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Registration is now open for the 9th Annual

## Fall Floodplain Institute

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS

Asheville, NC

October 22-24, 2014

The North Carolina Association of Floodplain Managers annually hosts a Fall Floodplain Institute, providing an opportunity to attend workshops and presentations, take the Certified Floodplain Manager exam, and mingle with your fellow floodplain managers. The Fall Floodplain Institute offers training in a professional, friendly environment, while also offering an opportunity — in addition to our spring Annual Conference — for Floodplain Managers to earn CECs.

This year's 9th Annual FFI will be held in Asheville at the DoubleTree Asheville. To register for the conference, please follow the directions on our website ([www.ncafp.org](http://www.ncafp.org)). The fee (\$220 for NCAFP members) includes Wednesday plenary session, Thursday and Friday conference presentations, break refreshments, Thursday lunch, and Thursday evening social. The Thursday evening social includes entertainment by The Hogtown Squealers (check them out on YouTube!). Guest tickets are available for the conference social and one day conference rates are available. Registration is online and payment may be made by credit card or by check. The deadline to register is October 15.

See page 2 for  
information  
about our new  
mentoring  
program.

Don't forget the traditional golf outing, which will be held on Wednesday, October 22 at Asheville Golf Course, weather permitting. The cost to play is \$36. Contact **John Fullerton** at 910-341-3247 or [john.fullerton@wilmingtonnc.gov](mailto:john.fullerton@wilmingtonnc.gov) with questions. You can sign up and pay with your conference registration.

Information about the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) exam, continuing education credits, and room reservations is available on the Fall Floodplain Institute page of our website.

The conference agenda will be posted in early October. ▲

Register today at [www.ncafp.org](http://www.ncafp.org).



## From the Chairman's Desk



CYNTHIA FOX BARCKLOW, CFM  
NCAFPM CHAIRMAN

The NCAFPM Board met in Asheville in July to prepare for the Fall Floodplain Institute and to discuss issues relative to the Association. I was reminded of how amazing this Board is, with its energy, experience, and capacity to care. The board includes four past chairs of the Association, three recipients of the State Coordinator's Award, and members of several national committees on floodplain management and policy. We

have engineers, planners, administrators, and consultants; and both the private sector and local and state government are represented. Our Board is simply stacked.

Even better than what each NCAFPM member brings to the Association from his/her past, the best attributes that we share are our willingness to do and our commitment to achieve. There have been two new committees established since the spring conference: the Education Committee, chaired by Andrew Blackwell, and the Finance Committee, chaired by Susan Frady. (Interested NCAFPM members are invited to and are welcome to join.) A commitment has been made for hosting a multistate as well as a national conference within the decade. The Mentoring Program will be launched at the Fall Floodplain Institute (thank you Holly and Mike!)(see article at right). The first annual Silent Auction was held this year at the spring conference in Atlantic Beach with many donations received and much participation from the membership (thank you Sarah!). As a Board, we have begun efforts to catalog our NCAFPM historical records, and to communicate as a group and work collaboratively through the use of Sharepoint (thank you David!).

In the August issue of the ASFPM newsletter, *News and Views*, Larry Larson's article on "Policy Matters!" struck a chord, eloquently echoing a similar theme that I gathered from the national conference in Seattle: don't let the history of the organization or the knowledge base diminish with the transfer of leadership. (See page 9 for John Fullerton's report from the conference.) Larry Larson wrote that people can be sponges — absorbing without sharing — or sprinklers — dousing others with our knowledge and experience. It is our responsibility as conscientious Floodplain Managers to happily share what we have learned and extend ourselves to those who are starting out or who may not have our specific skill base. What we *do* is not inconsequential. Our actions have merit and could just as easily cause detriment. The membership and Board of the Association have always been eager to sprinkle. With the most recent efforts in forming an Education Committee and developing a Mentoring Program, we are intent to make it rain.

*Cynthia*

## Mentor Program - NEW!

NCAFPM is proud to kick off a new Mentoring Program at the 2014 Fall Floodplain Institute in October. This program will offer a mentoring approach designed to supplement and partner with NCEM's solid training curriculum, professional development (Certified Floodplain Manager) offered through NCAFPM, and effective program guidance in a trusted environment. Mentors provide technical expertise, wisdom, and experience for developing effective local floodplain management programs, and support for professional development. We will be looking to you for feedback and participation to help us in further developing the program. Anyone interested in having a mentor can indicate interest when registering for the Fall Floodplain Institute. ▲

### Freedom's Symbol

Free men must re-dedicate themselves to the cause of freedom. They must understand with a new certainty of conviction that the cause of freedom is the cause of the human individual. Human individuality is the basis of every value — spiritual, moral, intellectual, creative — in human life.

Freedom is the right to one's soul; the right of each person to approach God in his own way and by his own means. It is a man's right to possess his mind and conscience for himself. To those who put their trust in freedom, the state can have no sovereignty over the mind or soul — must be the servant of man's reason — not the master.

1980 LORENZO GHIGLIERI

*From a plaque at FEMA's Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland.*

# Hurricanes Are Flood Events

## Talk to Residents About Peak Hurricane Season

Hurricanes are more than wind events — they're flood events, too. And even in a quiet hurricane season like the one we've seen this year, it only takes one storm to cause catastrophic flood damage that is only covered by a flood insurance policy.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts that we can still expect to have seven to twelve named storms before the season is over. Talk to residents about their flood risk now before the next storm forms. And remind them that hurricanes can happen at any time during the season.

Just three years ago during peak hurricane season, Hurricane Irene was the first to reach hurricane strength before making landfall in late August. As you may remember, it barreled into the North Carolina coast and traveled north, bringing heavy rains 400 miles inland. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) paid more than 42,000 claims totaling more than \$1.3 billion. Many residents who never before experienced a flood suddenly found their homes underwater during Hurricane Irene.

Go to [www.floodsmart.gov/ourhome](http://www.floodsmart.gov/ourhome) to download and share the stories of Bertie Midget and Mary Martin, whose homes in North Carolina and Vermont, respectively, flooded during the storm.

Midget says she never thought the water could rise as high as it did. As water entered her home, she put as many of her belongings as she could on higher surfaces. But the water still caused extensive damage to the floors and walls. Her home could not be repaired. Her flood insurance policy covered the loss and made it possible for her to put a new roof over her head.

