



The B.F.E.*

*Base Flood Elevation

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION



Volume 26 - Summer 2013

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OFMA 2013 ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE - THE BIGGERT-WATERS FLOOD INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2012: FRIEND OR FOE? BY TODD MCLELLAN

OFMA invites members and guests to attend the **September 16 - 18** at the **Embassy Suites Conference Center in Norman, Oklahoma**. Over 200 registrants and 40 presenters with backgrounds in local, state, and federal government as well as engineers, consultants, and emergency managers will be in attendance.

The conference entitled, "The Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012:

Friend or Foe?" will focus on the ongoing and often confusing changes to the National Flood Insurance Program. The opening plenary sessions will feature Mr. Carl Watts, i Services/NFIP and Ms. Sandy Keefe, Deputy Mitigation Division Director, FEMA Region 6. The Wednesday plenary session will highlight Mr. Albert Ashwood, Director of the Office of Emergency Management, who will present on the city of Moore tornado re-

sponse and resulting availability of funds for hazard mitigation.

The technical agenda will include three general tracks encompassing a wide variety of topics including Community Rating System (CRS) program changes, hazard communication and mitigation, floodplain mapping and risk map, and low impact development.

Additionally, the confer-

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OFMA DRT ASSISTS COMMUNITIES WITH STORM RECOVERY BY TOM LEATHERBEE

OFMA and its partners and volunteers have dedicated substantial time and resources in an effort to develop the OFMA Disaster Response Team. The DRT has become a model for state floodplain management associations across the country. Until this spring, however, most efforts have focused on logistics,

training and readiness, with few actual disaster deployments.

Summer 2013 will be long remembered as a wild, and tragic, season for weather events in Oklahoma and for the OFMA Disaster Response team. When storms impacted floodplains in communities

throughout the state, the DRT was ready and able to respond to provide assistance to local floodplain managers. Working with federal, state and local officials, the DRT conducted four field deployments and one technical assistance deployment.

City of Moore

The DRT provided technical assistance to the floodplain administrator following the May 20th tornado, which affected a number of homes within the Special Flood Hazard Area. While an on-site deployment for SDE evaluation was not required, DRT

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WORDS FROM THE CHAIR—BY BILL ROBISON, PE, CFM

Personally I'm very proud of OFMA and all we have accomplished over the years.

- OFMA was one of the first state floodplain management associations in the nation and were the first state association to offer the CFM exam and certification program recognized and approved by ASFPM.
- We are the first and only state association to have a Disaster Response Team.
- The Training Cadre has catalogued and compiled an extensive library of training courses and are presently working to complete canned, standalone training videos that our members can download and use to present to various venues. These will be on topics like flood insurance, basic floodplain management principles, flood proofing and other floodplain management topics.
- The Outreach Committee has taken the outreach program to levels I never would have thought possible. In addition to advancing the TADD poster contest program, this committee is responsible for acquiring

about 60 free TADD signs that have been placed at dangerous low water crossings in the state, getting material about flood safety in the driver training manual and a question on the state driver's test.

Every year when I travel to ASFPM or other state association conferences, I am constantly praised for all OFMA has accomplished. Even Diane Calhoun, Chair of TFMA, which has approximately 1400 members said she doesn't know how we do it. The problem we have is that the same handful of members does all the work. If you like what OFMA is doing and what we have accomplished, we need your help. Get interested, join a committee, become a region representative, do what you can to support our organization. If you want to learn more about what the board does and what the responsibilities of the various positions are, attend one of the board meetings. They are open to all members. They are typically the 3rd Thursday each month in Del City starting at 10:00. You can find minutes for all previous meetings on the website.

At the Spring Technical Workshop I asked what you would like to see from OFMA. I heard one comment that it would be nice to have about two hour

lunch and learn training sessions done in various areas throughout the state. I will be happy to make that happen. If you are interested

in hosting such a session and have a topic and meeting space, talk to your region representative and let them know. They will pass the information on to the Training Cadre and we will arrange to have a speaker there for the session. This is still an open question that I will bring before the members at the Fall Conference. We really want to know what you, the members, think OFMA should be devoting our resources toward. Are the programs we are presently working on important to you or is the only reason for OFMA to be in existence to administer the CFM program? I think not, but if we are to continue all the programs we are working on we need your help and support. Some of us are getting tired and would really like a break. Even a couple hours a month goes a long way helping to promote the association and advance sound floodplain management principles.



2013 OFMA ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE - THE BIGGERT-WATERS FLOOD INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2012: FRIEND OR FOE? BY TODD MCLELLAN (CONT.)

(Continued from page 1)

ence will offer three field trips: the Oklahoma River dam/locks tour, the National Weather Service Center tour, and the Disaster Response to flooding on Crutcho Creek in Midwest City: A Case Study in Substantial Damage Evaluation and Hazard Mitigation tour.

Optional Disaster Response Team (DRT) training and the Certified Floodplain Manager exam will be held on

Wednesday afternoon following the conference. Pre-registration is required.

As in years past, the pre-conference Golf Tournament will be held at The Trails Golf Club on Sunday, September 15. The 2-1/2 day conference will officially begin on Monday, September 16, at 8:00 am and end on Wednesday, September 18, at noon.

