

High Waters

A Publication of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association

A Quarterly Newsletter

March 2015

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Spring Workshop

The Spring 2014 NMFMA Workshop and Conference is coming up from April 14-17, 2015 in Albuquerque, NM at the MCM Elegante Hotel. Contact Curtis Cherne at 505-924-3986 or ccherne@cabq.gov or Loretta Hatch at 505-869-2358 or pzadmin@bosquefarmsnm.gov if you have any questions.



NMFMA Spring Workshop and Conference

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Time		Presentation Topic / Activity	Instructors	Organization
From	To			
1:00 PM	5:00 PM	To Be Determined		
5:00 PM		Dinner on your own		

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Time		Presentation Topic / Activity	Presenter	Organization
From	To			
9:00 AM	12:00 PM	CFM Exam	Grant Pinkerton	NMFMA
10:00 AM	5:00 PM	Conference Registration		
12:00 PM	1:30 PM	Lunch on your own		
1:30 PM	1:45 PM	Welcome NMFMA Chair	Dave Turk,, CFM	AECOM
1:45 PM	2:00 PM	Welcome Local Dignitary	Mayor Richard Berry	Mayor of Albuquerque
2:00 PM	3:00 PM	Developing a State Disaster Response Team	W.B. Smith,P.E.,CFM	HISINC, LLC
3:00 PM	3:30 PM	Break		
3:30 PM	4:15 PM	TBA	Pat McMurray	Director CID & MHD
4:15 PM	5:00 PM	RISK Map Update	Mike Camponovo,CFM	Earth Data Analysis Center, UNM
6:00 PM	9:00 PM	Evening Social		

NMFMA Spring Workshop and Conference

Thursday, April 16, 2015 | **Track 1**

Time		Presentation Topic / Activity	Presenter	Organization
From	To			
8:30 AM	9:15 AM	NM Disaster Report / Mitigation Ideas	Jerry Clark	FEMA
9:15 AM	10:00 AM	GIS Tips, Tricks, & Best Practices	Shawn Penman, Ph.D., CFM, GISP	Earth Data Analysis Center, UNM
10:00 AM	10:30 AM	Break		
10:30 AM	11:15 AM	FEMA's New FIRM Standards applied to Bernalillo County	Sean O'Melveny	AECOM
11:15 AM	12:00 PM			
12:00 PM	1:30 PM	Luncheon and Business Meeting	Election Results	
1:30 PM	2:15 PM	Silver Jacket Update	Bill Borthwick/ Stephen Scissons	NMDHSEM USACE
2:15 PM	3:00 PM			
3:00 PM	3:30 PM	Break		
3:30 PM	5:00 PM			
6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Dinner / Evening Social		

Thursday April 16, 2015 | **Track 2**

Time		Presentation Topic / Activity	Presenter	Organization
From	To			
8:30 AM	9:00 AM	Flood Warning System	Fritz Law	One Rain
9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Creation of floodplain horizontal offset / buffer incorporating elevation data	Vinay Achrekar	AECOM
9:30 AM	10:00 AM	Low Altitude Aerial Triangulation for Detailed 3D Surface Reconstruction	Christopher D. Lippitt, PhD, CMS-RS	Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of New Mexico
10:00 AM	10:30 AM	Break		

NMFMA Spring Workshop and Conference

Thursday April 16, 2015 | **Track 2 Continued**

Time		Presentation Topic / Activity	Presenter	Organization
From	To			
10:30 AM	11:15 AM	Estimating Flood Flows at Ephemeral Channels Using Specialized Gages	Jeffrey Cordova	USGS, NM Water Science Center
11:15 AM	12:00 PM	IT Solution	Eric Nemeth, CFM Navajo Rep	AECOM/Navajo Housing Authority
12:00 PM	1:30 PM	Luncheon and Business Meeting		
1:30 PM	3:00 PM	Field Trip to Centennial Building for Tour of Hydraulics Lab	Host: Mike Camponovo Presenter: Mark Stone	EDAC UNM
3:00 PM	3:30 PM	Break		
3:30 PM	4:00 PM	AMAFCA Facility Monitoring Needs, and Solutions	Jim DeAngelo, CFM/ AMAFCA Rep	AECOM/AMAFCA Rep
4:00 PM	4:30 PM	Post Fire Debris Flow Hazards	Anne Tillery, CFM	USGS, NM Water Science Center
4:30 PM	5:00 PM	Manhole Hydrology	Mark Holstad, PE	Albuquerque/ Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority
6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Dinner/Evening Social		

