



# NEW MEXICO HIGH WATERS

*A Publication of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association*

Volume 17 Issue 1

February 2008

## NMFMA SPRING 2008 CONFERENCE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

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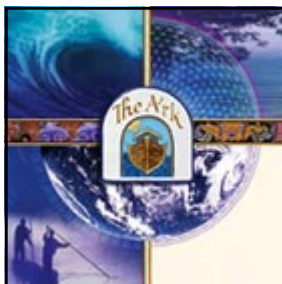
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If you have not marked your calendar for the NMFMA Spring Conference, it is not too late. April 8 - 11, 2008, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. What a great place to have a conference.

Many great things are planned for the conference and there are many great places to visit, shop and site see. So check out the details on Page 4.

Have you made your Hotel Reservations? Go to Page 5 for the Conference Hotel information and a glance at the agenda that is planned.

Do you want to be a Sponsor or do you have a great Exhibit you want to display? Check out Page 4 for contact information.



The New Mexico High Waters is published through the assistance provided by the Department of Home Land Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under the Community Assistance Program-State Support Services Element (CAP-SSSE) of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The contents of this Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Federal Government.

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**NEW MEXICO  
CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS****Grant Pinkerton, CFM**  
**Chair, Certification Committee**  
**(505) 624-6562**

I think it's about time we talk a little about CFM renewal and decertification. In the past I have gone to great extents to keep CFMs from being decertified. In January of 2007 the NM CFM Charter was revised to keep in conformance with the ASFPM CFM Charter. Some of the revisions included a new section called DECERTIFICATION. The half-page section describes a detailed policy on different reasons to decertify a CFM and explains the procedure involved. The 2007 revision to the NM CFM Program also includes the creation of 2 decertification letters that are to be sent to CFMs who do not renew by the due date. The first is to be sent to any CFM due for renewal who does not apply by the due date, which is July 1 or January 1 each year. The letter explains that the CFM is scheduled for final decertification within 30 days if an application for renewal is not submitted. The second letter, which is notification of permanent decertification, is sent at the end of 30 days if no application is received from the CFM. I will be following this procedure from now on and will not be able to make the same kind of adjustments as I have in the past.

We still try to help and encourage CFMs to remain active. Our Charter still has a provision for a CFM who has not been able to attend enough conferences or trainings to earn the required CECs that allows an extension of the renewal due date. In order to qualify for an extension, a letter stating 3 things must be written to the CFM Program Administrator:

1. Explain why the CFM has not been able to gain the required CECs necessary for renewal;
2. Explain how the CFM plans to gain the required CECs (i.e.: attend the next conference);
3. Ask for an extension.

The letter is reviewed and in most cases an extension is granted. CECs then gained at the next conference, or from an on-line course or other sources, will count for the previous years CEC requirement and notice of recertification is sent to the CFM.

The NM CFM Program was set up at the beginning to make it easy for CFMs to gain the 16 CECs that are required for renewal every two years. NMFMA conducts 2 conferences each year, each one worth 12 CECs for attendee CFMs. If each CFM attends one conference each year, he/she will always have enough CECs for renewal when the due date arrives. The renewal application and a generic CEC form are available from the NMFMA web site.

Don't forget that the CFM exam is proctored at every NMFMA conference. **In order to take the CFM exam, an application and fee must be submitted and approved prior to the date of the exam.** The application package is available on the NMFMA website. Click on Certification, then Read, Print, or Download the Application Package for the NMFMA CFM Exam.

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

**Bill Borthwick, CFM**  
**State NFIP Coordinator**  
**505-476-9617**

Attention Local Floodplain Administrators:

Re: State of New Mexico FY 2008 Allocations for the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

We just got notice of the allocation for New Mexico. FMA Funding is available for State allocations for Planning, Project, and Technical Assistant grants

<u>Planning</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>\$13,200</b>	<b>\$128,700</b>	<b>\$141,900</b>

### FMA Program

FMA Guidance document and additional guidance materials, or Agreement Articles are available at the FEMA web page <http://www.fema.gov/about/divisions/mitigation/mitigation.shtm>

### APPLICATION PROCESS

FEMA requires Applicants to use the Electronic Grant Management System (eGrants) <https://portal.fema.gov/famsVuWeb/home> Only FMA grant applications submitted through eGrants will be accepted.