The conference will also host the Annual Meeting. In accordance with

OFMA bylaws, the election of 2014 officers will occur at this event. The positions that are open for election are Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice Chair (the present Vice Chair automatically steps up as chair).

See You There!

See Pages 10 and 11 for the Draft Agenda!

OFMA DRT ASSISTS COMMUNITIES WITH STORM RECOVERY, BY TOM LEATHERBEE

(Continued from page 1)

Coordinator Bill Smith provided significant advice and made preparations to deploy DRT members and other OFMA volunteers to establish survey control, assist with determination of Base Flood Elevations in an Approximate A Zone and complete Elevation Certificates for property owners seeking to rebuild. This deployment is currently on hold pending the needs of the City of Moore as the rebuilding process proceeds.

City of Oklahoma City

DRT Coordinator Bill Smith conducted fieldwork for SDE determinations and provided technical support to the City of Oklahoma City for structures damaged in the May 20th tornado that were located within the Special Flood Hazard Area. No structures were substantially damaged. DRT Coordinator Bill Smith then led a field deployment to conduct SDE evaluations for structures in the SFHA damaged by the May 31st tornado and flooding.

Town of Dewar

The DRT conducted a field deployment to Dewar to evaluate a number of structures substantially damaged by flooding associated with the May 31st storms. 19 structures were evaluated and 3 were deemed to be substantially damaged. Responding were DRT Alternate Coordinator Tom Leatherbee from Del City, Jeff Bigby from Broken Arrow, Ronny Nelson from Goldsby and Ron Johnson from Del City.

City of Midwest City

The DRT conducted its largest ever field deployment to the Park Village mobile home subdivision and

other areas in Midwest City. Park Village devastated by floodwaters from the May 31st storms, with local fire departments having to conduct evacuations by boat and every structure in the mobile home park was



FEMA, Monica Cardin from Del City, Todd McLellan from Norman, and DRT Alternate Coordinator Tom Leatherbee from Del City.

The DRT was ready to respond and was able to provide assistance to communities during a time of need. In addition to the equipment, expertise and training that come with a DRT deployment, the DRT provides a local community with an impartial party to help manage a process that can be fraught with emotion and politics. Providing reassurance and political cover to local officials may be just as helpful to a community in need than the technical assistance and SDE reports.

affected in some way. In one day, the DRT inspected 152 manufactured homes, 1 commercial building and 6 apartment buildings. In the Apartment Complex, no structures were substantially damaged. In Park Village, 106 manufactured homes were listed as likely substantially damaged, with final evaluation in progress and pending additional analysis. Responding were Edward Cravens from McClain County,



Muhammad Khan from SMC Consulting Engineers, Ron Johnson from Del City, Gavin Brady from OWRB, Roberto Ramirez from

CONSIDER OFMA COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP! BY JANET MESHEK, BFE EDITOR

Committees 2012-2013

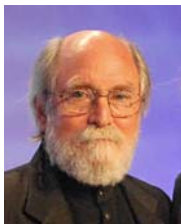
Think about what you want your role to be in OFMA. There are many opportunities to contribute. Below is a summary of the OFMA committees.

Membership by Appointment



- **Professional Development and Certification Committee (PDCC)** - This committee has officers, membership and duties in accordance with its charter, including members of the OFMA Board and two members at large. **Chair: Joe Remondini** (Elected by PDCC)

- **Disaster Response Team (DRT)** - The DRT Committee is chaired by the DRT Coordinator. The Executive Director of OFMA, the State NFIP Coordinator and a minimum of two other members compose the DRT committee. The DRT Committee oversees the organization and activities of the DRT as described in the initial formulation program, or as amended or needed with the approval of the OFMA Board of Directors. **DRT Coordinator and Chair: Bill Smith**



- **Nominating Committee** - Membership in the committee includes the Chair, at least one additional OFMA officer and members from at least



two OFMA regions. The Nominating Committee will solicit and create a slate of proposed officers for presentation at the annual meeting each year.

Additional nominations may be made from the floor during the annual meeting. **Chair: Ana Stagg**

- **OFMA Training Cadre** - Membership in the OFMA Training Cadre is by selection of the chair of the OFMA Training Cadre based on expressed interest by OFMA members. The OFMA Training Cadre creates and presents new training programs as needed in coordination with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board for the Advanced Training each year. The OFMA Training Cadre also coordinates with development of training programs from ASFPM's national training committee. **Chair: Carolyn Schultz & Ana Stagg**



- **Awards Committee** - The Awards Committee is chaired by the Executive Director or appointed by the Chair if the Executive Director position is vacant. Membership in the committee is by recommendation of the committee

chair. The committee reviews award nominations each year and obtains and distributes awards at the annual meeting. **Chair: Gavin Brady**

Members that are Volunteers from the OFMA Membership:

- **Conference Committee** - Membership in the committee includes the OFMA Chair, OFMA Vice-Chair, OFMA Treasurer, OFMA Secretary and others on a volunteer basis from OFMA membership. The Committee is charged with planning and coordination of the spring workshops and annual conferences. Specific duties include selection and coordination of venue, agenda, speakers, vendors and sponsors, registration and menu. Other activities are at the discretion of the Committee Chair with approval of the OFMA Board of Directors. **Chair: Ana Stagg**

