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Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction
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News from Region 10

Using Certified LiDAR to Support LOMAs

New MT-1 Guidance for Determining LAG from LiDAR

LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data has been used in the floodplain mapping process for years, but it had not been approved to determine Lowest Adjacent Grade (LAG) for individual structures—that information needed to be certified by a licensed land surveyor or registered professional engineer.

FEMA recently released new [MT-1 Technical Guidance \(Feb 2018\)](#) that includes a new methodology for Letters of Map Amendment (LOMA) with elevations that are based on LiDAR in lieu of certified elevations.

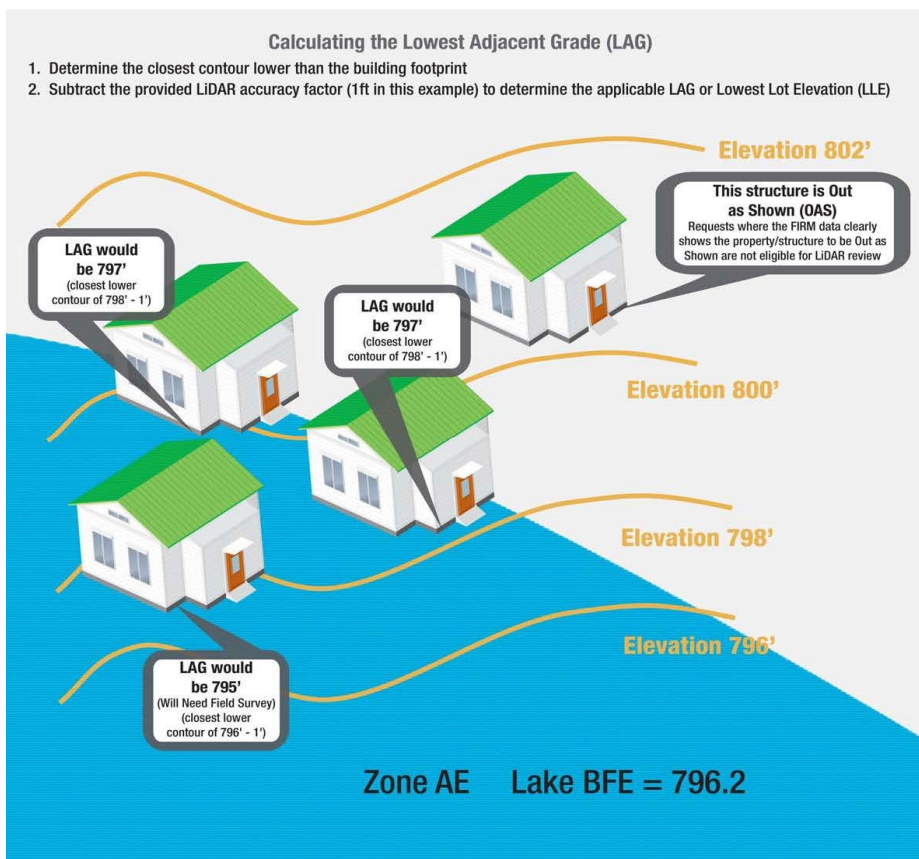
The LiDAR must meet USGS

Quality Level 3 data standards at a minimum, and it must be publicly available, web accessible, and owned by a federal/state/local or tribal government entity.

For submittals using LiDAR contours: the highest contour not touching the structure, minus ½ the contour interval or 1 foot, whichever is greater, will be used to account for data accuracy.

There are several categories of submissions where LiDAR cannot be used: requests involving fill, V zones, regulatory floodway, or AO zones, et al.

The Region 10 Service Center (RSC) was recently able to use this methodology to support a LOMA in a county in southern Oregon. *Continued next page*



LiDAR for LOMAs (cont.)

Zone A limits for a portion of the county had been updated during a recent map update, which terminated at the limit of the LiDAR that was available at the time. Subsequently, additional LiDAR data was collected and was available for the entire area.

The RSC derived LAG for multiple structures and produced exhibits displaying the LiDAR contours with aerial imagery showing the structures, with BFE and LAG for each, in support of the LOMA removal determination.

