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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



Washington DOE Hazard Reduction Grants

The Washington State Legislature has provided \$11.25 million to the Department of Ecology to run a competitive flood hazard reduction projects grant program. The funds will be used to provide grants to communities for projects that reduce flooding hazards while also providing benefits to salmon recovery efforts, water quality improvements, habitat recovery, open space preservation, farmland preservation and more.

Communities that qualify will submit project applications and must explain how their projects will meet the multiple benefit criteria. Projects will be scored and ranked and winning applications provided grant funding. There is a 20% match requirement for all grants awarded. DOE is working out the details on the application process, and will be posting more information on its website in the coming months.

The Legislature also provided more than \$38 million for specific projects that also meet the “multiple benefits” criteria. Most of them are contained in the “Coordinated Investment for Puget Sound Floodplains”, an initiative headed up by The Nature Conservancy. Those funds will be combined with those from other funding partners to advance the initial projects around Puget Sound to preserve natural floodplain functions, reduce flood hazards and improve salmon habitat.

September is National Preparedness Month!

September is National Preparedness Month and you are invited to join the National Preparedness Community and download the 2013 National Preparedness Month Toolkit. The 2013 Toolkit was developed to help, individuals and communities educate and empower themselves to prepare and respond to emergencies. FEMA relies on everyone to reach out to and motivate many different audiences and encourages the involvement of community and business leaders in preparedness planning. This toolkit also includes templates and drafts of newsletter articles, blogs, posters, and other material that you can use in various outreach efforts.

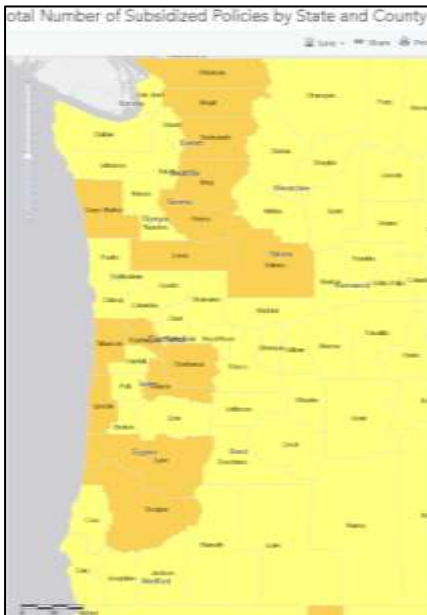
National Preparedness Month started in 2004 and is managed by FEMA though the *Ready Campaign* in conjunction with the Ad Council. Throughout the year the *Ready Campaign* aims to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond all types of emergencies, including natural disasters.

For more information on National Preparedness Month and to download the 2013 Toolkit, join the National Preparedness Community at community.fema.gov.



Subsidized Policies Interactive Map

The Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (BW12) has resulted in a phasing out of certain subsidies that have been in place for decades. Beginning this year, BW12 will eliminate flood insurance subsidies for frequently flooded properties, severely damaged properties, businesses, second homes and non-primary residences.



NFIP Flood Insurance, by County:	
State	Washington
County	Yakima County
Subsidized Policies (affected by 2012)	521
Policies that are not subsidized (not affected by 2012)	767
% of Policies Subsidized	40%
Subsidized Policies per 10k Housing Units	60.95
Population (County)	242,231
Housing Units (County)	85,474.00

In order to help local officials understand how BW12 will impact their communities, FEMA has created an interactive map that shows a county-by-county breakdown of subsidized insurance policy holders (see sample above). The map shows the total number of NFIP policyholders within a state or county with pre-FIRM subsidies removed by Section 100205 of BW12.

The online map can be found at <http://j.mp/14WEOyF>.

Wildland Fire Conference

Working Together! Collaboration for Fire Adapted Communities

September 25 & 26

Wenatchee Conference Center, Wenatchee, Washington.

The South Central Washington Resource Conservation and Development Council, the National Association of RC&D Councils, and the International Code Council are presenting the Washington State Wildland Urban Interface conference to address issues facing the zone where human development intermingles with undeveloped forests, grasslands, and shrub steppe. The conference will include speakers from around the state and nation with diverse expertise on federal, state, and local issues regarding the Wildland Urban Interface. Download the agenda at www.scwrcd.org.

