ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS

Region IV Report 2013-2014
(AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)
ASFPM Annual Conference / Board Meeting
Seattle, WA
June 2014
Terri L Turner, AICP, CFM, Region IV Director

ASFPM MISSION

The mission of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) is to promote education, policies, and activities that mitigate current and future losses, costs, and human suffering caused by flooding, and to protect the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains - all without causing adverse impacts.

INTRODUCTION and REGIONAL OVERVIEW:

Region IV consists of the following 8 states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Within the Region, all of the states have official Chapters of the Association of State Floodplain Managers:

- the Alabama Association of Floodplain Managers (AAFM)
- the Florida Floodplain Managers Association (FFMA)
- the Georgia Association of Floodplain Management (GAFM)
- the **Kentucky** Association of Mitigation Managers (KAMM)
- the Association of Floodplain Managers of **Mississippi** (AFMM)
- the North Carolina Association of Floodplain Managers (NCAFPM)
- the South Carolina Association of Hazard Mitigation (SCAHM)
- the **Tennessee** Association of Floodplain Managers (TN AFPM)

CHAPTER CONFERENCES WITHIN THE REGION:

Each of these organizations has held at least one annual meeting / conference in the past year and has provided CFM training, and general floodplain training and seminars to include, or in addition to, their annual event, as listed below:

 the Alabama Association of Floodplain Managers (AAFM) (http://www.aafmfloods.org/)

2013: April 17, 2013 Montgomery, AL

October 21-23, 2013 Auburn, AL 2014: May 28, 2014 Montgomery, AL

October 13-15, 2014 Auburn, AL

the Florida Floodplain Managers Association (FFMA)

(https://ffma.pbsjteamaccess.com/)

2013: April 10-12, 2013 St Petersburg, FL

2014: Mar 26-28, 2014 Stuart, FL

 the Georgia Association of Floodplain Management (GAFM) (http://www.gafloods.org/)

2012: March 11 1

2013: March 11-14, 2013 Lake Lanier Islands Resort; Buford, GA
2014: March 25-27, 2014 Hyatt Regency; Downtown Atlanta, GA*

*the site of the 2015 ASFPM Annual Conference – May 31 – June 5, 2015

• the **Kentucky** Association of Mitigation Managers (KAMM)

(http://www.kymitigation.org/)

2013: August 26-29, 2013 Gen Butler State Resort Pk; Carrollton, KY 2014: September 9-11, 2014 Lake Barkley State Resort; Cadiz, KY

the Association of Floodplain Managers of Mississippi (AFMM)

(http://www.kymitigation.org/)

2013: April 29-May 2, 2013 Natchez, MS Nov 4-6, 2013 Philadelphia, MS

2014: April 29-May 2, 2014 Biloxi, MS Fall Conference TBD TBD

the North Carolina Association of Floodplain Managers (NCAFPM)

(http://www.ncafpm.org/)

2013: April 28-May1, 2013 Wrightsville Beach, NC 2014: April 27- 30, 2014 Atlantic Beach, NC

• the **South Carolina** Association of Hazard Mitigation (SCAHM)

(http://www.scahm.org/)

2013: March 10-13, 2013 Greenville, SC 2014: March 11-14, 2014 Myrtle Beach, SC

the Tennessee Association of Floodplain Managers (TN AFPM)

(http://www.tnafpm.com/)

2013: July 30-August 2, 2013 Glenstone Lodge; Gatlinburg, TN

2014: August 5-8, 2014 Murfreesboro, TN

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS WITHIN THE REGION:

In conjunction with the Texas Floodplain Managers Association (TFMA) and the ASFPM Foundation, the Georgia Association of Floodplain Management has developed a peer-to-peer mentoring group, entitled "State Symposia Working Group", for past ASFPM Foundation Symposium states. Led by Jessica Baker for TFMA, Terri Turner for GAFM and Matt Koch as a facilitator for the ASFPM Foundation, the group will have their first meeting in early May 2014 and will discuss:

- Short- and long-term goals of the group
- o Ideas for moving forward
- Sharing successes and lessons learned

They will also enjoy a presentation by Brian Varrella of the Colorado Association of Stormwater and Floodplain Managers (CASFM) on an overview of the recently held Colorado Flood Forum and his experiences with the 2013 Colorado flood event.

