

High Waters

A Publication of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association

A Quarterly Newsletter September 2015

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Fall Workshop

Water, Paperwork and Floodplains - Back to the Basics

The Fall 2015 NMFMA Workshop and Conference is coming up October 6-9, 2015 in Ruidoso, NM at the [Ruidoso Convention Center](#). Contact Curt Temple at 575-258-5934 or ctemple@lincolncountynm.gov if you have any questions.

Lodging is the [The Lodge at Sierra Blanca](#) next door to the convention center or at the [Hotel Ruidoso](#) downtown. You are encouraged to make reservations early and ask for the NMFMA or government rate.



PRELIMINARY 08-10-2015



Fall Workshop Agenda

"Water, Paperwork and Floodplains-Back to the Basics"

NMFPM FALL WORKSHOP. RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO
OCTOBER 6-9, 2015

Presentation

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

10:00 am - 4:00 pm	Floodplain Management Concepts Training (additional \$30.00 for class)
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Wednesday, October 7, 2011

10:00 am - 4:00 pm	Registration
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	CFM Exam
12:00 pm - 1:15 pm	Lunch Break (On your own)
1:15 pm - 1:30 pm	Conference Opening Welcome Address: Local Elected Official TBD
1:30 pm - 2:15 pm	I Have a Flood Ordinance, Now What? Loretta Hatch, CFM
2:15 pm - 3:15 pm	Approximate Zone A - Where's the BFE? Paul Van Gulick, PE, PS, CFM
3:15 pm - 3:30 pm	Afternoon Break
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm	FEMA CTP/Risk MAP updates Mike Camponovo, CFM EDAC
4:15 pm - 5:00 pm	Inside BW-12, NFIP and Future Changes Carl Watts, NFIP Regional Liaison, Region VI
5:15 pm - 7:00 pm	Evening Social/Heavy Appetizer's (Convention Center)

