District 4 encompasses FEMA Regions 7 and 8 that comprise the following states: Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Utah.

State Chapters in District 4: Missouri, Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas
State Associations in District 4: Utah

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Missouri
Missouri Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association (MfSMA)

The 17th Annual MfSMA Conference will be held this year at Tan-Tar-A Resort. The Association expects over 150 attendees and numerous speakers, exhibitors, and sponsors. This year’s keynote speaker will be Steven Iverson, the Deputy District Engineer for the Kansas City District USACE. His presentation will focus on the Mississippi and Missouri River Flooding of 2011.

The Membership Committee is working on the second year of on-line membership registration and membership numbers are steadily increasing. The Association is looking for new ways to reach out to potential members. We expect our membership to exceed 200 for the first time in several years!

One of the biggest achievements for MfSMA in 2012 is the introduction of On-Line registration for several training courses. In cooperation with the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency, the Association has sponsored several workshops across the state including:

- Elevation Certificate Workshop
- Letter of Map Amendment Workshop
- Letter of Map Revision Workshop
- Quick 2/BFE Determination Workshop
- Residential Substantial Damage Estimator Workshop
- Tools of Floodplain Management

By allowing on-line registration for these courses, the Association has been able to extend our education outreach, setting attendance records for several events so far this year.
All those interested in floodplain activities in the State of Missouri are welcome to visit the Association website at www.mfsma.org.

**Colorado**

**Colorado Association of Stormwater and Floodplain Managers (CASFM)**

Annually, the activities of the organization continue to include bi-monthly general meetings at different locations throughout the state; workshops and training classes; field trips scheduled as projects are completed; and an Annual Conference each fall. CASFM continues to sustain its membership and presently has almost 700 active members within the organization, including over 386 members registered as CFMs.

CASFM held its 22nd annual conference in Snowmass Village in September. The conference format was different this year, and featured two keynote speakers. Jon Waterman presented a summary of his book “RUNNING DRY: A Journey Down the Colorado River from Source to Sea” which included photos and stories of his epic 1450 mile journey down the Colorado River. John Sikora gave a fascinating presentation of events leading up to and around the October 14, 2010 discovery of the 10,000-year-old woolly mammoth bones in Snowmass Village—not to mention thousands of bones from hundreds of other species. Those fortunate enough to go on the Friday morning field trip were able to see the site where the discovery was made. The rest of the conference featured many excellent technical and project presentations, field trips, and networking opportunities.

CASFM, together with the Natural Hazards Center and the ASFPM Foundation, hosted the Colorado Flood Risk Symposium. CASFM was selected by the Foundation to host the symposium. This one-day event, by invitation, was conducted on April 14th with attendees including folks from state, federal and local government, academia, emergency managers, behavioral scientists and land use specialists; and several CASFM members attendance. The symposium focused on how the risk management concept and its attendant techniques could be applied to minimize flood risk to humans, the built environment, infrastructure, society, and the natural functions and resources of floodplains. The goal was to facilitate discussion on the topic of flood risk to establish priorities for improving policy and program implementation and to formulate recommendations and directions for the future. Discussions included local and regional issues and techniques in order to identity what methods will reduce flood risk to humans and property, and to better inform their decision-makers at all levels and among all entities on how to measure and identify risk and resources. There were approximately 80 in attendance, and it was an incredibly successful event.

A goal that CASFM is focusing on is to provide as many training opportunities as possible outside of the Annual Conference to get (CECs) to maintain your CFM certification. Historically, many CFM’s obtained their CFM credits by attending the annual conference. Given tight budgets, it’s been difficult for many to attend the Annual Conference and get those credits. In an effort to
address this, CASFM was able to get ASFPM to approve UDFCD’s annual conference for 6 CECs. The conference is held in April in Denver, and provides an easy way to get some of their CECs in one day. The registration for this conference is provided thru CASFM’s website (www.casfm.org) and addresses many timely topics in stormwater and floodplain management. We are also working with other organizations, such as the American Public Works Association (APWA), to get some of their training approved by ASFPM as well for CEC credits. We have also been working with the Urban Watersheds Research Institute (UWRI) to coordinate their training activities with ours and provide CEC credits as well.

In addition, CASFM continues to support and sponsor several training opportunities and workshops in several areas of the state. These short training workshops are typically 1-2 hours in length held at the end of the day, often qualify for CFM credit, are provided at minimal cost, and are followed by a social time, thus the name “Bar Stool Series”. On October 11-14, 2011, the CRS Committee hosted a field-deployed CRS training course. The course is typically only offered at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) in Emmitsburg, Maryland. This provided a unique opportunity to gain in-depth knowledge of the CRS program activities locally from a nationally recognized educational organization. Some materials were adapted by the presenters to assist local agencies and professionals by helping them to tie relevant activities to the current CRS scoring system.