Water filled Martin's basement and reached more than one foot on the main floor. She was one of the lucky ones. She filed her flood insurance claim and was able to repair her home before many others in her community.

Hearing what happened to these homeowners will help your community realize it also could happen to them.

Remember, typically there is a 30-day waiting period before a policy goes into effect, so it is important to remind residents to have flood insurance in place before the storm hits. Other tools and resources are available on FloodSmart.gov to help explain flood risks when talking with residents. ▲





## Flying Fish Open ASFPM's 38th National Conference

JOHN FULLERTON, CFM

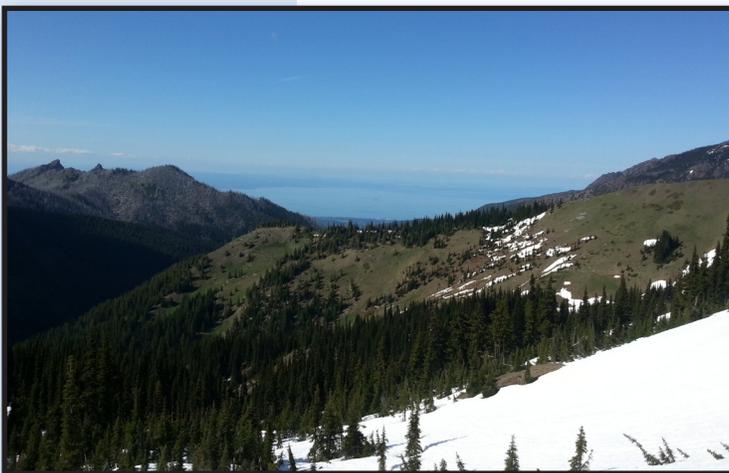
“When the first plenary session of a national conference opens with salmon flying through the air – you know things are going to get interesting. And did it ever. The 38th annual ASFPM national conference, called “Making Room for Floods and Fish,” was attended by 1,272 people representing 49 states, DC, and Puerto Rico, as well as 21 international representatives from six foreign nations. Steve McMaster, conference program chair, scheduled 174 speakers and there were 68 exhibitor booths. The three evening networking events at the Washington State Convention Center, Boeing’s Museum of Flight and EMP Museum, and more than 10 “tours” were packed to the gills with attendees. The number of people tweeting the hashtag #ASFPM2014 totaled nearly 100. About 200 people attended from Northwest Regional Floodplain Management Association, our conference hosts, and the number of people who lodged complaints about the Seattle conference: zero.



*NCAFPM representatives and Larry Lawson, ASFPM Director Emeritus and Senior Policy Advisor, at the ASFPM conference in Seattle.*

It was a good mix of learning about flood loss mitigation, water resource management, NFIP, levees, dams, barriers, education and outreach, riverine and coastal modeling, and floodplain mapping, as well as networking and having fun.”

This description of the 2014 ASFPM national conference cannot do justice to several days of intensive networking and opportunities to go “in depth” with floodplain management. The upcoming 2015 ASFPM national conference will be held in Atlanta, May 31-June 5, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta (see page 16 for details). If you have ever considered attending the national conference, then 2015 may be a good opportunity as this may be the closest one for the next few years. ▲



## ASFPM National Conference

CYNTHIA BARCKLOW, CFM

It is late September, and early June seems like a long, long time ago. However, the ASFPM Conference in Seattle was well worth remembering. Highlights include:

1. **Seattle scenery:** mountains, water, friendly people, the first Starbucks... I enjoyed that town.
2. **Museum of Flight:** A conference activity was an evening event at the Museum of Flight on the Boeing campus. Exhibited were helicopters, gliders, a control tower, Air Force One,

## ASFPM Conference, from page 3

the Concorde, a space shuttle, and a flight simulator.

**3. North Carolina representation:** In terms of conference sessions, there were several familiar presenters with North Carolina connections: John Dorman, Ken Ashe, David Key, Tim Trautman, Gray Minton, Andy Bonner, Tonda Shelton, Maria Cox Lamm, Brent Slone, Garrett Shields, Darrin Punchard, and Timothy McCormick.

**4. Conference chapter meeting:** At this meeting, annual information is provided on the number of CFMs in each state (NC has 409); the average grade on the exam (79.08 in NC); the pass/fail rate (84%); the number of chapter members (361 in NC); the number of ASFPM members in each state (65 in NC); and the chapter membership growth rate (3% in NC). Information is also provided on each state's chapter member dues (in NC, \$40). This information is provided for each state in the national Association. Comparisons can be made, which could facilitate goal setting for our Association.

It was announced at the chapter meeting that there is a \$5,000 ASFPM scholarship for college students interested in floodplain management. This year, there were no applicants!! If you know of interested students, go to the link on the ASFPM website.

There were several policy changes within the Policy Manual for the Certified Floodplain Manager program that were discussed, and that became effective July 1, 2014. Examples of areas where policy was either re-worded or newly implemented include the Code of Ethics for CFMs, policy changes for administering the CFM exam, and a policy to establish the situations in which a CFM may be decertified. For more information on these changes, please see the ASFPM website.

**5. Fish and flowers:** Living on the east coast, I was wide awake very early for Seattle. I was able to walk to Pike Place Market most mornings and watch the vendors set up for the day. The best fish toss of the week, though, had to have been at the plenary session! ▲



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2014-2015**

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## What is a Floodplain Manager?

CHAD BERGINNIS, CFM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASFPM

It is a little disconcerting to me how many times I get asked this question. I suppose it is that I have been in the field of floodplain management since I interned at Ohio's State Floodplain Management Office, which is also the state coordinating office of the NFIP. So it is really all I've known professionally. Yet, while on the big stage and under the bright lights of a Congressional hearing this past July, a senator asked me that very question. Unfortunately, in that moment I figured I only had about 10 seconds to describe what a floodplain manager is. Not good – it was evident by the confused look I received that I did not explain it satisfactorily!

Often when traveling, I will strike up a conversation with the person next to me on the plane and inevitably am asked the question after the perfunctory exchange of names, employers and what we do. I mean, we know who we are right? Why doesn't the rest of the world just know? People always want the short answer. However, since I have time and space in this column to try to better define what a floodplain manager really is, I am not going to give the magical 15 second sound bite.