Friday, April 17, 2015

Time		Presentation Topic / Activity	Presenter	Organization
From	To			
8:30 AM	9:15 AM	HFIAA	Mayra Diaz	FEMA, Region VI
9:15 AM	10:00 AM	TBA	Brian Guyer	Meteorologist, NWS
10:00 AM	10:30 AM	Break		
10:30 AM	11:15 AM	Rio Grande Water Fund / Public Outreach with ESRI Story Map Platform	Dale Lyons/ Bill Borthwick, CFM Mike Camponovo, CFM	The Nature Conservancy
11:15 AM	12:00 PM			
12:00 PM		ADJOURN		



NWS/NOAA Outreach

Kerry Jones, NWS



While we are not quite done with winter weather, it's never too early to begin shifting our focus to springtime weather that includes a higher frequency of thunderstorms including the potential for severe storms, especially on the eastern plains. Most weather-related fatalities and injuries can be avoided by taking simple yet proper precautions, and upcoming awareness weeks are an opportunity to dust off preparedness plans and review safety rules. Injuries due to lightning are second only to tornadoes in New Mexico, though 100 of those injured by tornadoes occurred in only 4 events. Most fatalities in our state are associated with lightning, not surprisingly, either directly or indirectly, though flash floods are not too far behind. Lightning fatalities generally occur with the first or last cloud to ground strike in a storm, when people outside are generally unaware that a storm is approaching, or resume their outside activities before the storm has completely exited the area. Look for additional safety and preparedness information later this spring from your local NWS office.

Severe Weather & Wildfire Awareness Week: Mar 29-Apr 3, 2015

National Wildfire Preparedness Day: May 2, 2015

Monsoon Awareness Week: Jun 14-19, 2015

Spring Safety

The NWS Weather Ready Nation Program has released its Spring Safety Information Kit which contains links, stories, outreach material, and other information related to spring safety. Learn more at http://nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/spring_safety.html.



Help improve New Mexico's precipitation network by volunteering to join the CoCoRaHS network. Visit <http://www.cocorahs.org> to learn more.



New Mexico Certified Floodplain Managers

*Grant Pinkerton, CFM
Chair, Certification Committee*

The next CFM exam will be proctored at the NMFMA Spring workshop in Albuquerque, NM, April 15, 2015 at the MCM Elegante hotel. You will be able to register to take the exam and pay the fee when the registration page for the workshop is set up on the NMFMA web site. Don't forget to send your CFM Exam Application to the Roswell address noted in the packet. Any questions should be directed to Grant Pinkerton, Certification Board Chair, at nmcfm@cablone.net.

Floodplain certification is assigned by NMFMA to applicants who pass the CFM exam, which is given at each workshop and at the end of the FEMA E273 course that is sometimes held here in NM. People who pass the exam and become CFMs are recognized as certified on the date they pass the exam. Their 2 year certification period begins on the January 1 or July 1 immediately following the day they pass the exam. This certification is for a 2 year period during which CFMs must earn Continuing Education Credits (CECs) to be able to continue their certification for another 2 year period. Each CFM must earn at least 4 CECs during each year of their 2 year period, and must earn a minimum of 16 CECs every 2 years to qualify for renewal. **Don't forget to earn your 4 CECs every year.**

CFMs who are due for renewal will receive a letter reminding them of their due date about 3 months prior to the deadline. CFMs due for renewal in January will also receive a reminder from our web site service about their NMFMA membership renewal. Both of these are due for renewal in January. They are two different things and are commonly confused with each other. If your CFM renewal is due in January, please remember that you will receive 2 requests to renew by that time, one for your NMFMA membership, which is \$35, and one for your CFM, which is \$25.

If you have any questions about the NM CFM Program, the Charter for the Program can be accessed on the Certification page of the website. If you have any questions about the CFM program, contact Grant Pinkerton.

The CFM exam is proctored several times each year. If you are interested in taking the exam, please remember that no matter what paperwork or on-line registration you submit for any specific workshop, class, or other function, **YOU MUST SUBMIT A CFM EXAM APPLICATION PACKET** to the Certification Board before you can be scheduled to take the exam. The packet is downloadable from the Certification page of the NMFMA website. The Application Packet should be mailed to the Roswell address noted in the packet.

New Mexico Hazard Mitigation Assistance Update

Michael Camponovo
EDAC

FEMA has recently updated guidance for Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants. Webinars are available for those interested and a brief review of the changes are listed below.