PRELIMINARY 08-10-2015

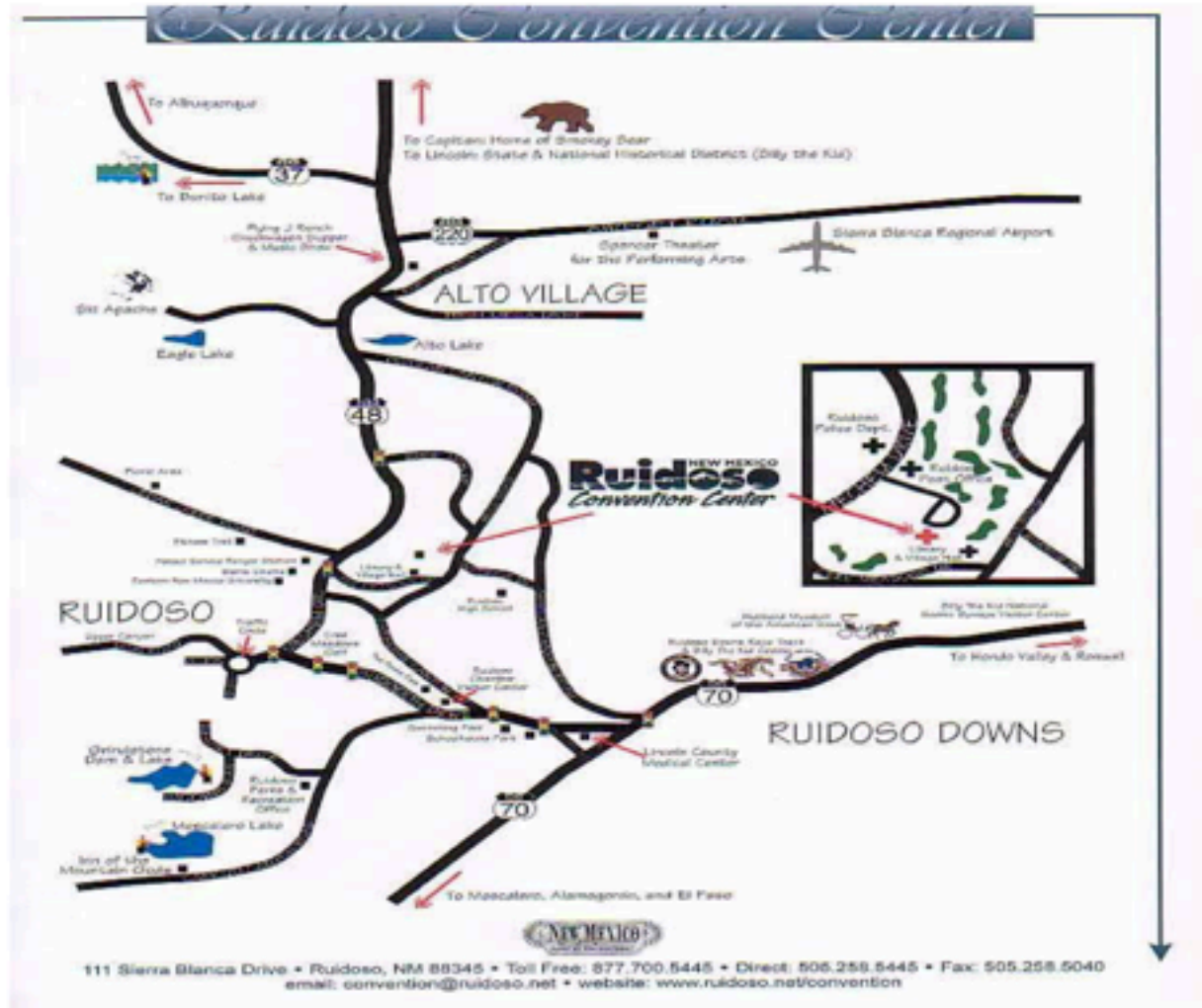
Thursday, October 8, 2015

8:30 am - 4:00 pm	Registration
8:30 am - 9:30 am	LIDAR for Floodplain Managers Paul Neville
9:30 am - 10:30 pm	Basic Submittal of CLOMR/LOMR's Pat Stovall, PE, CFM
10:30 pm - 10:45 pm	Break
10:45 pm - 11:00 pm	Starting a Community Rating System (CRS) How to Kerry Redente
11:00 pm - 11:30 pm	GIS Earth Data Analysis Center (EDAC) Shawn Penman, PHD
11:30 am - 12:15 pm	Flood Hazard Mitigation with FEMA Dollars (Free Money?) Kevin G. Dodge, NMDHSEM
12:15 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch NMFMA Business Meeting
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Hardscape, Including Road Drainage Jen Zawacki, Keystone Restoration Ecology
2:30 pm - 3:15 pm	Berrendo Creek Bridge, Low Bridge in High A Zone Richard T. Smith, Chaves Co. Flood Commission Superintendent
3:15 pm - 3:30 pm	Break
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm	Stormwater Floodplain Simulator Training Jim DeAngelo, NMFMA Training Chair
4:15 pm - 5:00 pm	River Model @ UNM Pat Stovall, PE, CFM
5:00 pm - 5:15 pm	NMFMA Update to Membership Dave Turk, President NMFMA
5:15 pm - 7:15 pm	Dinner/Social at the Lodge Hotel (Next to convention center)

Friday, October 9, 2015

8:00 am - 10:00 am	Registration
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Using Quick II to determine BFE's in A zones Paul Van Gulick, PE, PS, CFM
9:00 am - 10:00 am	H&H for the NON Engineer Presenter to be announced
10:00 am - 10:15 am	Break
10:15 am - 11:15 am	US Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permits and Needs Chris Parrish, Regulatory Project Manager, USACE
11:15 am - 12:00 pm	Low Water Crossings, TADD New Mexico Silver Jackets Bill Borthwick, CFM N.M. State Floodplain Coordinator
12:00 pm	End of Workshop. Drive Safely Home

Ruidoso Convention Center Location and Floor Plan





**NMFMA Board Meeting
Route 66 Casino**



UNM Hydraulics Lab Follow Up



From the Chair - Dave Turk

David Turk, CFM, GISP

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I hope you and your families have enjoyed the summer break as the smell of fresh green chile roasting signifies the end of summer and the start of fall.

