



# NEW MEXICO HIGH WATERS

*A Publication of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association*

**FIRST QUARTER**

**FEBRUARY 2011**

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## Spring 2011 Workshop Albuquerque, N.M.

Stormwater Quality, a subject that all floodplain managers should be familiar with, is this year's theme for the Spring 2011 Workshop to be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The workshop will start at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, March 9 and finish at 12:00 pm on Friday, March 11. The 2011 NMFMA Spring Workshop Agenda is located on Page 6 and continued on Page 9. The Workshop will be held at the MGM Elegant Hotel (505) 884- 2511.



The MGM Elegante Hotel is located at 2020 Menaul Blvd, NE in Albuquerque on the south side of Menaul just east of University. The MGM Elegante room rate is \$80+tax for singles and \$80+tax for doubles. 40 rooms have been blocked for the workshop, so get your hotel reservations early. February 15, 2010 is the cut off date for these rates.

**Prior to the beginning of the Workshop, the Basic Floodplain Management Course will be taught from 08:30 to 4:30 pm on Tuesday, March 8, 2011.**

**The CFM Exam will be proctored on Wednesday morning from 09:00am to 12 noon. Don't forget to send in your CFM Exam application packet by March 1 to ensure your eligibility to take the exam.**

The [CFM Refresher Course](#) will be taught on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 in the Roybal Conference Room of the URS offices located at 6501 Americas Parkway, NE, Suite 900 in Albuquerque. The course will begin at 09:00am and finish at 5:00 pm. Dave Turk, CFM and Beverley Friday, CFM, Project Managers with URS, will be teaching the course. Registration is required. Contact Dave Turk, CFM at 505-855-7515 with any questions about the course.

**To register for the Workshop, and all the activities you must register on line at [www.nmfma.org](http://www.nmfma.org).**

**2010- 2011 NMFMA BOARD**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Chair:** Paul Dugie, CFM

(575) 525-5588 - pauld@donaanacounty.org

**1st Vice Chair:** Kelly Romero, CFM

(505) 867-7651—kellyromero@sandovalcounty.com

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(505) 855-7477 - rigel\_rucker@urscorp.com

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**Treasurer:** Mike Czosnek, CFM

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**Executive Director:** Grant Pinkerton, CFM

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**REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

**Region I:** Curtis Cherne, CFM

(505) 924-3695 - ccherne@cabq.gov

**Region II:** J. D. Padilla, CFM

(575) 528-3131 - jdpadilla@las-cruces.org

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(575) 483-2682 - tos\_water@yahoo.com

**Region IV:** Mario Juarez-Infante

(505) 348-4000 - Mario-Juarez-infante@wilsonco.com

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Certification/Legislative:** Grant Pinkerton, CFM

(575) 937-1691 - nmcfm@cableone.net

**Conference:** Mike Czosnek, CFM

(505) 835-0240 - mczosnek@socorronm.gov

**Flood Awareness Week:** Yolanda Prada, CFM

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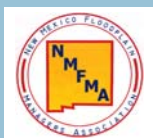
**Nomination:** Vacant

**Training/Education:** Chris Cherne, P.E.CFM

(505) 924-3695 - ccherne@cabq.gov

**Newsletter Editor:** Diane Calhoun, CFM

(940) 783-4123 - dcalhoun@mbakercorp.com



**NEW MEXICO  
CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS**

**Grant Pinkerton, CFM**

**Chair, Certification Committee**

**575-937-1691**

The CFM exam was proctored at the URS Corporation offices on September 20, 2010. One person passed the exam and joined the ranks of NM CFMs. Congratulations to Benjamin Sanborn, CFM with URS in Albuquerque.

Even though we have gained several new CFMs during the past 6 months, we have also lost a few from transfers to other states and from CFMs moving to jobs other than local floodplain management. Because of that, we now have 173 active CFMs certified by the NM certification program

The CFM exam is proctored several times each year. If you are interested in taking the exam, please remember that no matter what paperwork or on-line registration you submit for any specific workshop, class, or other function, **YOU MUST SUBMIT A CFM EXAM APPLICATION PACKET** to the Certification Board before you can be scheduled to take the exam. The packet is downloadable from the Certification page of the NMFMA website, [www.nmfma.org](http://www.nmfma.org). The Application Packet should be mailed to the Roswell address noted in the packet. Any questions should be directed to Grant Pinkerton, Certification Board Chair, at [nmcfm@cableone.net](mailto:nmcfm@cableone.net).



