

High Waters

A Publication of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association

A Quarterly Newsletter

August 2016

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Fall Workshop

FPM From The Front Lines

The Fall 2016 NMFMA Workshop and Conference is coming up September 20-23, 2016 in Deming, NM at the [Mimbres Valley Special Events Center](#). Contact Phillip Butz at 575-544-6603 or phillips.butz@state.nm.us if you have any questions or would like to present.

The conference hotel is the Quality Inn, located at 4600 E. Pine St. You are encouraged to make reservations early and ask for the NMFMA or government rate.





Flood Warning Systems

A Flood Warning System is intended to provide communities with an early alert that flooding may soon occur. The alert provides an advanced notice to the Office of Emergency Management to take action(s) that mitigate loss of life or property, which might otherwise occur. A Flood Warning System Master Plan was finalized in the summer of 2013 as a joint effort between the City of Las Cruces (City) and Doña Ana County (DAC). The master plan includes a five-year development process for an Alert 2 Flood Warning System. This system includes standard weather stations (rain gauge, measuring devices, and stream gauge) and an advanced communication technology to transmit rainfall and other data to a central location. Additionally, the plan will provide a high-level overview for flood risk regions within the City and DAC, propose site locations for future flood warning systems, and set budgets for maintenance, operations and expansion.



For more information on the Las Cruces Flood Warning System and weather stations please contact the City of Las Cruces Public Works, Project Development Department - Floodplain/Stormwater section. 575-528-3135

<https://weather.donaanacounty.org/home.php>



New Mexico Certified Floodplain Managers

*Grant Pinkerton, CFM
Chair, Program Administrator*

We have been talking to FEMA and ASFPM about having another FEMA 273 course in NM again this year, but no solid plans have been made. As soon as we know anything positive about the course, we will post it on our web site. Keep an eye on www.nmfma.org to see all the newest information

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.

For any CFM who wants to pay for CFM renewal online, go to the Event Calendar and pull up the last day of the month your CFM is due in (January or July). Click on CFM Renewal and fill out the form as tho you are registering for a conference. The fee is automatically calculated. 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.

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.

CTP Update - Earth Data Analysis Center

Discovery on the Animas:



EDAC in partnership with FEMA Region VI is wrapping up its discovery process for the Animas watershed. A workshop meeting was held at the end of July, where CTP, FEMA, and DHSEM staff met with local stakeholders from the area. A pre-discovery report is available on www.nmflood.org and a final report will be available in the coming weeks.



Upcoming Projects:

For fiscal year 16-17, EDAC is preparing for six separate projects to take place throughout New Mexico:

- Base Level Engineering for the Animas Watershed
- Base Level Engineering for Curry & Roosevelt Counties
- Alluvial Fan & Debris Flow Identification
- Semi-Automated Landslide Hazard Area Identification
- New Mexico Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal
- Update to the NM Multi Hazard Risk Portfolio

A more detailed presentation on these projects and other CTP activities will be presented at the upcoming fall workshop in Deming. Don't miss it!



Floodplain Management made easier!

*Bill Borthwick, CFM
State Floodplain Coordinator*

Even though it is monsoon season and all of our jobs are more hectic this time of year, we wanted to remind you of a helpful tool that should make your job easier. As Floodplain Administrators you have one of the hardest jobs in New Mexico! Your duties and responsibilities require you to keep citizens reasonably safe from flooding, protecting property and the natural health and benefit functions of the floodplain. Sometimes this task is a bigger headache than an NFL concussion protocol.

FEMA Form 086-33 (released July 2015) is an Elevation Certificate Form. This FEMA tool is similar to H & R Block or Turbo Tax checklists. Instructions are given for each field and there are also useful diagrams included. The form with instructions is available at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/160>

Inaccurate Elevation Certificates can lead to damaged property, floodplain violations and reduction Community Rating System (CRS) points. All CRS communities should utilize this recent Elevation Certificate form as part of their 'play book'. If you are a community entertaining candidacy in the CRS this tool is essential. The form with accurate data is critical for permit agencies, surveyors, engineers, the construction industry and CRS qualified applicants. Community officials should utilize this template for proper administration and sound floodplain management record keeping.

Floodplain Management just got easier with this recent Elevation Certificate!



From the Conference Committee

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Conference Committee report:

The conference committee feels ready for the upcoming Deming Workshop/Conference.

Your Conference Director, Phil Butz, has everything set and ready to go. Your Program Director, Nicole Friedt has put together a terrific agenda. The Workshop/Conference kicks off on Tuesday September 20 with Jim Deangelo teaching the Floodplain 101 class. On Wednesday September 21 the Workshop/Conference kicks off at noon.

Following the Deming event will be the 2017 Spring Workshop/Conference in April 2017. This Workshop/Conference will be at the Isleta Resort/Casino in Albuquerque. Your Conference Director is Loretta Hatch. Loretta still needs a Program Director for the non technical portion of the Workshop/Conference so if interested please contact the Conference Committee and or Loretta directly.

In September 2017 we will be headed to Angel Fire. Burl Smith will be your conference Director. Burl also is in need of a Program Director, so again, if interested please contact the Conference Committee and or Burl directly.

On the weekend of August 20,21, 2016 the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs held a retreat at Isleta Resort/Casino. At that meeting Michael Garcia stepped up with a request to have the 2018 Spring Workshop/Conference in Santa Fe. Michael will be you Conference Director in April 2018.

Another development from that meeting was Nicole Friedt stepping up as future Technical Program Director for future Spring Workshop/Conferences. Nicole will put together the agendas for the technical track at the Spring events. NMFMA Spring Workshop/Conferences typically have a two track training sessions. The Conference Committee will resume conference calls in October with future Conference Directors, future Program Directors and any interested folks.

See you in Deming.

NMFMA Board Retreat News

During the recent Annual NMFMA Board Retreat it was mentioned that during the Spring Workshop in Santa Fe, there had been some interest in NMFMA hosting or assisting in hosting the next ASFPM Arid Regions Conference in 2018. If you are interested in helping to organize this event, please contact Nicole Friedt at Nicole.Friedt@state.nm.us.

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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