

ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS

Region I Report 2013

(Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont)

Michelle F. Burnett, CFM, Region I Director

INTRODUCTION and REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Region I is comprised of the six New England States: **Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.**

Multiple training opportunities were offered throughout the region, by the individual States, as well as the Rhode Island Flood Mitigation Association (RIFMA), this region's only operating state floodplain management association operating at this time. These training opportunities are summarized by state below.

State of Connecticut – 2013 Report

Diane Ifkovic, NFIP Coordinator
Karen Michaels, CAP staff, State Hazard Mitigation Planner
Carla Feroni, MapMOD/Risk Map Coordinator

CT Declared Disasters

FEMA-DR-4087-CT – Hurricane Sandy, declared on October 30, 2012. Both PA and IA were made available for Connecticut's four coastal counties. PA only was made available in Litchfield, Tolland and Windham counties. A JFO was established in Windsor, CT. Due to the disaster declaration for Sandy, significant work was done at this fiscal year associated with this storm event and also in October 2013 at the one year anniversary of the storm event.

FEMA-DR-4106-CT – Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm, declared March 21, 2013. PA was declared for all eight counties in Connecticut.

CAP-SSSE Update

No CAVs were completed this year due to high volume of activities associated with Super Storm Sandy, coastal mapping and the ASFPM Annual Conference in Hartford, CT. State staff accompanied FEMA staff on a FEMA CAV in East Haven on March 14, 2013. In FFY 2013, all 177 Connecticut communities participated in the NFIP. The CAP FY2013 grant application was submitted to FEMA on May 31, 2013. Significant CAP staff time was spent updating the State Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan including developing an RFP, hiring a contractor to perform the plan update, project

management activities, and conducting planning meetings with other state agencies and stakeholders. Due to the disaster declaration for Super Storm Sandy at the beginning of the fiscal year, significant coordination work was done with JFO and FEMA Region I staff, among other disaster-related activities (field/site visits, meetings, outreach, legislative hearings, etc.). CAP staff provided CRS assistance to East Haven, Milford and Stamford. CAP staff attended ten (10) training workshops or conferences during the fiscal year covering topics such as BCA, flood insurance, mitigation planning, NDRF, climate change/adaptation, coastal erosion, and the ASFPM annual conference held in Hartford, CT. State staff provided a training workshop to the CT Association of Zoning Enforcement Officials (CAZEO) for 50 participants on the NFIP. CAP staff attended the State Long Term Recovery Task Force at various scheduled meetings held throughout the year.

Mitigation Issues and Successes

Significant staff time was spent performing planning activities in coordination with JFO staff. This included planning meetings with all fourteen regional planning organizations (RPO) in the state, promoting hazard mitigation planning across the state, and holding a G-318 planning course for state and local officials in March 2013. CAP staff assisted all fourteen regional planning organizations (RPOs) and two (2) individual communities with the development of local or regional hazard mitigation plans. CAP staff also reviewed all regional and local mitigation plans against the crosswalk prior to submission to FEMA Region I.

CAP staff continues to administer PDM, FMA, RFC grants in process through completion.

Map Mod/ Risk Map Status

A coastal re-mapping project occurred in Connecticut's four coastal counties (Fairfield, New Haven, Middlesex and New London Counties) which updated all coastal map panels. Thirty-one (31) ordinance/regulation reviews were completed in FFY 2013 to incorporate new maps dates for these coastal panels and recommend LiMWA language.

Preliminary maps were issued for Middlesex County on September 22, 2011 (four communities: Town of Clinton, Borough of Fenwick, Town of Old Saybrook, Town of Westbrook). CCO meeting for this county occurred on November 9, 2011. LFD was issued August 6, 2012. Regulation reviews were issued on August 2, 2012. FIRMs went effective on February 6, 2013.

Preliminary maps were issued for Fairfield County on October 30, 2011 (eight communities: City of Bridgeport, Town of Darien, Town of Fairfield, Town of Greenwich, City of Norwalk, City of Stamford, Town of Stratford, Town of Westport). CCO meeting for this county occurred on November 28, 2011. LFD was issued January 8, 2013. Regulation reviews were issued on January 7, 2013. FIRMs went effective on July 8, 2013.

