

High Waters

A publication of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association

A Quarterly Newsletter

October 2017

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Spring Workshop

The Spring 2018 NMFMA Workshop and Conference will be **April 10-13, 2018** at the [Drury Hotel](#) in Santa Fe. Michael Garcia MGarcia@rio-arriba.org is your conference director. For more information visit :

[NMFMA Spring Workshop & Conference](#)

DRURY
PLAZA HOTEL
in Santa Fe

FROM THE CHAIR

As many of you know, Curt Temple recently decided to pursue other career opportunities that moved him and his family from Lincoln County up to Santa Fe. As a result of this transition, he was no longer going to be able to serve as our Chair. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Curt for his service as our Chair and for all his hard work over the years for NMFMA and its membership. He was really an outstanding reflection of a public servant and a floodplain manager for his community. With Curt's departure, the board has voted myself into the role. I will endeavor to live up to the high standards that the past Chairs have set and will serve the NMFMA to the best of my ability.

This summer the Board and the committee chairs met to discuss the organization and to lay out a plan for the upcoming year. A common theme in all discussion has been how to get our membership more involved. I know that Curt urged everyone to get involved in the last newsletter and I will express the same sentiments. NMFMA is what we, the membership, want it to be. So I ask each of you, "What do you want NMFMA to be?" What would you like NMFMA to bring to you?

I too was a 'sideline' member for many years, afraid of the level of commitment that more active participation would require. About 5 years ago, Paul Dugie (one of the 'Old Timers' Curt referred to) convinced me to participate in the Board as a regional representative. I can personally vouch that a higher level involvement in this organization doesn't consume an exorbitant amount of your time. So I urge you, get involved. This is your organization. It is shaped and modeled by its membership. It lives through new ideas and perspectives. If you are interested or have any ideas you would like to share – reach out to any of the Board members. We would love to talk with you.

Although I was unable to attend the Fall Conference, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Loretta Hatch. As our conference committee chair, she had to step in and handle a lion's share of planning and organizing this year's fall conference. Loretta – Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! I know I speak for all the membership when I say, we really appreciate all that you do.

Once again, I am honored to be serving as your Chair and will endeavor to live up to the high standards of this organization.

Sincerely,

Nicole Friedt, P.E., CFM

New Direction for the State Floodplain Management Program

New State Floodplain Coordinator

As most of you know, Veronica Chavez was hired as the new State Floodplain Coordinator. She began working at the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) in the role of State Floodplain Coordinator on September 25th. Veronica worked for DHSEM as a Recovery Officer, providing technical assistance to local communities for both State and Federal disaster recovery assistance. That technical assistance included overview of the National Flood Insurance Program.

Prior to working for DHSEM, Veronica worked for the Office of the State Engineer on water rights compliance and risk analysis. She has a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree in Geography and Environmental Science. Veronica is a tremendous asset to the State Floodplain Management Program. We know that you will enjoy working with her as we move forward with advancing the State Floodplain Management Program.

NMFMA/DHSEM Survey

At the Angel Fire NMFMA Workshop, DHSEM handed out a survey for all communities. The intent of the survey is to gather information about the 104 NFIP communities in New Mexico and to get input from all communities on improvements that could be made in the State Floodplain Management Program. The survey is two-pages long and is due back to DHSEM by October 15th. In general, the survey asks for;

- 1) up-dated community contact information,
- 2) copies of floodplain management ordinances and NFIP administration agreements
- 3) technical assistance requests and
- 4) suggestions for program improvements

The survey can be found on the NMFMA web site at the following link (http://nmfma.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=722&club_id=920799&emtid=70720615032&mtid=38645492043&ht=0).

Who to contact?

We thank you in advance for your patience in allowing for several weeks of transition and training as Veronica gets up to speed on 'all things floodplain'. Please begin contacting Veronica directly for inquiries. She can be reached at 505-476-9630 and VeronicaE.Chavez@state.nm.us

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DHSEM
New Mexico



New Mexico Certified Floodplain Managers

We had a great workshop/conference in Angel Fire. Thanks to Burl Smith for coordinating the workshop with the Angel Fire Resort. The Lodge was a great venue for our workshop and the Angel Fire location was a beautiful place to spend the week. Special thanks to Loretta Hatch who gathered up the great speakers who presented at the workshop and kept everything flowing smoothly all week. We couldn't have a workshop were it not for Loretta's hard work. Loretta is now the Chair of the Conference Committee and she could use some help at future workshops, working with local hotels to set up our functions, and putting together agendas that will continue to be of interest to our members. Don't be bashful. Drop her a line and volunteer.

Congratulations to the new CFMs who passed the CFM exam in Angel Fire:

Reneé Brissette, CFM	City of Albuquerque
Randall Carroll, CFM	RJC Designs, LLC
James Lopez, CFM	Wilson & Company

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.

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 process 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, which is sent out prior to each of our workshops, if you have enough CECs to renew. Waiting until after the end of the month the renewal is due will result in decertification.

Grant Pinkerton, CFM
CFM Program Administrator

FEMA Region VI Update and Thanks

FEMA Region 6 and I appreciate the time you gave us at the conference in Angel Fire to share our past, present and to take a look at the future. Please see the information EDAC has provided on the Rio Hondo watershed. This project is completed and we are moving to new projects in the Animas Watershed, and in Roosevelt and Curry Counties.

In future conferences, Region 6 Risk Analysis staff will be focusing on workshops to inform, train, and educate floodplain managers in communities and government partners. We will strive to make the NFIP effective while reaching for the Moon trying to add 4 times Mitigation Investments and double the number of flood policies that New Mexico stakeholders purchase. I am working to get the policies, claims, and losses for New Mexico as Mike had asked for in his question during the presentation.

We will continue to update you on the status of the reissuance of the NFIP. We hope that you will use the information from the conference presentation as reference material in your everyday activities. If you have any questions on the information presented, the [NFIP program](#), [Risk MAP](#) or anything related to risk management, please contact me.

Jerry Clark, P.E., CFM

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FEMA

Floodplain Management in the NEWS

- [In Harvey and Irma's wake agents and brokers need to pay attention to flood insurance reform](#)
- [County waives permit fees to repair homes damaged by storms](#)
- [Outdated and Unreliable: FEMA's Faulty Flood Maps Put Homeowners at Risk](#)
- [It's time to vacate the 100-year floodplain](#)
- [Does Houston need a stronger floodplain ordinance?](#)
- [Federal flood insurance may never be the same](#)
- [NFIP reform highlights political divisions](#)

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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