Before the new guidance, the RSC could have assisted with getting a BFE, but a licensed land surveyor or registered professional engineer would have been needed to obtain the LAG.

For scenarios where there are LiDAR and accurate building footprint data, we now have a way to support MT-1 determination requests in some cases without on-the-ground survey.

For more information on the MT-1 (LOMA) process, please register for our online training session on July 19, 10:00 am PST (see Online Trainings, page 4 for details).

Newsletter Ideas?

Want to spread the word about an upcoming event or recent success story? Have an idea for a future article? The Region 10 newsletter has subscribers in all four Region 10 states and around the country.

Let us know what you want to see in future issues!

Articles can be up to 500 words and may include pictures. Email RXNewsletter@starr-team.com with ideas or questions.

Washington Silver Jackets Seeks Your Input on Webinars

Flood risk management, online tools, climate adaptation & resilience planning



The Washington Silver Jackets team – a group of floodplain and flood risk managers at the state and federal levels – is working on a project to improve the incorporation of climate data into flood risk management plans, policies, and projects.

The Silver Jackets team will be kicking off a multi-part webinar series in the coming weeks specifically designed for local floodplain managers that will include climate science, online tools and resources, plan development, and funding opportunities. If you are involved in your community's efforts for flood risk management, climate adaptation, and resilience planning, we would like to hear from you.

What is your community's greatest flood risk management concern related to a changing climate? And how can agencies within Silver Jackets help address that concern?

To provide input to these questions, to get on the webinar invite list, or for more information on the Washington Silver Jackets and this project, please contact Travis Ball at 206-764-3277 or travis.d.ball@usace.army.mil.

Featured Trainings

Coastal Construction Workshops

Registration is now open for five one-day training classes on coastal construction this summer in Oregon and Washington. The course is a condensed version of the four-day E0386 [Residential Coastal Construction course](#) that is offered by the Emergency Management Institute.

Dunes City, OR – July 17
Astoria, OR – July 18
Lincoln City, OR – July 19
Montesano, WA – September 12
Tacoma, WA – October 24

ESA Puget Sound Workshops

FEMA Region 10, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and Washington Department of Ecology are teaming up again to offer workshops to discuss the 2008 NMFS Biological Opinion (BiOp) on the Implementation of the NFIP in Puget Sound and the three "doors" to compliance. The target audience are local floodplain administrators from communities in the Puget Sound impacted by the BiOp. These workshops will cover a general overview of the NFIP, requirements resulting from the BiOp, and what a habitat assessment needs to contain to show compliance.

Bremerton, WA – July 26
Everett, WA – August 9
Tacoma, WA – September 11

For details and to register for these featured training workshops, visit <http://starr-rsc10.eventbrite.com>.

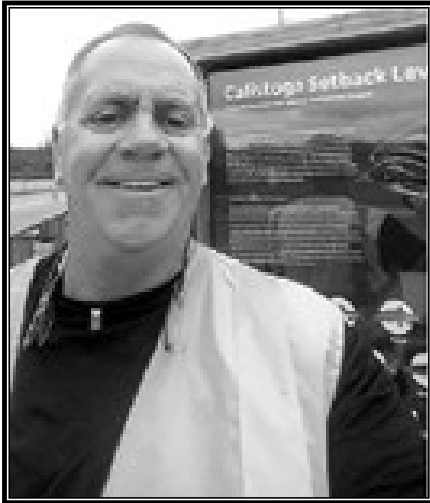
Ask the Help Desk

The Region 10 Service Center is here to help local community officials and stakeholders with technical, training, mitigation, and mapping questions.

Email us at RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com.

In Memory: Ken Wolfe

City of Orting Building Official, CRS Coordinator, Pierce Co. Flood District Advisory Committee, Force of Nature



Ken Wolfe passed away on June 14, 2018 in Orting, Washington. He was a generous, enthusiastic, passionate, and committed public servant who contributed mightily to the community of Orting and to Pierce County.