CASFM has an active committee and regional representative structure that handles many of CASFM’s activities. The Stormwater Quality Committee is active and holds an annual field trip to visit stormwater quality BMP sites throughout the Denver Metro area. This is a well attended field trip and has been approved for CECs as well. The Scholarship Committee hands out two scholarships a year and recipients attend our annual conference and make a presentation as part of receiving the award. Much of the history of the organization, along with training opportunities, committee reports, meeting minutes, and conference information is presented on the CASFM website at www.casfm.org. If you are interested in the floodplain and stormwater activities within the state of Colorado, please visit the website.

Montana
Association of Montana Floodplain Managers (AMFM)

Significant floodplain issues that prevailed within the state, or were receiving the attention of the chapter in 2011

- Governor Brian Schweitzer declared a state of emergency in Montana, where flooding closed a 50-mile stretch of I-90, isolated communities in the central and eastern parts of the state and killed an elderly woman who fell into a flooded ditch
- The Governor requested a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Montana, and Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) were conducted statewide by FEMA
• Montana Army National Guard was deployed to two areas in Montana, the Crow Reservation and Roundup.

• Presidential Declarations were made for the state of Montana, freeing up $6.5 million in federal aid for state, tribal and local jurisdictions to repair flood-damaged roads and utilities.

• In its June 9 request for the declaration, the state listed $8.6 million in damage to roads and other infrastructure as a result of flooding. State and local jurisdictions were responsible for $2.1 million in damage. Federal dollars were made available for the remaining $6.5 million.

• Valley and Yellowstone counties each reported just more than $1 million in damage to roads, buildings, equipment and utility systems; the most in the state. Damage on the Crow Indian Reservation was listed at $879,168. In north central Montana, Fergus County reported $692,608 in damage, while and Judith Basin County reported $457,688 in damage. Cascade County reported $287,785 in damage - or $3.58 per resident.

• The declaration made the state eligible for the FEMA public assistance program, which includes work on roads, utilities, irrigation, emergency medical care, wastewater treatment and communications. FEMA conducted applicant briefings for state, local and tribal officials on how to apply for assistance.

• Counties eligible for aid were Big Horn, Blaine, Broadwater, Carbon, Carter, Cascade, Chouteau, Custer, Dawson, Fallon, Fergus, Garfield, Golden Valley, Hill, Judith Basin, McConr, Meagher, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Powder River, Prairie, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Treasure, Valley, Wheatland, Wibaux and Yellowstone.

• Eligible reservations are the Crow, Fort Belknap, Northern Cheyenne and Rocky Boy’s.

**Flood Events in Eastern Montana in 2011**

• When Lodge Grass Creek hit the Little Bighorn River just south of Lodge Grass, water started backing up on the lower portions of town, flooding Main Street. Powerful floodwaters washed out a bridge on Lodge Grass Creek on the south entrance to town and high water cut off access to Interstate 90 on the north.

• U.S. Highway 212 between Crow Agency and Lame Deer was closed. At the intersection of 212 and Interstate 90, the road to Little Bighorn Battlefield and Lame Deer, water was over the hood of a vehicle that went around a barricade set up there; no one was hurt.

• I-90 was closed from Hardin to the Wyoming border.

• The Little Big Horn Camp and Motel at the intersection was covered nearly to its roof in flood water. Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument was closed because of the flooding.

• In Rosebud County, the Yellowstone was above flood stage at Forsyth and basements throughout the county were filling because of high groundwater. U.S. Highway 12 was closed between Ingomar and Forsyth.

• Up to 6 inches of rain in Fallon and Carter counties washed out roads and threatened bridges. In southern Carter County, stock dams failed and Box Elder Creek closed U.S. Highway 232 south of Ekalaka. U.S. Highway 277 was closed and groundwater was flooding many basements.
- Yellowstone River was throwing record amounts of water down its channel; measured at 144,000 cfs, dwarfing the previous record of 48,000 cfs set in 1904.
- The Army Corps of Engineers blew up a Missouri levee to save Midwest communities and opened spillways in Louisiana to lessen the risk in heavily populated areas.
- The central Montana Town of Roundup was under an estimated 6 feet of water as the flooding pounded the water-logged state of Montana.

