

High Waters

A publication of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association

A Quarterly Newsletter

March 2017

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Spring Workshop

The Spring 2017 NMFMA Workshop and Conference is coming up **April 11-14, 2017** at the Isleta Resort and Casino. Loretta Hatch is your conference director. For more information visit :

[NMFMA Spring Workshop & Conference](http://www.nmfma.org)



FROM THE CHAIR

This will be my last article “From the Chair” as my four year period ends in April. I want to express my gratitude and honor for letting me serve as your Chair. I commend each of you for your participation in advancing this mission as floodplain management leaders across the state.

I am extremely proud that we shared in the experience of implementing the three very important initiatives:

- Our Turn Around Don't Drown (TADD) road sign initiative that we started in 2014 is a huge success. We have almost 500 TADD signs installed across New Mexico since kicking off this initiative several years ago. This initiative truly embodies what it means for us to put our mission into action – to educate New Mexicans about the dangers of flooding!
- We are now creating the Flood Awareness Calendar every year! This fantastic outreach program has been an excellent way to engage New Mexican youth about the dangers of flooding and to produce some very cool calendars. Thank you for all involved in this grass roots initiative of educating our citizens and youth about the importance of floodplain management.
- We now have three Floodplain Simulator models that travel the state that simulate how flooding and floodplains work and how to mitigate the hazards. Our members have presented the floodplain models at over 20 events over the last several years at middle schools, state fairs, and even the roundhouse in Santa Fe. Great job and keep it up!

My most memorable highlight as Chair has been talking with you and exchanging ideas of how to best advance NMFMA.

NMFMA needs you and your ideas to continue the evolution and improvement of NMFMA. It does not run by itself so I encourage you to get involved (e.g. join the board, join a committee, create new committee etc.). NMFMA and its membership have a lot to offer you – more than just continuing education credits!

I look forward to seeing you again at the Spring Workshop Conference at Isleta this month.

Thank you and Best Wishes!

-David Turk, CFM



Transition time for NM floodplain management program

As you all know, Bill Borthwick retired at the end of 2016 after 16 years of service as the State Floodplain Coordinator. DHSEM had a retirement luncheon for Bill in January in Santa Fe (see pictures below). There were wonderful speeches and gag gifts. Most important was the appreciation for Bill's commitment to the State Floodplain Management Program.

On Thursday, April 13th at the NMFMA Workshop, we will also celebrate Bill's hard work as the State Floodplain Manager. Please join us to show your gratitude for Bill's contributions to furthering floodplain management in New Mexico.

DHSEM plans to advertise the vacant position as soon as possible. We are hoping for the job posting to be on the State Personnel website in April. In the meanwhile, please contact me with any questions or issues. David Hiegel is the New Mexico NFIP compliance contact from FEMA Region VI. He will be making a presentation at the April Workshop and is looking forward to getting to know you all.

As for funding opportunities for mitigation, NMFMA will send an announcement of the funding opportunities for Pre-disaster Mitigation and Flood Mitigation Assistance. In previous years, the announcement was released in the spring, applications were due in the summer and awards were made by the end of the calendar year. We do not yet have confirmation on the dates for the up-coming funding cycle. Without federal disaster declarations in 2015 or 2016, we must rely on these two annual grants for planning and projects. If your community mitigation plan expires in 2018 or 2019, please consider applying for Pre-disaster Mitigation funding to prepare the up-date. I will provide additional information about the schedule and application at the April Workshop.

Happy Spring to all!

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DHSEM
New Mexico



New Mexico Certified Floodplain Managers

Renewal email reminders were recently sent out. Each CFM whose renewal date is 7/1/17 should have gotten an email with a reminder letter attached. The letter explains how many CECs you have on record and how many you might need to qualify for renewal in July. Hopefully you will receive the notice in time to schedule registration for the upcoming Spring workshop in Alb this April if you need CECs for renewal. Let me know if you have any questions about your CFM renewal.

Don't forget that the continuing education credit requirements for maintaining your CFM have changed. You are still required to earn at least 16 CECs during each 2 year period, but you no longer are required to earn CECs every year. The CFM Program is explained in the Charter, which can be found on the NMFMA web site on the Certification page and also in the Resource Library.

We have a means to submit your CFM renewal online if you would rather not send an envelope and stamp. Go to the Event Calendar and look for the last day of the month that your CFM renewal is due (only the next immediate renewal date will have this link). There you will find a link to CFM Renewal, which is a registration page similar to a conference or workshop registration page. Just click on CFM Renewal and follow the instructions as though you were registering for a workshop. Click on complete registration. Enter your card info and submit. Don't forget to email me a copy of your renewal application to complete the process. If you renew before the deadline of January 1 or July 1, the fee for renewal is \$25. If you wait until after the first, the fee is \$25 plus a \$25 late fee, or \$50. Renew your CFM as soon as you get my reminder letter if you have enough CECs to renew. Waiting until after the end of the month will result in decertification.

The CFM exam is proctored at each NMFMA conference/workshop. 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. The Application Packet should be mailed to the Roswell address noted in the packet, or emailed to me at nmcfm@cableone.net. Let me now if you have any questions.

-Grant Pinkerton, CFM
CFM Program Administrator

Message from the conference committee

The Conference Committee hopes to see you all at Isleta Hotel and Casino on April 11-14, 2017 for the Spring Workshop/Conference. Loretta Hatch has hatched a plan as your Conference Director and Nicole Friedt has freed up a number of interesting speakers. Chris Naidu has also lined up some interesting speakers for the technical track on Thursday, April 13. Unfortunately I can't think of anything that rhymes with Naidu, so you all will just have to make do with that.

In September, look forward to a little relief from the summers heat at Angel Fire for the Fall Workshop/Conference. Burl Smith is your Conference Director and we are still seeking applicants for Program Director! Folks we need someone to step up and help with this program. If you have an interest please contact Burl or the Conference Committee.

Next Spring (April, 2018) we break with Spring Workshop/Conference recent tradition and head to Santa Fe, but not a hotel/casino. Michael Garcia will be your Conference Director, Nicole Friedt will be featured as your technical track Program Director and once again we are seeking a Program Director for the Non Technical Track.

Anyone wishing to host a workshop/conference for September 2018, please contact the Conference Committee.

-Mike Czosnek, CFM



ASFPM National Conference



The Association of State Floodplain Managers will convene the world's largest and most comprehensive floodplain management conference – our 41st annual gathering, April 30 - May 5, 2017, at the Kansas City Convention Center in downtown Kansas City, Missouri. We invite you to share your experiences with local, state, regional, tribal and federal officials, industry leaders, consultants and a wide variety of subject matter experts from diverse fields who will give presentations relevant to our theme, "Managing Flood Risk in the Heartland".

The conference is conducted by the Association of State Floodplain Managers, the world's leading voice for sound floodplain management, with 17,400 practitioners, 9,500 Certified Floodplain Managers, 36 chapters, and 73 corporate and agency Partners world-wide.

[Click here for more info....](#)



Purpose of the NMFMA

1. *To promote public awareness of proper floodplain management;*
2. *To promote the professional status of floodplain management and secure all benefits resulting there from;*
3. *To promote a liaison between individual concerns with proper floodplain management and to encourage the exchange of ideas;*
4. *To keep individuals concerned with proper floodplain management well informed through education and professional seminars and to provide a method for dissemination of information, both general and technical;*
5. *To inform concerned individuals of pending floodplain legislation and other related management matters, and;*
6. *To study and support legislation pertinent and necessary to the effective implementation of floodplain management matters.*

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