FY 2015 HMA Guidance Webinars

Significant changes have been made to the Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Guidance, a comprehensive document that details the specific criteria of the three HMA programs: the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) programs. The Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15) HMA Guidance provides stakeholders with updates and refinements of program policies and practice. These enhancements will promote resilience, and streamline application review, eligibility requirements, project cost estimate and implementation.

The changes apply to the HMGP for disasters declared on or after the date of publication, as well as the upcoming PDM and FMA application cycles. Since the last update to the HMA Guidance in 2013, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) developed regulations that streamline language from eight existing OMB Circulars. DHS adopted the Super Circular on [December 26](#), 2014, and FEMA has implemented these changes in the updated guidance.

FEMA will be hosting [webinars](#) to discuss the new guidance on [March 12, 1:30-2:45 p.m. ET](#), [March 18, 10:30-11:45 a.m. ET](#) and [March 19, 1:30-2:45 p.m. ET](#). Participants can dial-in using conference number [1 \(800\) 320-4330](#) and 031-155 for the conference PIN and [join the webinar via Adobe Connect](#).

FY15 HMA Guidance Changes

Changes to the HMA Program Guidance include:

- **Climate Change/Resilience:**

- Recognizes challenges posed by climate change that may have impacts on mitigation. Applicants and sub-applicants can use the additional HMGP 5 percent initiative toward adopting and/or incorporating disaster resistant building codes.

- **2 Code of Federal Regulations Part 200: The OMB Super Circular:**

- Adopts the regulations in the OMB Super Circular that outlines the federal government's framework for grants management, and are applicable to FEMA grants issued on or after [December 26](#), 2014.

- **Mitigation Planning Changes:**

- Requires states to update mitigation plans every five years, which provides the applicant with greater flexibility to shift their resources to other important or pending mitigation activities listed in the plan.

Continued on next page...

New Mexico Hazard Mitigation Assistance Update

•New Benefit-Cost Analysis Methodologies:

- Incorporates new methodologies for residential hurricane wind projects and the acquisition of properties in landslide hazard areas that are at risk of immediate threat.

•Various Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) Clarifications:

- Enhances efforts to streamline the EHP review process, including defining the frontloading process (promoting the fuller consideration of EHP compliance requirements and impacts to a proposed project during project development).

•Resources and Job Aids:

- Includes 23 resources and job aids to assist in HMA program delivery. Examples are:

Homeowner's Guide to the HMGP answers some common questions that homeowners have about implementing post-disaster projects.

- Federally Recognized Tribes and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program discusses benefits and responsibilities of federally-recognized tribes if they become an applicant or sub-applicant.
- Resilience and Climate Change Adaptation job aid discusses FEMA programs designed to promote community resilience.
- Closeout Toolkit includes frequently asked questions and a checklist to help recipients prepare for sub-award closeout activities.
- EHP Section 106 Overview includes process flowchart and information on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) decision making process.

The HMA Guidance consolidates each program's eligibility information, outlines the common elements, and spells out the unique requirements among the programs so that federal, state, federally recognized tribal, territorial, and local officials can easily identify key similarities between the various programs. For more information, visit www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance.