### FMA Application Timeline March 31, 2008 11:59.59 Eastern Standard Time

FEMA offers technical assistance regarding the eGrants system through the eGrants Helpdesk: 1-866-476-0544 or [mtegrants@dhs.gov](mailto:mtegrants@dhs.gov)

Project Technical Assistance Helpline: (866) 222-3580; E-mail [enghelpline@dhs.gov](mailto:enghelpline@dhs.gov)

### Program Requirements

All subapplicants **must** be participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and must not be on probation, suspended, or withdrawn from the NFIP to be eligible to apply for FMA funds and to act as subgrantee.

ESTA LLOVIENDO CULEBRAS Y CUBEROS

## SPRING CONFERENCE APRIL 8 - 11, 2008

**Wendy Blackwell, CFM**  
Conference Chair

We have a fabulous Spring NMFMA Conference line-up for you all in Santa Fe. We will have pre-conference workshops, the CFM Exam, and even a field trip to local multi-objective floodplain management sites. Sessions will include details on map changes, map modernization, state/federal agency coordination in floodplain management, Santa Fe River Watershed project up-dates, the NMFMA Annual Business Meeting and the Awards Banquet at the famous Cowgirl Hall of Fame (barbeque, music and pool tables all included!). Speakers include FEMA Region VI Mitigation Directorate, New Mexico Homeland Security management, the City of Santa Fe Mayor (who started the Santa Fe Living River Initiative) and many others to be announced.

We will start with two day-long course offerings on Tuesday, April 8th. Diane Calhoun from Michael Baker will teach the Floodplain Management Refresher course (perfect for those cramming for the CFM Exam) and Dale Hoff from FEMA Region VI (our New Mexico liaison) will be teaching an Intermediate Floodplain Management Course (perfect for those that want more detail). On Wednesday morning, April 9th Les Bond will teach Hydrology and Hydraulics for Non-Engineers and the DOT Staff will teach a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan "Tips and Tools" Course. We will also be offering the CFM Exam (contact Grant Pinkerton to register for the exam).

The Registration Form is included in this newsletter. You can secure the early registration fee by sending in the form by March 21st, but must include payment before or at the Conference. You can bring a Purchase Order to the Conference. As it states on the Registration Form, if you register without payment and do not attend, you will be billed for the amount due according to your registration. Cancellations received by March 21, 2008, will receive a full refund. Cancellations received March 22, 2008 and after will receive 50% refund. On the Registration Form, please let us know if you plan to attend the Thursday, April 10th luncheon and evening dinner, so that we can plan the catering. Both events are included in your Registration Fee. There is a place on the Form for you to add additional tickets for these two events for a guest.

If you have questions or want to participate as a speaker please contact:  
Wendy Blackwell at 505-955-6127 or [wblackwell@santafenm.gov](mailto:wblackwell@santafenm.gov).

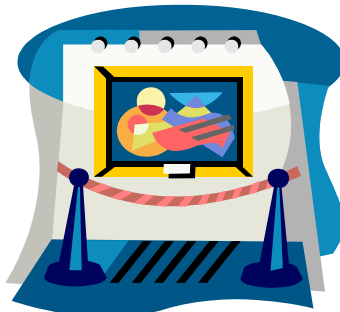
## EXHIBITORS AND SPONSORS INFORMATION

If you would like show your support to the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association and would like to sponsor an event, break, or place an exhibit at the Spring Conference, please contact Mike Czosnek. He will be glad to answer any and all your questions concerning events, and cost and space for exhibit. You can either call Mike directly or email him at the following:

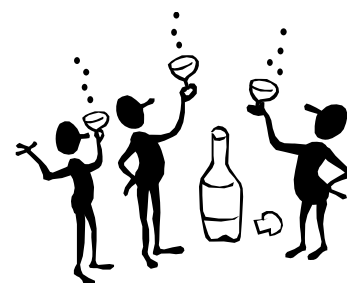
### EXHIBIT

#### CONTACT THE MAN:

Mike Czosnek at (505) 838-7514  
Email: [mczosnek@socorronm.gov](mailto:mczosnek@socorronm.gov)



### SOCIAL



# CONFERENCE AGENDA OVERVIEW

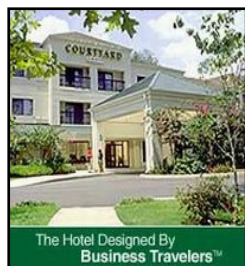
<b>Wednesday, April 9</b>	<b>Thursday, April 10</b>	<b>Friday, April 11</b>
---------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------

