

OFMA SPRING TRAINING

SEE PAGE 9

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The B.F.E.*

*Base Flood Elevation

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 21 - WINTER 2012

FEBRUARY 2012

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2012: THE YEAR OF CHANGE—BY ANA STAGG, PE, CFM, OFMA CHAIR

For most of us, the beginning of a new year is synonymous with resolutions. It is a time for looking back to the past, and more importantly, to the future with desires for growth and betterment. *I ask that you take this opportunity to help us renew and reenergize our commitment to excellence in floodplain management.* At every level - as local floodplain administrators who regulate floodplain development on a daily basis, state officials who commit to supporting local communities by assisting with ordinance adoption and providing guidance about implementing regulations, and/or floodplain management professionals who work on master drainage plans, letters of map change and elevation certificates - our members affect excellence in floodplain management.

Join me and our colleagues as we embark on a new era of floodplain management - one that is shaped by a new look at both risk mitigation and water quality policies. *The following provides a brief synopsis of the foreseen changes in policy and programs and their effect on floodplain management in 2012:*

NFIP REFORM

The Flood Insurance Reform and Modernization Act of 2011, although tabled at the moment, is likely to resurrect in Washington this year. As you may recollect, the NFIP was last extended until May 31, 2012 on December 23, when President Obama signed legislation sent to him by Congress December 16, 2011. This became

the fifteenth last-minute reauthorization of the NFIP since 2002. During this same period, the program has been allowed to lapse on four occasions preventing flood coverage purchased or renewed for a total of fifty-three days.

Efforts have restarted in support of legislation extending the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) until September 30, 2016. In favor of extension rather than reform, the National Flood Services (a Montana firm that serves as a third-party administrator for insurance companies participating in the Write-Your-Own program) argues that "this is a case where a 'good' bill enacted now is more beneficial to all parties, including the taxpayer, than a 'great' bill that never sees the light of day."

Should support for the Flood Insurance Reform and Modernization Act of 2011 be renewed, House (H) and/or Senate (S) noticeable items of reform include: (1) reauthorization for a minimum of a five year term, (2) allowing Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to assist in funding for some floodplain management related activities; (3) allowing increases of annual flood insurance rates from 10% up to 20%; (4) lifting mandatory purchase requirements if the property owner can provide an elevation certificate showing the lowest floor is at least 3 feet above the BFE; (5) requiring the property owner to purchase flood insurance if the structure is located behind a dam or levee through mandatory purchase requirements (S); and (6) authorizing \$400

(Continued on page 2)

WORDS FROM THE CHAIR—BY ANA STAGG, PE, CFM

OFMA would like to thank all those involved in the preparation of the 2011-2012 OFMA Strategic Plan. Because of your efforts, our plan is now complete and ready for deployment. This document outlines our work plan for the next twelve months and contains several areas of special focus that will permit the organization to better achieve its overall goals.

Focus areas include: (1) developing a comprehensive outreach strategy for the organization, (2) undertaking a significant overhaul of the organization's training program, (3) continuing support for funding mechanisms for master drainage plans, and (4) diversifying the organization's conference programs and membership outreach

efforts to embrace the growing intersections between stormwater quality and stormwater quantity management. A complete copy of the plan may be found at www.okflood.org.

The plan also provides evidence of past successes. It is with great pride that our members report legislative victories, enhanced outreach efforts, development of a new website, establishment of a CRS working group and hosting of a popular annual conference.

In addition, OFMA was given the opportunity to participate in the development of the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan, and our submission was included in the plan in its entirety as a sub-report. It is because of OFMA leadership—fueled by the support of many of our



allies—that the State included Floodplain Management as one of thirteen “Supporting Recommendations & Initiatives” named in the Water Plan.

Please join us this year in the implementation of our strategic initiatives. Many opportunities to volunteer are available to our members. Visit our website to learn more or contact me directly at astagg@meshekengr.com.

(Continued from page 1)

million annually for mapping (S).

The NFIP affects five million homeowners and businesses across the country who depend on this program. For those with a federally backed mortgage, those that live or have been recently placed in the floodplain and those that live in a residual risk area, changes will probably happen. For more information on NFIP legislation, please visit www.floods.org.

RISK MAP

In 2011, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board entered into a Cooperative Technical Partner (CTP) agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to implement a statewide

Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program. *This program signals the first step in the transfer of ownership of Risk MAP from a federal to the state and local level.* A business plan detailing the state's plan for the transfer of program ownership will be published later this year. This transfer enables the leverage of local knowledge and expertise - from resident floodplain administrators, policymakers, engineers and other professionals - to provide Oklahoma communities with improved, accurate risk information and tools that will enhance local flood risk mitigation and safeguard life and property.