THE REGION:

Our Region involves topography that ranges from "the mountains to the sea" and is impacted from sources of flooding that include: inland, riverine, and coastal flooding.

THE REGION'S DISASTERS:

(Report covers April 1, 2013 to April 1, 2014)

There have been a number of Emergency Declarations and Presidential Declarations issued during the past year within Region IV:

Emergency Declarations (2013):

None

Major Disaster Declarations (2013):

4146 North Carolina Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides and Mudslides

Emergency Declarations (2014):

3368	Georgia	Severe Winter Storm
3369	South Carolina	Severe Winter Storm

Major Disaster Declarations (2014):

4165	Georgia	Severe Winter Storm
4166	South Carolina	Severe Winter Storm
4167	North Carolina	Severe Winter Storm

Note: This does not account for localized events, which did not meet the threshold of a "declared disaster", but which are equally as devastating to local communities.

THE REGION'S CFM PROGRAM:

To work with these disaster events, and to take care of local/state/regional/tribal floodplain management needs, our Region has greater than 1,850 Certified Floodplain Managers; with more to come as Region IV Chapters aggressively provide training and certification opportunities as part of our mission.

Alabama	108 CFMs Total	(Up from 103 in 2013)
Florida	648 CFMs Total	(Up from 615 in 2013)
Georgia	249 CFMs Total	(Down from 264 in 2013)
Kentucky	65 CFMs Total	(Down from 69 in 2013)
Mississippi	139 CFMs Total	(Down from 143 in 2013)
North Carolina *	401 CFMs Total	(Up from 384 in 2013)
South Carolina	175 CFMs Total	(Up from 168 in 2013)
Tennessee	71 CFMs Total	(Up from 60 in 2013)

Total 1856 CFMs Total (Up from 1806 in 2013)

(as reported by Anita Larson - ASFPM EO 4/11/2014)
(as reported by Bill Tingle for the NC CFM Program*)
(as reported by Anita Larson – ASFPM EO 5/9/2013)
Note: NCAFPM had an ASFPM accredited CFM Program

** There is a 2.7% increase in CFMs in Region IV Chapters overall **

It should be noted that the Georgia Association of Floodplain Management (GAFM) started a CFM Mentor Program in 2008. The CFM Mentor Program is still active today and provides Mentors for those wishing to take the CFM Exam and also for new CFMs for the first two years (or longer, if desired) after CFM Certification.

The number of CFMs in Region IV should continue to grow as ASFPM and the Region IV Chapters continue to provide CFM training and other CFM certification opportunities.

REPORTS FROM THE STATES WITHIN REGION IV:

Alabama

As reported by Corey Garyotis, AL State NFIP Coordinator:

Corey Garyotis became the new State NFIP Coordinator in May of 2013 after Ken Meredith's March 2013 retirement.

This is a summary of accomplishments of the Alabama State NFIP Coordinator's Office over the past year:

- Conducted 11 State-led CAVs and assisted FEMA in conducting 4 other CAVs;
- Developed the Alabama <u>Strategic Plan for NFIP State Coordination</u>;
- Conducted a Two-Day Floodplain Management Workshop;
- Provided support to the Alabama Cooperating Technical Partner Program at Risk MAP meetings (Discovery and PDCC);
- Provided flood insurance and repetitive loss data to Alabama CTP for development of Discovery Reports;
- Enrolled 11 new NFIP communities;
- Provided five communities with supporting documentation for re-certification and assistance for evaluating participation in NFIP Community Rating System (CRS);
- Conducting L-273 course training to 20 floodplain managers (local floodplain administrators and engineers):
- Assisted and participated in the Alabama Association of Floodplain Manager's Fall Conference that had over 120 participants;
- Provided General Technical Assistance contacts (email and phone) to over 400 local officials, home and business owners, developers, real estate agents, engineers, and state agency officials;
- Participated in three coastal Alabama regional events to discuss the impacts the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 to home and business owners in Mobile: and
- Began development of a Post-Flood Recovery Guide for Alabama Floodplain Administrators.

