

ASFPM Region 10 Status Report 2019

Association of State Floodplain Managers

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INTRODUCTION AND REGIONAL OVERVIEW

The ASFPM Region 10 area includes Washington, Oregon, Alaska and Idaho. There is only one chapter in Region 10, the Northwest Floodplain Management Association. However, it covers all four states as well as the province of British Columbia in Canada.

The NORFMA 2019 Annual Conference is Sept. 24 - 27, 2019 It will be held at THE GROVE HOTEL - BOISE, IDAHO Its theme is "Fires, Floods, Mud & More: Integrated Processes"

The irrigation is still unresolved in Idaho...

On March 1, 2019 IDWR provided to FEMA the Final Admin Irrigation Guidance Memo signed by Deputy Director Mat Weaver and the Final IDWR-FEMA MOA signed by IDWR Director Gary Spackman. The period of the MOA is 26 months – this will give us enough time to get through two legislative sessions. IDWR does not plan to implement any items in the MOA until after FEMA signs the MOA and we get a copy of the signed MOA from you.

On April 2 John Graves stated to the Idaho NFIP coordinator: "I actually just talked with my HQ counterpart while here at EMI on the East Coast yesterday. He informed me that they have a meeting scheduled with David Maurstad next week to brief and expect to get a signature. I will let you know as soon as I hear something back from them."

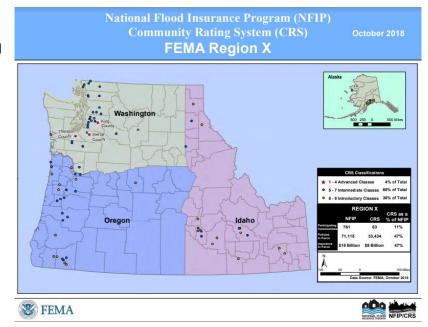
REGION 10 PRIORITIES

Mapping

Every state in Region 10 has a focus on flood mapping and in particular better quality maps to update data from the 1980s and before. Several counties are still working with paper maps.

CRS Increase

- Region 10 is working with communities to move forward in CRS.
 - There are now 83 CRS total communities in Region10, including three Class 2 communities.



Training Needs

- Training of insurance agents has been an issue of special concern because policies have been rated incorrectly, making the flood insurance more expensive. What sort of training will be given to agents about Risk Rating 2.0?
- All states reported training events. CFM exams were given, especially at the NORFMA Conference.

• Accreditation – A comment from a NORFMA Board member

If our CFM test is setting the standard, and people are beginning to recognize it as the standard then it should be the standard. We should protect that standard. I understand when we were young, we were willing to allow those six states to align with us to have a standard which was a bit different than our own. However, if we are going to continue to be recognized as holding the standard, those states are going to want to use our test, and our certification then it is time for them to fall into line with us and be a part of the rest of the certification program. Like APA who has an achievement which we all recognize as a standard of excellence and ethics in planning. ASFPM has built a standard for excellence and ethics for floodplain development. Our membership fees are not that far out of line. FEMA is more and more recognizing us as a standard bearer in our community. If we are going to continue to hold this light we should hold the program to one standard, regardless of state. A CFM is a CFM. This isn't about membership, it is about making sure that the people who take the test and continue to train in the floodplain management business are doing so in the same standard. This will continue to add credence to our program, our standard and to the offerings we have.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

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

- NFIP reform is a concern we all share. Need NFIP reauthorization that includes reforms that will ensure sound floodplain management policies.
- Need funding for flood maps in accordance with the ASFPM publication "Flood Mapping for the Nation." There are large areas in Region 10 that are still without flood maps of any kind.
- State floodplain managers in Region 10 are concerned with upcoming implementation and guidance for Endangered Species Act requirements. While Region 10 has experience with the Puget Sound Biological Opinion, much of the rest of the region as yet to be impacted.
- Coordination between region staff and Idaho concerning irrigation districts and their need to obtain floodplain development permits needs to continue.