



October 2012
Volume 2, Issue 8

Inside this Issue

- 1** Community Resilience Challenge
- 2** QuakeSmart Toolkit
- 2** Risk MAP and the Idaho Silver Jackets
- 2** ESA in Oregon
- 3** Mitigation Plan Review Guide
- 3** Updated CRS Manual at EMI
- 3** Training and Events
- 4** Advancing Building Codes
- 4** National Community Planning Month

Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction
FEMA Region X Service Center
20700 44th Avenue West, Suite 110
Lynnwood, Washington 98036
(425) 329-3699

News from Region X

2012 Community Resilience Innovation Challenge

Application Period Open for Funding to Increase Local Resiliency through Whole Community Approach

FEMA announced in October that the application period is open for a new funding opportunity to build local resilience, through a Whole Community approach, in communities across America: the Community Resilience Innovation Challenge.

Though National Preparedness Month came to a close at the end of September, FEMA and its partners know that preparedness must continue in communities year-round. This new monetary opportunity is designed to continue to move community preparedness forward and assist local areas in building and revitalizing community-based partnerships to advance the nation's resilience to disasters.

"The best resiliency ideas originate in our states and communities – not from Washington, DC," said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. "The goal of this program is to empower communities to collaborate and develop innovative ways to effectively respond to disasters."

The opportunity is provided through the Rockefeller Foundation and FEMA and will be administered by the Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Foundation who will act as a third-party intermediary to encourage local communities to engage in creative activities that

enhance disaster resilience. Funding levels will range, with a maximum award of \$35,000, and applications are open to most local, state, and tribal agencies and governments; business entities; associations; organizations and groups. Submissions will be accepted through October 26, 2012.

Key assessment areas for the awards will be the applicants' demonstration that their approach to community resilience is innovative, collaborative with community stakeholders, sustainable, repeatable—in that the approach enables other communities to replicate their successful outcomes—and beneficial to the community in measurable ways.

FEMA recognizes that a government-centric approach to disaster management is insufficient to meet the challenges posed by a catastrophic incident. To meet our Nation's preparedness goals, the Whole Community must be actively involved in all phases of the preparedness, response, and recovery cycle. These awards are designed to invest in and enhance the Whole Community effort.

Additional information on the Challenge program criteria and application process can be found at www.ResilienceChallenge.org and www.fema.gov.

Spread the Word!

If you have a story or event to share in the the Region X Newsletter, email us at RXNewsletter@starr-team.com.

RiskMAP
Increasing Resilience Together



Outreach Campaign for QuakeSmart Toolkit

FEMA, in partnership with FLASH (the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes, Inc.), has launched a nationwide campaign to put the *QuakeSmart Toolkit* (FEMA P-811CD) into the hands of as many small businesses as possible. The toolkit, released last year, is a CD package of guidance and user-friendly, interactive tools to help businesses reduce the potential for injuries, damage, and financial losses from earthquakes.

In planning the campaign, FEMA and FLASH determined that the most cost effective way to reach the largest number of small businesses would be through targeted outreach to umbrella-type associations such as state societies of association executives and associations serving grocers, restaurants, the lodging industry, chambers of commerce, child care providers, small private schools, and museums, among others. Before contacting the associations, the FLASH project team, led by Barbara Harrison and Eric Vaughn, developed a folder of products to accompany the *QuakeSmart Toolkit* and assist the associations in reaching out to their members. The products include a sample newsletter article, sample email blast to association members, and sample web copy and link to the *QuakeSmart Toolkit* for members' only web pages.

With the help of FEMA and FLASH, associations should begin marketing the *QuakeSmart Toolkit* to their small business members in October, in time to coincide with publicity surrounding ShakeOut events across the U.S. This month,

FLASH also will kick off a pilot program with state Fire Marshals to distribute the *QuakeSmart Toolkit* to small businesses during their annual fire inspection.

Risk MAP and the Idaho Silver Jackets

In the summer of 2011, FEMA began the Risk MAP process for the Teton Watershed, located in Eastern Idaho (Fremont, Madison and Teton Counties; Cities of Driggs, Rexburg, Sugar City, and Victor). Through the Risk MAP process, it was brought to FEMA's attention that Madison County needs new flood maps due to changed geology resulting from the 1976 failure of the Teton Dam. At the time of the Discovery Meeting for the Teton Watershed, FEMA did not have any funding for flood modeling or mapping. FEMA did however, make note of Madison County's needs and worked with the Idaho State Department of Water Resources (IDWR) to maintain a list of priorities for new mapping.

Both FEMA and IDWR participate in the Idaho Silver Jackets, a collaborative team of federal agencies focusing on reducing flood risk in Idaho. Current federal agencies participating in the Idaho Silver Jackets include: The Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security (IBHS), the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ), IDWR, FEMA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the United States Geologic Society (USGS). The Silver Jackets hosted a call for Interagency Project Proposals and IDWR, FEMA, and USACE

collaborated on a proposal for remapping the area of dam failure in Madison County. This proposal was successfully awarded funding by the Silver Jackets Pilot Program.

The development of the proposal for Madison County and the successful funding of the proposal demonstrate the strength of communications between multiple state and federal agencies as well as the ability of these agencies to coordinate efforts for risk reduction.

ESA Consultation Underway in Oregon

Formal Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation between FEMA and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on effects of the NFIP on salmon in Oregon began August 15. Consultation is expected to conclude by the end of July 2013. The State of Oregon's Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) has convened a working group to advise FEMA on implementation of any changes to floodplain management that may result from consultation. The working group is also preparing recommendations to floodplain managers in Oregon on how to handle ESA compliance before a final program of compliance is launched at the conclusion of consultation.

