



News from Region 10

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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 Elevation & Floodproofing Certificates | Functionality Update

FEMA has made updates to the functionality of the revised Elevation and Floodproofing Certificates. New versions of these forms have been posted online and can be accessed on [FEMA's NFIP Underwriting webpage](#).

Updates made to these forms include accepting alphanumeric entries (rather than only numeric entries) in the elevation fields, removing the automatic rounding function for numeric entries, and improving the digital signatures components to only lock the section of the form being certified. In addition to these changes, The Elevation Certificate (EC) and its instructions are now paginated separately to allow submission of the form, without including the instructions section. These instructions are now accessible via a button found on the top left of each page of the form, giving users the ability to efficiently navigate between the two.

Other changes to the EC include the form now specifying the need for color photographs (Section A, Item A.6), while also removing the word “subgrade” and a former reference to Building Diagram 9 (Section H, Item H1.a). The Floodproofing Certificate now offers 2-letter abbreviation selections for states and territories, and Zone D has been included in the form's Zone B, C, or X flood zone references.

Please direct any questions regarding the updates outlined to NFIPUnderwritingMailbox@fema.dhs.gov.

FEMA Elevation & Floodproofing Certificates Online Training Videos | 2023 Updates

This year, FEMA released new versions of the Elevation and Floodproofing Certificate forms to improve their overall functionality. These updates were intended help better support floodplain managers, local officials, and surveyors in capturing accurate elevation and floodproofing information related to structures in the floodplain. As a result of these changes, FEMA has also published two online training videos detailing the improvements made to each form.

The Elevation Certificate training video provides background information on the form and connects the recent changes to the way flood insurance is rated. Additionally, this module provides a section-by-section analysis of each update made to the form, including the inclusion of two new sections (Sections H and I).

The Floodproofing Certificate training video provides a general overview of the newly released form and reviews its revised format – which now requires the separate certification of building design, elevation, and construction. This module also covers the separate sections for certifying the design and as-built elevation and confirming performance standards.

To view these trainings, please follow the links provided below:

[*Overview of Changes to the Elevation Certificate 2023*](#) | [*Overview of Changes to the Floodproofing Certificate 2023*](#)

WA Department of Ecology | Floodplains by Design 2025-27 Funding Round

The Floodplains by Design 2025-27 funding round opened on November 1st, 2023! The Funding Guidelines and pre-application materials are now available on [WA Department of Ecology's website](#). This program provides grants to complete multi-benefit projects that reduce flood hazards while restoring the natural functions of floodplains.

Ecology hosted two webinars for prospective applicants in early November: one for existing grantees and recent applicants, which focused mainly on changes from the last (2023-25) grant round; and one for new applicants or anyone who preferred a more comprehensive overview of the Floodplains by Design program.

Pre-applications will be due Jan. 12, 2024.

After review, Ecology will invite selected applicants to submit a full application and present their projects to an evaluation team. Presentations will be held the week of Feb. 12-16, 2024.

Full applications will be due May 1, 2024.

[Floodplains by Design](#) is a public-private partnership led by Ecology, Bonneville Environmental Foundation, and American Rivers. Over the past decade, Ecology has awarded \$283 million in Floodplains by Design grants.

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)
CRS: CRS & Coastal Hazards	November 15, 10 am	1
STARR II: Coastal Construction	November 16, 10 am	1
CRS: FEMA Elevation Certificates	November 28, 10 am	1.5
CRS: FEMA Elevation Certificates	November 29, 10 am	1.5
CRS: FEMA Elevation Certificates	November 30, 10 am	1.5
STARR II: Substantial Damage & DRRA 1206	November 30, 10 am	1



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

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