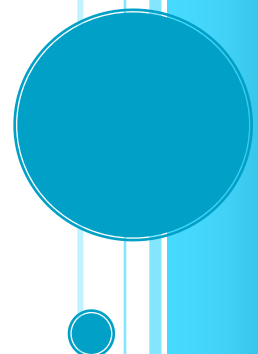


# ASFPM REGION 5 DIRECTOR ANNUAL REPORT

*Annual Conference—Grand Rapids, Michigan (2016)*



Rodney Renkenberger, PS, CFM Region 5 Director  
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**2015-2016**

**Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin**



## Introduction and Regional Overview

ASFPM chapters and floodplain management associations in Region 5 include [Illinois Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management](#), [Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management, Inc.](#), [Michigan Stormwater and Floodplain Association](#), [Minnesota Association of Floodplain Managers](#), [Ohio Floodplain Management Association](#), [Missouri Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association](#) and [Wisconsin Association for Floodplain, Stormwater and Coastal Management](#). These organizations hold annual conferences and sponsor training opportunities.

## A Tribute to Greg Main

As I prepare this report, I would be remiss if I didn't note the passing of Indiana's State NFIP Coordinator Greg Main and the contributions he made to the advancement of sound floodplain management in Indiana and to the nation as former ASFPM chair. Greg was instrumental in forming the Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management, Inc., and was a past chair. He was also involved in planning the first "Operation Stay Afloat Conference" in Indiana. The conference was so successful that it has become a biennial. Greg was very well known and respected throughout the ranks of ASFPM, and especially in Region 5. He was very passionate about his job as state coordinator and constantly promoted sound floodplain management in the gentlest, mild-mannered way, which worked extremely well for him. Greg also had a passion for good beer, so as we gather in the Beer Capital of the World, please join me in raising your glass (or bottle) in remembrance of this fine gentleman.



**Greg may have passed, but his legacy lives on...**

A brief overview of Region 5 events for the past year include:

No federal disasters were declared for Region 5 states. Most states received PDM Mitigation Planning grants to update their Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plans and PDM Project grants to acquire flood damaged structures and remove them from the SFHA.

**Illinois** received a number of PDM MHMP Planning Grants as well as FMA grants for acquiring Severe Repetitive Loss Properties and Repetitive Flood Claims properties.

**Indiana** saw an incredible amount of rain in June 2015, resulting in near record flooding in several communities. A number of Indiana communities continue implementing Flood Mitigation Projects to reduce their overall damage potential. Indiana had submitted several PDM Planning Grant applications for updating a number of MHMPs and an FMA grant to acquire a severe repetitive loss property, but unfortunately none of Indiana's applications were approved for funding.

**Minnesota** received multiple FEMA grants for acquisition, elevation, relocation, and slope stabilization projects, several Hazard Mitigation Plan Update project grants, and Phase I approval of the City of Worthington County Ditch flood mitigation project. Several RiskMap Discovery meetings were held in May in Grand Rapids, MI and a Discovery Action Meeting in September.

**Ohio** did not have any federal disasters in 2015. PDM Mitigation Planning grants were awarded for six counties, three PDM project grants for the Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program, a safe room in Bellville, and school safe room in Toledo West Side Montessori. FMA grants received included acquisition projects in: Findlay, Ottawa, and LaRue, and one elevation project in LaRue.

**Wisconsin** did not have any federal disasters in 2015. PDM Mitigation Planning grants totaling \$0.58M were awarded for 9 counties and a Safe Room project in the City of Prairie du Chein. In response to a FEMA memo regarding the HMGP Pilot Closeout for Uncommitted 2010-2013 Funds, the state submitted expanded three SOWs to include acquisition and demolition totaling \$1.38M. Flood Inundation maps were completed for 5 reaches along the Rock River and WDNR is working on flood inundation maps for the upper Illinois Fox River in Kenosha and Racine Counties. Wisconsin is officially a Silver Jackets charter (State of Wisconsin Hazard Mitigation Silver Jackets Team), is updating their State Hazard Mitigation Plan, completed a flood structure inventory for Columbia County, is applying for Emergency Management Accreditation Program, and working with FEMA on a statewide programmatic agreement for Section 106 compliance for FEMA-funded projects.

## Region 5 Priorities

In an attempt to address some of the Region 5 priorities, Chad Berginnis and I met with Fredric Kaehler, P.E., Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch Chief, Mitigation Division, FEMA Region 5 last summer.

- **Mapping;**
  - Convince FEMA Region V that Region V states are fully capable and better

- o suited to manage all aspects of the RiskMap Program;
  - o Continue focusing on map accuracy and not quantity of new maps printed;
- **Mitigation;**
  - o Region 5 is supporting the Disaster Deductible, where states receive credit towards the deductible for their mitigation activities;
  - o IA/PA Process needs to be updated to account for states who aggressively implement mitigation and reduce their overall damage potential because these states suddenly find themselves ineligible for IA/PA, and more importantly, HMGP mitigation funding because they can no longer qualify for a federal disaster declaration;
  - o Appropriate more money towards actual mitigation projects; fewer dollars towards MHMP Planning;
  - o Streamline mitigation application process to promote more timely approvals;
  - o Increase funding options for individual mitigation / elevation projects;
  - o Change DMA-2000 MHMP update requirement to a 10-year cycle; five-year cycle is a burden and is a waste of money;
- **CRS Push**
  - o Award more mitigation funding to states that are more pro-active towards mitigating flood damages.
- **Training Needs**
  - o Encourage FEMA Region V to offer other training opportunities in each state such as: FEMA G393 - Mitigation for Emergency Managers; Disaster response and recovery; Damage assessments; Benefit-cost analysis including new Landslide Acquisition benefit; Community safe room; Higher Standards; and other mitigation and recovery topics as needed.
  - o Promote cross-training and coordination between floodplain managers and emergency managers.

## Recommend Actions

Based on input from the NFIP coordinators and SHMOs within the region and various other floodplain management professionals, the following goals and recommendations are made for the next year:

- ASFPM should promote NFIP reform that will ensure sound floodplain management policies.
- Funding for flood maps in accordance with the ASFPM publication "[Flood Mapping for the Nation](#)."
- Need to fund more in-person training for insurance agents and lenders;