Preliminary maps were issued for New Haven County on October 30, 2011 (nine communities: Town of Branford, Town of East Haven, Town of Guilford, Town of

Hamden, Town of Madison, City of Milford, City of New Haven, Town of North Haven, Town of West Haven). CCO meeting for this county occurred on November 29, 2011. LFD was issued January 8, 2013. Regulation reviews were issued on January 7, 2013. FIRMs went effective on July 8, 2013.

Preliminary maps were issued for New London County on November 15, 2011 (ten communities: Town of East Lyme, Groton Long Point Association, City of Groton, Town of Groton, City of New London, Noank Fire District, Town of Old Lyme, Borough of Stonington, Town of Stonington, Town of Waterford). CCO meeting for this county occurred on January 17, 2012. LFD was issued February 5, 2013. Regulation reviews were issued on February 5, 2013. FIRMs went effective on August 5, 2013.

Three public outreach meetings covering these coastal map revisions and BW12 flood insurance changes were held in August 2013 (5th Old Lyme, 8th Fairfield, 27th Branford) as a joint effort between the state and FEMA Region I staff.

Three levees received accreditation which resulted in FIRM panel changes. Preliminary maps were issued for September 29, 2012 for the three communities of Ansonia, Derby and Norwalk. LFD was issued April 16, 2013. Regulation reviews were issued on April 23, 2013 by the state NFIP coordination office outlining the necessary changes needed for minimum program compliance. FIRMs went effective on October 16, 2013.

ASFPM Conference – Hartford, CT June 2013

The ASFPM Annual Conference was held in Hartford, CT on June 9-14, 2013. Meetings and conference calls were held from in late 2012 into 2013 associated with preparations for this conference. CTDEEP is a sponsor of this event and CAP staff was charged with volunteer coordination, tour coordination, abstract review and other conference related tasks. On September 21, 2012, CT applied for an extension to the CAP 2012 grant in order to received additional funds to be used for scholarships for state and local officials to attend the 2013 conference. These funds were provided to local and state officials from all of the New England states. Significant time was spent on coordination and management of these scholarship funds. With these scholarships, 132 state and local officials were able to attend the ASFPM conference.

CFM Accomplishments

None this fiscal year.

Training

Training workshops held by CT staff for various audiences:

- G-318 Planning Course – March 5-6, 2013
- CAZEO – April 3, 2013 (50 ZEOs attended)
- ASFPM Annual Conference – June 9-14, 2013

CT staff attendance at training sessions, workshops, meetings and conferences:

- UCONN School of Law Climate Change Seminar – October 5, 2012

- Dune & Beach Restoration Workshop – November 20, 2012
- BCA Training – January 14-15, 2013
- Flood Insurance Agent Training Workshop – February 20, 2013
- E274 National Dam Safety Technical Workshop, EMI - February 19-22, 2013
- Natural Disaster Recovery Framework Workshop – February 27-28, 2013
- G-318 Planning Course – March 5-6, 2013
- RIFMA Annual Conference – March 15, 2013
- CT Coastal Erosion Workshop – April 16, 2013
- NOAA Climate Adaptation Training – May 16, 2013
- ASFPM Annual Conference – June 9-14, 2013

ASFPM Assistance Needed

No assistance needed at this time.

State of Maine – 2013 Report

Sue Baker, CFM, NFIP State Coordinator; Joseph Young, Risk MAP Coordinator

Maine Declared Disasters

Only one in 2013: DR-4108 declared on March 25, 2013 for the February 8-9, 2013 blizzard. FEMA described the incident as “severe winter storm, snowstorm, and flooding”. Declared counties were: Androscoggin, Cumberland, Knox and York. One FEMA staff was deployed in Maine for two weeks to assist the State Coordinator with CAVs in 4 communities seeking entry/re-entry into the NFIP.