The truth is – it's very hard to define! If you look at ASFPM's Certified Floodplain Manager program, floodplain managers can be local officials, state officials, federal officials, private sector employees in a wide variety of fields (engineering, building, GIS, biology, stormwater, planning), as well as scientists, policy experts, and even motivated citizens. Sometimes the CFM behind a person's name is in addition to other professional certifications – PE, PS, AICP, AIA, CEM, PMP, DWRE, and so on. I have been asked, do you have to go to school to be a floodplain manager? Does it require special training? While there is no specific requirement for a floodplain manager, we are literally experiencing a watershed moment for the floodplain management profession. Soon there will be a master's degree with a concentration in floodplain management at the University of Washington. And beginning this fall, the nation's first four year bachelor's degree in floodplain management is being offered by Western Kentucky University!

It even gets more confusing if you are a local floodplain manager who has other "official" titles. I have seen floodplain managers who are also community planners, levee district managers, clerks, and even fire chiefs. There are also plenty of mayors and other elected officials who are also floodplain managers. So, I have tried to simplify it by saying ASFPM is a group of 16,000 floodplain managers who represent professionals who work every day on flooding issues – from local officials that enforce codes, to engineers who design flood control and stormwater systems, to mappers and scientists who create our flood maps and flood studies. Ultimately, though, what unites us is our common mission in working to reduce the nation's flood losses and recognize the incredible benefits of our nation's floodplains.

So, cheers to all of you working floodplain managers out there. Keep producing high quality and accurate flood maps. Even if you are stuck doing GIS or running a HEC-RAS model in a cubicle, know that families and businesses depend on your expertise and precision. Faithfully administer and enforce your local codes – even when an applicant doesn't know what is good for them and argues that they shouldn't have to elevate. Keep pushing common-sense and No Adverse Impact floodplain management policies, even when elected leaders appear to be skeptical. We are very lucky in this profession to be doing worthwhile work and I salute all of you who work hard every day in this field – you make a difference! ▲

*Reprinted from ASFPM's News and Views, August 2014*

# You Can Be a Presenter

JOHN FULLERTON, CFM

Public speaking is among our most feared experiences, even ahead of snakes, spiders, and heights. The flip side of public speaking is the wonderful opportunity to share yourself and your knowledge/experiences with others. Personal confidence and improved self image are direct outcomes of the experience of public speaking.

Generally as you make presentations, your audience is comprised of "Prisoners," "Vacationers," and "Adventurers." This means that there are those who are there because they have to be, those avoiding being somewhere else (work), or those because they want to be, respectively. The Prisoner wants material to be relevant and asks, "What can I take back to show I was here?" The Vacationer wants to be left alone and asks, "How can this be done with minimal effort?" The Adventurer wants FUN and asks, "What can I get from this experience?" Hence, the presenter's first task is FLEXIBILITY. Vacationers and Prisoners want information but if it is fun they can be made into Adventurers.

Presentations are the heart and soul of NCAFPM conferences, whether done formally at plenary sessions or smaller breakout specific topic sessions. Consider becoming a presenter and sharing your experiences in a respectful, safe, and appreciative environment. Your thoughts and experiences are unique and will benefit the association and your own personal growth. ▲

## Increase your Chances of Being Selected

For ASFPM's 2014 Conference in Seattle, 387 concurrent session abstracts were received and there was only room in the program to accommodate 174! How can YOU increase your odds of being part of this 44%? Join ASFPM on September 30 for a FREE webinar. Understanding the selection process can increase your chances of being chosen to present. We'll provide tips on how to strengthen your submission. We'll spend approximately 30 minutes on this topic and allow 30 minutes for

Q&A at the end of the presentation. For more information, go to [asfpmconference.org](http://asfpmconference.org) and click the link for the Call for Presenters. Information about the webinar is available at the bottom of the page.



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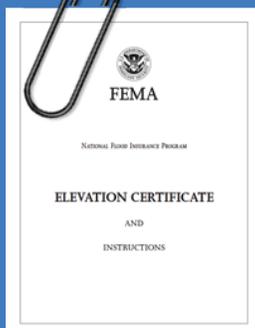


## Flood Risk Evaluator Powered by Smart Vent Products, Inc.

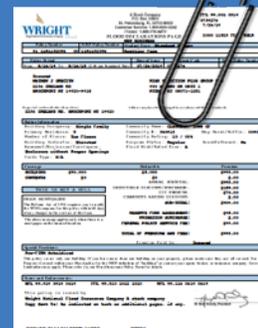
**1** Complete our online form.



**2** Attach your elevation certificate with pictures of your home or building.



**3** Attach current flood insurance policy declaration page.



### What is the Flood Risk Evaluator?

Here at F.R.E. our goal is to help you to lower your NFIP Flood Insurance Premium. Our educated staff of Certified Floodplain Managers are knowledgeable on all the latest NFIP changes that are affecting your policy such as the Biggert-Waters Act (BW-12) and the Grimm-Waters Act (Homeowners Flood Insurance Affordability Act).

Our team is eager to review your current situation and provide guidance on how to reduce your flood insurance premium. Once we review your Elevation Certificate and current NFIP Flood Insurance Policy we will provide you with a report of our findings. This report will detail out

mitigation options such as Flood Vents to lower your premium, grandfathering options that can have you rated at an earlier FEMA Map, and in some cases LOMA options that could eliminate the mandatory requirement for Flood Insurance.

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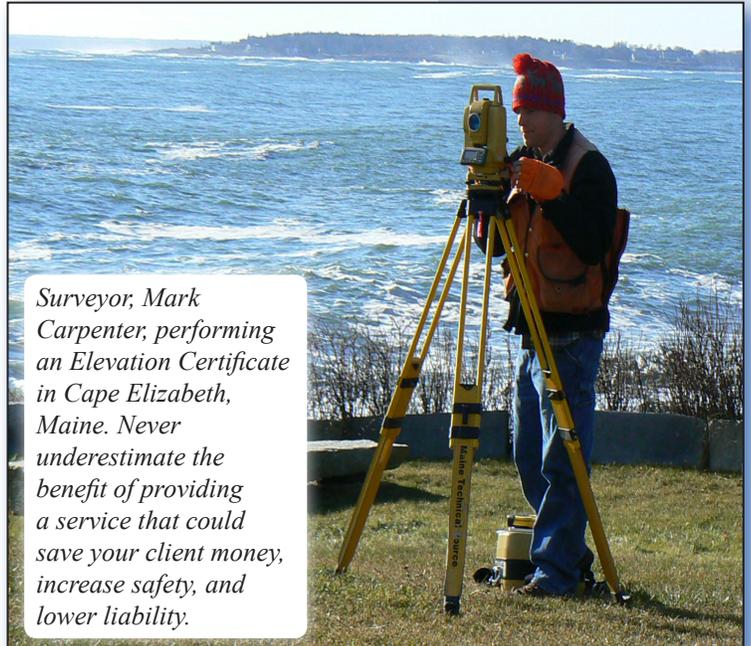
# The Land Surveyor's Integral Role in Floodplain Management