Speaking of this past summer, I would like to reflect on how strong our monsoon started off. This precipitation is a welcome sight as it has reduced the wildfire activity significantly and provided our state with much needed water. However, these rains remind us of the danger of flash flooding and the importance of our collective experience, knowledge, and leadership as New Mexico CFMs are greatly needed to keep our homes and communities safe from flooding. While on the topic of weather, The El Niño affect, which brings wet storms and below average temperatures over the southern United States, is supposed to strengthen through the end of this year and become exceptionally strong --predicted to be the strongest on record such that climatologist are actually dubbing it "Godzilla El Niño". The forecast shows New Mexico to be wetter and cooler than average this winter, so please be alert and prepare appropriately.

The NMFMA Board members conducted our Annual Retreat during the weekend of August 8-9, in Albuquerque. Most notable topics were our need to refocus on providing applicable training opportunities to our membership as well as continuing many of our successful on-going initiatives.

Our membership and communities have really embraced and supported our following three initiatives: (1) Flood Awareness Calendar initiative, (2) Turn Around Don't Drown (TADD) road sign installation, and (3) Flood Model Simulator outreach training opportunities. These initiatives have been so successful that NMDHSEM is continuing their gracious support of NMFMA. As result of NMDHSEM's support, I am excited to announce that NMFMA is planning to receive this fall another 230 TADD signs, 2 additional Flood Model Simulators, and on-going yearly financial support for the creation of our Flood Awareness Calendar initiative. These initiatives will further advance NMFMA's mission of educating New Mexico and its citizens on floodplain management.

If you are interested in contributing to any of these exciting initiatives, please contact me or any members of the Board. I will provide NMFMA's membership an update at the Fall Workshop/Conference regarding our progress on these initiatives.

I would also like to take this opportunity to invite everyone to Ruidoso from October 6-9 for the Fall 2015 Workshop/Conference. Curt Temple and team have been busy putting together an excellent list of speakers and training opportunities. Please remember that NMDHSEM provides reimbursable costs to our state and local CFMs to attend our conferences. I look forward to seeing you there!



New Mexico Certified Floodplain Managers

*Grant Pinkerton, CFM
Chair, Certification Committee*

The next CFM exam will be proctored at the NMFMA Fall workshop in Ruidoso, NM, October 7, 2015 at the Ruidoso Convention Center. You can [register to take the exam and pay the fee online](#) by going to the registration page for the workshop on the NMFMA web site. Just click on [The Fall 2015](#) link to the registration page. Don't forget to also 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, or by phone at 575-937-1691.

Don't forget to logon to the web site with your [password](#) so the site will recognize you as a member. If you don't logon, you will be processed as a non-member and will be charged non-member rates for all the functions including the CFM exam.

The January renewals are coming up and those CFMs due for renewal should have gotten a letter by email showing the number of CECs earned and required for renewal. 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.

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

From the Conference Committee

Mike Czosnek, CFM

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mczosnek@socorronm.gov

The Conference Committee has been conducting periodic conference calls with upcoming Conference Directors and Program Directors. Everything has been running smoothly. Our next workshop/conference will be held October 6-9, 2015 in Ruidoso. Curt Temple has somehow managed to be Conference Director and Program Director. By the time you read this an agenda should be available on the website.

Our Spring 2016 event will be at Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino north of Santa Fe April 12-15, 2016. Joe Barela is our Conference Director and Sean O'Melvney is our Program Director. Eric Nemeth (also known as webmaster Nemeth) is the technical track Program Director. In September 2016 Phil Butz will be our Conference Director in Deming. Phil is currently is looking for a Program Director, so if anyone is interested please contact me, Grant Pinkerton, Michel Truby-Tillen or Phil.