## In and Around New Mexico with the State NFIP Coordinator

**Bill Borthwick, CFM**

**State NFIP Coordinator**

**505-476-9617**

[william.borthwick@state.nm.us](mailto:william.borthwick@state.nm.us)



The Village of Tulerosa, New Mexico, held a Town Hall meeting on the new flood maps for Otero County, New Mexico, on January 25, 2011. The new Otero County maps went effective December 17, 2010. Mayor Ray Cordova and Richard Gutierrez, Project Coordinator/Grantee requested a meeting with FEMA.

Bill Borthwick, CFM, State Floodplain Coordinator, visited with Village Officials on the process of the community joining the National Flood insurance Program (NFIP). The Village would need to complete a FEMA Form 81-64 *Application to Join the NFIP*, and submit a *Resolution* to join the NFIP. The Village would need to adopt a *Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance 60.3(b)* or a higher standard ordinance, and appoint a *Floodplain Administrator* to administer the ordinance.

A meeting with concerned citizens was scheduled later that night. Bill Borthwick explained the process for the Village of Tulerosa (City of Roses), New Mexico to join the NFIP. The community had an initial Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM) dated June 28, 1974.

Paul Quaroli, CFM, Emergency Manager/Floodplain Administrator showed the old county-wide Flood Insurance rate Maps (FIRM) and the new adopted county wide FIRMS. The new maps increased the potential area of risk. The increase of potential structures in the Special Flood Hazard area (SFHA) is difficult to determine as most of the area is approximate A Zones.

## NEED FEEDBACK

The NMFMA Board needs your feedback. We are investigating the option of having attendance of NMFMA Workshops available via the web. This would allow personnel with limited travel funds to attend workshops remotely. Attendance via the web may also come at a reduced price from regular conference rates. If this would benefit you or your community, or if you have comments regarding this, please send Rigel Rucker an e-mail at [rigel\\_rucker@urscorp.com](mailto:rigel_rucker@urscorp.com).

Rigel L. Rucker P.E., CFM

2nd Vice Chair, NMFMA

**URS**

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# SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBITS



## NEW MEXICO FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 3924, ROSWELL, NM 88202  
575-937-1691  
nmcfm@cableone.net www.nmfma.org

January 27, 2011

To: Private Sector Members of NMFMA

From: Mike Czosnek, Treasurer, NMFMA

Re: Cash Sponsorship/Exhibits

As many of you are aware I usually start phoning many of you seeking cash sponsorships for upcoming NMFMA workshop/conferences. I usually ask for a minimum of \$250 for each sponsorship. As many of you are also aware I am somewhat persistent and will continue to call until I get a yes or no. I am trying a new approach this year in hopes of getting more yes's than no's.

What's the money used for? Well, NMFMA has a Social get-together on the opening day of the workshop, typically Wednesday evening. NMFMA has an unwritten policy of not purchasing alcoholic beverages with Association money, so that's the first place sponsorship monies go. In addition, all of the munchies at that social come out of your sponsorship money. If you folks are generous enough to cover the expenses for that party, the next items are the breaks throughout the workshop. The costs of breaks vary from one venue to the next, but it's fair to assume that the average break will cost approximately \$250-\$500 per break. We have 4 full breaks throughout the workshop, so that's the next destination for your sponsorship money.

What do you, as a sponsor get for your money? NMFMA acknowledges your support throughout the workshop. Your name will appear on signage, in the packet, and will be mentioned at the luncheon on Thursday and the Awards banquet on Thursday evening. In addition you will be acknowledged in the quarterly High Waters newsletter and on the NMFMA website.

The spring workshop this year will be March 9-11 in Albuquerque at the MCM Elegante. Details are on the website.

To make a cash sponsorship please make your check payable to NMFMA and mail it to the NMFMA Executive Office at P.O. Box 3924, Roswell, NM 88202.

This year for the spring workshop the board of directors has approved having exhibits, something we haven't done for awhile. So if you'd rather have an onsite exhibit please visit the NMFMA website, [www.nmfma.org](http://www.nmfma.org). You will find exhibit info there as well as an exhibit registration form.