CAP-SSSE Update

Currently approximately 94 percent of Maine communities participate in the NFIP. The state is actively working with several towns on entry.

5 CAVs

9 CACs

19 custom model ordinances to communities

36 ordinance reviews

Mitigation Issues & Successes

Mitigation Issues:

ESA consultations/reviews continue to delay mitigation project funding, several for more than two years; *one for four years*. This increases costs, lowers cost benefits and reduces the number of projects that can be done.

Mitigation Successes:

All 16 County plans and the University of Maine system plan are still current and

covering 99% of state population. Sixteen (16) eligible towns applied for HMGP grants out of DR-4108.

Risk MAP Status

Androscoggin County became the third county with DFIRMs which became effective on July 8, 2013. York and Cumberland county preliminary maps were re-issued in November, 2013. Work map meetings were held in the Summer of 2013 in Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Knox, and Waldo counties (Mid Coastal Watersheds). Coastal studies have been initiated in Hancock and Washington counties. Anticipated release dates for preliminary maps are April, 2014 in Hancock and August, 2104 in Washington.

CFM Accomplishments

Two new CFMs in 2013. One local code official and one state program staff successfully passed the exam at the ASFPM Conference in Hartford in June, 2013.

Training

Training/Outreach Workshops:

Code Enforcement Officer Land Use Workshop/Intro to Floodplain Management – 2 hrs./2 locations

Code Enforcement Officer Knee Deep in Floodplain Management (Topic focused) – 2 full days/3 locations

Mid-Coast Code Enforcement Officers Association/Mapping & Insurance Update – 3 hrs.

Southern ME Planning & Development Commission/Greater Portland Council of Governments – 1 hr.

Maine Society of Professional Land Surveyors & Local Chapters – 3 days

Flood Insurance Workshops – 3 @ 3 hrs. each

Earth Science Day at the Maine State Museum – 1 day

Maine Beaches Conference (for property owners)/Present/Moderate & Exhibit – 1 day

MEMA Preparedness Conference/present & Exhibit – 2 days

ASFPM Assistance Needed

None requested at this time.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts – 2013 Report

Richard Zingarelli, NFIP Coordinator
Eric Carlson, CAP staff

Colleen Bailey, Flood Hazard Mapping Coordinator

MA Declared Disasters

Massachusetts received a declaration on December 29, 2012 (FEMA-DR-4097-MA) for damage from Hurricane Sandy, with an incident period of October 27 to November 7, 2012. Public Assistance was made available for Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Nantucket, Plymouth, and Suffolk Counties. Another declaration was received on April 19, 2013 (FEMA-DR-4110-MA), for the winter storm, snowstorm and flooding which occurred on February 8 and 9, 2012. Public assistance was made available for the entire Commonwealth from this event.

CAP-SSSE Update

A total of fourteen (14) CAVs and ten (10) CACs were completed by state staff. The CAVs included two CRS communities.

As of the end of the FFY 2012, 337 out of 351 Massachusetts communities participate in the NFIP. The Town of Tolland joined the NFIP as of September 27, 2013.

Significant ordinance/regulation reviews and assistance were completed in conjunction with the map updates for Hampden County, and a map correction that resulted in several new effective panels in Plymouth County.

Mitigation Issues and Successes

Extensive work has been underway through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), with several active disasters at this time. In March 2013, a total of 8 applications requesting over \$5.1 million in HMGP funding were submitted to FEMA for DR-4028 (Tropical Storm Irene). In June 2013, a total of 23 applications requesting approximately \$10.7 million in HMGP were submitted to FEMA for DR-4051. Additionally, state staff continued to work with FEMA on the \$10.5 million in applications (29 applications) that had been submitted to FEMA late in FFY 2012 for DR-1959 and DR-1994.

Mapping Status

A total of 25 communities in Hampden County had new maps become effective on July 16, 2013. Ordinance/regulation reviews and assistance were provided to the 22 participating communities to achieve compliance by the new map date. All communities adopted the new maps by the effective date of the maps. Outreach to the three nonparticipating communities resulted in one of the three communities, the Town of Tolland, joining the NFIP. Additionally, three communities in Plymouth County had a Letter of Final Determination issued on August 5, 2013. New panels were produced to correct major errors that were discovered by the Commonwealth in the maps which were effective on July 17, 2012.