Register online for \$65 by September 15. Registration will not be available at the conference.

Visit www.scwrcd.org for more information and registration options.

Oregon Emergency Management Association 2013 Conference

Building Bridges – Working Together

October 7 – 10

The Valley River Inn, Eugene, Oregon

The OEMA invites you to join them for their annual conference being held in Eugene. Join in as public, private sector, and non-profit emergency management professionals from throughout the Pacific Northwest network together and learn about the latest trends.

For registration information and to download the conference schedule, visit www.oregonemergency.com.

NORFMA News

NORFMA 2013 Conference

NORFMA has awarded 18 scholarships to individuals with roles in floodplain management to attend the annual conference, September 18-20 at Skamania Lodge. The conference has a full program of speakers, concurrent sessions, and workshops. A CFM refresher course and exam is also being offered. Current registrations for the 2013 Conference are on track for record attendance.

2014 ASFPM Conference Planning

The Association of State Floodplain Managers national conference will be held in Seattle during the week of June 1-6, 2014. As the regional Chapter of the ASFPM, NORFMA will be the local host for next year's conference. The ASFPM annual conference is recognized as the most important floodplain conference in the United States every year. It is expected that next year's conference in Seattle will break the previous attendance records, and that well over 1,500 could be in attendance.

Requests for abstracts will be distributed around the first week in September and abstracts will be due for submittal by October 31.

Continued planning and requests for volunteer help before and during the ASFPM conference will be a topic of discussion at the NORFMA 2013 conference in Skamania. NORFMA will also be requesting contributions from local consulting firms for assistance in sponsoring the opening welcoming session at the 2014 ASFPM Conference in Seattle.

Visit www.floods.org for information related to the 2014 ASFPM Conference as it becomes available.



NORMA Board Position Election

NORFMA will be holding elections for all of its Board positions during the 2013 Conference. Holding office is a great way to connect with people and processes in the floodplain management field. The workload is spread very evenly among the Board members making it a reasonable time commitment for each position. The Board positions are Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Representatives for each State and British Columbia. If you have interest, contact our Nomination Committee Chair, Ted Olson, to inquire or suggest a nomination (including yourself).

Suggested Reading

The American Surveyor

“The Dawn of a New Day...Biggert-Waters-12 Part 1” by Terri L. Turner, AICP, CFM

Surveyors and local floodplain officials will appreciate this in-depth review of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012. Look for Part 2 of this article in a future newsletter.

You can read the article at www.amerisurv.com.

Special thanks to the Editor Marc Cheeves, PS, for permission to share this article with our readers.

Featured Training

Floodplain Development Plan Review

September 24, 11:00 am (Pacific)
November 6, 10:00 am (Pacific)

This 90-minute session will highlight eight basic steps to reviewing development inside the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). This is beginner training, recommended for those new to the role of floodplain administrator.


1 CEC for ASFPM Certified Floodplain Managers®.

Inspecting Floodplain Development

September 25, 10:00 am (Pacific)
November 7, 10:00 am (Pacific)

This beginner two-hour session will highlight special considerations for plan reviewers and building inspectors when evaluating and inspecting development inside the Special Flood Hazard Area, including basic concepts and terminology, minimum construction standards (from the IBC/IRC), and conducting inspections.

Two CECs for CFMs

To register for online courses, visit STARR's online training schedule at j.mp/starrwebtraining. 

Upcoming Training

(All times Pacific)

NFIP Basics

September 11, 10am
October 24, 9am
Online* - 1 CEC

Preparing for Post-Disaster Responsibilities

September 18, 11am
Online* - 1 CEC

Floodplain Development Plan Review

September 24, 11am
November 6, 10am
Online* - 1 CEC

Inspecting Floodplain Development

September 25, 10am
November 7, 10am
Online* - 2 CECs

Elevation Certificates

September 26, 10am
October 23, 10am
Online* - 2 CECs

Substantial Damage Estimation

October 2, 11am
Online* - 1 CEC

Determining Base Flood Elevation

October 9, 10am
Online* - 1 CEC

Elevation Certificates for A Zones

October 10, 9am
Online* - 2 CECs

Hazus and the CRS

October 17, 10am
Online* - 1 CEC

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