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Bill Borthwick, CFM
NMDHSEM



FEMA | *Emergency Management Institute*

FEMA EMI E273 Course

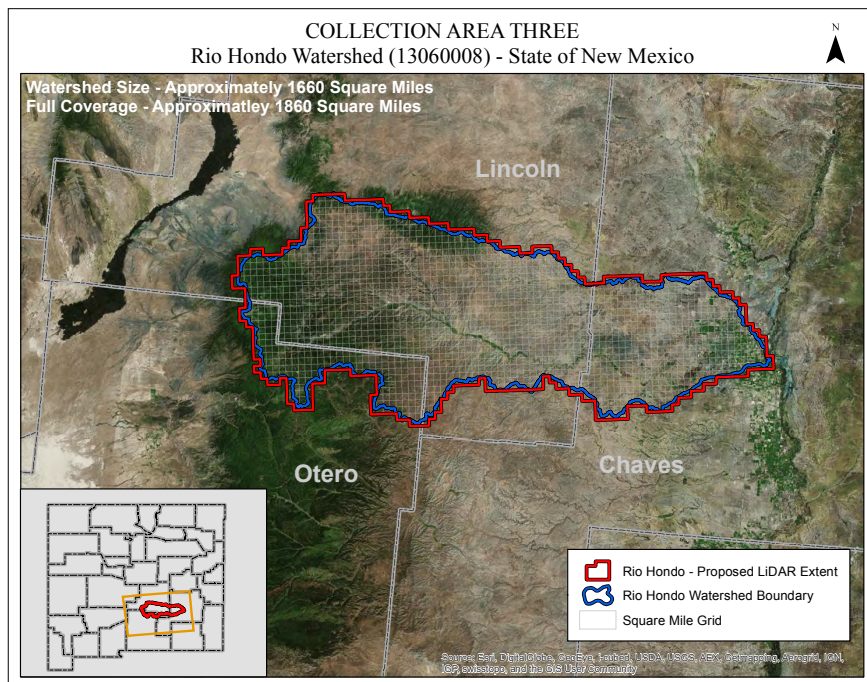
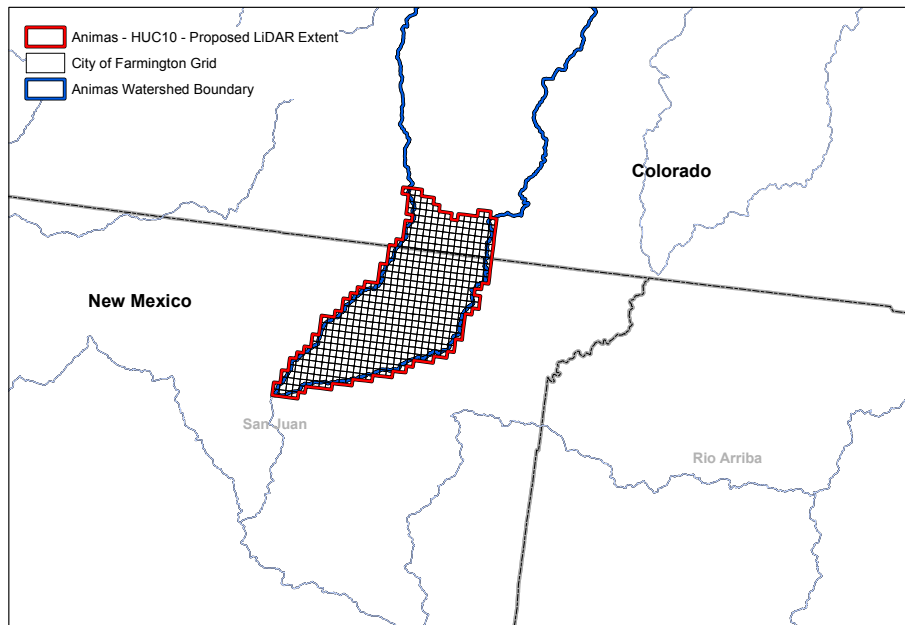
NMFMA will be offering the FEMA EMI E273 Course May 11-14, 2015 in Albuquerque, NM. The Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) examination will be administered on Friday May 15, 2015. Site to be determined and posted at <http://nmfma.org>. Jim DeAngelo, AECOM, is the point of contact.

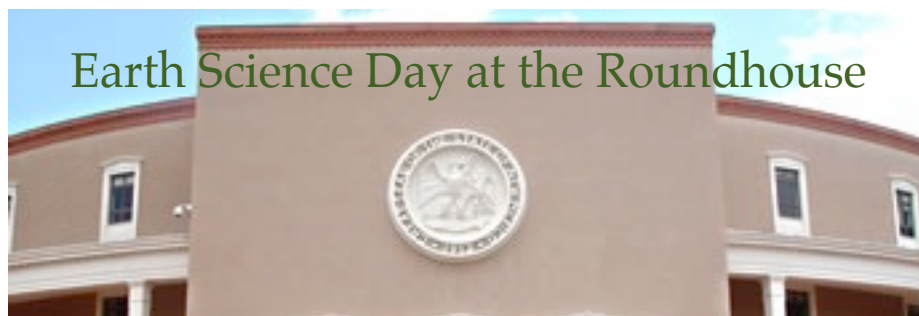
New Mexico Lidar Update

Jennifer Knecht, FEMA Region VI

FEMA Region 6 is collecting LiDAR in the Rio Hondo Watershed, and the Animas HUC 10 Subwatershed. The LiDAR for these watersheds is being collected at a USGS Quality Level 2. The LiDAR was flown in October 2014, and processing is currently on-going. Data is expected to be complete Fall of 2015 and will be available for public dispersal.

Farmington - Animas - Huc 10, New Mexico - Proposed LiDAR Extent
Approximately 502 Sq Miles





Jim DeAngelo, AECOM, set up the Ward's Scientific Floodplain Simulator as part of the Earth Science Day at the Roundhouse on February 19. The simulator was part of an award from Outreach Process Partners. Jim and the exhibit were a great success.