- **Tribal Committee** - Membership in the committee will be on a volunteer basis from OFMA membership. The Tribal Committee engages Tribal participation to promote partnership and collaboration. Other activities are at the discretion of the Tribal Committee Chair with approval of the OFMA Board of Directors. **Chair: Cynthia**



(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Kitchens

- **Outreach (formerly Education)** - Membership in the committee is on a volunteer basis from OFMA membership. The Outreach Committee creates programs for development, distribution and presentation of information relating to floodplain managers and the general public. Other activities are at the discretion of the Outreach Committee Chair with approval of the OFMA Board of Directors. **Chair: Open (vacated by Dee Robison)**
- **Legislative Committee** - Membership in the committee is on a volunteer basis from OFMA membership. The Legislative Committee creates programs for each year including, but not limited to, the annual Legislative Reception at the State Capital and assistance with proposed legislative changes to the Oklahoma Floodplain Management Act. Other activities are at the discretion of the Legislative Committee Chair with approval of the OFMA Board of Directors. **Chair: Tom Leatherbee**



- **Membership Committee** - The Membership Committee shall be chaired by the Membership Committee Chair. Membership in the committee will be on a volunteer basis from OFMA membership. The Membership Committee will create and implement a program each year to promote and retain membership in OFMA. Other activities will be at the discretion of the Membership Committee Chair with approval of the OFMA Board of Directors. **Chair: Clark Williams**

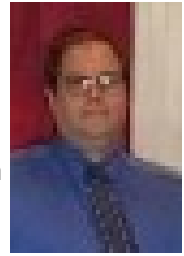


Topical Committees - Volunteers from OFMA Membership

- **Mapping Committee** - Membership in the committee is on a volunteer basis from OFMA membership. The Mapping Committee meets from time to time as needed to oversee statewide map revisions or other issues necessary to the ongoing activities within the State, or respond to specific requests for investigation or evaluation by the OFMA Board of Directors. **Chair: Matt Rollins**
- **Mitigation Committee** - Membership in the committee is on a volunteer basis from OFMA membership. The Mitigation Committee meets



from time to time as needed to oversee or perform mitigation activities within the state, or respond to specific requests for investigation or evaluation by the OFMA Board of Directors. **Chair: Johnny Barron**



- **Insurance Committee** - Membership in the committee is on a volunteer basis from OFMA Membership. The Insurance Committee meets from time to time as needed to develop insurance policies in coordination with the Oklahoma Insurance Commission or for creation of training programs for the OFMA membership, insurance agents, etc. **Chair: Monica Cardin**



Ad Hoc Committees

- **CRS Working Group.** Chair: Jeff Bigby
Expiration: September 2013
- **Publicity Committee.** Chair: Tom Leatherbee & Monica Cardin
Expiration: September 2013
- **OFMA Booth Committee.** Chair: Open



PARTNERSHIP, BY GAVIN BRADY, CFM, STATE NFIP COORDINATOR

The Oklahoma Floodplain Management Association, "OFMA", was created in 1990 with encouragement from FEMA Region VI. The name was later changed from "management" to "managers" to stay consistent with National Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM).

In the late 1980's Oklahoma began to realize the growing demand for floodplain management services and a limited staff and funding to adequately provide that need. FEMA had developed a partnership with ASFPM the previous 10 years and shared with Oklahoma the value of having an independent interest holding them accountable. The OWRB began soliciting Federal, State and Local officials along with individuals affected by flooding to join together and develop ways to combat some of the growing issues. Remember that the 1984 Tulsa Memorial Day flood that killed 14 individuals and the statewide flooding in October of 1986 were still on everybody's mind.

Several informal meetings were held at the Tulsa INCOG office in 1989 with formal creation of OFMA a year later. The first Annual Conference was held that year in Roman Nose State Lodge with the theme "What is a BFE?" Boy have we grown.

I've been associated with OFMA since its inception and have had the opportunity to see the Association grow each and every year. Whether it be the Community Rating System (CRS), No Adverse Impact (NAI), Professional Development and the Certification Committee (CFM) program or the Disaster Response team, just to name a few, OFMA has been the leader in developing these programs in Oklahoma.

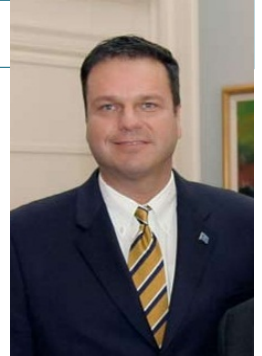
Early on I had an OFMA Board member say to me "the OWRB (floodplain management section) needs OFMA more than

OFMA needs the OWRB". I took offense to the statement at the time knowing how involved the OWRB was with OFMA. I think back to that comment every once in awhile and realize BOTH groups would suffer without one another. OFMA has grown to over 400 members and relies on the OWRB for a portion of their funding. The OWRB has almost 400 communities that participate in the NFIP and relies on OFMA to assist with training and accreditation. These are just a couple of examples of how our partnership has evolved and are critical for both organizations to grow.

Where the OWRB once had to coordinate efforts between Federal, State and local governments, consulting firms, insurance agents and lending institutions, the OWRB now can work with OFMA and its vast array of committees and the word is spread. How does the State address legislation that might adversely affect floodplain policy? OFMA forms a legislative reception and committee to address. How does a community make numerous substantial damage determinations after a flood or tornado? OFMA forms the Disaster Response Team (DRT) to assist. How does the State influence more communities to join the CRS? OFMA creates the CRS Users group.

