

# News from Region 10

### June 2023

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#### Newsletter Ideas?

Do you want to spread the word about an upcoming event or recent success story? Let us know what you'd like to see in future issues! Articles can be up to 500 words and may include pictures.

Email: RXNewsletter@starr-team.com

# FEMA Seeks Public Input on Proposed Changes to the NFIP in Oregon



FEMA reopened the comment period for an additional 32 days of public input on <u>proposed changes</u> to the implementation of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in Oregon. These changes may have significant impacts on Oregon communities, individuals, and businesses that intend on developing in the floodplain. FEMA encourages participation during the comment period.

Following findings that the NFIP in Oregon may harm salmon, steelhead, Southern Resident Killer Whale, and other endangered and threatened fish species, FEMA was required to make changes to how the NFIP is implemented in the state. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, FEMA is currently developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to identify potential social and economic impacts of the proposed changes.

As part of the process, FEMA seeks public input relevant to <u>proposed actions</u> and reasonable alternatives to addressing the EIS. The initial <u>Notice of Intent (NOI)</u> to prepare an EIS was published on March 6, 2023 and opened a 60 day public scoping process that ended May 5, 2023. To accommodate additional public input, the comment period will reopen May 25, 2023, for an additional 30 days, **closing June 26, 2023**.

FEMA staff will conduct four in-person community meetings in Oregon next week about the National Flood Insurance Program – Endangered Species Act Integration in Oregon. Additional information on these and future in-person meetings is available on the <u>project website</u>. FEMA will provide an overview of the Proposed Action and the environmental issues that FEMA should consider in the Environmental Impact Statement. The public will have the opportunity to submit public comments.

All meeting rooms are accessible to people with disabilities. If you need to request an accommodation (e.g., sign language interpreters, Braille, CART/captioning), please make your request by June 8 to FEMA-R10-ESAcomments@fema.dhs.gov. Last minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fill.

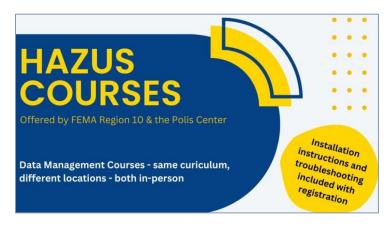
If you have any questions, please contact FEMA Region 10 Office of External Affairs:

News Desk at (425) 487-4610 or <u>FEMA-R10-NewsDesk@fema.dhs.gov</u> | Congressional Affairs at <u>FEMA-R10-CongQ@fema.dhs.gov</u> | Tribal Affairs at <u>FEMA</u>

# FEMA Region 10 Offers Free HAZUS Data Management Course

HAZUS is FEMA's nationally applicable standardized methodology for estimating potential losses from earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and tsunamis. It uses Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to estimate physical, economic, and social impacts of disasters and graphically illustrates the limits of identified high-risk locations. Users can then visualize the spatial relationships between populations and other more permanently fixed geographic assets or resources for the specific hazard being modeled – a crucial function in the pre-disaster planning process.

Do you want to learn how to prepare your own data for use in HAZUS or have questions about HAZUS data attributes? Do you want an opportunity to meet HAZUS expert instructors? Sign up for a **FREE** HAZUS Data Management course, run by The Polis Center and FEMA Region 10! See details below:



- > <u>In-person Data Management Course:</u> Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup> in Olympia, WA from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm PDT (last day ends at 11:30 am).
  - > Location: Thurston County Emergency Management building, off Tilley Rd
- > <u>In-person Data Management Course:</u> Thursday, July 25th to Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup> in Anchorage, AK from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm AKDT (last day ends at 11:30 am).
  - > Location: Atwood Building, Downtown Anchorage

Interested? Email Kara Jacobacci to register! HAZUS installation instructions and troubleshooting help included with registration.

For more information and to download this free software, please visit FEMA's HAZUS Program webpage.

# Biden-Harris Administration Announces Additional \$160 Million to Build Climate & Disaster Resilience Nationwide, Including Over \$50 Million for Tribal Nations



As part of President Biden's Investing in America agenda, FEMA is announcing \$160 million in addition to funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for states, local communities, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia to build climate and disaster resiliency, including the selection of more than 400 resilience projects and activities.

This announcement includes \$136 million for the <u>Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)</u> program and \$24 million for the <u>Flood Mitigation Assistance</u> program. Both programs are part of the <u>Justice40 Initiative</u>, advancing President Biden's commitment to environmental justice. In addition, \$54 million of this funding is set aside for Tribal Nations that applied.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides nearly \$7 billion in funding to support FEMA's resilience and mitigation programs. To date, \$370 million in awards have been announced from these two programs. During this grant cycle, each

state and territory that applied for the set aside funding were eligible for up to \$2 million to support mitigation projects and planning, project scoping, and the adoption and enforcement of hazard resistant building codes.

For more information about FEMA programs funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, please view <u>FEMA's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Fact Sheet.</u>

#### 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.

# **Online Training Calendar**

(All times Pacific)

Course	Date/Time	Continuing Education Credits (CECs)
STARR II: Basics of Reading Flood Maps	June 15, 10:00 am	1
CRS: Introduction to the CRS	June 20, 10:00 am	1
CRS: Developing a PPI & a Insurance Coverage Improvement Plan	June 21, 10:00 am	1
STARR II: Floodplain Regulations	June 22, 10:00 am	1
STARR II: Introduction to FEMA Technical Bulletins	June 29, 10:00 am	1



To register for online courses, visit STARR's training site: <u>j.mp/starronlinetraining</u>, or email <u>RXTraining@starr-team.com</u>.

Previous editions and articles are still available to view or download. <u>Click here to visit the STARR II R10 Monthly Newsletter Archive.</u>
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#### STARR II - Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction

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