Training and Outreach

Extensive outreach was conducted by MA staff related to the insurance impacts of Biggert-Waters and revised flood insurance maps. Insurance open houses were held on the following dates and locations:

- December 5, 2012 Hampden County, West Springfield
- July 16, 2013 Dukes County, Edgartown
- August 7, 2013 Barnstable County, Dennis
- August 13, 2013 Barnstable County, Barnstable
- August 15, 2013 Barnstable County, Eastham
- September 4, 2013 Plymouth County, Marshfield
- September 12, 2013 Middlesex and Worcester Counties, Concord
- September 19, 2013 Plymouth County, Duxbury
- September 30, 2013 Essex County, Lynn

The open houses were extremely well attended, as a few of them had several hundred attendees. The attendance at the Marshfield open house was estimated at approximately 2,000.

The following additional training and outreach efforts were conducted by MA staff:

- March 12, 2013 Resilience meeting, Holyoke
- May 2, 2013 North Shore Conservation Commission network, Ipswich
- May 29, 2013 Statewide Emergency Management Conference, Worcester
- July 3, 2013 CRS Meeting/Workshop, City of Boston

ASFPM Assistance Needed

No assistance needed at this time.

State of New Hampshire – 2013 Report

Jennifer Gilbert, CFM, NFIP State Coordinator

Joanne Cassulo, Risk MAP Coordinator (retired 1/31/2014)

New Hampshire Declared Disasters

New Hampshire experienced one major disaster declaration between June 2013 and present day. On August 2, 2013, (DR-4139), a disaster was declared due to severe storms, flooding, and landslides during the period of June 26 to July 3, 2013. Public Assistance was granted for three counties. The NH NFIP Coordinator participated in several coordination meetings and a site visit with other state and federal agencies to discuss how best to address streambank erosion issues that were a result of the disaster.

CAP-SSSE Update

Currently 91 percent of New Hampshire communities participate in the NFIP with three additional communities likely to join by the end of 2014. New Hampshire continued to

create and distribute outreach materials including various fact sheets and an NFIP newsletter, *Flood Lines*, which is also available on-line. Currently, four New Hampshire communities participate in the Community Rating System (CRS) with at least two communities interested in joining in the near future.

Mitigation Issues & Successes

New Hampshire's State Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan was updated and approved in October 2013.

Risk MAP Status

New Hampshire's first Risk MAP project is the NH Coastal Project, which involves updating the floodplain maps for 17 communities using newly acquired LiDAR data and restudying New Hampshire's coastline and some interior riverine areas. A work map meeting was held in August 2013 with the project area communities. Preliminary maps are expected in April 2014 and final maps in late 2015.

CFM Accomplishments

New Hampshire CFM Refresher classes and exams are planned for May 2014 and Fall 2014.

Training

The NH NFIP Coordinator put together a one-hour class called "The NFIP for Real Estate Professionals" in August 2013. The class was accredited by the NH Real Estate Commission for the period of September 17, 2013 to September 17, 2014. Currently, the class has been presented to five real estate boards and associations with a total of 100 participants. In addition to the real estate presentations, which included a discussion about the Biggert-Waters 2012 Act, 12 additional presentations were made for various stakeholders regarding the Act.

ASFPM Assistance Needed

None at this time.

State of Rhode Island – 2013 Report

Michelle Burnett, NFIP Coordinator

Jess Stimson, Mapping Coordinator/State Hazard Mitigation Officer

Samantha Richer, CRS Coordinator/NFIP Planner

Rhode Island Declared Disasters

In the wake of the March 2010 flood disaster (FEMA-1894-DR), Tropical Storm Irene in August 2011 (FEMA-4027-DR), the State Floodplain Coordinator is continuing to provide ongoing support to local officials regarding mitigation grants, specifically HMGP and potential flood related projects. In October 2012 (FEMA-4089-DR), Hurricane Sandy sideswiped the State and devastated the southwestern facing beaches and structures all along the coast resulting in a Federal Disaster Declaration. Sandy impacted the Town of Westerly, Town of Charlestown, Town of South Kingstown and Town of Narragansett.

