

Association of State FloodPlain Managers
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Resolution on Dams

WHEREAS,

- Base Flood Elevations (BFE) shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) reflect watershed conditions existing during the early phases of the Flood Insurance Study; and
- The average FIRM is more than ten years old; and
- The upland development during the past ten years has not been accounted for in the BFE; and
- Flood fringe provisions allow for filling of flood prone areas which are outside of designated floodways, thereby allowing up to a one foot increase in BFE's and
- This increase will ultimately result in the flooding of structures built in accordance with current national Flood Insurance Program standards; and
- The Community Rating System proposes to give credit for communities that require a freeboard; and
- A nationally recognized building code has reduced its elevation standard in "A" Zones in order to not exceed the Federal standard; and
- The cost of additional elevation to protect against the rise in BFE and other uncertainties inherent in floodplain occupation is offset through lower insurance cost over the life of the mortgage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IS RESOLVED THAT the Association of State Floodplain Managers, Inc. supports a federal standard which require all new or substantially improved structures in special flood hazard areas be constructed such that the lowest floor is one or more feet above the base flood elevation and the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member supporting a floor be at or above the BFE when established as a standard. When established as a standard, it should be implemented in conjunction with other major changes in order to minimize the frequency of ordinance modifications at the local level.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ASFPM ON JUNE 13, 1990.