JIM NADEAU, NADEAU LAND SURVEYS  
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Looking back, it's easy to remember times when businesses or professions did only one thing. Appliance stores sold only appliances, and shipping companies got your package from point A to point B. Today, you are able to buy your TV, washing machine, cell phone, and video games all at the same store. You can ship a package, make copies, and buy a greeting card at one location. Times have changed, and it has become increasingly difficult to wear only one hat and survive slow times or create opportunities for growth. Land surveyors are not exempt from this concept to change or reinvent our business model to remain competitive.

Though buzz words such as diversification, relationships, and networking have become much more integrated in the business world, the one underlying key concept of accurately addressing a client's needs while creating a trusting relationship will never diminish. With the many choices encumbering the daily life of the consumer and the fast pace of each passing day, cost of services have become less of a consumer concern. In my opinion, they will pay a higher fee if they believe more product or service will be received and personal comfort has or will be achieved. Integrating a business model which eliminates a desire to be lowest bidder, combined with unique product and service, is sure to bring increased growth, profits, and reputation while reducing liability. With a promise that every client or potential client deserves a full understanding of the job description, issues which may be encountered, and avenues to address issues or concerns, fee is justified due to client comfort obtained. I have found this essential in building client trust and for future recommendation.

Since becoming a Certified Floodplain Manager in 2010, the world of the floodplain has created a very unique market for our organization and since adding two other NFIP designations, Certified Floodplain Surveyor, and Associate in National Flood Insurance, the door has opened even wider. Having attended the 2013 Association of State Floodplain Managers National Conference in Hartford, Connecticut, I can confidently state the program leaders at the state and national levels are extremely knowledgeable and passionate, but the program is in much need of pro-active land surveyors to become advocates or the so-called "boots in the mud" soldiers to make the connection among the three components of the program to lenders, insurance agents, architects, at-



*Surveyor, Mark Carpenter, performing an Elevation Certificate in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. Never underestimate the benefit of providing a service that could save your client money, increase safety, and lower liability.*



*The ability to include floodplain management concepts in traditional design and planning projects can serve a multitude of stakeholders.*

— continued on next page

## Surveyor, from page 8

torneys, engineers, realtors, and the public. Why the land surveyor? We are the experts in collecting data, filling out the needed forms, and reading maps. We are perfectly situated in the middle of all these consultants to guide by identifying options, creating pro-active ideas, or simple problem solving.

Every county throughout the country needs more land surveyors to inform the many consultants confused with the program. It is not too late! With changes in mapping technology, reform acts, climate change, erosion, sea level rise, poor engineering design, watershed changes, the need for these unique services will remain for many years. Communicating program strengths and weaknesses is part of the process. Clients really do want to just understand and at the public level it is difficult to achieve this when the quantity of qualified personnel are deficient. I am confident your State NFIP Coordinator would welcome the professional assistance in dealing with public issues or concerns. Here in Maine, our NFIP program is led by a very qualified coordinator, Sue Baker, CFM, but she has only two staff members to cover the entire state due to budget constraints.



In closing, client trust should be built on competent representation as the main objective of any professional consultant. Understanding flood insurance options and how an agent views an Elevation Certificate is very beneficial. Understanding that flood maps identify perceived risk for premium and permitting purposes

but have many limitations relative to actual risk, or that the initial flood determinations do not use elevations is important. Realtors should understand the impact of a flood premium to purchasing power or resale value of real estate. Who is paying mandatory flood insurance with extremely low flood risk? Many lenders have a minimal understanding of their program requirements. Offer free training to consulting groups or create a newsletter! These are a few of many tidbits often overlooked and your community is waiting for a land surveyor to become the source of guidance and expertise. Opportunity is waiting for many qualified flood soldiers. ▲

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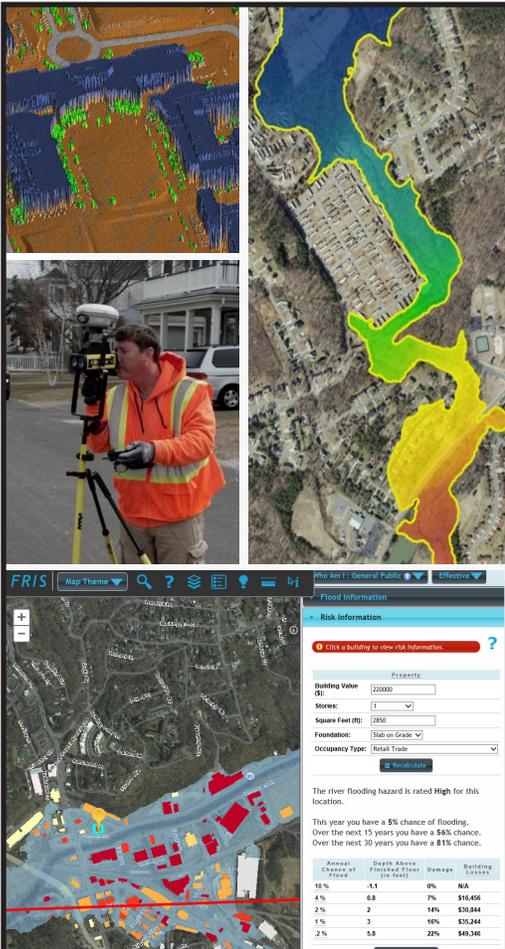
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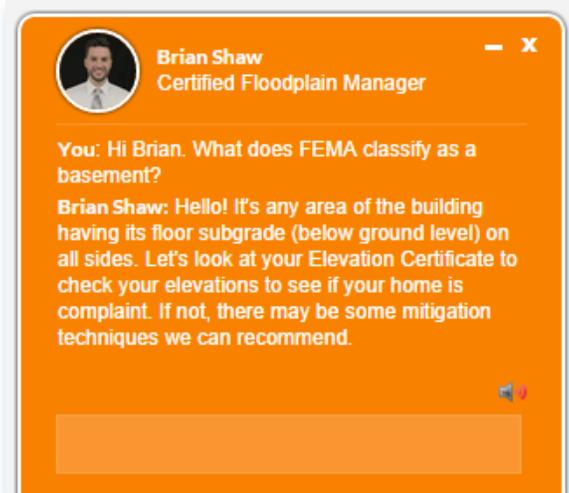