Over 1,000 structures were impacted by the storm with over \$30M in NFIP claims made. All sand dunes along the southwest facing beaches were also completely destroyed. The enormity of this event has caused NFIP to focus on the aftermath and assist affected communities. The Coordinator has presented information to numerous communities regarding acquisition projects and other mitigation opportunities.

During the second quarter of FY 2013 another Federal Disaster Declaration was made from a Winter Storm/Blizzard (FEMA-4107-DR). Although this disaster was predominantly Public Assistance-related, the SC was intimately involved in the declaration and coordination process.

CAP-SSSE Update

All 39 communities and one (1) Tribal Nation in Rhode Island continue to participate in the NFIP, with no probations or suspensions. There were four (4) Community Assistance Visits and one (1) Community Assistance Contact performed in 2013 for the following communities:

1. Town of Bristol
2. Town of Warren
3. Town of Little Compton
4. City of Pawtucket
5. City of Providence

Flood Vents, the quarterly newsletter disseminated from the RI Floodplain Management Program was published twice in 2013.

Mitigation Issues and Successes

Mitigation staff currently have the following mitigation grants in queue:

- Pre Disaster Mitigation 2010 (9)
- Pre Disaster Mitigation 2011 (1)
- Pre Disaster Mitigation 2012 (3)
- Severe Repetitive Loss 2012 (1)
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program 2010 (13)
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program 2011 (12)

There are currently nineteen (19) Local Hazard Mitigation Plans approved.

Risk MAP Status

Risk MAP staff were incredibly busy in 2013. Staff provided day to day technical mapping assistance to homeowners, surveyors, architects, engineers, building officials, community leaders, and State and Federal agencies. This could require referencing FIRMs and create FIRMettes or utilizing GIS software to provide additional details.

Staff also facilitated and assisted with the rollout of Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) for 21 coastal communities. Responsibilities include work map meeting coordination between FEMA, FEMA contractor and local community officials. In 2013, 18 of the 21 coastal communities in Rhode Island successfully adopted revised floodplain ordinances

and updated FIRMs following the comprehensive coastal restudy that began in 2009. The effective dates are as follow:

- Newport County - September 4, 2013
- Kent County - September 18, 2013
- Providence County - September 18, 2013
- Washington County - October 16, 2013

Bristol County communities received Letters of Final Determination on January 7, 2014 with an expected effective date of July 7, 2014.

Additionally under this coastal restudy, FEMA provided non-regulatory products to each of the municipalities. The tools included maps that provided users with visual representation of changes since the last DFIRM map adoption in 2009 and 2010 as well as Wave Height maps.

Staff coordinated with FEMA, USACE, and coastal communities to complete evacuation map study update prior to the 2013 hurricane season. Further behavioral, transportation and vulnerability analyses will be conducted in coming years.

Staff also attended several USGS discovery meetings held to discuss the upcoming river studies across the state. The studies will provide new data for the first time in several decades. Preliminary maps for this study are expected in Spring 2014 with effective FIRMs anticipated by Summer 2015. The data will be extremely beneficial to local, State and Federal regulatory agencies.

CFM Accomplishments

The CFM Refresher course and Exam were offered twice in 2013 in June and November 2013. There was a 100% pass rate for all persons who took the CFM Exam in 2013.

Working in coordination with RIFMA, numerous workshops were held during 2013 which allowed for the accumulation of CFM credits. There are currently 22 CFMs in Rhode Island.