The weekend of August 8 & 9 the Board of Directors and Committee chairs participated in a retreat. The goal was future planning for NMFMA and some business decisions during the subsequent Board of Directors meeting. Of interest for the Conference Committee was the Board's decision to raise registration rates for future Workshop/Conferences. As of August 8, 2015 registration rates will be \$175 for members and \$225 for non members. The rate increase still leaves NMFMA as one of the best " bang for you buck " training opportunities. In addition future Conference Directors should have a little bit more budget room to combat increasing costs of workshop/conferences. Also, NMFMA may be able to make a little more profit that will help NMFMA have more projects, such as the Turn Around Don't Drown signs, the calendar and traveling flood simulator.

The Conference Committee needs a Program Director for the Sept. 2016 workshop/conference in Deming and suggested locations (that includes an "on the ground") Conference Director for Spring (April) and Fall (September) 2017. Please send me an email if you are interested in bringing an NMFMA workshop/conference to your town.



In and Around New Mexico with the State NFIP Coordinator

Bill Borthwick, CFM, State Floodplain Coordinator

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william.borthwick@state.nm.us

A Silver Jackets Stakeholders Collaboration

Stephen K. Scissons, P.E., CFM, Silver Jackets Coordinator hosted a core group of Silver Jacket Stakeholders regarding the Turn Around Don't Drown (TADD) Program. The purpose of the program is to educate drivers about the risks of attempting to cross flooded roadways. New Mexico's version of the TADD Program is "TADDNM".

The interagency stakeholders called to the meeting were NMDHSEM, National Weather Service, NMFMA and the Earth Data Analysis Center. The purpose of the meeting was to identify high risk low water crossings in the state. The group also discussed the purchase and installation of additional signs.

The core partners were given an assignment. Each partner initiated a Letter of Support to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for an Interagency Flood Risk Management Proposal for New Mexico Turn Around Don't Drown (part of the New Mexico Flood Risk Awareness Program). The Silver Jacket proposal was awarded and the initial placement of signage has been designated for Eddy County, Sierra County and Zuni Pueblo. The TADDNM program will be phased in with \$10,000.00 in signage for FY 2015 and \$60,000.00 in signage for FY 2016.

The TADDNM Program is an expansion of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association initial campaign. NMFMA members placed 85 TADD signs around the State with funds provided by FEMA through a sub-grant with the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (NMDHSEM). NMFMA was awarded a sub-grant agreement under the Community Assistance Program/State Support Services Element Program.

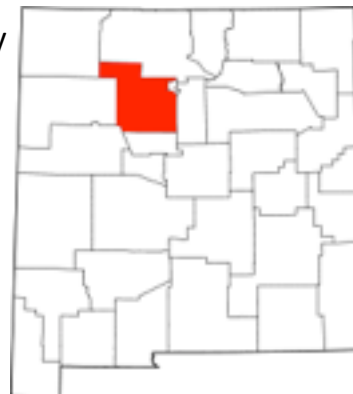
The Silver Jackets will be presenting a TADDNM update at the Fall NMFMA Workshop in Ruidoso on Friday, October 9, 2015.