The OWRB and OFMA have now been partners for almost 25 years. There have been times when we've disagreed but we've always reached a point where a decision made was for the betterment of Oklahoma.

For your commitment to the OWRB and floodplain management, I Thank You OFMA.



KINGFISHER DEMOLISHES FLOOD-RAVAGED BUILDINGS

Congratulations to the City of Kingfisher! In its effort to purchase and demolish frequently flooded properties, the City has made offers to 42 of the 48 properties named in the grant application, with ten properties opting out and the remaining 32 properties accepting the offers. The total project was estimated to cost \$7.8 million.

Of those 32 properties, 5 have been closed and demolished, such as the property shown in the pictures. The remainder are awaiting environmental and title clearance. The six remaining properties are waiting on appraisals.

The City is now preparing another grant application for a \$2.4 million project to purchase more properties. These properties were not included in the original grant because the City did not receive letters of voluntary participation from them at the time. Now, however, the City has received more letters and hopes to continue the process.

The original grant included 33 businesses and 15 residential properties. It is anticipated that most of the properties in the second grant will be residential.

Job well done Kingfisher!

BIGGERT-WATERS FLOOD INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2012 TIMELINE (AS OF 4/17/13)

Date of Implementation	Who Is Affected	What Will Happen	Why Is It Changing?
July 10, 2012	Owners of property: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that is affected by flooding on Federal land caused, or exacerbated by, post-wildfire conditions on Federal land, and who purchased flood insurance fewer than 30 days before the flood loss and within 60 days of the fire containment date. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a flood occurs under certain conditions, an exception to the 30-day waiting period is implemented for a policy purchased not later than 60 days after the fire containment date. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BW 12 Section 100241 created a third exception to the 30-day waiting period for insurance coverage for private properties affected by flooding from Federal lands as a result of post-wildfire conditions.
October 19, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policyholders in the Missouri River Basin (ND, SD, IA, NE, KS, MO) who had claims on a policy purchased from May 1-June 6, 2011, and were not damaged by flood for 30 days after purchase date. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When certain conditions are met, an alternative effective date for the policy or the increased coverage is established as the 30th day after the policy purchase date, without regard for the otherwise applicable flood in progress exclusion, for claims denied based on Exclusion V. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BW 12 Section 100227(b) provides an alternative effective date for qualifying policies that had claims from flooding of the Missouri River that started June 1, 2011.
January 1, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homeowners with subsidized insurance rates on non-primary residences Properties receiving subsidized insurance rates are those structures built prior to the first Flood Insurance Rate Map (pre-FIRM properties) that have not been substantially damaged or improved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 percent increase in premium rates each year until premiums reflect full risk rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BW 12 calls for the phase-out of subsidies and discounts on flood insurance premiums. This premium increase is outlined in Section 100205. The phase out of subsidies affecting non-primary residences was also mandated by earlier 2012 legislation, HR 5740.
October 1, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owners of business properties with subsidized premiums Owners of severe repetitive loss properties consisting of 1-4 residences with subsidized premiums. Owners of any property that has incurred flood-related damage in which the cumulative amounts of claims payments exceeded the fair market value of such property. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 percent increase in premium rates each year until premiums reflect full risk rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BW 12 calls for the phase-out of subsidies and discounts on flood insurance premiums. These premium increases are outlined in Section 100205.
10/1/2013 continued	Owners of property: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> not insured as of the date of enactment of BW 12 (subject to a possible exception in Section 100207 of BW 12); with a lapsed NFIP policy; that has been purchased after the date of enactment of BW 12. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full-risk rates will apply to these policies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BW 12 calls for the elimination of subsidies and discounts on flood insurance premiums. These premium increases are outlined in Section 100205.
Late 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other property owners, including non-subsidized policyholders, affected by map changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full-risk rates will be phased in over five years at a rate of 20 percent per year to reach full risk rates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BW 12 calls for the phase-out of subsidies and discounts on flood insurance premiums This premium increase is outlined in Section 100207.

WANTED - VOLUNTEERS! BY DEE ROBISON, OUTGOING OUTREACH COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Outreach Committee is tasked with the responsibility to develop an outreach program for the creation, distribution and presentation of information to floodplain managers and the general public in order to save lives and reduce property loss from floods. The committee promotes collaborative partnerships with federal, state and local agencies and private business and industry to provide quality outreach materials and resources to a multitude of recipients.

SUCSESSES

- Turn Around Don't Drown® educational video developed/posted on the Oklahoma SDE internal website. Administer annual TADD poster contest and calendar.
- School Bus Drivers video produced for the bus driver's continuing education program on flood dynamics and safety.
- 60 free Low Water Crossing Turn Around Don't Drown® signs secured for Oklahoma from our cooperating partners the NOAA/ NWS.
- Turn Around Don't Drown bumper stickers designed and printed.
- Flood dynamics and safety information published in the Oklahoma State Driver Training Manual in September 2009 with an associated question on the written drivers test.
- The Barricade Law, HB1232, passed and signed into law on May



18, 2011. It restricts motorists from driving around posted barricades, allows for restitution payments for emergency equipment damaged, reimbursement for an agency responding and fines as penalty for violations.