Workshops and Training

NFIP staff coordinated and attended a variety of trainings in 2013 including the following:

WORKSHOPS

- Marine Law Symposium at Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI (11/14/2012)
- Presented to the Washington County Association of Realtors, East Greenwich, RI (1/23/2013)
- Presented to the Environmental Business Council, Providence, RI (2/26/2013)
- Independent Insurance Agents NFIP training, Warwick, RI (3/5/2013)
- Coastal No Adverse Impact Workshop in coordination with RIFMA and ASFPM, Lincoln, RI (3/15/2013)

- Substantial Damage Training in coordination with FEMA for local officials, Charlestown, RI (3/28/2013)

TRAININGS (Provided by NFIP staff)

- NFIP training to Realtors, East Greenwich, RI (12/7/2012)
- Substantial Damage Training in coordination with FEMA for local officials, Charlestown, RI (12/18/2012)
- Presented to the Washington County Association of Realtors, East Greenwich, RI (1/23/2013)
- Independent Insurance Agents NFIP training, Warwick, RI (3/5/2013)
- Substantial Damage Training in coordination with FEMA for local officials, Charlestown, RI (3/28/2013)
- Presented to the Newport Association of Realtors, Middletown, RI (4/10/2013)
- CFM Refresher Course, Providence, RI (5/22/2013)
- HAZUS Training, University of Rhode Island (7/29 – 8/1/2013)
- First CRS User Group session for the State of RI, Warwick, RI (9/11/2013)

ASFPM Assistance Needed

Rhode Island is asking for ASFPM assistance in providing training specifically for municipal solicitors and city/town councils on the NFIP and legal issues, similarly to what was provided during the Coastal No Adverse Impact Workshop on March 15th, 2013.

State of Vermont – 2013 Report

Rob Evans, State Floodplain Manager/NFIP Coordinator
 Rebecca Pfeiffer, Assistant NFIP Coordinator
 Ned Swanberg, Mapping & Planning Coordinator

VT Declared Disasters

Vermont received two flood declaration in 2013 for regionalized flash flooding in May, June, and July – DRs 4120 and 4140 made PA available for 9 counties, and HMGP available statewide. FEMA stood the JFO in Williston, VT back up after shutting it down from Tropical Storm Irene.

CAP-SSSE Update

Four (4) CAVs were completed by state staff 2013. Demands to support new legislative requirements and tremendous post-Irene demand for HMGP, PA, and floodplain management technical assistance have hampered our ability to conduct CAVs over the last 2 years.

Vermont State Law (Title 24 VSA §4424) provides that no permit for development in a flood hazard area may be granted by a municipality until after VT DEC has had an

opportunity to comment. Our comments address whether or not proposed development meets local and NFIP minimum requirements. Vermont uses development reviews as a surrogate for CACs, since these reviews meet the intended purpose of conducting CACs. Through these reviews, any problems in town administration of their regulations become apparent. The statutory development review process often results in site visits to address regulatory and compliance issues raised during the review process. For FFY13, VT reviewed and issued comments for 140 flood hazard development permits.

242 Vermont communities participate in the NFIP (~85%). We are very pleased at the rate of adoption of our avoidance based model bylaws since roll-out in 2008. Fifty-nine (59) communities have adopted avoidance based regulations that prohibit new structures and fill in the erosion hazard corridor and/or the SFHA.

The CAP-SSSE FFY2013 grant was awarded in July and only partially funded. We did not receive full funding until the end of September at the close of the performance period. Lack of adequate and timely funding with CAP-SSSE is becoming increasingly problematic.

The State Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved by FEMA in December 2013. Significant NFIP Coordinator time was spent in State Hazard Mitigation Committee meetings and reviewing/editing contractor drafts of the plan.

Much the floodplain management staff continued to support long term recovery efforts related to Tropical Storm Irene from 2011. Technical assistance included reconstruction floodplain management permitting assistance on PA projects and municipal permits, as well as HMGP and CDBG-DR grant and project support.

In addition, Biggert-Waters 2012 required extensive additional workload to deal with interest and inquiries from property owners, the media, agencies of state government, state legislators, and congressional delegation staffers.

Mitigation Issues and Successes

Work continues through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), with several active disasters at this time including extensions for Tropical Storm Irene. Irene created a windfall of HMGP and HUD CDBG-DR funding. In 2013, a tremendous amount of effort continued by multiple state agencies, regional planning commissions, NGOs, and municipalities on mitigation grant application coordination and development.

