ASFPM ARID REGIONS Committee Status Report

Annual Conference—Grand Rapids, Michigan (2016)



Bob Davies & Jeanne Ruefer, Arid Regions Committee Co-chairs 5/23/2016



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2015-2016

Arid Regions geographic extent in terms of states from which regular participation in committee activities occurs: Arizona, Nevada, California, New Mexico, Washington, Colorado and Montana.

Introduction and Regional Overview

Introduction and Policy Focus Areas

The primary mission of the Arid Regions Committee is to provide policy guidance and support of arid regions floodplain management issues to foster reduction of future losses, costs and human suffering caused by flooding. Historically, this committee has influenced FEMA's flood mapping program through education and outreach in the arid areas. This has been accomplished through forwarding local arid regions floodplain concerns to ASFPM for actions, disseminating ASFPM policies and questions to local floodplain decision makers for action, and sharing information between communities in the arid regions.

The Arid Regions Committee has the following standard work items that are ongoing in nature: 1. Participate in ASFPM policy committee conference calls and retreats. The co-chairs facilitate the monthly conference calls, and a co-chair attends the policy committee annual retreat in Madison, WI.

Prepare status reports and develop work plans. Reports and work plans submitted on schedule.
Attend committee chair meeting at national conference and conduct the annual committee meeting.

4. Conduct committee coordination and planning. The annual work plan is updated with active committee member input, and is refined and finalized at the annual ASFPM meeting.

Current Committee Priorities:

- Continue to monitor and inform committee members of the status of FFRMS, its implementation schedule and specific impacts to arid regions concerns.
- Assess improvements needed to the unique needs of hydrologic and hydraulic analysis and modelling in the Arid Regions.
- Identify specific committee work items resulting from Steve Dolan's review of the NFIP regulations as related to needed appropriate higher standards for the arid regions.
- Consider reprioritizing the next issues for the committee to work on, starting with the results of the arid regions issue survey which exists.