- Two Billboards acquired fall of 2012 to inform motorists of the new Barricade Law.
- Acquisition of two Ward's 3D Floodplain Simulation Systems - one purchased and the other obtained free by a grant from Outreach Process Partners.

CURRENT PROJECTS

- The Traveling Trunks Program (6th-8th grades) has been funded. Awaiting review by the Oklahoma SDE for use in the 2013-



2014 school year to finish production. An associated contest for this educational unit has been adopted.

- Development of educational materials for high school students is in planning stages - initial discussion with the Oklahoma State Department of Education Science and Curriculum Department has been accomplished.
- OFMA Basic Essentials is in development. These are a series of 20 training videos targeted toward various groups such as legislators, insurance agents and mortgage bankers, home builders, developers and city councils, and various civic groups and neighborhood associations. This project has now been assigned to the Training Cadre.
- Production and development of Public Service Announcements.

The purpose of this article is twofold. The first is to advise you that I will resign from my position as Chairman of the Outreach Committee on September 17, 2013 at the Annual Fall Conference in Norman, OK. This was not an easy decision for me to make and I am very grateful for the rewarding work that has been accomplished in my tenure as Chairman. The work of the Outreach Committee has reached a level that requires the expertise and background that only comes from a CFM who works daily within the realm of floodplain management. It has been a great pleasure

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working with all of you and representing the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association as Outreach Committee Chairman since 2009.

The second is to enlist the aid of all OFMA members to further the work of the Outreach Committee. There will be an opening for the position of Chairman. Also, we need to secure volunteers to manage the following outreach programs. These volunteer opportunities are rewarding and inspiring ones - I have broken each down so as not to overwhelm any one volunteer by providing the approximate number of hours for each position and all the procedures for each will be provided as well (no surprises) to interested volunteers.

- Chairman of Outreach Committee - oversee all current outreach programs. Coordinate with the Oklahoma State Department of Education on joint programs - Turn Around Don't Drown Poster Contest and Traveling Trunks Program. Develop for the High school Environmental Studies classes a basic hydraulics/hydrology lesson that builds on fundamentals from the 4th grade and 6th-8th grade lesson plans and includes aspects of water quality, culminating with a contest that reinforces unit learning and Turn Around Don't Drown safety issues. Coordinate with the OFMA Board on all projects - a brief monthly report is required for each OFMA Board meeting.
- Turn Around Don't Drown Poster Contest Volunteer (4th Grade) -



20 volunteer hours per year. Starts the middle of March and ends May 1.

- Turn Around Don't Drown Calendar - 20 to 30 volunteer hours per year. Starts after the OFMA Board meeting in April and ends September 1.
- Traveling Trunks Program Scheduling & Procedures Volunteer

(6th-8th Grade) - Volunteer hours to be determined - will work with Dee Robison for the first year - starting September of this year. Since this is the first year the Traveling Trunks program will be implemented, the fun starts here.

- 3D Model scheduling volunteer - Maintains records of OFMA members who have taken the class and are certified presenters of the 3D model and schedules its use. (I did not put volunteer hours because the list is up to date and just needs updating if new classes are taught. There is a pre-requisite here - you need to have taken the class and be a certified presenter.)
- Please take this opportunity to volunteer your time for these wonderful projects. You can

contact me at 918-396-1900 or email pshn10@live.com

Thank you all!

Dee Robison, CFM

OKLAHOMA Driver's Manual

November 2010

FLOOD DYNAMICS

Water weighs about 62.4 pounds per cubic foot and typically flows downstream at 6 to 12 miles an hour. When a vehicle stalls in the water, the water's momentum is transferred to the car. For each foot the water rises, 500 pounds of lateral force are applied to the car. For each foot the water rises up the side of the car, the car displaces 1,500 pounds of water. In effect, the car weighs 1,500 pounds less for each foot the water rises! Most vehicles will float in just two feet (24 inches) of water even SUVs!



Most vehicles will become buoyant in two feet (24 inches) of water or less.

All motorists should remember the following Flood Safety Rules:

- Cars can easily stall in the water and be carried away in any current!
- Most vehicles will be swept away by less than two feet (24 inches) of running water!
- Do not try to cross a flooded road or stream in your vehicle!
- Do not drive around barricades at low-water crossings.
- Be especially vigilant at night or when traveling on unfamiliar roads.
- Do not drive into or attempt to drive across flowing water.
- Observe any water level indicators at low-water crossings, remembering that six inches of water may be enough to cause you to lose control of your vehicle.
- Be aware that beneath the water's surface, roadbeds may have been washed away.
- If you choose to abandon your vehicle, respect the force of the water. Six inches of fast-moving water will knock you off your feet.

