

ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS

FY-17 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

APPROVED BY ASFPM BOARD OF DIRECTORS: June 19, 2016

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 Support and work to empower and incentivize state and local floodplain management and mitigation 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.
 - 1.1.2 Work with FEMA to improve the community compliance and enforcement process.
 - 1.1.3 Promote programs and policies that incentivize individual property owner 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 updating and 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 quality of mapping products, including future conditions mapping and climate change and other flood related hazards.
 - 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 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.
 - 1.2.4 Support increased funding for stream gage maintenance and new stream/rain gage placement for modeling and flood study calibration.

- 1.3 Promote local, state and Federal strategies that provide research, policies, and actions to incorporate adaptations to account for climate change, and its variability and uncertainty.
 - 1.3.1 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 Support and disseminate recommendations in the 2015 National Flood Programs and Policies in Review.
 - 2.1.3 Provide input on implementation of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRDA2016) and the Principles, Requirements, and Guidelines (PR&G).
 - 2.1.4 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.

- 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 Participate in, support, and lead coalitions and alliances including the Natural Floodplain Functions Alliance (NFFA – Evolving leadership arrangement with the Association of State Wetland Managers, ASWM), and coalitions related to NFIP reform.
 - 2.2.3 Promote enhanced land use and development practices to avoid floodplain encroachment and increases in flood flows to further reduce flood damages.

- 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 and update 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.

- 2.4 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 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.
 - 2.4.3 Promote form changes to include CFM signoff on all MT forms for map changes.
 - 2.4.4 Investigate prerequisites to taking the CFM exam such as experience or education.

- 2.4.5 Coordinate with the Department of labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics to create a Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) of “Floodplain Manager.”
 - 2.4.6 Initiate and implement mandatory Code of Ethics for all CFMs
 - 2.4.7 Prepare CBOR’s 5-year Strategic Plan (2016-2020). Research creation of an “ASFPM Preferred Training Provider” program, which may include both an annual fee and then a fee per CEC, and different fee structures for members and non-members.
- 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 accountability and capacity, including dedicated funding, to decrease flood risk, support CRS activities, and ensure long term continuity of mitigation programs.
 - 2.5.3 Publicize self-sustaining local mitigation programs with case studies or other examples.
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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 Update recommendations of the ASFPM Long-term Financial Plan and develop a financial reserve policy.
 - 3.1.2 Continue to implement a leadership development strategy for ASFPM members, leadership and Chapters, including mentoring.
 - 3.1.3 Offer training and resources to Chapters on how to approach national policy issues and communicate with their membership.
 - 3.1.4 Consider additional opportunities to support State Floodplain Managers, CTP’s and State Hazard Mitigation Officers (SHMOs).
 - 3.1.5 Update the ASFPM website comprehensively.
 - 3.1.6 Strengthen Chapter networking and the sharing of resources with and between chapters including resources for training at the local level.
 - 3.1.7 Recruit leaders from Western states and underrepresented population groups to both ASFPM leadership and for issues.
 - 3.1.8 Investigate options, including ASFPM organizational structure, to support states/chapters in post disaster activities.
 - 3.1.9 Work with FEMA to update the L273 class (Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP) and expand field delivery of other training courses (i.e., advanced FPM courses).

 - 3.2 Support the ASFPM Foundation Goals and programs (see ASFPM Foundation goals and objectives).
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Legend:

Leadership = Officers, EO and POD Facilitators

CBOR = Certification Board of Regents

EO = Executive Office

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”.

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.

Federal Executive Order 13690: Executive Order 13690 was signed by President Obama in 2015 and modified EO 11988 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.

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.

National Flood Policies and Programs in Review (NFPPR): ASFPM document detailing recommendations for improving national flood policies and programs.

Natural Floodplain Functions Alliance (NFFA): The NFFA is an affiliation of nonprofit and private organizations, government agencies and individuals dedicated to the protection and preservation of the natural functions of floodplains, including coastal areas.

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 P&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 P&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 led 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.