Florida

As reported by FL State NFIP Coordinator, Joy Duperault:

The Florida State Floodplain Management Office

- Continues to mitigate/ resolve political and social impacts of recent NFIP reform legislation
- Continues to conduct CAP-SSSE work (CAVs, CACs, GTAs and map coordination) as well as participate in statewide educational events
- Enrolled 3 new communities in the first 3 months of 2014
- Initiated a statewide CRS effort by hiring a state CRS coordinator/staff to work with FEMA and ISO
 agents to target new and progressing communities for greater premium savings
- Continues to work with every Florida NFIP community in the updating of their local flood damage
 prevention ordinance to consider coordination with the statewide building code (which contains ICC
 flood resistant standards for construction)—have reviewed approx. 220 ordinances in the last 24
 months
- Worked with the state chapter (FFMA) to develop a white paper regarding potential recommendations to FEMA for changes in regulations of public restrooms on beaches so that floodproofed on-grade facilities might be deemed compliant in the future
- Continues to conduct outreach to population/economic segments such as realtor associations, county government officials, elected officials, citizen groups and so on with information about flood risk and mitigation opportunities
- Continues work on the "state facilities" grant to teach state agencies how to assess flood prone properties for potential mitigation measures, including the development of a guide book for assessment (grant ends 9-30-14)
- Began new partnerships with the State of North Carolina to develop a Florida Flood Risk Information platform for storing and sharing comprehensive flood risk data

Our mitigation planning unit is also doing some related things:

- Continues to work with other agencies and organizations to understand climate change and sea level rise impacts for coastal communities and resiliency
- Continues hosting Florida Silver Jacket team quarterly meetings, resulting in numerous US ACE pilot projects including the development of a mobile application for marking high water during a flood event
- Began a new partnership with the State of South Carolina to develop a web-based natural hazards risk assessment system
- Continues to conduct (with the Florida Geological Survey) a statewide assessment of sinkholes

As reported from Miles Anderson and Jared Jaworski from the FL State Hazard Mitigation Office:

- The Program Administration by States (PAS) pilot program for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program was adopted for the three most recent presidentially declared disasters in Florida (DR-4068 "Tropical Storm Debby;" DR-4084 "Hurricane Isaac;" DR-4138 "Sever Storms and Flooding").
- The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) requested Advanced Assistance under DR-4068 and DR-4084.
- FDEM held the FEMA L212 "Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance: Developing Quality Application Elements;", E213 "Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance: Application Review and Evaluation;" and L214 "Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance: Project Implementation and Closeout FEMA," training courses for all state mitigation staff.

Georgia

As reported by Tom Shillock - GA's New State Floodplain Coordinator:

NFIP reform:

Delivered presentations on changes to the NFIP to key stakeholder groups.

- 1. Georgia Association of Regional Commissions. (GARC) Annual meeting.
- 2. Georgia City/County Management Association. (GCCMA) Annual meeting
- 3. Georgia Association of Realtors. (GAR) Annual meeting.
- 4. Senator Saxby Chambliss' staff.

Prepared article on changes to the NFIP for the Georgia Municipal Association "Georgia Cities" magazine.

Partners in Mitigation - Presented on enrolling cities into the NFIP

Presented one 273 training class, planned a second for May 5-8, 2014 at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC)

Proctored two CFM exams and planned a third exam May 9, 2014.

CAP-SSSE work:

CAV - 8 communities

CAC - 0 communities

GTA - > 1.000 actions

Silver Jackets. Participated in Savannah Silver Jackets.

NFIP Enrollment effort:

Prepared three mailings to all non-NFIP communities. Two mailings were sent by surface mail and one by email. Currently assisting two counties and eleven communities to join the NFIP.

Early Coordination/Environmental Reviews:

The unit prepared environmental reviews and/or completed early coordination on over 300 transportation, water supply, waste water and other infrastructure projects.

GEORGIA FLOOD M.A.P. PROJECT UPDATE

GA DNR (Cooperative Technical Partner) continues to expand the number of projects in its Georgia Flood M.A.P. program. The Upper Chattahoochee River Basin remapping is now complete and the new flood maps are effective (visit the new revised "Find Your Flood Risk" web page www.GeorgiaDFIRM.com to see the latest maps).