Begging for cash Sponsorships,

Mike Czosnek

# Spring Workshop Agenda

## Wednesday March 9<sup>th</sup>

**1:00 – 1:15 PM**

Welcome - Mayor Richard J Berry, City of Albuquerque

**1:15-2:15 PM**

Development and Implementation of Flood- Inundation Warning Systems - Scott Jackson, USGS

**2:15-3:00 PM**

Spring 2011 Update on EPA's Stormwater Permitting in Albuquerque and the Middle Rio Grande  
Roland Pentilla, City of Albuquerque

**3:00-3:15 PM - BREAK**

**3:15-4:00 PM**

Flash Flood Awareness - Kerry Jones, National Weather Service

**4:00-4:30**

Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network - Kerry Jones, National Weather Service

**4:30-6:30 PM EXHIBIT SOCIAL**

## Thursday March 10<sup>th</sup>

**8:45-9:30 AM**

Stormwater Quality Compliance — Heidi Henderson, NMED

**9:30-10:30 AM**

Economic Impacts of Loss of FEMA Accreditation of the Levees in Bernalillo County - Dr. Lee A Reynis, UNM BBER

**10:30-10:45 AM — BREAK**

**10:45 - 11:15 PM**

Mesa Del Sol Stormwater Quality Projects - Mike Baloskovits

**11:15 AM-12:15 PM**

NFIP - Vearl Wolverton, NFIP Region VI

**12:15-1:30 PM — Luncheon**

**Lunch and NMFMA Business Meeting**

**AGENDA CONTINUED ON PAGE 6**

# Spring Workshop Agenda Cont'd

## Afternoon of Thursday March 10<sup>th</sup>

### Track 1

1:30-2:30 PM

3D Bathymetry Timeline of Cochiti Dam - Daniel Paulson, Wilson & Company, Inc., Engineers & Architects

2:30-3:00 PM

Storm Water Quality in Bernalillo County - Steve Glass, Bernalillo County

**3:00- 3:15        BREAK**

3:15-4:45 PM

Constructive Dialogue - Don Boyd, Dances with Opportunity

### Track 2

1:30 – 2:30 PM

AMAFCA Water Quality Projects Overview - Lynn Mazur and Kevin Dagget, AMAFCA

2:30 – 4:45 PM

AMAFCA Stormwater Quality Projects Tour - Lynn Mazur and Kevin Daggett, AMAFCA

**5:00-7:00 PM -        NMFMA DINNER**

## Friday March 11<sup>th</sup>

9:00-10:00 AM

NMFMA Regional Director and Board Member Area Updates

10:00-11:00 AM

Dynamic Floodplains - Erin Cobb, FEMA Region 6

11:10 AM-12:00 PM

Water Quality Improvements through River Restoration - Chris Phillips, Riverbend Engineering

**CONFERENCE ADJOURN**

## RESPONSE to – To Be or Not To Be ... A CFM

Les Bond, CFM

*This is a response to comments by Dale Hoff, CFM, the Region VI Flood Specialist for FEMA Region VI published in the November 2010 edition of New Mexico High Waters, the newsletter of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association (NMFMA). The newsletter is available at [www.nmfma.org](http://www.nmfma.org).*

I want to thank Dale Hoff and all of the Region VI staff for supporting floodplain management in New Mexico, our CFM program and the NMFMA. They have been fairly consistent in this support since I first became involved with NMFMA in 1996.

There is an important element missing from Dale's article in the November *New Mexico High Waters*: enforcement of the community requirements for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). For its entire 42 years, the NFIP has not used the tools it was provided to enforce these requirements.

Participation in the NFIP is supposed to be a two-way street. The NFIP agrees to make flood insurance available to property owners within a community that participates. In return, the community agrees to adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations that meet or exceed minimum floodplain management standards established by the NFIP. Every community in the NFIP agreed to those conditions when it joined the NFIP.

The original intent of the NFIP was to establish national standards to protect new development from most flood hazards. Flood insurance would be provided to buildings that were already in the floodplain, and to insure the risk to new buildings. Even buildings built in compliance with the minimum standards would still have some risk of flood damage. This combination of regulation and insurance was intended to reduce future flood damage and to shift the cost of flood damage from the taxpayers to the owners of buildings in floodplains.