Workshop Registration, coffee, pastry			
<b>Hydrology &amp; Hydraulics for Non-Engineers</b> Les Bond Les Bond Assoc	<b>SWPPP Tips and Tools</b> NMDOT Staff	<b>CFM Exam</b>	<b>Conf Reg</b>
Break	Break		
Lunch on Your Own			
<b>Welcome</b> (Kyle Z+Mayor City of Santa Fe+Ross Richardson, FEMA Region VI) <b>Compliance Panel</b> (local, state and federal)			
Break			
<b>Map Changes; LOMA, LOMR</b> (state, FEMA and Baker)			
<b>Exhibit Social</b>			

Conference Registration, coffee, pastry	
<b>Santa Fe River Watershed</b> Living River Iniat, Restoration, Wa- tershed Plan	<b>Agency Info Share</b> USGS Resources for fpm, NMDOT and fpm, ISC, USACE
Break	
cont...	cont...
<b>Lunch</b> <b>NMFMA Membership Meeting</b>	
<b>Field Trip</b> Santa Fe River Watershed	

Conference Registration, coffee, pastry
<b>Map Modernization in New Mexico</b> The good, the bad and the ugly (locals, state and federal)
<b>Conclusion</b> tie together compliance, map change, map mod...

**Awards Banquet**  
 Cowgirl Hall of Fame



The Conference Hotel is:

**Courtyard by Marriott**  
 3347 Cerrillos Rd  
 Santa Fe, NM 87507  
 Phone: 505-473-2800



For hotel reservations, contact the Courtyard by Marriott at the number listed above. When making your reservations, mention the "New Mexico Floodplain Managers." We have a group rate of \$85 per night (single or double).

**SPRING 2008 NMFMA CONFERENCE  
SANTA FE, NM April 8-11, 2008  
REGISTRATION FORM**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please fill out form completely and send with payment to the address below. You may register by emailing, mailing or faxing this form without payment. Payment or Purchase Order is due at the Conference to gain admission. All fees are payable in U.S. dollars. Make check payable to New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association, Inc. or NMFMA (Federal I.D. Number is 85-0433576).

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BADGE NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 POSITION/TITLE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_  
 OFFICE ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEES*	Before 3/21/08**	3/22/08 and After	RSVP (Circle yes or no)	Payment
Member NMFMA	\$95	\$105		-----
Non-Member	\$115	\$125		-----
Full-Time Student (must show current ID)	\$50	\$50		-----
Thursday, April 10 Business Meeting Luncheon (included in Registration Fee)			Yes or No	
Thursday, April 10 Awards Banquet (included in Registration Fee)			Yes or No	
Tuesday, April 8 (all day) Floodplain Manage- ment Refresher Course	\$45	\$45		-----
Tuesday, April 8 (all day) Intermediate Flood- plain Management Course	\$45	\$45		-----
Wednesday, April 9 (morning) Hydrology/ Hydraulics for Non-Engineers	\$25	\$25		-----
Wednesday, April 9 (morning) SWPPP Tips and Tools	\$25	\$25		-----
Thursday, April 10 Business Meeting Lunch- eon, extra ticket	\$15	\$15		-----
Thursday, April 10 Awards Banquet Dinner, extra ticket	\$20	\$20		-----
TOTAL				-----

\* **NOTE:** Speakers are expected to pay the registration fee.

\*\* **NOTE:** Early registration must be faxed, emailed or postmarked by March 21, 2008.

**Cancellation:** If you register without payment and do not attend, you will be billed for the amount due according to your registration, subject to the cancellation policy as follows. Cancellations received by March 21, 2008, will receive a full refund. Cancellations received March 22, 2008 and after will receive 50% refund.

**Return Registration Form**

By email to lbond@labond.com  
 By mail to NMFMA, P. O. Box 531, High Rolls, New Mexico 88325  
 By fax to 505-682-1369  
**Please call 505-682-1359 with any questions.**

**CFM Exam:** If you are planning to take the CFM Exam, you must register via instructions from the NMFMA web site. Payment for the exam is separate from Conference Registration. For more information, please visit: <http://www.nmfma.org/CERTMENU.HTM>

## ASFPM NATIONAL AWARDS SUBMITTAL DEADLINE MARCH 2, 2003

The national awards for excellence in flood loss reduction are conferred at the annual floodplain managers' conference each spring, and you are invited to feature YOUR outstanding local or state program or person! The 2008 ceremony will occur during the annual ASFPM Awards luncheon on Thursday, May 22, in Reno-Sparks, Nevada. Please see the Award categories and submittal instructions at [www.floods.org/awards/nomination.asp](http://www.floods.org/awards/nomination.asp), make sure you complete this online submission by the deadline of March 1. You may direct any questions to Diane Brown in the ASFPM office at [diane@floods.org](mailto:diane@floods.org) or call 608-274-0123. Winners will be notified in early April to allow time to make their travel arrangements. We appreciate your help in showcasing what works, as we commemorate those who reduce flood damages in the nation and make flood risk management an achievable reality. Congratulations to those who received national awards in 2007, you can see the winners on our website at [www.floods.org/Awards/Recipients.asp](http://www.floods.org/Awards/Recipients.asp).