Thus far, the OWRB has approved intergovernmental agreements

with the City of El Reno and the City of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, for the performance of Risk MAP services. “These agreements, between the State of Oklahoma and two Oklahoma communities, are hopefully the first of many future agreements with other regional, tribal and local communities across Oklahoma” noted Mr. Ken Wilkins, OWRB Environmental Programs Manager. If you wish to learn more about how your community may benefit from this program, please contact Mr. Kent Wilkins at khwilkins@owrb.ok.gov.

CRS

The 2012 edition of the CRS Coordinator's Manual - scheduled for release on July 1, 2012 - will incorporate many improvements to

(Continued from page 2)

the Community Rating System. Proposed changes - ranging from small to large - will modify many of the elements, activities, prerequisites, procedures, documentation and credit points noted in the 2007 edition. Changes have originated from several years of effort by the CRS Task Force, FEMA and many CRS stakeholders, who collaborated to review and evaluate the existing system.

In 2011, OFMA formed an Oklahoma CRS Workgroup to keep our CRS coordinators and other members updated, and the group is led by Jeff Bigby, CFM, City of Broken Arrow and Bill Robison, CFM, City of Tulsa. *The committee is hosting a CRS Workshop in 2012.* Jeff Bigby urges anyone interested in learning more on this subject to contact him directly at jbigby@brokenarrowok.gov.

MS4

In 2011, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed rulemaking entitled "Stormwater Regulations Revision to Address Discharges From Developed Sites" under the Clean Water Act.

This rulemaking refers to EPA's long-awaited sweeping new stormwater rules. The EPA proposal focuses on establishing minimum requirements for managing stormwater discharges from newly developed and re-developed sites by reducing the discharge of excess stormwater to reduce the amount of pollutants in discharges entering receiving waters. This action would also expand the scope of municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) required to be regulated under NPDES permits, to include rapidly developing areas and to cover some discharges that are not currently regulated. The Phase I and Phase II MS4 regulations might also be combined and amended and may

include provisions for better managing existing discharges. The proposed rule was planned for a September 2011 publication but such has not occurred.

Legislative action on this item is likely to be delayed until after the national elections and to be dependent on its results.

Richard Smith, Stormwater Program Manager for INCOG, states that what will change for MS4 operators in Oklahoma within the next few years include: (1) the newly revised "Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Activities (OKR05)..."; (2) the soon to be revised General Permit for Construction Activities (OKR10); and (3) the major revisions to the Small MS4 General Permit (OKR04) to be expected in late 2012 or early 2013.

If you wish to learn more about any of these changes and how they may affect you, please contact me at astagg@meshekengr.com.

TONY ROBINSON WELCOMED AS NEW FEMA REGION VI DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR

DENTON, Texas -- Earlier this year, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 6 Administrator Tony Russell officially welcomed Tony Robinson as the new FEMA Region 6 Deputy Regional Administrator. "Deputy Regional Administrators play a very important part within the agency," said Russell. "Tony Robinson brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to this position and will work very closely with our state and local partners to serve the people of the five Region 6 states - Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas."

Robinson has been with FEMA since 1987. He has served as the FEMA Region 6 Recovery Division Director for the past seven years, where he was responsible for the administration of recovery programs in the five regional states. He has also provided leadership and oversight during federally declared disasters such as hurricanes Andrew, Katrina, Rita, Ike and Gustav.

"I am honored to be taking on this new role at FEMA Region 6," said Robinson. "I look forward to using my experience to help ensure that our state and local partners, individuals and families are all better

prepared to respond to and recover from disasters." Robinson fills the position which was vacated by Gary Jones upon his retirement in December 2011. Jones served as FEMA Region 6 Deputy Regional Administrator for 17 years.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate all hazards.

(FEMA Release Date: January 9, 2012)

PUBLIC RELEASE OF STREAMSTATS FOR OKLAHOMA—BY LESLIE LEWIS, PE, CFM, OFMA REGION 1 REPRESENTATIVE

StreamStats for Oklahoma was made available to the public on April 15, 2010. StreamStats is a Web-based Geographic Information Systems (GIS) application for use in water resources planning and management and in engineering design. It was developed through a *cooperative effort of the United States Geological Survey, ESRI, Inc. along with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the Oklahoma Water Resources Board.*

StreamStats makes the process of computing streamflow statistics

for ungaged sites much faster, more accurate and more consistent than with previously used manual methods. It also makes streamflow statistics for gaged sites available without the need to locate, obtain and read the publications in which they were originally provided.