In and Around New Mexico with the State NFIP Coordinator

Bill Borthwick, CFM, State Floodplain Coordinator

(505) 476-9617

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Great news! We have no droughts in New Mexico, we have no wildfires in New Mexico and we have no flooding in New Mexico. Floodplain managers of course not!

But, what is the truth...New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (NMDHSEM) will be able to offer 100 reimbursements to eligible floodplain manager attendees. The Spring New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association Workshop will be held in Albuquerque April 14 to 17, 2015. The allowable reimbursements are based on actual receipts:

Approved Rates:

\$85.00/day up to 4 days (maximum)

Partial Per-diem up to \$30.00 day

\$125.00 Workshop registration

If your residence or work place is less than 35 miles from Workshop site, you are not eligible for reimbursement.

It is suggested that you have your agency submit for reimbursement. Current reimbursement forms can be found at www.nmfma.org or <https://www.preparingnewmexico.org>.

After you complete your reimbursement forms (follow the instructions) and attach receipts, send them to the following address:

Attention: Ms. Olga Coello, DHSEM Management Analyst

Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

P.O. Box 27111

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

If you require reimbursement assistance; Ms. Coello's phone number is (505) 476-9657 and her E-mail is olga.coello@state.nm.us.

Important! Keep copies of reimbursement submittals.

In and Around New Mexico with the State NFIP Coordinator Continued

And, another truth..., we have a new flood fighting partner in New Mexico. Mr. Jerry Clark, who will be at our Spring NMFMA Workshop, is replacing Jim Orwat (who has retired) as the New Mexico floodplain engineering contact. Isn't it nice to smell the roses while you still can. Jerry Clark's duties and responsibilities will be to coordinate with the State of New Mexico on Risk Map activities. He also serves as the FEMA Region VI Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) Program Officer. He and Ms. Mayra Diaz, CFM, Natural Hazards Program Specialist, are FEMA Region VI designees for the New Mexico Silver Jackets. Mr. Clark's point of contact is as follows:

Mr. Jerry Clark, P.E., CFM

Civil Engineer

Risk Analysis Branch, Mitigation Division

FEMA Region 6

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James Orwat, FEMA Region VI

James Orwat, Project Monitor for the Risk Analysis Division at FEMA Region 6 retired at the end of 2014. Mr. Orwat has been serving New Mexico for many years. In the last 10 years, he has been the overseeing FEMA representative for both map modernization and Risk MAP projects in New Mexico. Through these projects he has been engaged with many Floodplain Managers throughout the state, helping them with their mapping needs. For this reason, the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association presented Mr. Orwat with a service award. The award read:



Presented to James Orwat in Grateful Appreciation for Your Years of Outstanding Service and Commitment

Please join us in congratulating Mr. Orwat on his significant milestone.

From the Conference Committee

Mike Czosnek, CFM

(575) 835-0240

mczosnek@socorronm.gov

The Conference Committee is full speed into the upcoming spring Workshop/Conference April 14-17, 2015 at the MCM Elegante hotel in Albuquerque. Curtis Cherne is your Conference Director and Loretta Hatch and Rigel Rucker are your Program Directors. The Conference Committee formed a sub committee, chaired by Rigel, to prepare the technical agenda for the second track at spring workshop/conferences. The committee felt that it would lend continuity and credibility to the technical track if the agenda was prepared by someone with a technical approach to floodplain management. In addition your Board of Directors have approved, for this workshop/conference, a registration rate of \$25 for students. Students can register for the entire workshop/conference at that rate. They will be required to produce a current student ID when they check in at the registration desk. In addition your board of Directors has approved free registration for any students that the technical sub committee selects for a presentation at the workshop/conference.

The Board of Directors has also instructed the Conference Committee to begin scheduling fall workshop/conferences in September. This change will help FEMA folks attend NMFMA workshop/conferences. This change will occur with the 2016 fall workshop/conference.

The 2015 Fall workshop/conference is scheduled for October 6-9, in Ruidoso. Curt Temple is the Conference Director and as of the date of this writing also the Program Director. Curt could use some help, so anyone interested in helping with the program please contact Curt or the Conference Committee.