## ADVERTISEMENT

### Chat Live with a Certified Floodplain Manager

Smart Vent Products, Inc. just launched a “Chat with a Certified Floodplain Manager” feature on their website. The Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs) on staff are eager to assist you with your floodplain management and insurance questions. By visiting [www.smartvent.com](http://www.smartvent.com), you can click the “Chat with us!” feature that pops up in the bottom right of your screen. Receive answers instantaneously to your questions. Smart Vent has also partnered with the Flood Risk Evaluator (FRE) to process Elevation Certificates to find compliance issues that may be causing a high flood premium. Homeowners and professionals are welcome to get started today by uploading their Elevation Certificate to [www.yourfloodrisk.com](http://www.yourfloodrisk.com). FRE will provide a Risk Report detailing your property’s status and possible mitigation techniques to bring the building into compliance and reduce its flood insurance.

Smart Vent is the worldwide leading manufacturer of foundation flood venting systems. Their staff of CFMs educate Architects, Builders, Code Officials, Engineers, Homeowners, Insurance Agents, Realtors, and Surveyors all across the country on FEMA Regulations, NFIP Standards, Floodplain Building Codes, Elevation Certificates, Complaint Mitigation, and more. They offer multiple courses through face-to-face training or webinar opportunities. Email [CEU@smartvent.com](mailto:CEU@smartvent.com) for more information.



# NFIP Coordinators Corner

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## Hazard Mitigation Update

CHRIS CREW, CFM, STATE HAZARD MITIGATION OFFICER

### Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for Central North Carolina

The NCEM Mitigation Branch received a large volume of letters of interest for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding under DR-4167, a severe ice storm that struck the central part of the state on March 6-7, 2014. Local governments from throughout central North Carolina submitted a large number of Letters of Interest for projects including acquisition and demolition, elevation, drainage, and power redundancy projects. NCEM will be working closely with selected subgrantees in the coming months submit eligible applications to FEMA. This is the first federal disaster declaration awarded under North Carolina's Enhanced State Mitigation Plan status — approximately \$9.2M in funds may be ultimately available for selected projects. Initially, applications from Central Branch Counties will be prioritized as that is where the greatest impacts of the disaster were felt. If the limited budget afforded by the 4167 HMGP program is not exceeded by requests from Central Branch counties and municipalities, the funding opportunity will be opened to all eligible NC jurisdictions. Consideration will also be made for projects in the Central Branch submitted for FEMA funding that were identified as "eligible but unfunded" under previous funding cycles.

### Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for Tropical Storm Hanna Closed

NCEM and FEMA have officially closed out the federal disaster declaration for Tropical Storm Hanna (DR-1801). Funds for this disaster supported a number of important projects, including regional Hazard Mitigation Plans, important acquisition and demolition projects in Raleigh and Winston Salem, and storm shutters for critical facilities in Brunswick Counties.

### NCEM Submits Large Volume of Flood Mitigation Projects for FEMA Funding

In July, NCEM worked closely with local governments to submit approximately \$12M in mitigation applications to mitigation Severe Repetitive Loss and Repetitive Loss properties from throughout the State. Potential awards are projected to be announced by FEMA in late September, with funding projected to be obligated by the end of 2014.

### Hazard Mitigation Planning

As many of you are aware, participation in a Hazard Mitigation Planning process and adoption of an NCEM and FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan is a pre-requisite for eligibility in many state-funded and FEMA-funded mitigation and recovery programs. These local plans operate on a five-year renewal cycle and many communities are working on updates as you read this. Over the last five years, NCEM has been encouraging

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local and county governments to band together in the development of **regional** Hazard Mitigation Plans. The advantage of this approach is that it brings multiple stakeholders to the planning table and encourages broader public participation in the process without reducing local ability to reflect local needs and concerns in project implementation. Any community that participates in a planning process for a regional plan, and adopts that plan following NCEM/FEMA approval is **still eligible as an individual applicant** to all of the FEMA-funded mitigation grant programs.

One of our challenges in this update cycle has been securing broad-based local participation in the plan update process. Often, these plans become the property of local Emergency Management and end up with mitigation actions that more properly reflect preparedness and response goals without considering the zoning, land-use planning and floodplain management components of mitigation along with brick and mortar projects to elevate, flood-proof or acquire and remove flood-prone properties. If you do not know who is managing the Hazard Mitigation Plan update for your community, please contact State Hazard Mitigation Officer Chris Crew, CFM, at 919-825-2305 to become involved. If you do know who is managing the program, please reach out and offer your assistance with the Mitigation Action Committee. If you are interested in learning more about Hazard Mitigation Planning and project funding opportunities, please give Chris a call.

## NCFMP Preliminary Issuance Schedule

The NCFMP is now tentatively scheduling the release of preliminary flood hazard data. It is anticipated that the next grouping for Preliminary Issuance will be on November 30, 2014, for the following counties: Durham, Granville, Person, Vance, and Wake. Following that batch of five counties, we anticipate issuing the next grouping of coastal counties for Preliminary issuance on January 30, 2015, to Craven, Jones, and Pamlico Counties. The next round is tentatively forecast March 30, 2015, for Perquimans, Pasquotank, Camden, and Currituck Counties. Pending FEMA approval of the final coastal modeling for North Carolina, other counties that should receive Preliminary issuances in May 2015 should include Beaufort, Hyde, Onslow, Pitt (Tar River basin coastal portion), and Tyrrell Counties. All forthcoming preliminary flood hazard data will be issued to Map Maintenance Counties digitally through the Flood Risk Information System (FRIS) website. Internet Explorer 9 (IE9) is the preferred browser to access FRIS. When using Internet Explorer it is advisable to verify that the browser and document mode match each other. Check this by hitting the “F12” function key in an open tab inside Internet Explorer.