GEORGIA COASTAL COUNTIES MAPPING PROJECT (CCMP)

Inland Riverine PMRs within the CCMP area have completed their respective appeal periods. Community and public meetings were held in the project area after distribution of the preliminary maps. As a result of strong local outreach support by community officials, the appeals period ran smoothly and the Georgia Risk Map Study Contractors are moving forward with finalizing the flood studies.

After the regulatory FIRMs and FIS reports are finalized, the focus of this project will transition towards planning for mitigation and promoting risk awareness. As part of this phase of the project, Resilience Workshops will be held for each County. Local floodplain administrators will be contacted around the Letter of Final Determination to start planning efforts for their respective community resilience workshops.

UPPER NORTHERN CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER AND ETOWAH WATERSHEDS

In partnership with FEMA and GEMA, the GA DNR conducted the Discovery Meeting Process for communities within the Upper Chattahoochee (North) and Etowah Watersheds. This process began with online surveys to obtain basic needs documentation from communities followed by one-on-one telephone interviews to determine the detailed mapping needs of the community as well as mitigation efforts in place.

In partnership with FEMA and GEMA, watershed-wide Discovery Meetings were held to further explain this new, areas of mitigation initiative to stakeholders while encouraging intercommunity dialogue and mitigation planning.

Communities shared information about capital improvement projects within the watershed as well as major mitigation projects (both ongoing and planned) in addition to major flooding and mapping issues. Community participants included emergency managers, planners, engineers, zoning administrators, permitting officials, among other technical staff. Final Discovery Reports are scheduled to be delivered to participating communities in early 2014.

SILVER JACKETS AND THE SUWANNEE RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT INITATIVE:

Georgia Floodplain Management in partnership with GEMA as well as the Georgia Silver Jackets held several meetings regardful of the Suwannee River Watershed Management Initiative. The intent of the Georgia Silver Jackets is to bring a collaborative partnership between Federal, State, and Local Governments. Meetings were held with representatives of GEMA, the Florida & Georgia Army Corps of Engineers, Congressional State representatives, local elected officials, and water planning district managers from Florida and Georgia. The common problem, common topic discussed at these meetings focused on the sever problems occurring within the Suwannee River Watershed, especially issues accentuating flooding and water supply management.

As reported by Terry Lunn GEMA State Hazard Mitigation Director:

Georgia was approved by FEMA for Enhanced Plan Status for its Section 322 plan on 3/18/14. The Enhanced Mitigation Plan is effective from 3/31/14 through 3/30/17.

The Enhanced Plan status has added \$11.1 million in HMGP funds in Georgia since 2008, when Georgia was initially approved for Enhanced plan status.

With the enhanced plan status, Georgia expects to receive an additional \$2 million in HMGP funds from the Severe Winter Storm disaster declaration (DR4165).

GA is one of 9 Enhanced Plan states, and one of only 7 states that hold both Enhanced Mitigation Plan status AND EMAP Accreditation from the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA).

GA continues to administer more than 130 HMA grants in 5 disaster allocations and 4 non-disaster allocations.

GA is preparing outreach to local governments in anticipation of a Notice Of Funds Availability for the 2014 PDM/FMA program and the current HMGP declaration.

Kentucky

As reported by Abigail Rains, KY's MS4 Program Coordinator / Acting KY State NFIP Coordinator:

CAV's: 7
CAC's: 20
L273 Class: 1
CFM Exams: 7
New Enrollments: 3
Ordinances Updated: 43

- KAMM conducted 8 training sessions across the state agenda included: Floodplain 101, NFIP Reform, and Mitigation 101
- Actively participated in Silver Jackets
- CTP:
 - o Conducted Risk MAP Discovery meetings in 3 HUC 8 watersheds
 - o Conducted Risk MAP Flood Risk Review/Resilience meetings in 2 HUC 8 watersheds
 - o 10 Counties had new FIRMs/FIS go effective
 - One LAMP Pilot project in Union County

As reported by Geni Jo Brawner, KY's Acting State Hazard Mitigation Officer:

The Commonwealth of Kentucky's Hazard Mitigation Plan was reviewed and approved by FEMA in October 2013. At this time we are awaiting FEMA's decision regarding the Commonwealth's Enhanced Status. Once 2013 PDM funding is awarded, Kentucky will begin the next update for five (5) of the local mitigation plans. Kentucky is currently finalizing the additional request for information from FEMA for the 2013 PDM and FMA applications. We continue to work on closing out HMGP projects from our eight (8) open disasters.