StreamStats determines drainage basin boundaries by use of digital elevation data. After the user indicates that the boundary is correct, StreamStats measures the drainage-basin characteristics for the site.

StreamStats also has the ability to search upstream, downstream or both along the stream channel from a user-selected

point to identify the associated stream reaches and activities along the stream that may affect the quantity or quality of streamflow at the selected location.

Oklahoma StreamStats incorporates statewide regression equations for estimating instantaneous peak flows with annual exceedance probabilities of 50, 20, 10, 4, 2, 1 and 0.2 percent. These peak flows have recurrence intervals of 2, 5, 10, 25, 50, 100 and 500 years, respectively. Oklahoma StreamStats also incorporates regional regression equations for estimating the mean annual flow and annual and monthly flow exceeded 20, 50, 80, 90 and 95

percent of the time. *Users should familiarize themselves with these reports before using StreamStats to obtain estimates of flows for ungaged sites in drainage basins.*

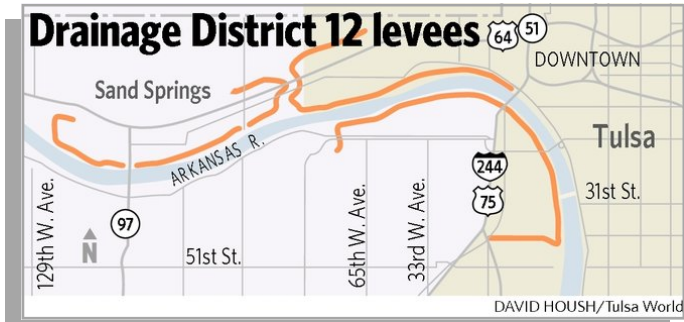
The image displays two overlapping screenshots of the StreamStats web application. The left screenshot shows the 'Streamstats Ungaged Site Report' with a table of 'Peak-Flow Basin Characteristics' and 'Floodwater Retarding Structure Regulated Peak-Flow Basin Characteristics'. The right screenshot shows the 'Basin Characteristics Report' with a table of basin parameters and a map of the drainage basin.

Parameter	Value	Regression Equation	Valid Range
Contributing Drainage Area (square miles)	13.7		0.1 - 2510
Stream Slope 10 and 85 Method ft per mi (feet per mi)	14.3		1.99 - 342
Mean Annual Precipitation (inches)	37.87		16.4 - 62.1

Parameter	Value	Regression Equation	Valid Range
Unregulated Drainage Area (square miles)	7.5		0.1 - 14
Stream Slope 10 and 85 Method ft per mi (feet per mi)	14.3		1.99 - 342
Mean Annual Precipitation (inches)	37.87		16.4 - 62.1

Parameter	Value
Contributing drainage area, in square miles	13.70
Contributing drainage area minus the area upstream of NRCS floodwater-retarding structures, in square miles	7.50
Percent of contributing drainage area regulated by NRCS floodwater-retarding structures	45.26
Mean basin elevation, in feet	1023
Elevation at outlet in feet	1023
Mean basin slope in percent, computed from 10-meter DEM	0.13
Longest-flow-path 10-85 slope in feet per mile	2.07
Soil permeability from STATSGO, in inches per hour	0.0001
Area-weighted mean annual precipitation (1971-2000), in inch	38.1
Mean annual precipitation (1961-1990) at outlet in inches	38.1
Mean annual precipitation (1971-2000) at outlet in inches	38.1
Mean June-October precipitation (1971-2000) at outlet in inch	38.1
Mean November-May precipitation (1971-2000) at outlet in inch	38.1
February mean precipitation (1971-2000) at outlet in inches	38.1
March mean precipitation (1971-2000) at outlet in inches	38.1
April mean precipitation (1971-2000) at outlet in inches	38.1
May mean precipitation (1971-2000) at outlet in inches	38.1
June mean precipitation (1971-2000) at outlet in inches	38.1
December mean precipitation (1971-2000) at outlet in inches	38.1
Forest canopy in percent	0
Impervious cover in percent	0

See <http://water.usgs.gov/osw/streamstats>



WHAT DO YOU DO WITH 68-YEAR-OLD LEVEES? THE CASE FOR REHABILITATION AND FUNDING—BY TODD KILPATRICK, TULSA COUNTY DISTRICT 12 LEVEE COMMISSIONER

The Tulsa/West Tulsa levees were constructed in the 1940s to protect these areas from a 100-year flood with three feet of freeboard. The 100-year flood flow rate at that time was 350,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). After the Keystone Dam was constructed, the 100-year flood flow rate was reduced to 150,000 cfs and has recently been raised to 190,000 cfs. Public Law 84-99 requires that the original design flood be maintained. In the 1986 flood below Keystone Dam, the peak flow rate was measured at 307,000 cfs and severely tested the levee system.

