

ASFPM Coastal Issues Committee Meeting Notes

June 23, 2021

Welcome - Lori Cary-Kothera and [Tom McDonald](#) co-chairs

- Welcome and thanks for your interest in this committee
- We are going to try and hold these meetings more regularly.
- Next date is Aug 19th at 1 pm (note pushed back from what was said on the call)

CBRA - Coastal Barriers Resources Act Update

- Trump Administration rolled back regulations that now allow for off-shore sand mining to occur
- ASFPM joined nearly 40 other organizations signing a letter to have that protection put back in place.
- The letter will be on the Coastal Issues Web page
- Comments -
 - Great to hear this is the exactly the type of protection we need in FL
 - Concerned about this - we have used offshore sand for beach renourishment in NC
 - Also noted the CBRA zones are no longer on FIRMS as they are updated. However, the CBRA zone remains a vital component for floodplain management. Interest to share how to use a mapping tool to review coastal habitats and the CBRA zones. Lori will look into getting a speaker.
 - The maps can be found here: <https://www.fws.gov/cbra/maps/Mapper.html>
 - Joy Duperault shared [erosion mapping effort](#) from FEMA for region 1

Digital Coast Act Passage

- Act was passed in December and legitimized the [Digital Coast](#) Program
- Calls for data gaps to be filled, new tools developed and focused on supporting the underserved communities
- Also calls for a best practices document, which is under development
- Thanks to all that have helped to promote this effort and get this legislation passed. ASFPM was a key partner to making this happen!
- We are considering a survey to better understand what you are using and what gaps floodplain manager have that are still unfilled

Climate Change Task Force

- ASFPM effort to put a brighter focus on climate change

- Darryl Hatheway and Rebecca Morrow are representing our coastal committee on this task force
- Task Force is holding monthly meetings and have decided as a first step to share 101 climate information with the members. This will be broader than just SLR - but touch comprehensively on all climate related issues.
 - Webinars will be over a six-month period
 - Planning to have 20-25 min overview with discussion time for the remaining hour
 - Will also touch on regional climate differences
 - **ACTION:** looking for people that can speak to climate issues in the Pacific Northwest, Southeast and Mid-Atlantic. If you are interested contact ***Darryl.Hatheway@aecom.com or Rebecca at rmorrow@pwgrosser.com***
- Gene Henry just finished a rotation working on the nationwide Chief Resilience Officers (under Governors) Work Group where many states are working with various levels of climate change and resilience. He will pass the information on to Darryl and Rebecca.
- Kevin DuBois offered a presentation on how the Department of Defense works with neighboring communities to address climate change issues

Social Justice Task Force

- In addition to climate change, ASFPM is also interested in advanced efforts towards social justice and has formed a task force on this issue as well.
- Several people from coastal participate including Lori and Joy Duperault
- The task force has presented a policy statement for the board to review and pass at the next board meeting in July.
- Additionally, they developed the plenary for the second day of the ASFPM conference. The session went well and received good feedback!
- They are currently developing a workplan
- The group meets on the 3rd Monday of the month and is soliciting new members. If you are interested you can fill out this [form](#).

Coastal Issues Workplan

- Tom and Lori will be updating the Coastal Issues Workplan
- In the past we have brought in speakers through our lunch and learn webinar series, had open discussion topics, supported Digital Coast Partnership.
- What would the group like to see for next year?
 - Lots of changes in the coastal zone right now. Many caused by impacts from flooding. Would like to see some discussion on erosion and how to protect infrastructure.
 - Would also be interested in discussion endangered species and how their habitat is impacted by climate change.

- Perhaps a white paper on best management practices for dealing with rapid changing coastal environments
- Could ask Mary Bart if we could put tips for coastal practitioners in the newsletter
- Would like to have a speaker come and talk about CBRA
- Would like to hear about some green technologies - nature and nature based solutions
 - Best practices on these topics would be very helpful as they are a bit overwhelming
- If you think of other ideas, please let Lori and Tom know.
 - Lori - Lori.Cary-Kothera@noaa.gov
 - Tom - tmcdonald@savannahga.gov

Next call is Aug 19th at 1 pm