## INFORMATION FROM ASFPM

### Public Support Success Stories Requested

Floodplain managers have a tough job – ensuring that what people want to do with their property does not create new flood problems. Working in a government environment, we must be careful of how we do our job and how we deal with residents, builders, developers, and public officials. The more they understand the need for floodplain management, the more they will support our work and the more effective we will be.

Accordingly, ASFPM and its Training and Outreach Committee will be developing a catalog of good practices on how to build public support for local floodplain management. The catalog will be the basis for a training module to be field deployed by the end of the summer.

Many of our members have seen good examples of getting the public (elected officials, residents, builders, etc.) behind our work. Do you have an experience or success story where your job was made easier because of actions taken to build public support for it?

If so, we'd like to hear about them. Please contact the project's Principal Investigator, French Wetmore at (253) 302-5846 or [FrenchAsoc@aol.com](mailto:FrenchAsoc@aol.com). You don't need to write an essay (although they're invited), just let French pick your brains about your experience.

### 2008 National ASFPM Conference, May 18-23, 2008 Reno-Sparks, Nevada, John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel

"A Living River Approach to Floodplain Management" is the theme, Steve McMaster of Nebraska is the Program Coordinator. The CA/NV/HI Floodplain Management Association (FMA) is serving as Local Host Team, led by Peggy Bowker. The program has been finalized and you can view the concurrent session topics and presenters on the conference web page now! ASFPM staff is hard at work compiling the conference brochure and gearing up to commence registration. All of the contacts in our data base will receive an email notification when the brochure is posted to the Conference web page at the end of January. In the meantime, you will find the hotel phone number and other important information at [www.floods.org/reno-sparks](http://www.floods.org/reno-sparks).



A Living River Approach  
to Floodplain Management

## REGIONAL MITIGATION STAFF CONTRIBUTE TO REDUCTION SEMINAR IN MEXICO CITY

Shari Brand  
Outreach - FEMA Region VI  
Denton, Texas

In November 2007, Mitigation representatives from FEMA Regions IX and VI participated in a seminar on "Risk Reduction and Mitigation of Disaster Losses in Urban Environments/City Centers" in Mexico City.

Region IX Mitigation Division Director Sally Ziolkowski presented a paper at the seminar entitled, "Determining Risks, Assessing Vulnerabilities and Hazard Mitigation." Mayra Diaz, a natural hazards program specialist with the Region VI Mitigation Division presented a paper entitled, "Case Study: Tropical Storm Allison, June 2001, Texas Medical Center, Houston."



Approximately 300 emergency managers, urban planners and social scientists from Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador and the United States participated in the seminar and discussed a range of topics, including the increasing number of severe natural disasters experienced worldwide. International experts shared research tools and study data on disaster vulnerability analysis, disaster loss reduction, assessment practices, weather and climate change analysis and risk reduction in urban areas.

The seminar provided an opportunity for networking and open exchange to facilitate increased knowledge of crucial hazard risk reduction elements.

Ziolkowski said, "The need for political leadership and public policy change, increased education and outreach, and community sustainability efforts" was a common theme among all participants regardless of their country. "Although different cultures and languages, we all have the same goal of making our communities more disaster resilient," Diaz said. "I received a lot of feedback on the way the United States government empowers community participation. The seminar provided an opportunity to share FEMA's mitigation message with other neighboring nations." She said some of the participants asked to visit her regional office and New Orleans to learn more about FEMA's programs.

## FROM THE EDITOR

On October 5, 2006, Gilbert F. White, "Father of Floodplain Management" died at the age of 94. If we as floodplain managers can do just 10% of what Gilbert White accomplished in his life time, I believe this world would be in better shape. I quote Mr. White:

"It is striking that in a century of evolving public policy the prevailing aim has been to minimize losses from floods and not to optimize the net social benefits from using floodplain resources, including the preservation of the basic associations of soil, vegetation, biota, and water. In simplest terms, it is the contrast between "loss reduction" and "wise use."

Diane Calhoun, CFM  
Editor  
940-783-4123 Direct  
940-783-4/44 Fax

**Baker**



## WASHINGTON LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Meredith R. Inderfurth, Washington Liaison  
Rebecca C. Quinn, Legislative Officer



### Congressional Session Wrapped Up

By the time the Congress wrapped up its most pressing business for the 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress, it was just a few days before Christmas. The Senate did not finally adjourn until December 31<sup>st</sup> to make certain that the President could not make “recess appointments” to federal positions. Both the House and Senate will officially convene for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. All legislation introduced in the 1<sup>st</sup> Session will remain active.