Extensive rehabilitation work needs to be performed to bring the levee district up to the new and safer standards of the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Levee District 12 was placed on inactive status in 2008 by the USACE after unacceptable items were identified during the annual project inspection. The largest deficiencies were the eleven miles of antiquated porous relief wells and vitrified clay pipes that will have to be replaced, as well as vegetation growth within the allowable 15-foot limit. Repairing these deficiencies will require an investment of \$20 million or more.

Compounding the problem with these levees is the FEMA accreditation which will expire in 2013. The accreditation means the levee meets National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) minimum standards of protection from a 1% chance (or 100-year) flood. The

"I strongly believe the communities and businesses living behind the levee deserve the protection of the new standards."

*M. Todd Kilpatrick
Levee Commissioner*

expiration of this accreditation will result in the levee being decertified. As a result, areas behind the levee will be designated as high risk areas, requiring owners of buildings with mortgages from federally regulated or insured lenders to obtain flood insurance. The estimate for the work to restore the FEMA accreditation is estimated at \$1.4 million or \$70,000 per mile and does not include construction.

Tulsa County Drainage District 12 is currently identifying long term objectives for repairs and exploring options for funding the repairs

through local and federal grants. The district plans to petition state and federal law makers for assistance. Rehabilitation plans are being developed in consultation with FEMA and the USACE. Both agencies are providing technical assistance in the identification of these deficiencies and helping with plans for rehabilitation. This interagency support is vital for the long term rehabilitation plan.

The twenty miles of this levee district protect nearly \$2 billion of infrastructure including the cities of Tulsa and Sand Springs as well as two large refineries. Over 50,000 residents live inside its boundaries and another 25-40,000 work there. This district is vital for the overall safety of a large part of the state. The investment for this rehabilitation work is small compared to the ramifications of a future high-water event in this area.

District 12 Levee Commissioner Todd Kilpatrick (2nd from left) with levee board members Mike Lutrell, Wayne Hamilton and Rick Tallent.



MANAGING FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE NFIP E-273 AND THE NATIONAL CFM EXAM—BY GAVIN BRADY, CFM, STATE NFIP COORDINATOR

Oklahoma was fortunate to be one of the first states in the nation to have the E-273 week-long class deployed locally. The OWRB has and will always take pride in this accomplishment. Until the deployment, those interested in the E-273 class had to apply through Oklahoma Emergency Management (OEM) to the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Located on a beautiful campus just a few miles south of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma was never able to send more than a few participants.

This week I just happened to come across a 1997 photograph of the original Oklahoma class. Included were instructors Ken Morris, Carl Watts, Donnie Blanlott and several participants/past Chairs of OFMA— T.J. Davis (Sand Springs), Anna Waggoner (Woodward), Paul Zachary and Pat Hoggard (Tulsa) and Bob Bigham (Lawton). Almost fifteen years later many of these participants continue to have an active role in the floodplain management arena.

Soon after Oklahoma's first graduating class, OFMA and its board of directors voted to require those wishing to take the CFM exam to first complete the E-273 class. Until this year's 2012 class, Oklahoma was one of a handful of states that had their own state accredited chapter program and exam. Oklahoma's CFM program actually began before the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) national program (1997) and exam (1999). ASFPM has always had oversight of Oklahoma's exam questions with a periodic audit included. ASFPM permitted Oklahoma to use specific riverine questions and not use questions associated with coastal issues. As of December 31, 2010, Oklahoma had a pass rate of 93% and an average score of over 85%. The national average during this same time frame was

77% and over 76% respectively. To put these scores in perspective, the pass rates in Arkansas, New Mexico and Texas were 68%, 70% and 71% respectively. Oklahoma was 22-25% higher than our neighbors. Again, remember these are test scores using the Oklahoma exam, not the national exam.