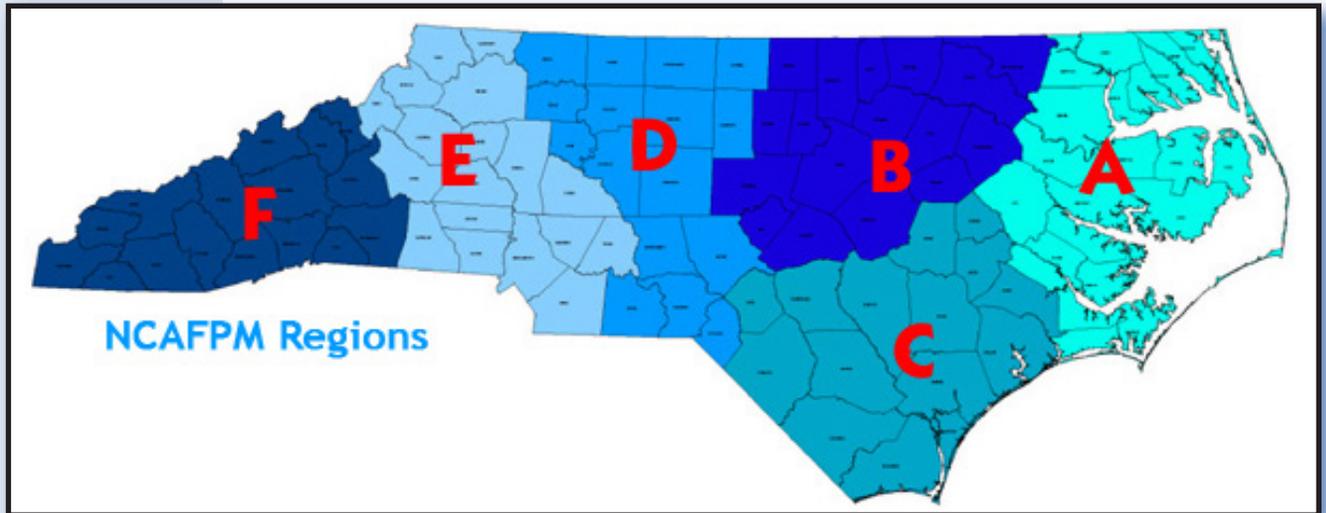
## The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in North Carolina

MILTON CARPENTER

This past year, the National Flood Insurance Program welcomes three towns as new participating communities: Archer Lodge (Johnston County), Brunswick (Columbus County), and Wagram (Scotland County). This brings the total number of communities that are participating in the NFIP to 570 in North Carolina.

As expected, the cost for flood insurance is increasing. Last year North Carolinians paid 105 million dollars in premiums for 139 thousand policies. This year we are spending 109.9 million for 136.6 thousand policies. So, since this increase is per policy and not for “new policies”, efficient local floodplain management and administration is more important than ever to help hold costs down for our policy holders. ▲

# NCAFPM Regional Reports



## Region C

*Tony Wilson, CFM*

Here in the Town of Wrightsville Beach we have several things going on! The town has been awarded elevation grants for five residential properties and we have improved our CRS Classification to a seven. The National Flood Insurance Program Community Assistance Visit (CAV) began in late 2013, and as a result of the visit, the town had several items to address. During the last several months we supplied the state with the information required and the town has received notification that the CAV should be considered closed in September 2014.

Preliminary Flood Maps are out, the Preliminary FIRM Issuance Meeting for the revised portions of New Hanover County was held in the New Hanover Government Center on September 17, 2014.

### **The Town of Carolina Beach**

The Town of Carolina Beach reports that they have been awarded elevation grants for seven residential properties and their CRS cycle visit review is due in October 2014.

### **New Hanover County**

New Hanover, Brunswick, and Pender counties and all of the municipalities in all three counties will join in together for a Regional Hazard Mitigation plan. North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) identified these three counties as excellent candidates for the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Fiscal Year 2014 (PDM). The first kickoff meeting was held July 31, 2014.

# NCAFPM Regional Reports

The North Carolina Floodplain Mapping program has begun the surveying and engineering phase of map maintenance in Burke, Catawba, Lincoln, Gaston, Iredell, Alexander, Caldwell, Union, Stanly, Cabarrus and Rowan Counties. This is a large maintenance project and includes counties in the Catawba and the Yadkin Watersheds. In addition to gathering topographic and hydraulic data for floodplain maps, the State will also be collecting first floor elevations for homes and businesses in the Special Flood Hazard Areas. The first floor elevations will be used to calculate flood risk estimations for individual home owners and will be available on the State's website. If you have not visited the NC Flood Risk Information System (FRIS) website, I encourage you to take a look. You will be surprised at the amount of information that is available: [fris.nc.gov/fris/Home.aspx?ST=NC](http://fris.nc.gov/fris/Home.aspx?ST=NC).

Remapping in Mecklenburg County was broken into three separate Primary Map Revisions or PMRs. The first PMR covered most of the urban business district of the City of Charlotte and the southeastern watersheds of the county. These new floodplain maps became effective on February 19, 2014. The second PMR covers watersheds generally west of the I-77 corridor and is anticipated to become effective in 2015. The third PMR will cover the north eastern watersheds and is expected to become effective in 2016.

I was speaking with the FPA for York County, SC recently. York County is just across the border from Mecklenburg County. While this area is not in Region E, I would still like to pass along a regulation that they have adopted that I thought was interesting. Any development in the floodplain in York County, SC, is required to have a CLOMR-F prior to obtaining a building permit and they are also required to have a LOMR-F prior to a C.O. being issued. The FPA explained that there have been problems with developers in the past and the county commissioners and the York County staff decided to write this into the ordinance. I'm not sure how this regulation would work in developing urban areas but it may be an interesting approach for municipalities with limited floodplain development.

Once again hello from the pointy end of the state. I hope everyone has had a great summer (yeah, I know there's plenty of "hot" left, but it is past Labor Day). I'm going to get a bit more highbrow than I usually do this time around so hang tight.

UNC's Dr. Raymond J. Burby, Professor Emeritus, FAICP, published a paper a few years back in *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* entitled: "Hurricane Katrina and the Paradoxes of Government Disaster Policy: Bringing About Wise Governmental Decisions for Hazard Areas." I remember reading at least part of it way back when and being intrigued by same.