Currently the Conference Committee is seeking Conference Director's for April 2016 and September 2016. The target location for the Spring 2016 workshop/conference is somewhere in the Albuquerque area, as defined as within 75 miles of Albuquerque. Although all suggested locations will be considered. The September 2016 workshop/conference site can be anywhere within New Mexico. We need to get these venues scheduled ASAP so please, if you have an interest contact the Conference Committee ASAP.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

Don't forget that we need items for the silent auction to benefit future scholarship opportunities for members and students to attend NMFMA Sponsored Events/ASFPM Sponsored Events. Bring your unwanted holiday gifts (re-gifts), craft items, big ticket donations, food, wine, baskets, and/or anything you think your fellow NMFMA members might want to bid on.

Communities and companies are invited to compete for bragging rights by entering a gift basket into the "BEST OF AUCTION" section. The basket with the highest bid wins and is welcome to "rub it in".

If you don't have anything to add to the auction, bring your money!!!!!!!!!!!!

For more information contact Michele Truby-Tillen, CFM at mtruby@sjcounty.net or 505-334-4719

Special Feature

Anne Tillery, USGS

atillery@usgs.gov

Taken from a USGS Press Release available [here](#).

High Post-Wildfire Erosion Potential for Sandia and Manzano Mountain Basins

Basins in the Sandia and Manzano Mountains at risk for a rainfall-generated debris-flow following a wildfire are identified by a new method for estimating post-fire erosion hazards before a wildfire actually burns, according to [a new U.S. Geological Survey study](#).

Wildfire can drastically increase the probability of debris flows, a potentially hazardous and destructive form of landsliding in landscapes that have otherwise been stable throughout recent history. This new USGS report identified watersheds with the most serious potential for debris-flow hazards in the event of a large-scale wildfire and subsequent rainfall in the Sandia and Manzano Mountains, including sub-basins close to Albuquerque.

"This pre-wildfire assessment approach is valuable to resource managers because the analysis of the debris-flow threat is made before a wildfire occurs, which facilitates pre-wildfire management, planning and mitigation," said Anne Tillery, USGS scientist and author of the new report.

Simulated debris-flow probabilities, debris-flow volumes and burn probabilities were combined into an integrated hazard ranking for each sub-basin and used to identify the most hazardous basins in the Sandia and

Manzano Mountains area. Five sub-basins on the west-facing slopes of the Sandia Mountains, four of which extend to the outskirts of the City of Albuquerque, are among the top two percent most hazardous for the area assessed.

"The Rio Grande Water Fund will be using the results of this study to set priorities for restoring overgrown forests," said Laura McCarthy, director of Conservation Programs with The Nature Conservancy. "Figuring out which areas are vulnerable to damaging wildfire and post-fire flooding is necessary to protect communities and our water sources."



Highlights from ASFPM Newsletter for Chapters

Michael Camponovo, CFM

ASFMP February 2015 Newsletter for Chapters

- Chapter Administration Resources
- For Your Members
- Requests for Submissions
- Requests for Comments
- Continuing Education Opportunities
- Fellowships and Education
- In the News

Read the full newsletters here: http://www.floods.org/ace-files/chapters/2.2015_Chapter_Newsletter.pdf

Highlights from ASFPM Newsletter

Michael Camponovo, CFM

ASFMP December 2014 News and Views Highlights

- Chair Bill Nechamen thinks we're not doing a good enough job today preparing for tomorrow's floods;
- A group of ASFPM committees are looking for help in writing a discussion paper on flood-related riverine erosion hazards, while HUD is looking for ASFPM members to help with the National Disaster Resilience Competition;
- An update on ASFPM's "National Flood Programs and Policies in Review";
- Larry Larson explains how multiple national policies are connected in some way to flood policies, and Chad Berginnis takes a philosophical look at what exactly resiliency means;
- Jessica Baker shares all of the exciting news from Region 6; and we learn of two GIANT opportunities for students.
- And of course, all of our regular features like "FEMA: News you can use," and "What's happening around the nation?"

Read the full newsletters here: http://www.floods.org/ace-files/documentlibrary/News_Views/Dec_2014_News_Views.pdf

Purpose of the NMFMA

1. *To promote public awareness of proper floodplain management;*
2. *To promote the professional status of floodplain management and secure all benefits resulting there from;*
3. *To promote a liaison between individual concerns with proper floodplain management and to encourage the exchange of ideas;*
4. *To keep individuals concerned with proper floodplain management well informed through education and professional seminars and to provide a method for dissemination of information, both general and technical;*
5. *To inform concerned individuals of pending floodplain legislation and other related management matters, and;*
6. *To study and support legislation pertinent and necessary to the effective implementation of floodplain management matters.*

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