Floodplain Management Core Competencies based on Reliability and Validity data.

2.4.3 Investigate options toward electronic exam administering and the latest technologies available while considering the security of the exam and the technology of both the national office and the accredited chapters.

2.4.4 Investigate expanding the CFM program through the addition of specialty certifications.

2.4.5 Complete the update of the CFM Policies and Procedures.

2.4.6 Promote the requirement of mandatory training and CFM’s for state and local officials, or any governmental unit, agency or department where land development decisions are made in conjunction with property in or near at-risk-for-flood areas.

2.4.7 Promote form changes to include CFM signoff on all MT forms for map changes.

2.4.8 Promote growth of the CFM program by tracking CFMs nationwide and targeting under-represented areas.

2.4.9 Promote the requirement of CECs for professional ethics and legal aspects.

2.5 Promote increased state and local capacity to decrease flood risk

2.5.1 Promote increased funding and timeliness of the Community Assistance Program – State support Services Element (CAP-SSSE).

2.5.2 Promote increased state and local capacity, including dedicated funding, to decrease flood risk and ensure long term continuity of mitigation programs and other enhanced floodplain management programs.

2.5.3 Publicize self-sustaining local mitigation programs with case studies or other examples.

2.5.4 Provide locals with Mitigation Tools to decrease flood risk.

2.5.5 Promote standardized guidelines for community compliance including post disaster approaches.

2.5.6 Promote state capability to administer robust mitigation programs and foster delegation of such programs to states.

2.5.7 Promote floodplain management as a career, including certification and higher education.
3.0 INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY OF THE ASFPM OPERATIONS, MANAGEMENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

3.1 Identify ways the Executive Office operations can better serve ASFPM members and leadership.
   3.1.1 Consider past, current, and future recommendations of the ASFPM Long-term Financial Work Group when planning for future expenses and revenue sources.
   3.1.2 Continue to implement a leadership development strategy for ASFPM members, leadership and Chapters.
   3.1.3 Continue networking with and support for State Floodplain Managers, CTP’s and State Hazard Mitigation Officers (SHMOs).
   3.1.4 Update the ASFPM website comprehensively.
   3.1.5 Strengthen Chapter networking and the sharing of resources with and between chapters.
   3.1.6 Develop a strategy to formalize and promote arrangements with other organizations and practitioners.
   3.1.7 Develop a financial reserve policy.
   3.1.8 Increase the focus on Western states in both ASFPM leadership and issues.
   3.1.9 Maintain training, leadership development and protocols for Board members.
   3.1.10 Establish a mentoring program for leadership.
   3.1.11 Promote ASFPM leadership taking an active role on national policy issues.

3.2 Support the ASFPM Foundation Goals and programs (see ASFPM Foundation goals and objectives).
   3.2.1 Promote and Support the Foundation Symposia working group.

Legend:
Leadership = Officers, EO and POD Facilitators
Mit. = Mitigation POD (Flood Ins., Floodproofing/Retrofitting, Flood Mitigation, Floodplain Regulations)
Tech. = Technical POD (Arid Regions, Coastal Issues, Mapping & Engineering Standards)
Watershed = Watershed POD (Natural & Beneficial Functions, NAI Steering, Stormwater Mgmt.)
Outreach = Training/Education/Outreach POD (International, Prof. Development, Training & Outreach, Higher Ed.)
CBOR = Certification Board of Regents
EO = Executive Office
All = All of the above plus outreach to State Chapters
FIFM-TF = Federal Interagency Floodplain Management Task Force
Definitions:

**CAP-SSSE (Community Assistance Program State Support Services Element):** National Flood Insurance Program funds, provided through a State grant mechanism, to ensure that communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) are achieving the flood loss reduction goals of the NFIP. The funds that are to be used by States to provide technical assistance to NFIP communities, to evaluate community implementation/performance of NFIP floodplain management activities, and to build State and community floodplain management expertise and capacity. The CAP-SSSE program supports the Mitigation Mission Area Capabilities and Targets described in the National Preparedness Goal (NPG) under “Planning” and “Risk and Disaster Resilience Assessment”.

**Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA):** Established in 1972, the CZMA was aimed at encouraging coastal states to develop and implement coastal zone management plans (CZMPs) in order to preserve, protect, promote wise development, and where possible, restore, or enhance, the resources of the Nation's coastal zone for this and succeeding generations.

**Cooperating Technical Partners:** The CTP Program is an innovative approach to creating partnerships between the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and participating NFIP communities, regional agencies, State agencies, tribes, and universities that have the interest and capability to become more active participants in the FEMA flood hazard mapping program and who will be partners with FEMA in developing, maintaining and getting communities to adopt up-to-date flood hazard maps and other flood hazard data and information as part of the Program.

**Digital Coast Partners / Digital Coast Partnership:** A diverse coastal-centric stakeholders group developed around NOAA’s Digital Coast product to provide assurances that all NOAA coastal-focused products and services are being utilized to address coastal issues such as resilience, planning and habitat conservation.

**Emergency Management Institute (EMI):** The Federal Emergency Management Agency’s flagship institution developed to support the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA's goals by improving the competencies of the U.S. officials in Emergency Management at all levels of government to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the potential effects of all types of disasters and emergencies on the American people.