DLCD invites Oregon floodplain managers and other stakeholders to join the working group. Please contact Amanda Punton for more information, (971) 673-0961, or amanda.punton@state.or.us.

RiskMAP
Increasing Resilience Together

Mitigation Plan Review Guide

On October 1, 2011 FEMA released the Local Mitigation Plan Review Guide to implement provisions under the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 44 - Emergency Management and Assistance, specifically 44 CFR 201.6, Local Mitigation Plans. The Guide is the official guidance utilized by FEMA and State governments to review local mitigation plans against the requirements of 44 CFR 201.

After an introductory period of one year, on October 1, 2012 the Guide became effective for all local mitigation plans submitted to States and FEMA for review and supersedes the Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance dated June, 2008.

The Local Mitigation Plan Review Guide contains several significant changes from the previous local mitigation planning guidance:

- Stronger emphasis on Mitigation Strategy requirements;
- Simplified guidance only includes the regulatory requirements;
- New Guiding Principles and Intent statements support regulatory requirements;
- Plan Review Tool replaces the existing Crosswalk in a new format that is easier to use; and
- Plan Review Tool communicates implementation of the plan as well as improvements to the plan.

The Guide is available in the FEMA Library at www.fema.gov.

Updated CRS Manual at EMI in FY13

The updated Community Rating System (CRS) Manual materials will be taught in the FY13 EMI courses.

The CRS Manual changes are significant this time, so CRS Coordinators may want to repeat the E278 course. Due to the nature of the changes, EMI is waiving the restriction on repeat attendance, but still limits attendance to two per community.

ASFPM has also agreed to allow repeat attendance of E278 to count towards CECs.

At this time there is still space available in all three FY13 EMI E278 resident course offerings:

April 1 – 4, 2013
 May 13 – 16, 2013
 July 29 – August 1, 2013

Information on applying for EMI courses, including the new requirement to obtain a Student Identification (SID) number can be found at training.fema.gov/Apply.

Tips for filling out the EMI application can be found at training.fema.gov/Apply/EMIAppTips.pdf.

FEMA Region X is working with NORFMA and FEMA HQ to bring the course to Region X in FY2013. More details will follow when available.

Upcoming Events & Training

(All times Pacific)

WAHUG Meeting

October 11, 2012
 Port of Tacoma, WA
www.usehazus.com/wahug

EMI L273: Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP

October 15-19, 2012
 Spokane, WA
M.Stewart@emd.wa.gov

Canadian Risk and Hazards Network Symposium

October 24-26, 2012
 Vancouver, BC
www.crhnet.ca/annualsymposium/annualsymposium.htm

Elevation Certificates

November 8, 10 am–12:30 pm
 December 13, 10 am–12:30 pm
 Online* – 2 CECs

Determining BFE

December 14, 10 am
 Online* – 1 CEC

*To register for online courses, visit STARR's training site online at j.mp/starrwebtraining, or for more information, contact RXTraining@starr-team.com.

Training Suggestions?

If you don't see a desired training topic listed on our schedule, drop us a line! If you have ideas for future training topics, or if you have expertise on a particular subject and would like to sponsor a session, please contact RXTraining@starr-team.com.

RiskMAP

Increasing Resilience Together

Advancing Building Codes through Regional Partnerships

For the first time, the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA) Building Science Branch hosted a regional and HQ strategic meeting in late August with all of the Regional Earthquake and Building Science partners to discuss FEMA's role in building codes as required by the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) and the NFIP. These meetings provided an opportunity for both HQ and regional staff to understand the requirements, the status of building code adoptions nationwide, the challenges at all levels, best practices from other Regions, learn available job aid tools and building codes products, and identify action items to help advance building codes at the regional level. FIMA's Building Science Branch leads the agency's efforts in partnering with the International Code Council (ICC), scientific and design professionals, code officials, and other stakeholders in supporting proper adoption and enforcement of the nation's model building codes and standards. Building codes provide the minimum design and construction requirements to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of both building occupants and the general public. They help build disaster resilient communities by ensuring proper development and construction and inclusion of disaster provisions based on

research and lessons learned. The Branch also supports building codes adoption and enforcement through a variety of guidance and tools development, training, cooperative agreements, and technical assistance to local jurisdictions. For more information on building codes and available tools, visit: www.fema.gov/building-science/building-code-resources and www.fema.gov/earthquake-site-index/building-codes.

October is National Community Planning Month

FEMA invites you to celebrate *National Community Planning Month* during the month of October as an opportunity to highlight the contributions sound planning and plan implementation make to the resilience of our communities.

The celebration gives us the opportunity to recognize our state, local, federal and tribal partners who have contributed their time and expertise to improving the sustainability and resilience of their communities through planning activities. Community planning helps manage change in a way that provides better choices for how people work and live. Community planning provides an opportunity for all residents to be meaningfully involved in making choices that determine the future and preparedness of their community. The full benefits of planning require the whole community to understand, support, and demand excellence in

Planning Links & Resources:

(Click to follow links)

- American Planning Association Hazards Planning Research Center and Recovery Blog
- FEMA's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Program
- FEMA's Long-Term Community Recovery Planning
- FEMA's Preparedness and Response Planning

planning and plan implementation.

FEMA's mission is "to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate all hazards." Planning is a critical function of what we do and how we assist communities. Every FEMA mission area – Preparedness, Recovery, Response and Mitigation - conducts planning aimed at accomplishing this Agency mission.

For information on how you can promote planning and National Community Planning Month, including ten specific suggestions for activities and events for your community, please visit www.planning.org/ncpm . 