Updates from FEMA Region VI

Jerry Clark and Mayra Diaz

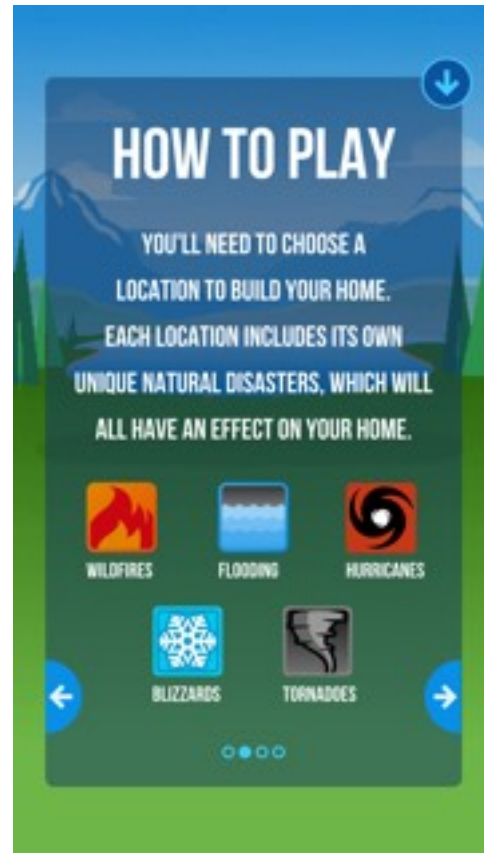
Upcoming CRS CAV

Mayra Diaz will be in Sandoval County September 21-25 to conduct a Community Rating System Community Assistance Visit for Sandoval County. Please follow up with Mayra if you have questions about CRS for your community.



Last House Standing App

The nonprofit Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH)[®] partnership today launched its latest creative take on disaster safety awareness with the introduction of a social gaming app entitled, Last House Standing (LHS). The free smartphone and tablet app is offered by the same team that created the award-winning StormStruck: A Tale of Two Homes[®], life-saving Turn Around, Don't Drown[®], and Go Tapeless[®] public awareness campaigns. The app uses fun to introduce the next generation of homebuyers, homebuilders, homeowners, and renters to one central point—that how and where you build is the most fundamental element of disaster survival for families and homes.



New Guide to Public Alerts and Warnings for Dam and Levee Emergencies

ASFPM

Risk reduction can be achieved through various means, including improved approaches to flood warning and emergency management. The USACE Dam and Levee Safety Programs have recently engaged with renowned social scientists Dennis Mileti and John Sorensen, in the areas of warning and evacuation to better understand what motivates people to take protective actions during an emergency event. "[A Guide to Public Alerts and Warnings for Dam and Levee Emergencies](#)" (pdf, 2.22 MB) summarizes the results of that effort. It is targeted at anyone involved in the emergency management process, including emergency management officials, public affairs personnel (public information officers, public affairs officers), emergency first responders (incident commanders, police and fire personnel), dam and levee owners and operators, radio and television broadcasters, public elected officials, and other people or organizations involved with or interested in local emergency management.

**TABLE 3 - THREAT VS. PUBLIC ACTIONS
FOR DAM BREACHES**

PHYSICAL OBSERVATIONS*	THREAT LEVEL DESIGNATION	FLOOD THREAT	PROTECTIVE ACTION OPTIONS
Water flowing through breach in embankment	LEVEL IV Dam breaching or breached	Imminent or in progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evacuate – vehicle Evacuate – pedestrian Evacuate – vertical Evacuate – safer structure Expedient protection of people Avoid area
Rapidly enlarging sinkhole	LEVEL III Dam breach very likely	Very likely	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evacuate – vehicle Expedient protection of possessions Avoid area
New seepage areas with cloudy discharge or increasing flow rate	LEVEL II Conditions at dam may or may not lead to breach	Possible but not certain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expedient protection of possessions Seek or monitor information Prepare to evacuate
New seepage areas in or near the dam	LEVEL I Safety issues being investigated	Potential being determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek or monitor information

* This column contains examples of physical observations; these observations should be tailored to fit individual projects.