Mississippi

As reported by Jana Henderson, MS's State Hazard Mitigation Officer and Stacey Ricks, MS's State NFIP Coordinator:

CAV's: 37CAC's: 7L273 Class 2CFM Exams 2New Enrollments: 1

• GTA: 28

• CRS: 3 entered or lowered classification

- MapMod: All MapMod activities are complete with the exception of those counties with levee certifications issues. One LAMP pilot project begun in Monroe and Itawamba Counties. Two counties in which MapMod has not been completed.
- RiskMAP: Three discovery meeting held with HUC8 watershed areas. Three to four scheduled for this ear. Funding being increased and move to coastal mapping is hindering the progress of RiskMAP for the State.
- BW12: Participated in BW12 seminar with Congressional staff and local officials

Hazard Mitigation:

The State is currently working to finalize mitigation project applications for two (2) open disaster application periods. State Hazard Mitigation plan has been reviewed and approved by FEMA. Mitigation planners are working with four state districts and contractors on developing and updating local regional plans.

North Carolina

As reported by John Gerber, PE, CFM, State NFIP Coordinator, NC Division of Emergency Management Floodplain Mapping Program:

CAP-SSSE Update — for ASFPM reporting from April 1, 2013 to April 10, 2014

- 41 CAVs
- 77 CACs
- Responded to over 3,500 technical assistance requests, recorded 761 in CIS
- 40 Community requested no-impact certifications reviewed
- 98 NCDOT requested no-impact certifications reviewed
- 545 Environmental reviews through the clearinghouse process
- 2 L-273 Courses
- 6 (1day) FPA 101 courses
- 3 (2 day) Summer workshops
- 2 (3 day) Certified Floodplain Surveyors (CFS) Training
- 3 (4 hour) Certified Floodplain Surveyors renewal courses
- 5 half day training classes for the NC Society of Surveyors
- 33 training classes and presentations to various agencies and organizations
- 2 NCAFPM Conferences
- Held CFM Exam 4 times
- 7 Mapping meetings
- 5 New enrollments (Total of 570 participating making up 93% of communities with mapped SFHA)
- Responded to 3 Presidential Disaster Declarations, (2 flood related)

As reported by Chris Crew, NC's SHMO:

North Carolina earned Enhanced Plan Status for its 322 plan effective 2-28-14 and had a disaster declaration for severe winter weather six days later. The Enhanced status added approximately (pending final lock-in) \$1.3 million dollars to an HMGP fund that would have totaled \$4.3 million with a Standard 322 Plan.

NC is one of 9 Enhanced Plan states, and one of only 7 that holds both Enhanced 322 status AND EMAP Accreditation from the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA).

NC continues the timely closeout of current HMGP, PDM and FMA grant packages and is preparing outreach to local governments in anticipation of a Notice Of Funds Availability for the 2014 PDM/FMA program and the current HMGP declaration.

NC began its fourth update of the 322 plan on April 9 at the annual convention of the State Hazard Mitigation Advisory Group. This update will incorporate a web-based risk assessment tool that will ultimately link risk assessments from local hazard mitigation plans and other risk-based plans managed by the Division of Emergency Management. The next edition of the 322 Plan, due by April of 2016, will be a more streamlined, user-friendly document.

Reduction of the state's flood risk and consolidation of local and county-level hazard mitigation plans into multi-county regional plans continue to be top priorities for the state hazard mitigation program.

South Carolina

As reported by Maria Cox Lamm, SC State NFIP Coordinator:

Disaster Status – Received first Disaster Declaration since 2005.