When a community fails to enforce its floodplain management regulation, it is allowing new development that does not meet the minimum NFIP standards, and that building can be expected to be flooded more often and suffer more damage than a compliant building.

FEMA has three tools to ensure that communities meet the obligations of NFIP participation: community assistance visits (CAVs), probation and suspension.

- The purpose of the CAV is to determine if a community is enforcing its ordinance and keeping required records. The CAV process is supposed to identify problems and help the community fix them.
- A community may be put on probation if there are problems and the community does not take steps to resolve them. Probation lasts for one year, and may be extended by the NFIP. Property owners in a community on probation pay a 10% penalty in flood insurance premiums.
- If, at the end of the probationary period, the NFIP does not feel that the community is making a real effort to correct its deficiencies, it can suspend the community. Suspension means that NFIP flood insurance is denied to property owners in the community.

Now consider the situation in New Mexico (and this situation exists across the country): Dale has talked with community officials who do not enforce their regulations for various reasons. These communities have not been enforcing their regulations, and they do not plan to do so in the future. Why should they? They have never enforced them, and the NFIP has never done anything about it.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**

# FROM THE CHAIR

**Paul Dugie, CFM**

**NMFMA Chair**

**(505) 525-5558**



Hello Everyone,

This is the start of a new year. This year has started out different, the snow and cold weather, and zero degrees mornings. For some of you this may be normal, but for Las Cruces this is close to a record if not a record. Along with the cold weather I am getting to spend two days with my two and seven year old. Some of this is different but some of the things I hear from my kids is what I hear from people at work. 'I didn't know I had to do that.' 'You didn't tell me about that.' You get the picture.

Two weeks ago I went to Virginia to participate in the Nation Hazard Mitigation Grant Evaluation. This is where people from all over the United States meet and review and evaluate the grants that were submitted. This includes grants for flood control projects, earth quake retrofits, safe rooms, Hazard Mitigation Plan (re)writing and home elevation projects are just a few of the projects I reviewed.

Participating in the process I saw that most states are experiencing the same problems we do here in New Mexico. Others have things I'm glad I do not have to deal with.

One thing I found interesting is, that there is rarely submittals from the State of New Mexico. I was asked several times why I thought this was so. I explained that I could not speak for the whole state but for Doña Ana County it is too hard to meet the criteria (1:1 cost to benefit, match ...) and the amount of paper work associated with the grant.

What I would like to know, is why your community has not submitted an application for a grant? There is specific money set aside for the state of New Mexico that goes unclaimed.

See you in Albuquerque.





## RESPONSE to – To Be or Not To Be ... A CFM

### Continued From Page 7

There is a saying, *"Insanity is continuing to do the same thing and expecting different results."* The NFIP nationally and in Region VI, and the State NFIP Coordinating Agency, the NM Department of Homeland Security, keep sending out information, providing training, and begging communities to comply with the promises they made when they joined the NFIP, and the communities keep doing nothing. That looks like insanity to me.

If the NFIP wants to reduce future flood damage, it must use the tools it has to enforce compliance with its requirements. I estimate that at least one-third of New Mexico's NFIP communities are not compliant with the minimum NFIP requirements, and they have not tried to comply for 20 years or more.

The objectives of probation and suspension are not to make flood insurance unavailable but rather to make communities manage development in their floodplains. If Dale Hoff put 31 of New Mexico's NFIP communities on probation for a year, some of them would take the actions needed to avoid suspension. That is, they would start doing what they promised to do 20, 30 or 40 years ago. The others should be suspended. Suspension would make a few other communities decide that they should start doing floodplain management to re-enter the NFIP.

Without this enforcement, FEMA will go on doing the same things for another 20 years without getting any different results.

I supported NMFMA's efforts to revise the NM statutes to require that a community with identified flood hazards join the NFIP. Those statutes also require the community to adopt and enforce floodplain regulations and have a CFM to administer their regulation. I think it is very important for all communities with floodplains to manage their new development. However, if they do not do so, they should lose the privileges of NFIP participation.