ASFPM News and Views

ASFPM

Content in this month's [ASFPM News and Views Newsletter](#) includes the following:

- Region 3 Director John Gysling discusses how one Delaware county adopted higher standards and why it could be a model for others to follow.
- ASFPM's Science Services Department discusses the latest in Laser Cat technology (yep, you're just going to have to read the article).
- Ceil Strauss, ASFPM's newest chair, ponders what floodplain managers can do to become "leaders."
- Think national flood policy doesn't have anything to do with your day-to-day responsibilities as a floodplain manager? Larry Larson, ASFPM director emeritus, shares why that's just not true in his column Policy Matters!
- ASFPM's newest No Adverse Impact How-to Guide is hot off the press, so to speak.
- Executive Director Chad Berginnis talks about an incredible court case developing in Texas that could have far reaching impacts across this nation.
- And we try to answer that timeless question, "How can I get more Twitter followers?"



The Voice – Increasing Awareness, Encouraging Mitigation Action

FEMA Region VI

FEMA Region 6 has just released the latest issue of our newsletter, The Voice, and it is available on our website at http://www.riskmap6.com/documents/resource/TheVoice_Jun2015_Vol11_508.pdf. You can sign up on RiskMAP6.com to receive future issues of The Voice newsletter upon publication release.

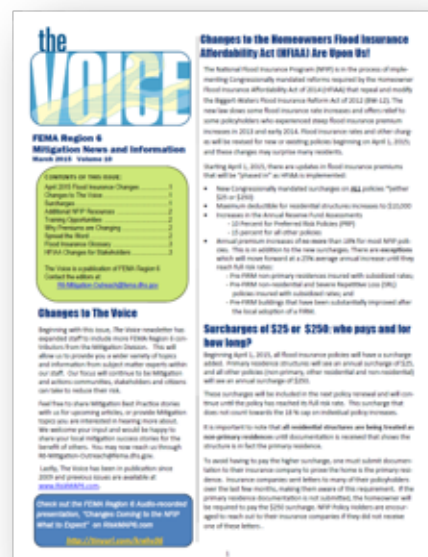
The June 2015 issue includes information and links related to Substantial Damage and what to do after a flood. We've also included articles on smartphone apps you'll find helpful during hurricane season, some of FEMA's newest posters on earthquake safety, and news on a the FEMA Region 6 "Virtual Brown Bag" Webinars, a new online series to help communities create useful GIS products with the flood risk products delivered during a Risk MAP study.

We encourage our readers to share local Mitigation Success stories with us for future issues of The Voice. You may now reach us through R6-Mitigation-Outreach@fema.dhs.gov.

For those communities located in designated counties of declared disasters, we want to remind you of the ways to register for assistance:

- Online at <http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov>
- By calling 800-621-FEMA (3362)
 - The toll-free telephone numbers will operate from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT seven days a week until further notice
 - A new NFIP Helpline has been added as an option when you call
 - Multilingual operators are available
 - Disaster assistance applicants, who have a speech disability or hearing loss and use TTY, should call 800-462-7585 directly
 - For those who use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362.
- By visiting a FEMA Mobile Disaster Recovery Intake Center or state-FEMA Disaster Recovery Center in your area

The Voice has been in publication since 2009 and previous issues are available at www.RiskMAP6.com.



FROM THE EDITOR

Michael Camponovo, CFM

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Thank you all for bearing with me as this issue of the newsletter is a little later than usual. The good news is that we have been hard at work planning future projects with NMDHSEM, Silver Jackets, and FEMA Region VI which we hope will be approved by the time of the Fall Workshop. If we're successful we will have a number of projects that we think you will find interesting.

See you in October.



Michael Camponovo

Identifying Structures For Elevation/Acquisition

Depth Grid data delivered in the Flood Risk Database (FRD) allows community officials to better understand, investigate and communicate the variability of flood depths in areas identified as flood prone. Depth grids illustrate the flood depth in feet above the ground surface. Depth Grids may be prepared for a variety of potential flood occurrences; the most common depth grid is that prepared for the 1% annual chance flood event. Communities may review the flood depth at site-specific locations using the approach outlined below. Flood depth information allows communities to convey flood risk in simple terms, and provides a data point to prioritize between elevation/acquisition projects. This calculated structure-specific information also informs grant applications.