I serendipitously ran across Burby's paper again on the way to something else thanks to "The Google," as the esteemed David Key refers to the Illuminati of the Web. I had a few minutes (I was at work, right?) so I hunkered down and read it again. I even printed it off to highlight some of the stuff inside.

I am not going to try and provide an abstract from Dr. Burby's work, mostly because I always seem to bring a knife to an intellectual gun fight, but here is what I took from Dr. Burby's paper and then distilled into something I relate to well: baseball.

1. Mother Nature always bats last (I actually saw this phrase on a bumper sticker).
2. The Feds spend great gobs of money trying to keep Mother Nature from scoring

## Region E

Robert Billings,  
CFM

## Region F

Brad L. Burton,  
CFM

— continued on next page

- any runs (levees, flood control efforts, disaster legislation).
3. Mother Nature always bats last and always scores runs, and consistently many of those runs are game-ending walk-off grand slams.
  4. Local governments don't prepare the way they should for Mother Nature's deep bench and All-Star roster because they are too busy funneling money into traditional, publically palatable expenditures: fighting crime, providing affordable housing, assuring that Jill and Johnny can read and the current smoking hot topic — "Economic Development," which more often than not involves allowing property to develop in Mother Nature's Strike Zone.
  5. Mother Nature always bats last.

Dr. Burby ties all this together with the economic theory concept of "Moral Hazard," whereby a party is more likely to take risks because the costs that could result will not be borne by the party. It is interesting to apply the concept of a "Moral Hazard" to floodplain management.

So says the Federal government:

"It's OK to build the affordable-housing subdivision behind that levee 'cause "It's Certified®."

"The new flood-control system will handle a 500-year event."

Simultaneously, with their well-meaning agendas the local governing bodies chime in:

"Council has decided to purchase and fill the 40 acres down by the river to incentivize a new brewery to locate there ... it's a pretty site and it'll bring JOBS."

"Buying new school buses takes precedence over unseen stormwater improvements."

As members of this professional organization, the NC Association of Floodplain **Managers**, let's remember that "managing" a floodplain in and of itself commands a tremendous amount of responsibility. As we are supposed to be the folks managing (and advising those making the decisions) let's always try to encourage incorporation of comprehensive planning efforts specific to our jurisdictional hazard areas that don't rely wholly and exclusively on technology or desirable popular trends which might propagate a morally hazardous situation.

Mother Nature always bats last, ya'll.

I look forward to seeing each of you in Asheville. ▲

## Thank you to the sponsors of *FlashFlood News!*

Edgecombe Community College..... p. 5  
ESP Associates, PA.....p. 11  
New River Engineering.....p. 10  
Smart Vent Products..... p. 8

FlashFlood is funded by sponsorships from consultants and vendors. Please see the Media Kit on our website with details about the newsletter, sponsorship options, and deadlines for submittal. If you are interested in sponsoring or would like more information, contact Kelly Keesling at [kgkeesling@carolina.rr.com](mailto:kgkeesling@carolina.rr.com).

# Upcoming Conferences & Events

## 9th Annual Regional Stormwater Conference

Join us in charming Charleston, South Carolina as we explore stormwater innovations in the Southeast! This year's Conference will provide attendees with a wide array of technologies and strategies to address challenges in stormwater management. Registration fee includes course materials, access to your choice of two concurrent sessions, up to 14 continuing education credits, access to the exhibit hall, two breakfasts, a reception, and a lunch. The SESWA conference is the only regional conference focused on surface water quality and complying with MS4 permit conditions. For more information and to register, go to <https://seswa.memberclicks.net/annual-conference>.



**Oct. 8-10, 2014**

**Charleston Marriott  
Charleston, SC**

**[www.SESWA.org](http://www.SESWA.org)**

## The National Flood Mitigation & FloodProofing Workshop

In this workshop you will learn tools and techniques that floodplain managers, emergency managers, property owners, and others can use to reduce flood risk. Highlights will be on the latest in mitigation and floodproofing techniques (elevation, acquisition wet and dry floodproofing, codes and regulations, easements, warning systems, etc.), products, success stories, funding programs and funding application processes and much more! Tuesday and Thursday feature plenary sessions, mini-workshops and break-out concurrent track sessions offering detailed presentations on engineered mitigation and flood-proofing projects, policy, grant funding, natural and beneficial uses including stream restoration, mitigation planning and outreach. In keeping with our past, all attendees will participate in our Wednesday field tours to see these techniques being applied in the field. For more information, go to [www.floods.org](http://www.floods.org) and click on Conferences and Events.



**Oct. 27-30, 2014**

**Omni Interlocken  
Broomfield, CO**

**[www.floods.org](http://www.floods.org)**

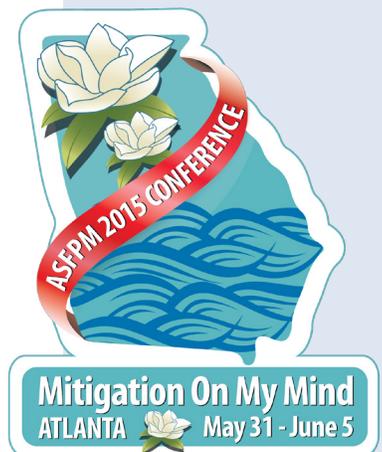
## ASFPM 2015 Annual Conference

ASFPM's 39th Annual National Conference, "Mitigation On My Mind," will be held May 31-June 5, 2015, at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Atlanta, Georgia.

The ASFPM annual conferences are recognized as the most important floodplain conference in the United States year after year. With more than 120 speakers and over 1200 participants, they are the national conferences all community, state and federal floodplain managers plan to attend. And because of that, many of the most important consulting firms and product vendors associated with floodplain management attend.

### Call for Presenters

This Call for Presenters sees a broad range of professionals to address the many issues and problems associated with managing flood risk, making communities more sustainable, and protecting floodplain and fragile natural resources. ASFPM is seeking both Concurrent Session and Workshop submissions for our 2015 National Conference. Go to [asfpmconference.org](http://asfpmconference.org) and follow the directions for the on-line submission. Abstracts are due by October 31.





# FEMA

The FEMA Risk MAP team announced the newly redesigned FEMA Flood Map Service Center, the authoritative online public source for flood hazard information produced under the National Flood Insurance Program.

