

Inside this Issue

- 1** Mitigation Works: Skagit County, WA
- 2** December 3<sup>rd</sup>: “Tsunami Ladies” Documentary Screening & Discussion
- 2** Training Opportunity
- 2** STARR II is Hiring!
- 2** Online Training Calendar

Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction  
FEMA Region 10 Service Center  
20700 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Suite 130  
Lynnwood, Washington 98036  
(425) 245-0834

# News from Region 10



Figure 1: Skagit River flood wall in Mt. Vernon WA, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

## Mitigation Works: Skagit County, WA

### City of Mt. Vernon Flood Wall

Nestled in the floodplain of the Skagit River, the City of Mount Vernon Washington has always had to deal with flooding in their downtown.

Historically, this meant that the community would pull together to fill and place sandbags and hope for the best. That all changed with the completion of their large floodwall and promenade in 2018.



Figure 2: Flood wall braces in Mt. Vernon, WA.

This floodwall was put to the test for the first time on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 when after several days of heavy

rain, the Skagit River reached a level of 36.9 feet, 8.9 feet past flood stage and just half a foot shy of the flood of record in 1990 when several blocks of downtown were flooded.

This time though, there was no flooding and no damage to Mt. Vernon’s downtown. That may not have been the case if the wall wasn’t there.

Strong partnerships were critical to getting the flood wall built. It’s clear that investment in hazard mitigation is investment in your community.

The Downtown Mt. Vernon Flood Protection and Revitalization Project protects the city’s historic downtown with FEMA-certified flood protection and serves to revitalize the downtown area. This project was a key component of the comprehensive downtown redevelopment plan.

*To learn more about this effort, you can visit the City of Mt. Vernon’s website to view the [project description](#).*

*To view this footage in video format, head to [this FEMA Region 10 LinkedIn post](#).*

# “Tsunami Ladies” Documentary Screening & Discussion on Dec 3

Amanda Siok | Earthquake Program Manager, FEMA R10

Hello Tsunami Tstakeholders!

I’m so excited to share the below registration information for the English premier of the short film Tsunami Ladies, a 1-hour Zoom event on **Friday December 3 at 3:00 pm PST.**

This short film is a beautiful representation of the power of community after a disaster. It’s also a great tool to use in driving attention to local tsunami maps, evacuation planning, and mitigation projects. Please feel free to share this with your networks.

This video is the first in a series, the second will be filmed in Alaska, connecting tsunami debris and people across oceans. Am very much looking forward to planning an engaging viewing party with you all for its release.

Lastly, if you’re interested in learning more about how the arts can

be used to enhance your mitigation and resilience message, check out [this guide](#).

I hope to see you on Friday!

- Amanda

*For more information about this documentary screening & discussion, contact [Amanda Siok](#).*

## 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 [RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com](mailto:RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com).

## NFIP 301 Workshop

Caldwell, ID | December 14<sup>th</sup>

The Idaho Department of Water Resources is offering an NFIP 301 Workshop training.

This course is designed to provide an organized training opportunity for local officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinances. The course will focus on NFIP Provisions in the

IRC/IBC, Substantial Damage/Substantial Improvement, LOMCs and ESA, Elevation Certificates (ECs), and more.

This course will be offered in Caldwell, Idaho on December 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Canyon County Development Services: [111 N 11<sup>th</sup> Ave., Room 113](#)

This workshop is free and open to anyone interested in learning more about the NFIP 301 focus topics.

Continuing Education Credits (CECs) will be available for CFMs.

*For more information, or to R.S.V.P. for this workshop, please contact [Idaho’s State NFIP Coordinator](#).*

## Newsletter Ideas?

Want to spread the word about an upcoming event or recent success story? 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](mailto:RXNewsletter@starr-team.com).



## STARR II is Hiring! Join the Regional Service Center Team:

<https://careers.snclavalin.com/job/fema-water-resources-planner-or-scientist-in-lynnwood-jid-17459>

Atkins is seeking a FEMA Water Resources Planner or Scientist to support NFIP-related technical assistance, document editing and publication, SharePoint site administration, and training coordination. Candidates must have a thorough understanding of floodplain management, hazard mitigation, and risk communication principles. A BS or MS degree in Planning or a related field, or 10 years of relevant experience is preferred. CFM is preferred.

## Online Training

(All times Pacific)

Stay tuned for more training opportunities in 2022.

To register for online courses, visit STARR’s training site:

[j.mp/starronlinetraining](http://j.mp/starronlinetraining), or email [RXTraining@starr-team.com](mailto:RXTraining@starr-team.com).