Ingredients:

- Depth Grids (Depth_Grid, etc.)
- Address Location Points (or Building Footprints)



Using Depth Grids to Identify appropriate mitigation actions:

- Step 1:** Using ArcMap 9.3.10.x, use **ADD DATA** to navigate to the Flood Risk Database and add Depth_Grid.
- Step 2:** **ADD** local data. Ideally this would be address points, but other data could be used.
- Step 3:** Using the address points, **EXTRACT** the raster values to the points.
- Step 4:** From the attribute table, **EXPORT** the address/owner information.
- Step 5:** Once exported, the data can be sorted based on the depth of flooding. Those properties could then be targeted for contact to discuss mitigation actions which are most appropriate. For instance, properties at risk of greater flood depths may be better off elevating the entire structure, whereas properties prone to shallow flooding may be able to utilize dry flood proofing techniques such as waterproofing the lowest portions of the structure.

Evidence Drawn From Depth Grids

Elected Officials and Community Staff

- Relay variability of flood risk within the identified Special Flood Hazard Areas on FIRBIs
- Identify populations and areas within the community at risk during various storm events
- Identify road crossings that may become impassible during a storm event and plan accordingly
- Perform Cost benefit depth-damage calculations
- Provide a visualization tool to help building permits and inspections staff explain flood risk to developers
- Assist with developing more stringent development/building codes
- Assist emergency response staff identify high risk areas
- Highlight areas of the community for outreach and education efforts

Planning Staff

- Assist with mitigation prioritization activities and projects
- Assist with advance recovery planning and disaster preparedness
- Depict high flood risk areas for future planning needs
- Assist with Capital Improvements planning by guiding infrastructure investment away from high-risk areas

Engineering and Technical Staff

- Data point for use in prioritizing mitigation projects
- Help screen potential projects for cost effectiveness
- Inform development decision making for risk prone infrastructure

FEMA Region VI Risk MAP “Recipe Cards”

Diane Howe

With New Mexico now moving along the Risk MAP program for the Rio Hondo watershed and on track to start the Animas, you may be interested in how your community can best use the data your community will receive throughout the Risk MAP process. FEMA REgion VI has produced a series of “Recipe Cards” that provide a detailed and concise explanation of specific uses of flood depth grids, annual chance of flooding grids, changes since last firm maps, and other data sets.

Visit <http://www.riskmap6.com/Resources.aspx> and scroll down to the bottom of the page for the section titled “Information for Local Officials”.

Information for Local Officials

- Fact Sheet - Changes Since Last FIRM
- Fact Sheet - Depth Grids
- Fact Sheet - Hydrology
- Fact Sheet - Local Levee Partnership Team
- GUIDEBOOK - Risk Communications Guidebook for Local Officials
- Audio-recorded PPT - Using the Changes Since Last FIRM Data
- Audio-recorded PPT - Using the Depth Grid Data
- Tutorial: FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer GeoPlatform
- FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer (Official site)
- Fact Sheet - National Flood Hazard Layer
- Audio-recorded PPT - Using the Percent Annual Chance of Flooding Data
- Fact Sheet - Flood Risk Report
- Recipe Card - Using the Changes Since Last FIRM
- Recipe Card - Using the Depth Grids
- Recipe Card - Using the Percent Annual Chance Flooding Data
- Recipe Card - Using the AAL
- Zone AR Requirements Summary
- Zone A99 Requirements Summary
- Audio-recorded PPT - Using the AAL Data
- Fact Sheet - Geospatial PDF
- RiskMAP2go - Key Messages online
- Recipe Card - Using the Water Surface Elevation Grids
- Fact Sheet - Water Surface Elevation Grids
- Fact Sheet - Percent Annual Chance Data
- Audio-recorded PPT - Using Water Surface Elevation Grids
- Virtual Brown Bag - Using Changes Since Last FIRM Data

The Region is hosting a series of webinars where you can learn more about these specific resources at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fema-region-6-virtual-brown-bag-tickets-16946824408>.

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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