After years of persuasion from ASFPM and a few of OFMA's directors of the board, OFMA's Professional Development Certification Committee (PDCC) voted in 2011 to administer the national exam, knowing that some of the local flavor would no longer be present but that the exam would be more consistent with national programs. Oklahoma's previous passing grade was set at 75% but would change to 70% with the national exam.

Last month the national exam was unveiled at Oklahoma's inaugural 2012 class. The PDCC knew the test scores might experience a minimal drop; however, they saw an almost 30% drop in the pass rate and a 15% drop in the average test score. The PDCC, with assistance from the OFMA board of directors, has made plans to assist the OWRB during the week-long class in areas several students say are not addressed in E-273 but included in the exam. As the PDCC reviews the questions missed and finds any patterns, they will better understand what areas of instruction need revamping as OFMA continues with the national exam. If you have any suggestions or recommendations for the PDCC, you can contact Joe Remondini, PDCC Chairman at joseph.remondini@usace.army.mil or Gavin Brady at jgbrady@owrb.ok.gov.

FROM FEMA.GOV - UPDATED FIRMETTE DESKTOP APPLICATION

An updated version of the FIRMette Desktop Application has been released to address Windows 7 compatibility. The FIRMette Desktop Application allows users to create and print a selected portion of a Flood Insurance Rate

Map (FIRM) scaled down to fit onto standard-sized paper. To download and learn more about the FIRMette Desktop Application, please visit <https://msc.fema.gov>.

LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION—BY TOM LEATHERBEE, CFM, LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

Each year, OFMA holds a legislative reception to honor Oklahoma's hard working legislators and legislative staff and to educate stakeholders about important issues related to floodplain management.

This year's Legislative Reception will be held on February 14th from 11:30 to 1:30 at the State Capitol (Room 412 A&B). All OFMA members are encouraged to attend the reception and to take this opportunity to visit with their legislators about floodplain management.

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association, Inc. is a statewide professional organization dedicated to reducing losses to life and property due to flooding. OFMA is committed to educating all stakeholders about policy initiatives that could serve to mitigate flood risk and improve floodplain management. For 2011-2012, OFMA has identified the following policy priorities:

- *Preserve and enhance local control of floodplain management;*
- *Identify funding sources for Master Drainage Plans;*
- *Support the state's participation in FEMA's Cooperating Technical Partner program; and*
- *Build support for technical revisions to the Oklahoma Floodplain Management Act.*

In addition to educating stakeholders about these policy priorities, OFMA is committed to assisting legislators in their efforts to serve their constituents. OFMA continues to reach out to legislators whose districts include communities receiving new maps, providing information about the map change process, letters of map change and insurance issues (including grandfathering and the 2 Year Preferred Risk Policy Extension Program) that can be shared with constituents who may be seeking information or assistance.

This year's Legislative Reception will be held on February 14th from 11:30 to 1:30 at the State Capitol (Room 412 A&B). All OFMA members are encouraged to attend the reception and to take this opportunity to visit with their legislators about floodplain management.

OFMA DRT CORNER—BY W. B. "BILL" SMITH, PE, CFM, DRT COORDINATOR

The OFMA Disaster Response Team (DRT) is preparing for the spring 2012 flood season. With the mild winter it may be that we will have a more severe spring - so get your creeks and channels cleaned out. Remember to permit yourself if you are an NFIP community.

We will have an ICS 100 training program during the Spring Technical Workshop for those DRT members who did not participate in the first session. George Jacobs,

CFM and Okmulgee County Emergency Manager, will be teaching the session. The cutoff date for sign-up is March 15, 2012. Please notify me if you desire to participate in the training. We will have additional ICS training at the annual conference.

The database for all FPAs in the state is being prepared for an e-mail distribution notification by the DRT. When that database is compiled, we will be sending a

contract letter for communities to pre-enroll with the DRT in the event that your community needs our assistance.



2012 WORKSHOP & CONFERENCE —BY BILL ROBISON, PE, CFM

New requirements are being placed on communities by the EPA in the form of Low Impact Development and tighter effluent limits on storm sewer discharges. As floodplain managers, we must look to our colleagues in water quality to help us comply with these new requirements. We must realize that water quality is as important of a floodplain management issue as is water quantity. To assist, OFMA will focus significant effort on these topics during this year's conference and workshops. This is also an excellent opportunity to grow our membership. Please encourage your water quality assurance colleagues to join us and OFMA in our efforts to attain excellence in floodplain management.