If you encounter a flooded roadway, **TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN!**

OFMA 2013 ANNUAL CONFERENCE (SEPTEMBER 15-18, NORMAN, OKLAHOMA) - THE BIGGERT-WATERS FLOOD INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2012: FRIEND OR FOE? - CONFERENCE AGENDA

Sunday, September 15, 2013:			
Board Meeting			
Golf Tournament			
Monday, September 16, 2012:			
Opening Ceremony		Todd McLellan, P.E., CFM, City of Norman	
Flag Ceremony, National Anthem, Invocation			
Welcome by City of Norman Mayor		Cindy Rosenthal, City of Norman Mayor	
Summary of OFMA Program and Conference Logistics		Todd M McLellan, P.E., CFM, City of Norman	
Oklahoma NFIP Program Report		Gavin Brady, CFM, State NFIP Coordinator, OWRB	
Biggert Waters: NFIP Reform Update		Carl Watts, CFM, iServices/NFIP	
Biggert Waters: Hazard Mitigation Grants		Sandy Keefe, Deputy Mitigation Division Director, FEMA Reg. 6	
Luncheon		Jo Ann Howard, ASFPM Foundation Speaker	
Committee Meetings			
Concurrent Sessions	Track No.	Track Topic	Topic Speaker
A.1	Hazard Mitigation	Dam Watch	Larry Caldwell, PE, NRCS
B.1	Floodplain Mapping and Risk Map	Lower North Canadian: Watershed Study	Vikram Shrivasta, P.E., CFM, RAMPP
		Lower Cimarron-Skeleton: Watershed Study	Remmett deGroot, CFM, GISP, RAMPP
		Grand Lake O' The Cherokees: Watershed Study	Eric Nemeth, CFM, RAMPP
C.1	Stormwater Discharge Permits	Forthcoming EPA Requirements for Stormwater Discharge Permits	Suzanna Perea, EPA Region 6
		Status of ODEQ Permit Revisions for Municipalities	Richard Smith, INCOG/GCSA
A.2	Hazard Communications	Kingfisher, OK Mass Communications System	Dave Slezcicky, City Manager, Kingfisher, OK
		FM Global: The Property Loss Prevention Partner Specializing in Loss Prevention Engineering Services	Art Garcia, FM Global
B.2	Floodplain Mapping and Risk Map	Risk Map: Reducing Risk through Mitigation Actions	Ronald Wanhanen, P.E., FEMA, and Jerry Clark, FEMA,
		Risk Map Non-Regulatory Products: Tulsa County Study	David M. Key, P.E., CFM, RAMPP
		Joint Probability Analysis of Interior Drainage Behind Levees	William Zung, Stantec
C.2	Low Impact Development	Colebrook Nursery/Belgard	Alexis Semach - Jewell
		Benefits of an Integrated Approach to Stormwater Management in an Urban Setting	Monica Cardin, CFM, City of Del City
Vendor Social			Meshek & Associates, PLC
Hospitality Suite			Tetra-Tech

OFMA 2013 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA, CONTINUED

Tuesday, September 17, 2012:			
Regional Meetings			
Concurrent Sessions		Track Topic	Topic Speaker
A.3	CRS Workgroup	CRS Activity	Jeff Bigby, P.E., CFM
B.3	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Workshop	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Workshop (pending Region VI approval)	Danielle Brown and Shanene Thomas, FEMA Region VI
C.3	Low Impact Development	LID Competitions	Don Thieman, ASP
		Houston's Post Construction BMP Ordinance	David Batts, ECO Services
		Ongoing LID Research	Jason Vogel, OSU
A.4	CRS Workgroup	CRS Activity	Jeff Bigby, P.E., CFM
B.4	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Workshop	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Workshop (pending Region VI approval)	Danielle Brown, FEMA Region VI, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Workshop (pending region VI approval)
C.4	Low Impact Development	City of Weatherford Stormwater Case Study	Ellen Stevens, P.E., CFM, Ph.D./ Jason Vogel, OSU
		LID Success Stories from Houston	Justin Ring, P.E., EHRA
		Tracking Point Source Violations, Tulsa Case Study	Scott Van Loo, PE, City of Tulsa
Business Lunch		OFMA Board Elections	Bill Robison, P.E., CFM, City of Tulsa
Field Trips		National Weather Center Tour	Bill Smith, P.E., CFM
		Midwest City Flooding	Tom Leatherbee, AINS, CFM, City of Del City
		Oklahoma River Dams/Locks	Clark Williams, CFM
OFMA Awards Banquet			Janet Meshek, P.E., CFM
Wednesday, September 18, 2012:			
Closing Plenary Introductions			Todd M McLellan, P.E., CFM, City of Norman
Ramifications of DRT Response to Dewar and Midwest City floods			Tom Leatherbee, AINS, CFM, City of Del City
Biggert-Waters for the Floodplain Manager			Ceil Strauss - Minnesota State NFIP Coordinator
Moore Tornado Response & Resulting Availability of Funds for Hazard Mitigation			Albert Ashwood, Director, OEM
Closing Remarks			Bill Robison, P.E., CFM City of Tulsa
Prize Drawings			Carolyn Schultz, CFM, USACE
PDCC Meeting			Joseph Remondini, P.E., CFM, USACE Retired
Board Meeting			Todd McLellan, P.E., CFM, City of Norman
DRT Training*			Bill Smith, P.E., CFM, DRT Coordinator, HISINC
CFM Exam**			Joseph Remondini, P.E., CFM, USACE Retired
*Open to all registered attendees at no additional charge. Pre-registration is required.			
**CFM Exam is a post conference event and requires prior arrangements to attend.			