*Reprinted from  
ASFPM's News and  
Views, August 2014*

In addition to a streamlined and intuitive user interface, the upgraded MSC provides a number of benefits to the public:

- **All products free.** All products and services are now completely online and free of charge, reducing costs to the public and costs to FEMA associated with processing payments, shipping physical media, and maintaining parallel systems for paying and fee-exempt customers;
- **Quick and easy downloads.** An enhanced map search allows the public to download their flood map, and any revisions or amendments to it, in a matter of seconds;
- **Everything in one place.** An integrated product search allows users to locate every flood hazard product available for their area of interest in just a few clicks;
- **Free subscriptions.** Free customized email subscriptions make it possible for floodplain managers, location officials, and others to know immediately when new information comes out for their community;
- **Direct Data Service Features.** Products-as-a-service enables access to hosted flood hazard information without ever having to navigate through the actual site, thanks to a standardized product URL format; and
- **Enhanced help features.** Tailored help text and responses to Frequently Asked Questions quickly guide first-time and novice users of the site to the information they need.

A factsheet summarizing the new and enhanced features may be found in the FEMA Library.

The MSC is one of the many tools used by FEMA to support partners, communities, and individuals as they work together to improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, and mitigate all hazards. ▲

## Reminder

Notify Anita Larson at [cfm@floods.org](mailto:cfm@floods.org) if you move. CFM renewals and other certification related mailed material is sent to your HOME ADDRESS. Also, make sure we always have your current employment information with correct e-mail address.

## Congratulations to North Carolina's newest CFMs!

Since our 2014 Annual Conference, these people have passed the CFM exam:

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Joshua Allen     | Eryn Moller       |
| Brandon Barham   | Robert Moore      |
| John Batson      | Megan O'Hare      |
| Jason Bloch      | John Perry        |
| Stephanie Bloch  | Eric Reardon      |
| Bryan Brightbill | Dabni Shelton     |
| Cynthia Burley   | James Shelton     |
| James Carlton    | Stephen Szymanski |
| John Contestable | Jennie Turner     |
| Amy Crowley      | Daniel Wiebke     |
| Tyler Howell     | Clayton Wine      |
| Reggie Hucks     | Scott Hwan Yi     |
| Dale Hyatt       |                   |

The North Carolina CFM Program is administered by ASFPM and is a separate fee from your NCAFPM membership fees. Remember that keeping your membership renewed annually with NCAFPM will lower your biennial CFM renewal costs.



# Calendar

**October 8-10, 2014**  
SOUTHEAST STORMWATER  
ASSN REGIONAL CONF.  
Charleston Marriott  
Charleston, SC  
www.seswa.org

**October 22-24, 2014**  
FALL FLOODPLAIN  
INSTITUTE  
Doubletree  
Asheville, NC  
www.ncafpm.org

**October 27-30, 2014**  
NATIONAL FLOOD  
MITIGATION & FLOOD  
PROOFING WORKSHOP  
Omni Interlocken  
Broomfield, CO  
www.floods.org

**April 27-29, 2015**  
NCAFPM ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
New Bern, NC  
www.ncafpm.org

**May 31-June 5, 2015**  
ASFPM NATIONAL  
CONFERENCE  
Hyatt Regency  
Atlanta, GA  
www.floods.org

# Floodplain Management Resources

## Technical Assistance (State)

### NC Emergency Management National Flood Insurance Program

**NFIP State Coordinator:** John Gerber, PE, CFM  
jgerber@ncem.org | 919-825-2317

#### NFIP Planners

**Central Area:** Milton Carpenter, CFM  
mcarpenter@ncem.org | 919-825-2302

**Eastern Area:** vacant

**Western Area:** Terry Foxx  
tfoxx@ncem.org | 828-228-8526

**NFIP Engineer:** Dan Brubaker, PE, CFM  
dbrubaker@ncem.org | 919-825-2300

### NC CLOMR/LOMR Submittals

www.ncfloodmaps.com/mt-2\_forms.htm  
**LOMC Manager/Community Development  
Planner:** Steve Garrett, CFM  
sgarrett@ncem.org | 919-825-2316

### Meck. Co. CLOMR/LOMR Submittals

David C. Love, PE, CFM..... 704-432-0006

### Hazard Mitigation Grant Program & Flood Mitigation Assistance Prog

Chris Crew, Mitigation Section Chief  
919-825-2305

## Maps & Flood Insurance Studies

### FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX)

1-877-336-2627 (1-877-FEMA-MAP)

### NC Floodplain Mapping Program

919-715-5711  
www.ncfloodmaps.com

## Technical Assistance (FEMA)

### National Flood Insurance Program Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch: FEMA Region IV

www.fema.gov/about/regions/regioniv/

**Branch Chief:** Susan Wilson, CFM  
susan.wilson@dhs.gov | 770-220-5414

**Natural Hazards Program Specialist**  
Collis Brown  
collis.brown@dhs.gov | 770-220-8784

**FEMA Region IV Insurance Specialist**  
Janice Mitchell  
janice.mitchell@dhs.gov | 770-220-5441

### Individual Lot LOMA/LOMR

FEMA LOMA DEPOT  
3601 Eisenhower Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22304-6425  
Attn: LOMA Manager

### Flood Insurance Policy Issues

www.fema.gov/business/nfip/nfip\_regions.shtm#4

**Regional Manager:** Lynne Magel  
lmagel@ostglobal.com | 813-788-2624

**Regional Liaison:** David Clukie  
dclukie@ostglobal.com | 813-767-5355

## Websites

NCAFPM..... www.ncafpm.org  
ASFPM ..... www.floods.org  
FEMA ..... www.fema.gov  
NFIP ..... www.floodsmart.gov  
NCEM ..... www.nccrimecontrol.org/nfip  
NC Maps ..... www.ncfloodmaps.com

**FlashFlood NEWS** is a semi-annual online publication which offers information and education on topics that are of current interest in the field of floodplain management and the National Flood Insurance Program.

Information and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views of the North Carolina Association of Floodplain Managers.

All inquiries and article ideas should be directed to: Kelly Keesling, Editor (kgkeesling@carolina.rr.com).

For more information about the North Carolina Association of Floodplain Managers, see our website at www.ncafpm.org.

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### MEMBERSHIP

For more information about becoming a member of NCAFPM or for a membership application, go to www.ncafpm.org.

# FlashFlood NEWS

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