2012 OFMA SPRING WORKSHOP

Please join us for the 2012 Spring Workshop on April 5, 2012, at the Quartz Mountain Resort in Lone Wolf, Oklahoma. This year's Workshop is entitled "RiskMAP Programs and the Effect of the New MS4 Permit Requirements on the Future of Floodplain Management." Technical discussions will focus on the new DFIRM maps, the adoption process, the new statewide MS4 permit and its ramifications to floodplain managers. We are still seeking speakers. If you would like to present a topic during the workshop, please contact Vice Chair Bill Robison at brobison@cityoftulsa.org.

2012 OFMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2012 Fall Conference will be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the Embassy Suites Hotel. This location is sure to provide an excellent venue with a warm, friendly atmosphere. Conference facilities—reserved entirely for the OFMA conference—will accommodate a multitude of events including keynote speakers, technical sessions, workshops, luncheons and more. Meals will be served in the atrium cafeteria, adjacent to the hospitality suite and exhibitors. Our vendors will be located in adjacent guest suites for a more relaxed location and the opportunity to set up their displays in the living area of the suites where they can be left for the duration of the conference.

VISIT WWW.OKFLOOD.ORG FOR REGISTRATION AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



2012 OFMA SPRING WORKSHOP
APRIL 5, 2012
QUARTZ MOUNTAIN RESORT
LONE WOLF, OKLAHOMA



2012 OFMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2012
EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

2012 OFMA "RISK REDUCTION" TRAINING COURSES

DATE	LOCATION	COURSE TOPIC
10/4/2011	OCCE - NORMAN	RISK MAP - MESHEK (Min. 4 hours) FEMA LOMA PROCESS - BILL SMITH
1/24/2012	OCCE - NORMAN	RISK MAP - MESHEK (Min. 4 hours) GREEN BUILDING IN THE FLOODPLAIN - ELLEN STEVENS ESTABLISHING BFE'S IN UN-NUMBERED A ZONES - JOE REMONDINI
2/9/2012	OCCE - NORMAN	FPA POST-DISASTER ASSISTANCE - BILL SMITH (Min. 4 hours) FLOOD INSURANCE - TOM LEATHERBEE
3/6/2012	BARTLESVILLE	COMMUNITY RESPONSE ACTION TO FLASH FLOODS - JEFF BIGBY FLOODPROOFING - JOE REMONDINI CORPS CLEAN WATER ACT REGULATORY PROGRAM - SHANE CHARLESON POST-DISASTER NATIONWIDE PERMITTING IN THE FLOODPLAIN - USACE FPA POST DISASTER ASSISTANCE - BILL SMITH
3/8/2012	McALESTER	FEMA LOMA PROCESS - BILL SMITH FLOOD RISK REDUCTION - RON FLANAGAN CORPS CLEAN WATER ACT REGULATORY PROGRAM - SHANE CHARLESON FLOOD INSURANCE - TOM LEATHERBEE
3/13/2012	CLINTON	RISK MAP - MESHEK (Min. 4 hours) OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT - AMY BRANDLEY ESTABLISHING BFE'S IN UN-NUMBERED A ZONES - JOE REMONDINI
3/27/2012	OCCE - NORMAN	FLOODPLAIN ISSUES IN THE IBC - TOM LEATHERBEE D-FIRMS FOR THE FPA - CHRIS HILL DAM SAFETY IN THE FLOODPLAIN - RUSS WYCKOFF ESTABLISHING BFE'S IN UN-NUMBERED A ZONES - JOE REMONDINI
4/24/2012	GRDA-LANGLEY	RISK MAP - MESHEK (Min. 4 hours) FEMA LOMA PROCESS - BILL SMITH POST-DISASTER SECTION 404 PERMITTING IN THE FLOODPLAIN - USACE DAM SAFETY IN THE FLOODPLAIN - RUSS WYCKOFF
6/5/2012	OCCE - NORMAN	FPA POST DISASTER ASSISTANCE - BILL SMITH (Min. 4 hours) FLOOD INSURANCE - TOM LEATHERBEE POST-DISASTER NATIONWIDE PERMITTING IN THE FLOODPLAIN - USACE

UPCOMING EVENTS

ASFPM 2012 Annual Conference



The Association of State Floodplain Managers will convene its 36th annual gathering the week of May 20 - 25, 2012, in San Antonio, Texas.

Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma ACCO

Spring 2012 Conference
April 11-12, Embassy Suites
Conference Center, Norman,
Oklahoma



Fall 2012 Conference
November 14-15, Embassy Suites
Conference Center, Norman,
Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CRS WORKGROUP AND UPCOMING CRS CHANGES—BY JEFF BIGBY, PE, CFM, OFMA CRS WORKGROUP CHAIR

Did you know that OFMA formed an Oklahoma CRS Workgroup in 2011? The Community Rating System (CRS) is an NFIP program that provides flood insurance premium discounts to citizens of communities that go above and beyond the minimum NFIP floodplain management requirements. The Oklahoma CRS Workgroup meets quarterly to keep Oklahoma CRS coordinators updated on CRS program changes and to foster idea exchange and networking among the fourteen Oklahoma CRS communities. The workgroup is a friendly bunch and would love to see new communities join the CRS and the group.

One very large item looming for 2012 is a total NFIP revision of the CRS Coordinator's Manual. For over a year now, learning about the proposed manual and program changes has preoccupied thousands of CRS coordinators nationwide. As of late January, the CRS Coordinators Manual is scheduled for a late January/early February 2012 completion. There will be a training

session in February with Insurance Services Office (ISO) staff in charge of overseeing CRS program community re-verifications at the FEMA regional level. After that, the revised manual will go before the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for a review and approval, which could take a few more months. The CRS Coordinators Manual is scheduled for a July 1, 2012 release. A CRS Manual update web page at www.crs2012.org provides the latest news on this topic as well as other CRS information.

ISO Staff will be working with existing CRS communities in the coming months to gauge how revised program changes will affect the current floodplain management activities points, which determine their individual community rating and flood insurance discounts. A week-long EMI L278 CRS Workshop is scheduled for July 30 through August 2 at the Del City City Hall, Lower Level Training Room. This workshop will be an excellent local

training opportunity.

Transitioning existing CRS community programs into the new rules and points system will be an ongoing process for quite some time. A more detailed analysis of specific CRS program changes will be presented in an upcoming OFMA *BFE* after the official manual is published. If you are interested in learning more about the Oklahoma CRS Workgroup or the CRS program in general, feel free to contact me at jbigby@brokenarrowok.gov.



JEFF BIGBY, PE, CFM
CITY OF BROKEN ARROW

EPA TO RELEASE CONSTRUCTION GENERAL PERMIT WITHOUT NUMERIC TURBIDITY LIMITS—BY RAYMOND L. MELTON, CSI, CPESC

By mid-February, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is scheduled to release a final construction general permit (CGP) for 2012.

It will not include numeric turbidity limits, and states not using EPA's CGP will not be required to incorporate the limit and associated monitoring requirements into their permits. EPA stayed the numeric turbidity limit of 280 nephelometric units to correct a calculation error when establishing the

2009 effluent limitation guidelines. To devise a new limit, the agency is seeking more data on the cost, feasibility, and effectiveness of technologies for controlling turbidity in construction discharges, especially regarding passive treatment. Comments are due March 5, 2012.

See the Federal Register notice for more information.



USGS Home
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A NEW GENERATION OF MAPS FROM: <http://nationalmap.gov/ustopo/>

US Topo is the new generation of digital topographic maps from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Arranged in the traditional 7.5-minute quadrangle format, digital US Topo maps look and feel like the traditional paper topographic maps for which the USGS is so well known. At the same time, US Topo maps provide modern technical advantages that support wider and faster public distribution and enable basic, on-screen geographic analysis.



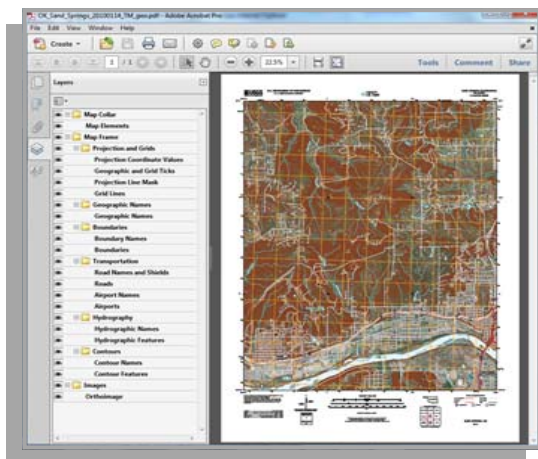
US Topo maps are available free on the Web through the USGS Store. Each map quadrangle is constructed in PDF format with geospatial extensions (GeoPDF®) format from key layers of geographic data - orthoimagery, roads, geographic names, contours and hydrographic features - found in *The National Map*. *The National Map* is a nationwide collection of integrated data from local, State, Federal, and other sources. The most recent US Topos include boundaries and woodland.