**Federal Executive Order 113690:** Executive Order 113690 was signed by President Carter in 1977. It directs the federal agencies to avoid or minimize the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct or indirect federal support of floodplain development where there is any practicable alternative. It establishes a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) that establishes a vertical and horizontal floodplain through three different approaches: the freeboard approach, the 500-year approach and the climate-informed science approach. The FFRMS also encourages the use of natural systems, ecosystem processes, and nature based approaches in the development of alternatives for Federal Actions. The purpose of the Order is to avoid, to the extent possible, the long and short term adverse impacts associated with federal taxpayer support of such occupancy or development of our nation’s floodplains.

**Federal Interagency Floodplain Management Task Force (FIFM-TF):** The Federal Interagency Floodplain Management (FIFM) Task Force was established by Congress in 1975 and operated as part of the Water Resources Council. When the Water Resources Council was de-funded in the early 1980’s, the Task Force functions and one position were transferred to FEMA. The purpose of the Task Force is to bring together all appropriate agencies of the federal government (about 27 agencies) to carry out the responsibility of the President to prepare for the Congress proposals necessary for a Unified National Program for Floodplain Management.

**Mitigation Framework Leadership Group (MitFLG):** Established by the Obama White House in support of and consistent with the National Preparedness Goals (NPG), the Presidential Policy Directive-8 (PPD-8), the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (PKEMRA). The establishment of MitFLG is also consistent with the establishment of the National Preparedness System (NPS), Presidential Policy Directive-1 (PPD-1), and Title VII of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Act. The MitFLG is a senior level group serving as a national coordinating structure focused on integrating Federal efforts to deliver Mitigation core capabilities identified in the National Mitigation Framework (NMF). The MitFLG will work to create a national culture shift that embeds risk management and mitigation in all planning, decision making, and development to the extent practicable. Through the active engagement of intergovernmental leadership, the MitFLG will work to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Federal interagency operations regarding how the Nation manages risk through Mitigation core capabilities. MitFLG is also responsible for assessing the effectiveness of Mitigation core capabilities as they are developed and deployed across the Nation. To that end, the MitFLG facilitates information exchange, coordinates policy implementation recommendations on national-level issues and oversees the successful implementation of the NMF. MitFLG also coordinates with FEMA’s National Preparedness Directorate to inform the annual National Preparedness Report on the progress being made toward developing and maintaining the performance objectives required to provide the core capabilities for mitigation identified in the Goal.

**National Flood Mapping Program:** Created as part of the Biggert-Waters legislation in 2012, this program shall identify, review, update, maintain and publish National Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for all areas, and areas of possible population growth, within the 100-year floodplain and within the 500 year floodplain; in areas of residual risk, to include areas protected by levees, dams, and other flood control structures; areas that could be inundated as a result of the failure of a levee, dam or other flood control structure; with respect to the level of protection provided by flood control structures; and shall establish or update flood-risk data in all such areas, and make estimates with respect to the rates of probable flood-caused loss for the various flood risk zones for each such area; and use, in identifying, reviewing, updating, maintaining or publishing any National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) the most accurate topography and elevation data available.
Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8): Presidential Policy Directive 8: National Preparedness (PPD-8) was signed and released by President Barack Obama on March 30, 2011. PPD-8 and its component policies intend to guide how the nation, from the federal level to private citizens, can “prevent, protect against, mitigate the effects of, respond to, and recover from those threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the Nation.” These threats include natural disasters, terrorist acts, and other man-made incidents.

Principles, Requirements and Guidelines (PR&G): The Principles, Requirements and Guidelines for Water and Land Related Resources Implementation Studies (PR&G) govern how Federal agencies evaluate proposed water resource development projects. Since 1983, the PR&G have provided direction to Federal agencies when evaluating and selecting major water projects, including projects related to navigation, storm resilience, wetland restoration, and flood prevention. In December 2013, the Administration released updated PR&G that included a final set of Principles & Requirements that lays out broad principles to guide water investments, and final Interagency Guidelines for implementing the Principles & Requirements.

Technical Mapping Advisory Council (TMAC): The first TMAC authorized by Congress provided advice to FEMA that lead to the Map Modernization (MAPMod) program. A new TMAC was established by Congress in Biggert-Waters-12 (BW-12) was “stood up” in 2014 by FEMA. The Council is to make recommendations to FEMA (in a cost-effective manner) on the accuracy, general quality, ease of use, and distribution and dissemination of Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMS) and flood risk data, including performance metrics and milestones that would effectively and efficiently map flood risk areas in the US; recommend mapping standards; make recommendations on map maintenance and procedures for delegating mapping activities to state and local mapping partners; facilitate interagency and intergovernmental coordination on flood mapping; and recommend a funding strategy for mapping across federal agencies. The TMAC is made up of representation of various NFIP stakeholders identified in the law.

Water Resources Development Act (WRDA): WRDA is the bill that authorizes all projects and programs of the US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) that impact water and related resources. Congress used to pass a WRDA bill every 2 years, but it is often takes up to 7 years to pass a new WRDA. The latest WRDA was passed in 2014. The WRDA authorizes the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, to set authorized funding levels for programs like Silver Jackets, Floodplain Management Services (FPMS) and Planning Assistance to States (PAS), and for other purposes.