OKLAHOMA FARM REPORT - OKLAHOMA FLOOD CONTROL DAMS SAVE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS DURING RECENT RAINS

From: oklahomafarmreport.com/wire/news/2013/06/00182_FloodControlDams06062013_105956.php

Thu, 06 Jun 2013 11:00:11 CDT

Oklahoma City- The heavy rains that hit our state over the period of May 29 to June 2 have once again shown the importance of Oklahoma's 2100 plus upstream flood control dams, said Kim Farber, president of the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts. Without this flood control protection system, Farber said nearly \$12 million in additional flood damage would have taken place in our state.

Those huge rain events again show the benefit our state receives every year from our flood control structures, Farber said. Oklahoma has more flood control dams built under the USDA watershed program than any other state in the union, dams that according to economists at the Natural Resources Conservation Service provided an additional \$11.79 million in savings during these last storm events. Once again our flood control system has proven its worth.

Designed to stop the dangerous flash floods, Farber said that these dams, in both rural and urban settings, have for over 50 years protected Oklahomans from the ravages of out of control water, saving countless lives and billions of dollars.

Each year the state of Oklahoma is saved over \$85 million in damage



that doesn't happen because these dams are in place, Farber said. We should be proud of this vital piece of public infrastructure that does so much to protect our state. Often we don't think about the benefit these dams provide. Its storm events like this one that bring the benefit of the flood control program into focus and help remind us of the need to keep this system in good repair.

While the system works as designed, Farber said that over 1,000 of these flood control dams will be past their design life in the next 2 years and will be in need of rehabilitation. In addition, over \$25 million in operation and maintenance needs are on hold due to funding levels at the State Conservation Commission. Another 300 dams have been designated for construction in Oklahoma lack funding and many homes and business have been built in areas of

high flooding or in the breach inundation area below dams. According to Farber, all this adds up to a need for a continued focus on flood control work in Oklahoma.

The governor and the legislature have shown leadership and foresight in past on the issue of flood control in Oklahoma, Farber said. Whether it's providing funding for dam repair, operation and maintenance on existing dams, new dam construction, or providing funding for flood proofing homes and families in harm's way, our state government has been a national leader on this issue. We can't lose focus on this problem however. During the drought of the last two years, it's been easy to forget that extreme weather swings can happen at any time in Oklahoma. Those recent rain events should serve as a reminder that we can't turn our back on flood protection.

ASFPM SENDS LETTER TO PRESIDENT OBAMA ON THE NEED FOR FLOOD MAPPING FUNDING

Dear President Obama:

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) and its 35 Chapters represent more than 15,000 state and local officials and other professionals engaged in all aspects of managing and mitigating flood risk to reduce the loss of life and property from floods. We are writing to express our concern for the reduction in support for producing and updating flood data and mapping for the 22,000 flood prone communities in the nation.



Local communities have the most effective tools for reducing flood risk: land use authority and building codes. But to effectively use those tools they need to first know which areas in their community are subject to flooding. Only 7% of the nation's land area is in the 1% annual chance floodplain (often called the 100 year floodplain), but flooding is the nation's most frequent and costly natural disaster, averaging well over \$10 billion annually. Just two major flooding events, Sandy and Katrina cost federal taxpayers over \$200 billion for disaster relief while putting the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) \$25 billion in debt. Add to this the continual flooding on rivers and coasts through the nation and it is clear we need to do better. If we hope to reduce these taxpayer costs an appropriate and cost effective federal role is to provide communities accurate flood maps to guide new development, and guide rebuilding after major flood events.

The ASFPM is so concerned about the cut in funding over the past few years (from \$220 million in FY 2010 to \$84 million in FY 14) that we performed an analysis to produce a report called "[Flood Mapping for the Nation](#)". It demonstrates that modern, accurate maps can be produced for all 22,000 floodprone communities if the \$400 million/year authorized by the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 NFIP is appropriated for the next 10 years. If we continue to provide only the FY 14 funding of \$84 million, we will actually lose ground, with more flood maps becoming outdated. Accurate mapping must be available for all communities, so they can guide development away from the highest flood risk areas, and ensure that development in moderate flood risk areas is properly elevated or otherwise protected. Accurate, up-to-date flood maps are the key to reducing taxpayer disaster relief and human suffering.

In light of the recent unveiling of your Climate Action Plan, this issue is especially important. Climate change will cause more people, homes and communities to be flooded: and flooded more often. Among the initiatives in the Plan, three interrelated ones: Building Stronger and Safer Communities and Infrastructure, Protecting our Economy and Natural Resources, and Using Sound Science to Manage Climate Impacts, are closely tied to flood hazard management, but this will require that we know what the flood risk is. Flood risk changes over time and climate change only exacerbates this trend. Communities must have accurate up to date maps to help them address climate change and flood risk. A study commissioned by FEMA and recently released indicates that some flood hazard areas in the United States could increase by 45% by the year 2100. Investments on our nation's flood map inventory fully and integrally supports the vision of your Climate Action Plan.

We urge you to support adequate funding for the NFIP flood mapping program beginning with your FY 15 budget proposal.

Mr. President, you have the opportunity today to ensure that part of your legacy for the 22,000 flood prone communities in the nation have the data they need to become resilient and sustainable, so they are prepared for the next catastrophic flood event and future changing conditions. We stand ready to provide assistance through our members, Executive Office and policy team in Washington, D.C. We can be reached through our Executive Director, Chad Berginnis, at 608 828-3000; and via email to cberginnis@floods.org. Please feel free to contact us anytime we can be of service.