US Topo users can turn geographic data layers on and off as needed; zoom in and out to highlight specific features or see a broader context; and print the maps, in their entirety or in customized sections, on a wide variety of printing devices. Viewing and analytical tools are available free for download from Adobe and TerraGo Technologies. File size for each digital 7.5-minute quadrangle is about 15-20 megabytes.

Production of the US Topo prototype, "Digital Map-Beta," began in June 2009. Production of US Topo maps began in October 2009. The newer US Topos include all of the content

of the earlier "Digital Map-Beta," plus integrated contours and hydrographic features. US Topos are modeled on the prior, printed USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map series which was completed in 1992.

As the US Topo product evolves, the USGS will incorporate additional data layers from *The National Map*. More information about US Topo maps can be found at <http://nationalmap.gov/ustopo/>.



Oklahoma Floodplain
Managers Association, Inc.
PO Box 8101
Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

ADDRESS CORRECTION
SERVICE

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Chair:
Ana Stagg, PE, CFM
Meshek & Associates, PLC
1437 South Boulder Avenue,
Suite 1080
Tulsa, OK 74119
Phone: (918) 392-5620
astagg@meshekengr.com

Vice Chair:
Mr. Bill Robison, CFM
City of Tulsa
2317 S. Jackson, Rm S-310
Tulsa, OK 74107
Phone: (918) 596-9475
brobison@cityoftulsa.org

Secretary:
Ms. Amy Brandley, CFM
Canadian County FPA
200 N. Choctaw Ave.
El Reno, OK 73036
Phone: (405) 262-1070
brandleva@canadiancounty.org

Treasurer:
Ms. Carolyn Schultz, CFM
Corps of Engineers
1645 S. 101st E. Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74128
Phone: (918) 669-4919
Fax: (918) 669-7546
carolyn.schultz@usace.army.mil

Region 1 Representative:
Ms. Leslie Lewis, PE, CFM
ODOT
200 NE 21st Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Phone: (405) 521-6500
Fax: (405) 522-0134
llewis@odot.org

Region 2 Representative:
Mr. Bill Smith, PE, CFM
HISINC
28508 W. 41st Street South
Mannford, OK 74044
Phone/Fax: (918) 865-6977
Cell: (918) 625-2449
wbsmith@hisinc.us

Region 3 Representative:
Mr. Jeff Smith, CFM
PO Box 2274
Muskogee, OK 74402
Phone: (918) 682-2551
Fax: (918) 684-1699
jsmith@readymuskogee.com

Region 4 Representative:
Ms. Chloe Lewis, CFM
Comanche County
315 SW 5th, Room 107
Lawton, Oklahoma 73501
(580) 585-5305
cc-em@sbcglobal.net

Region 5 Representative:
Mike Galloway, CFM
Custer County FPA/EM
PO Box 300
Arapaho, OK 73620
Phone: (580) 323-4105
custer_em@hotmail.com

Past Chair:
Tom Leatherbee, CFM
City of Del City
Director of Community Services
P.O. Box 15177
Del City, OK 73115
Phone: (405) 671-2803
tleatherbee@cityofdelcity.org

Honorary Board Member:
Mr. Joe Remondini, PE, CFM
Corps of Engineers
1645 S. 101st E. Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74128
Phone: (918) 669-7198
Fax: (918) 669-7546
joseph.remondini@usace.army.mil

Honorary Board Member:
Mr. Ken Morris
WK Morris Consulting, LLC
5400 E. Tecumseh Rd.
Norman, OK 73026
Phone: (405) 530-8861
Fax: (405) 530-8900

Honorary Board Member:
Mr. Ronald D. Flanagan, CFM
R.D. Flanagan & Associates
2745 East Skelly Drive, Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74105
Phone: (918) 749-2696
Fax: (918) 749-2697
rdflanagan@rdflanagan.com

State NFIP Coordinator:
Mr. Gavin Brady
Oklahoma Water Resources Board
3800 North Classen Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
Phone: (405) 530-8800
Fax: (405) 530-8900
jgbrady@owrb.ok.gov

Ex Office:
Mr. J. D. Strong
Executive Director
Oklahoma Water Resources Board
3800 North Classen Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
Phone: (405) 530-8800
Fax: (405) 530-8900

BFE Editor:
Ms. Janet K. Meshek, PE, CFM
Meshek & Associates, PLC
1437 South Boulder Avenue,
Suite 1080
Tulsa, OK 74119
Phone: (918) 392-5620
jmeshek@meshekengr.com