**Flood Events in Western Montana in 2011**

- The highest potential for flooding was in creeks in the Mission Mountains in Lake County, the Little Bitterroot River and Thompson River in Sanders County, Ashley Creek in Flathead County and the Fisher River in Lincoln County.
- **The Yaak River** in northwest Montana was flooding, and water approached the foundations of some homes on the Thompson River. Flood water overtopped the pavement on Montana Highway 35 south of Bigfork.
- **Flathead County:** The Flathead River at Columbia Falls was closely monitored due to the potential to rise above flood stage.
- **Ravalli and Missoula Counties:** The Bitterroot River from Darby north to Missoula was monitored due to the potential to rise above flood stage. Similarly, the Clark Fork River above Missoula was closely monitored as well as the Blackfoot River near Bonner.
- **Missoula County:** The rising waters of the Clark Fork River prompted Missoula County officials to issue an evacuation warning, suggesting that residents in significantly affected areas find somewhere else to go.
- **Granite County:** The Clark Fork River near Drummond was closely monitored due to the potential to reach flood stage.
- **Helena:** A rock slide temporarily closed southbound lanes of Interstate 15 just south of Wolf Creek near mile markers 219 and 22.
- **Snow Levels:** Moss Peak was at 147 percent, and Noisy Basin, at the northern end of Flathead Lake in the Jewel Basin, was at 153 percent. The latter produced high water on the Swan River, and a high inflow into Hungry Horse Reservoir. These numbers rivaled what was reported in 1997, when there was a lot of flooding. In Sanders, Flathead and Lincoln counties, the snowpack was 145 percent of normal in some key areas. In 1997, it was reported to be 158 percent.

**Information related to the annual conference**

Our 13th annual flood conference was held in Kalispell, MT and was based on the idea of “Preparedness, Mitigation & Recovery,” due to the 2011 flooding. This year, preparedness, and recovery were the focus of the conference due to the recent experiences of flooding for Montana. The Model Ordinances are in DRAFT form and ready for final comment. We had the 2nd annual Floodplain Engineer 101 Workshop, and added more detail. It was a HUGE success.
and it will be used again. We have 2 floodplain simulators that FPA’s around the state can and have used to show flooding, floodplain, etc... it is an excellent tool. The DNRC has a tabletop simulator and the Conservation District has a large “interactive” trailer called the Rolling River’s Trailer (http://dnrc.mt.gov/cardd/RollingRivers/default.asp).

The state was introduced to the SILVERJACKETS program which provides a formal and consistent strategy for an interagency approach to planning and implementing measures to reduce the risks associated with flooding and other natural hazard by partnering with federal agencies, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in order to form a unified forum to address the state's flood risk management priorities. Silver Jacket programs are developed at the state level. There are currently 22 active state teams; the ultimate goal is to offer an interagency team in every state; Montana is working on becoming the 23rd.

**Workshops, training or outreach conducted in 2011**

- The Floodplain Engineering 101 Workshop goes over topics such as 101 Basic floodplain, encroachment reviews & Concepts, Floodway Encroachment/No-rise, riprap design, stream restorations, etc... 48 in attendance just for this session.
- Flood Recovery Workshop: A Post Disaster Recovery Response Class to learn the actions to take after a flood. Many local floodplain administrators are facing or have faced unprecedented flooding. Thanks to the forward thinking efforts of Traci Sears, Montana’s NFIP Coordinator, information has been available to help local floodplain administrators through the challenges associated with flooding.
- Montana Floodplain Resource Seminar 2011 – free training for CRS, Floodplain Mgmt 101, HEC-RAS training, recovery training, an Introduction to GIS, Flood Insurance and a proctored CFM exam.
Newsletters published or any noteworthy items from the newsletters in 2011

The Montana DNRC does a great newsletter for floodplain management and water resources which includes bits and pieces from all communities in Montana. AMFM does a fall/winter and spring/summer newsletter – both are great tools to floodplain management and outreaching tools.

Number of chapter members as well as the number of CFMs within the state in 2011

- 16 New Members
- 42 Total Members
- 21 CFM’s a part of AMFM
- 15 took the CFM exam at the 2012 Conference
- 71 total CFM’s in the state of Montana and growing (not including those who took the exam in March)
U.S. Highway 191 across a tributary overflowing into the Gallatin River

Flooding covers the Little Big Horn Camp and Motel
Nebraska
Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association (NeFSMA)

In 2011, NeFSMA held four educational events, two of which we were able to provide to our members free of charge.

On February 10, 2011 we provided a workshop focused on NPDES permits with the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and EPA Region VII. The workshop was attended by almost 90 people from across the state.

On April 20, 2011 NeFSMA sponsored a state-wide Stormwater Roundtable. This was the first time an event such as this was held in Nebraska. Pat Sauer, Stormwater coordinator for Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities and Ken MacKenzie, Manager of Master Planning program with Urban Drainage and Flood Control District gave presentations about successes in stormwater management regulation in Iowa and Colorado. This event also led to open discussions between our members about the status of stormwater regulation in the state of Nebraska. Over 80 people attended this workshop.