A major focus during December was completion of appropriations for the federal government in Fiscal Year 2008. Since the fiscal year began on October 1, the government has operated on a series of four Continuing Resolutions. After much negotiation and many veto threats, the budgets for all of the federal government except the Department of Defense were combined in an omnibus appropriations bill compiled in House Report 110-497. The final document reflects the results of negotiations to resolve differences between versions of the various regular appropriations bills acted on by the House and Senate. Instead of the usual House-Senate Conference process, these final numbers were arrived at through behind the scenes discussions among Appropriations Committee members and officials and House and Senate leadership. A Senate amendment on December 18<sup>th</sup> added approximately \$70 billion for continuing needs associated with the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The report can be reviewed by going to: <http://thomas.loc.gov> and typing in H.Rept. 110-497. The measure was signed by the President on December 26, 2007.

Overall funds for Disaster Relief are: \$1.4 billion and language provides for many additional requirements for DHS/FEMA to report to the Congress.

In the budget for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, there are several items of interest:

Emergency Management Preparedness Grants	\$300,000,000
Flood Map Modernization	\$220,000,000
Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants	\$114,000,000
Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants	\$ 34,000,000
Severe Repetitive Loss/Repetitive Claims	\$ 90,000,000

Despite the intended competitive nature of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant program, for the first time Congress has directed earmarks. The report identifies 95 communities (not specific projects) totaling \$51 million, leaving just \$63 million for competitive grants and administrative costs. Report language requires the earmarked projects to comply with the criteria for award set forth in the Sec. 203(g) of the Stafford Act.

### On to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress

The President's Budget Request for FY 2009 will be released in early February. This will kick off the next cycle of appropriations hearings. House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees will hear from officials of the Federal departments and agencies in defense of their budget justifications. Generally, this process begins in February and continues through March and well into April.

While the 1<sup>st</sup> Session did succeed in completing action on the Water Resources Development Act and on the Energy bill, there is much legislation in the midst of the legislative process. Following is a partial list of expected legislative activity in coming months.

Flood insurance reform legislation (H.R. 3121 and S. 2284) is nearing completion, but has encountered some delays in the Senate. A full report is available in the December issue of “News and Views”.

Catastrophe insurance bills are active and will remain so in the 2<sup>nd</sup> session (H.R. 3355 and S. 2310). Other bills to create a commission on natural catastrophe risk management and insurance are under consideration, notably S. 2286.

Climate change is an active subject during this Congress and a number of bills are in active status, notably S. 2191 the Climate Security Act, S. 2307 the Global Climate Change Research Improvement Act and S. 2355 the Climate Change Adaptation Act.

The Farm bill (H.R. 2419 and S.2302) has yet to be finalized even though the previous Farm Bill expired on October 1<sup>st</sup>. A compromise agreement reached in December should allow the bill to move forward.

Dam safety bills are also in active status. H.R. 3224, the Dam Rehabilitation and Repair Act passed the House and a similar bill, S. 2238 is awaiting committee consideration in the Senate. H.R. 1662 to amend the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act has passed the House and a similar bill, S. 1258, has been introduced in the Senate.

A bill supporting adoption of state building codes and the use of Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant funds for the purpose has been introduced: H.R. 3926.



## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Membership Class Applied for & Dues**

- Individual                 \$ 35.00
- Agency                     \$100.00
- Corporate                 \$100.00
- NEW MEMBER
- RENEWAL

**DUES ARE FOR ONE CALENDAR YEAR.**

**MAKE CHECK OUT TO NMFMA**

**Send to:           NMFMA**  
**Executive Office**  
**P.O. Box 531**  
**High Rolls, New Mexico 88325**

**I am interested in these Committees:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Certification**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Conference**

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

\_\_\_\_\_ **Legislative**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Membership**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Nominating**

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

\_\_\_\_\_ **Technical**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Ways and Means**

*A Publication of the New Mexico  
Floodplain Managers Association*



Executive Office  
P. O. Box 531  
High Rolls, New Mexico 88325  
505-682-1359

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**WEB SITE:**  
**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.**

To accomplish the purpose of NMFMA, meetings and conferences are conducted, distribution of a quarterly newsletter. In addition, NMFMA also works with the New Mexico Department of Public Safety, and the Department of Home Lane Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency and others.