



Region 6 Status Report 2020

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**ASSOCIATION OF STATE
FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS**

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Overview

Region 6 represents Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. The floodplains of the region are as diverse as its population—ranging from coastal estuaries, arid plains, urban watersheds, and riverine deltas. The region’s most common disasters are hurricanes, tornados, and flash floods.

Disasters

According to Disaster declarations posted by FEMA the following number of disaster declarations and types of events have been seen in the states within Region 6 from Spring of 2019 to present:

Arkansas – three events encompassing severe storms, straight line winds, flooding, and tornados
Louisiana – three events including Hurricane Barry, Mississippi River flooding, and tornados
Oklahoma – three events ranging from severe storms with tornados to flooding
Texas – three events made up of Tropical Storm Imelda, severe storms, and flooding

Initiatives

Louisiana is continuing in organization efforts for the Louisiana Watershed Initiative, which brings together key stakeholders among state agencies responsible for coastal restoration, wildlife and fisheries, emergency management, floodplain management, roads and bridges, and community development. Key tasks that have been a focus in the past year is high-quality modeling that will be used in future prioritization of projects that provide watershed level benefits. More information about the region breakouts and funding prioritization can be found at www.watershed.la.gov.

Texas is also working on a watershed level initiative with funding available through the Flood Infrastructure Fund. Flood protection planning for watersheds is in the category 1 for a funding application that is currently open. Additional categories include federal grant matching funds, non-structural mitigation measures, and immediate need type projects. More information can be found at www.twdb.texas.gov then click “flood”.

Oklahoma has extended the deadline for the Floodplain Administrator Accreditation through September 30, 2020 due to lack of training venues as a result of COVID-19. More information can be found at www.owrb.ok.gov.

HMA Success

The 2019 HMA selections were just announced by FEMA and Region 6 saw great success. Congratulations to all of the sub applicants that work tirelessly to aid flood prone properties with application in the FMA program. Total applications selected for further review in FMA FY2019 in Region 6 are as follows:

Arkansas – Advanced Assistance: 2 Acquisition/Elevation: 5

Louisiana – Advanced Assistance: 1 Community Resilience: 1 Acquisition/Elevation/Reconstruction: 26

Texas – Advanced Assistance: 1 Community Resilience: 1 Acquisition/Elevation: 9

Additional congratulations to the communities that were successful in the PDM FY2019 cycle. It is encouraging to see the high participation of tribes in this year’s cycle. Total applications selected for further review in PDM FY2019 in Region 6 are as follows:

Arkansas – HMP Update: 2, Safe Room: 1

Louisiana – HMP Update: 5, Advanced Assistance: 2, Resilient Infrastructure: 1, Elevation 2

New Mexico – HMP Update: 5, Drainage: 1

Oklahoma – HMP Update: 2, Advanced Assistance: 5, Safe Room: 8

Texas – HMP Update: 10, Resilient Infrastructure: 1, Elevation 1, Flood Mitigation: 1