NeFSMA held our third annual conference “Protecting Our Communities” on June 23, 2011. Over 90 people attended the one-day conference. For the first time, we solicited abstracts for the session speakers. From the abstracts submitted, we were able to have three separate tracks with a total of 22 presentations. The CFM exam was offered during the conference. We also had office hours with FEMA and state representatives for local floodplain administrators. Terri Turner provided our keynote session with a presentation on No Adverse Impact.

Our annual membership meeting was held on October 20, 2011. A variety of topics, including hazard mitigation, were discussed. Over 60 people attended the meeting. The 2012 Board of Directors election results were announced at the meeting.

In 2011, we were also able to help sponsor a Substantial Damage Estimator workshop for local floodplain administrators. Julie Grauer, FEMA Region VII, provided two workshops in response to the Missouri River flooding during summer 2011.

NeFSMA published 4 newsletters which can be found on our website at www.nefsma.com. We also updated our website to make it more user friendly for our members as well as our volunteer board who maintains the site. NeFSMA continues to maintain a blog to provide our members with current information.

In 2011, the state chapter had 107 voting members and 53 non-voting members. There are currently 49 certified floodplain managers (CFMs) in Nebraska.
Iowa
Iowa Floodplain and Stormwater Management Association (IFSMA)

IFSMA was awarded a contract with Iowa Department of Natural Resources to provide four training modules related to good floodplain management. The topics include:

1) Updating the IDNR’s Floodplain Management Desk Reference and creating a training program for the updated reference;
2) Creating a training program for Delegated Communities to keep current with the expectations of IDNR as they administer their local floodplain ordinances;
3) Creating a program for communities to use to apply for inclusion in FEMA’s Community Rating System program; and
4) Creating a ready-response toolkit for communities to have on hand for effective response to a flood hazard.

The materials will ultimately become the property of IDNR. The scope of the project will last from March 2012 to October 2013.

IFSMA’s annual meeting highlights included the announcement that our membership is approaching 100, and CFMs in Iowa have increased to more than 40. IFSMA sponsored two exam review courses and CFM exams between November 2011 and March 2012, creating partnerships with the Iowa Flood Center, the Iowa Water Conference, and Dewberry – a consulting firm that provided the exam review.

IFSMA board members presented at several conferences and training events over the year, increasing our exposure and encouraging individuals from a variety of disciplines to take an active interest in learning about better ways to examine land uses in flood hazard areas.

Kansas
Kansas Association for Floodplain Management (KAFM)

KAFM continues to be very active and completed several activities within the state in 2011. Our Association membership has grown from 63 members in 2005 to 119 members in 2011. One of the highlights of the year was the 8th Annual KAFM Conference held in Manhattan on September 7th and 8th, 2011. Several pertinent topics were presented to the conference attendees and included the following:

- FEMA Presentation on RiskMAP (Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning)
- FEMA Presentation on NFIP Reform
- HAZUS and Floodplain Mapping
- Grandfather Rules/PRP Extension
- Floodplain History – 50 Years Past/Future
- LOMA/LOMR Training
• Developing Outreach
• 3D Floodplain Model Training
• Community Rating System

In addition to the annual conference, KAFM continues to support the training of its general membership through co-sponsorship with the staff from the Division of Water Resources. Floodplain Training included: (a) Floodplain 101, (b) Basics of the NFIP, (c) Elevation Certificates and Letters of Map Amendment, (d) Substantial Damage Estimation, and (e) Certified Floodplain Manager training and examination. It should be noted that the training opportunities have resulted in and increase of 79 Certified Floodplain Managers from 24 in 2005 to 103 in 2011.

Also of significant note, KAFM was approved by the Association of State Floodplain Managers for chapter status by the Board in November and became the 32nd Chapter and will receive its Chapter Certificate at the 2012 ASFPM Annual Conference in San Antonio in May.

Information related to KAFM can be found on the association website, www.ekafm.org.

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

Utah
Utah Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association (UFSMA)

USFMA continues to grow to establish itself as the leading organization for floodplain and storm water management professionals in the State of Utah throughout its close alliance with the Utah Division of Emergency Management, the FEMA Risk MAP program, and various stormwater initiatives. A new website was established (UFSMA.org) to communicate Association activities and pertinent information related to the training and educational opportunities within the state as well as the annual conference. Additionally the association is planning to become an ASFPM member in 2012.

Our traditional Spring Natural Hazards workshop was held in April 2011 discussing the hydrologic outlook for the State of Utah, active landslides, and other pertinent natural hazards.

The 15th Annual Utah Floodplain and Stormwater Manager’s Conference was conducted in St. George, Utah from November 8 to 10, 2011. Attendance was strong and a wide diversity of topics were discussed and presented. Of special interest were the presentations covering the flooding problems throughout the state occurring in the Spring of 2011. The CFM exam was again proctored as well during the conference.

Presently, there are over 100 members within UFSMA. Utah has 36 CFMs.