Thank you for your support for a safer America today and for future generations.

Sincerely,

William Nechamen, ASFPM Chair Chad Berginnis, ASFPM Executive Director

JOB CORNER, BY JANET MESHEK, PE, CFM

The BFE is proud to announce a new (free!) service. Job postings for floodplain management and related job openings will be listed quarterly in the BFE. Please send an email to Janet Meshek at jmeshek@meshekengr.com with your available position and it will show up here!

FROM FEMA REGION VI - MORE ABOUT BW12

BW12 is in full swing and there have been updates that FEMA would like to share with the local officials and floodplain administrators throughout Region VI. FEMA has scheduled a special webinar just for our local communities where they will go over these updates as well as answer questions.

The webinar is scheduled for Local Officials and FPAs - Oct 1, 2013 - 10:30 am (CST). You will need to register in advance The website is: <https://octbw12forfpa.eventbrite.com>

Contact: Mark Lujan, CFM, ANFI, Natural Hazards Program Specialist, FEMA Region VI

Phone: (940) 383-7327

email Mark.lujan@fema.dhs.gov

FROM ASFPM - NO ADVERSE IMPACT HOW-TO GUIDES - AUGUST 9, 2013

The long awaited and highly anticipated No Adverse Impact (NAI) How-To Guides are hot off the presses!

After two years in the making (one in planning and one in implementation) the first two NAI How-To Guides are available on the ASFPM website. The intent of these How to Guides is to expand on the knowledge base within the original No Adverse Impact Toolkit and to provide specific tools for incorporating NAI floodplain management into local regulations, ordinances, requirements, design, standards and practices.

Mitigation and Infrastructure are the first two (of eight - the seven original building blocks and legal) NAI building blocks to be published into How-To Guides. Each How to Guide features an introduction and background on NAI, five of the many NAI level tools that can be utilized under the particular building block being featured (Mitigation and Infrastructure), and a War Stories section of what worked, and in some cases, what didn't. There is tons more useful information within each of the two How to Guides, but I don't want to spoil the surprise. Go online and check them out for yourself!

The Guides ultimate goal is to have communities take a different approach - a NAI based approach - to managing all development in the community that can contribute to an increased flood risk and incorporate the NAI concept into all ongoing local community activities. These Guides identify just a few of the many ways a community can accomplish lessening flood risk within their community now and working toward reducing flood risk in the future.

The NAI How-To Guides can be found at <http://www.floods.org/index.asp?menuID=460>

Many thanks go out to our contractors on the How to Guides - Michael Baker (project leads - George Riedel, Carver Struve and Benj Korson) for the Mitigation How to Guide and URS (Heidi Carlin as project lead) for the Infrastructure How-To Guide. Additional thanks go out to Drew Whitehair as the ASFPM project lead, the NAI Committee Co-Chairs, Christy Miller and Terri Turner, Deb Mills who served as the Overall Technical Editor for the Mitigation How To Guide, and to the many authors and subject matter experts that contributed to the success of these Guides.

For questions or comments please contact ASFPM Science Services at sciserv@floods.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS



23rd OFMA Annual Conference - "Floodplain Administration of the National Flood Insurance Program" - September 16, 17, and 18 - The Embassy Suites Hotel in Norman, OK. For more information go to [OFMA registration](#).

2013 Kansas Association for Floodplain Management (KAFM) 10th Annual Conference - September 4-5, 2013 - Ramada Conference Center in Topeka, KS. For more information go to [KAFM registration](#).

2013 Arkansas Floodplain Fall Conference - September 22 - 25, 2013 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Hot Springs, Arkansas. For more information go to [AFMA registration](#).

2014 Association of State Floodplain Managers Annual Conference - June 1 - 6, 2014 at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle, WA. More information to come.

"What the (BW12) legislation did not address is the effects of the changes on policyholders and the affordability of flood insurance policies for those that truly cannot afford the increases." See ASFPM's policy paper, [*Flood Insurance Affordability, ASFPM Recommendations to address the impact of NFIP Reform 2012 \(BW-12\)*](#)

OWRB FP101 & Advanced Training Schedule for 2013-2014

Date	Class	Location
October 15, 2013	FPM 101 / Advanced	Norman, OCCE
November 19, 2013	FPM 101 / Advanced	Norman, OCCE
December 3, 2013	FPM 101/ LOMC	TBA
January 13-17, 2014	FEMA L-273 Course/CFM	Norman, OCCE
February 11, 2014	FPM 101 / Advanced	Norman, OCCE
March 4, 2014	FPM 101 / Advanced	Bartlesville
March 6, 2014	FPM 101 / Advanced	McAlester
March 13, 2014	FPM 101 / Advanced	Clinton
April 17, 2014	FPM 101 / Advanced	Norman, OCCE
May 15, 2014	FPM 101 / Advanced	Norman, OCCE
May 20, 2014	Advanced Training	Langley, GRDA
June 19, 2014	FPM 101 / Advanced	Norman, OCCE

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ADDRESS CORRECTION
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VISIT US AT
WWW.OKFLOOD.ORG

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