CAP-SSSE:

CAV's: 9 CAC-V: 13 CAC-T: 19

Ordinance Reviews for all communities receiving new maps and general request for review (outside of the ones done for CAV/CACs).

Offered one (1) L273 Course

Offered one (1) CFM Refresher Course

CFM Exam held three (3) times

Three (3) communities joined the NFIP

Outreach

Conducted training on BW-12 and Elevation Certificates to local floodplain managers

Conducted BW-12 training for Insurance professionals, surveyors, and engineers

Presented at the SCAHM conference

Presented at ASFPM

Presented at the SC Wind and Hail Underwriters' Meeting

Mitigation (HMA Grants – just FMA/SRL/RFC):

Two planning grants are active along with one project grant (acquisition of a commercial property)

Submitted 12 FMA grants; none were sent for further review

Active member of the SC Safe Home committee

Continuing great coordination with SCEMD

CTP:

Three (3) counties maps went effective

Held 2 discovery Meetings

Actively participate in Silver Jackets

Tennessee

As reported by Doug Worden, the TN SHMO:

Currently working to closeout HMGP in our (4) 2009 disasters. We are also working final issues with both our PDM and FMA projects in 2013. Hope to have them approved in the next couple of months. The State is starting our own Silver Jackets program and various Federal and State agencies have met a few times and are presently working on drafting a charter. Also the State has just finished joint FEMA/State PDAs for the

winter storm we had about two months ago. The Governor has forwarded a request for a Presidential Declaration to FEMA.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOALS (carried over from 2012/2013):

Based on input from the NFIP Coordinators and SHMOs within Region IV, and various other floodplain management professionals within the Region IV states, the following goals and recommendations are made for the upcoming year:

- Provide outreach / assistance, as practicable, to State NFIP Coordinators and SHMOs.
- Distribute relevant and important information regarding floodplain management and regulatory changes to State NFIP Coordinators and SHMOs (and to membership) within each State within the Region.
- Champion the effort to coordinate with FEMA to provide consistent regulatory guidance between the Regions and between HQs and the Regions. (There are numerous inconsistencies between FEMA HQ's guidance and Region IV's guidance).
- Provide frequent updates on NFIP Reform progress, congressional initiatives, and pending legislation, especially those matters that directly affect the States
- Continue to push FEMA on timely distribution of CAP funds
- Continue to push for increased funding for floodplain management, flood programs, and flood mapping; Push to keep PDM as a grant source
- Provide timely information on Federal budget cutbacks affecting State programs
- Continue to push FEMA to do restudies, where needed, to map behind levees, and to map unnumbered A Zones; If FEMA cannot accomplish this on their own, then a Mapping Grant Program should be created (with a 75/25 match) for communities to update their own maps, thus creating more local involvement in floodplain mapping
- Continue outreach on PRP, LOMA "Out as Shown" and other flood insurance topics
- Continue efforts to standardize plan formats and risk assessments in FEMA-approved State and Local Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Update the Higher Standards Guide
- Continue to provide more levee information / outreach in States where this is applicable
- Provide more focus on floodplain management at the State and Local levels
- Provide more outreach at the State and Local levels perhaps a mechanism for doing this would be
 a monthly webinar that all ASFPM members could call into ASFPM Committees could be
 responsible for these webinars on a rotating basis
- Promote ASFPM membership and update Region IV members on the activities of ASFPM.
- ASFPM should attend, when invited and when possible, the NFIP Coordinators meetings for the Region
- ASFPM should attend, when invited and when possible, the annual meetings for each state within the Region.
- ASFPM should provide, when invited and when possible, NAI training for each state within the Region
- ASFPM / the ASFPM Foundation should (continue to) work with the State of Georgia (and Region IV) to implement the action items outlined in the 2013 GA Flood Risk Symposium
- The affordability issue of implementing GW-14 should be explored especially for low income, elderly, needs-based
- The length of time to implement (and the funding for implementation of) MapMod should be explored. Numerous communities are in desperate need of updated maps

NEW RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOALS (2014):

•	The nexus between GW-14 and BW-12 should be clearly defined by ASFPM and made available to all members, all State NFIP Coordinators and all SHMOs