Unfortunately, due to lack of adequate staff to review applications at the FEMA Regional Office and haggling over eligibility criteria, only 69 of the 151 applications submitted by state have been approved. 45 of the approved applications are acquisitions for 99 properties. The remaining 24 approved applications are for infrastructure projects, planning grants, and 5% initiative. It is yet to be determined whether we will be able to spend all of available HMGP funding. It is interesting that CDBG-DR funding is more flexible in funding mitigation projects and planning efforts than FEMA's HMA program.

State Regulatory Environment

In 2012, Governor Shumlin signed Act 138 into law requiring the Agency of Natural Resources to adopt new state floodplain regulations for activities currently exempt from municipal regulation. In addition, the legislation substantially strengthens the state's stream alteration regulation and enforcement provisions during declared emergencies. Lastly, Act 138 directs the state to create a "Flood Resilient Communities Program" that would provide financial incentives to communities adopting strong floodplain and river corridor protection regulations. Much of the NFIP Coordinator's time in 2013 was spent drafting the state floodplain rule and doing outreach with implicated stakeholders which include the Agencies of Agriculture, Transportation, Natural Resources, Commerce and Community Development, and the Department of Buildings and General Services.

The draft rule includes *No Adverse Impact* requirements for the FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area as well as the erosion hazard corridor mapped by State. The state floodplain rule should be adopted by late 2014.

In 2013, Act 16 was signed into law requiring regional and municipal plans to include a flood resilience element with the intent moving beyond minimum FEMA hazard mitigation plan requirements. To support Act 16 planning and development the above-referenced "Flood Resilient Communities Program," the state is creating a "Flood Ready" web portal. An interim SharePoint site was created to support these efforts and may be accessed at tinyurl.com/floodresilience

Map Mod/ Risk Map Status

VT DEC continues to coordinate the map update process in Bennington County. Preliminary maps for Bennington County were issued 12/16/2010 with additional revised panels issued 1/19/2011. Due to post-Irene updated hydrology and hydraulics on the Roaring Branch, FEMA HQ required a new appeal period for Bennington County pushing back the effective date for the new DFIRMs to mid-2015.

Due to lack of funds, we have no commitments from FEMA for further restudies beyond Bennington County, leaving 8 counties with extremely antiquated flood hazard data. Similar to other New England states, funding under CTP for our mapping coordinator was cut 55% for FFY 2014.

ASFPM Conference – Hartford, CT June 2013

Due to the scholarship funding made available, we were able to capitalize on the close proximity and send almost 20 state and local officials to the conference in Hartford that otherwise would not have had the opportunity to attend. Thank you!

CFM Accomplishments

The Assistant NFIP Coordinator held a review session and proctored a CFM exam increasing the number of CFMs in Vermont to 37. VT only had 6 CFMs in 2006. The CFM certification program has greatly facilitated the increase in base floodplain management knowledge in VT.

Training and Conference Presentations

Training workshops or presentations held or conducted by VT staff for various audiences:

- Southern Vermont Rivers Conference – 10/16/2012
- Vermont Planning and Zoning Forum – 12/5/2012
- Vermont Bar Association Workshop – 12/13/2012
- RIFMA CNAI Workshop – 3/15/2013
- Rutland Regional Planning Commission Workshop – 5/6/2013
- Southern Windsor Flood Resilience Workshop – 5/29/2013
- Southern Vermont Realtors Training – 6/20/2013
- Central Vermont Realtors Training – 4/18/2013
- ASFPM Annual Conference – multiple presentations, June 2013
- ANR Solar Developers Training – 7/22/2013

VT attended the following conferences:

- RIFMA Annual Conference – 3/15/2013
- ASFPM Annual Conference, Hartford, CT- June, 2013

ASFPM Assistance Needed

Continue lobbying Congress to restore FEMA's mapping budget. Continue pressuring FEMA to provide timely and adequate CAP-SSSE funding.