Leslie A. Bond

LA Bond Associates

PO Box 427

High Rolls, NM 88325

575-682-1359



# 2011 Nominations

It is time to elect new NMFMA Officers. The following individuals have been nominated. Be sure and check the NMFMA web site for details about voting online. If you are unable to complete the voting on line, you will have a chance to vote at the Spring Workshop in Albuquerque. Remember this is an important process and that these individuals will be representing you and the entire NMFMA. Vote—let your voice be heard.

Position	Name	Community	Phone	Email
Chair	Paul Dugie	Doña Ana County	575-525-5558	<a href="mailto:pauld@donaanacounty.org">pauld@donaanacounty.org</a>
2nd Vice Chair	Rigel Rucker	Albuquerque	505-855-7477	<a href="mailto:rigel_rucker@urscorp.com">rigel_rucker@urscorp.com</a>
Treasurer	Mike Czosnek	Socorro	575-835-0240	<a href="mailto:mczosnek@socorronm.gov">mczosnek@socorronm.gov</a>
Region I Director	Curtis Cherne	Albuquerque	505-924-3695	<a href="mailto:ccherne@cabq.gov">ccherne@cabq.gov</a>
Region III Director	Joe Barela	Santa Fe	505-474-4131	<a href="mailto:joebengineering@msn.com">joebengineering@msn.com</a>
Region III Director	Gabriel Boyle	Espanola	505-753-7774	<a href="mailto:gtboyle@rio-arriba.org">gtboyle@rio-arriba.org</a>
Region IV Director	Heather McDaniel	Farmington	505-325-7535	<a href="mailto:Heather.mcdaniel@saudermiller.com">Heather.mcdaniel@saudermiller.com</a>
Region IV Director	Brian Kent	Rio Rancho	505-891-5284	<a href="mailto:rkent@ci.rio-rancho.nm.us">rkent@ci.rio-rancho.nm.us</a>

## FROM THE EDITOR

*Did* is a word of achievement,  
*Won't* is a word of retreat,  
*Might* is a word of bereavement,  
*Can't* is a word of defeat,  
*Ought* is a word of duty,  
*Try* is a word each hour,  
*Will* is a word of beauty,  
*Can* is word of power.

Are you a member of NMFMA? Good. Are you involved with a Committee? No, well you can. You can make a difference. You can be empowered.

This is your Association and you should be involved. Do you have suggestions? Do you want to know more about the Association and it's Mission? Talk with a Board member and get involved.

**Can is a word of power. And you can do it.**

Diane L. Calhoun, CFM - NMFMA Editor

M. Baker, Jr. Inc., Denton Texas

**Baker**



## New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association

### Application for Membership

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax** (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Affiliation:**

- Local Government
- State Government
- Federal Government
- Private
- Academic
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Nature of Duties**

- Administration
- Engineering
- Planning
- Insurance
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES ARE FOR ONE CALENDAR YEAR**

- Individual Membership     \$ 35.00
  - NEW MEMBER
  - RENEWAL

**MAKE CHECK OUT TO NMFMA**

**Send to:            NMFMA Executive Office**  
**P.O. Box 3924**  
**Roswell, New Mexico 88202**

**I am interested in the following areas of concern:**

**Dam Safety** \_\_\_\_\_

**Flood Data** \_\_\_\_\_

**Structural Flood Control** \_\_\_\_\_

**Litigation/Legal Issues** \_\_\_\_\_

**Wetlands Issues** \_\_\_\_\_

**AO/AH Flooding** \_\_\_\_\_

**Crawl Spaces** \_\_\_\_\_

**Flood Warning & Response** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I am interested in these Committees:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Certification

\_\_\_\_\_ Conference

\_\_\_\_\_ Floodplain Management

\_\_\_\_\_ Legislative

\_\_\_\_\_ Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ Nominating

\_\_\_\_\_ Training/Education

\_\_\_\_\_ Technical



NMFMA  
P. O. Box 3924  
Roswell, New Mexico 88202  
(575) 937-1691

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**WEB SITE:**

**[WWW.NMFMA.ORG](http://WWW.NMFMA.ORG)**

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## **Purpose of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers**

- 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 individuals concerned with proper floodplain management and to encourage the exchange of ideas;**
- 4. To keep individuals concerned with proper floodplain management well informed through educational 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.**