He worked for the City of Orting as a Building Official and NFIP/CRS Coordinator for the last 13 years. He served on the Pierce County Flood District Advisory Committee since its inception, first as Vice Chair, then as Chair through 2015. Ken continued to serve on the Advisory Committee and offered his assistance to other jurisdictions with partnership strategies and problem-solving skills.

Ken was very proud of his leadership in the funding and planning of the Calistoga Levee Setback Project that was completed under his tenure at the City of Orting. This project moved a

large segment of levee back and reconnected side channels to significantly widen the floodplain and add many acres of floodwater storage and salmon habitat, and improved flood protection for the community. It also upgraded the stormwater system and created public access and education opportunities along the river.

His family and friends will always remember him as an extremely humorous and generous person, who enjoyed golfing, spending time with family, and traveling.

Publication Spotlight: FEMA P-1037

Reducing Flood Risk to Residential Buildings that Cannot be Elevated

Elevating a structure is a well-recognized and often the most effective measure for reducing flood risk and flood insurance premiums. However, sometimes it is not feasible to elevate residential buildings due to their structural characteristics.

This publication presents a range of mitigation measures available as alternatives to traditional structural elevation for homeowners with existing residential structures which are not substantially damaged.

Retrofitting techniques featured include elevating utilities, basement infill, and installation of flood openings. These measures serve to make the dwelling much more flood resistant and have the added benefit of reducing flood insurance premiums. Wet and dry floodproofing measures and barrier measures are also discussed.

This publication can be found at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/109669>

For technical assistance on any of these FEMA resources, contact FEMA's Building Science Helpline at 1-866-927-2104 or FEMA-BuildingScienceHelp@dhs.gov.

NORFMA

NORTHWEST REGIONAL FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Annual Conference

September 26-28, 2018
Silver Reef Hotel & Casino
Bellingham, WA

Registration is now open for the NORFMA 2018 Conference. This year's theme is *Floods, Fish, Farms: Balancing Multiple Needs in Northwest Floodplains*.

Call for Abstracts

Come share your work with fellow floodplain managers! NORFMA is seeking submittals for workshops or presentations on floodplain projects, regulatory environment, and other emerging issues.

Conference Scholarships

A limited number of scholarships are available to assist communities and students attending the conference. New this year, Alaska scholarship recipients will also be eligible for a hotel stipend to help defray travel costs.

Abstracts and scholarship applications are due by July 15th.

For more information, please visit <http://www.norfma.org/>.

We're Hiring! Join the RSC10 Team!

SNC-Lavalin's Atkins business (part of the STARR II Team) is hiring a Planner for the Region 10 Service Center in Lynnwood, Washington. Join the team of experts dedicated to serving the needs of FEMA Region 10 and their state and local community partners. Go to <https://careers.atkinsglobal.com/job/fema-planner-jobid-na-002186> for details.

Job Opening at FEMA Region 10

Vacancy Announcement No.	Type	Position	Division	Grade	Status
FEMA-18-JLS-237844-DE	PFT	Emergency Management Specialist (Mitigation) NEW	MIT	GS-12	Vacancy Announcement Closes 07/16/2018 OR on the date the 200th Application is received, whichever comes first.

<p>Online Training (All times Pacific)</p> <p>CRS: Preparing an Annual Recertification July 17, 10 am September 18, 10 am Online - 1 CEC</p> <p>CRS: Repetitive Loss Properties July 18, 10 am Online - 1 CEC</p> <p>Letters of Map Amendment July 19, 10 am Online - 1 CEC</p>	<p>NFIP Basics August 2, 10 am Online - 1 CEC</p> <p>Introduction to CRS August 21, 10 am Online - 1 CEC</p> <p>CRS: Flood Insurance Promotion (Activity 370) August 22, 10 am Online - 1 CEC</p> <p>Floodplain Development Permit Review September 13, 9 am Online - 1 CEC</p>	<p>Inspecting Floodplain Development September 13, 10:30 am Online - 1 CEC</p> <p>CRS Activity 410 (Floodplain Mapping) September 19, 10 am Online - 1 CEC</p> <hr/> <p>To register for online courses, visit STARR's training site online at j.mp/starronlinetraining, or email RXTraining@starr-team.com.</p>
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