

High Waters

A Publication of the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association

A Quarterly Newsletter

June 2016

Spring Workshop - Pages 1 - 3

TADD Outreach - Page 4

From the Chair - Page 5

NWS - Pages 6 - 7

New Mexico CFM's - Page 8

State NFIP - Page 9

Conference Committee - Page 10

Outreach and Education - Page 11

USGS WaterAlert - Pages 12 - 13

Training - Page 14

ASFPM - Page 15

FEMA Region VI Voice - Page 16

From the Editor - Page 17

NMFMA Purpose - Page 18

Spring Workshop

Spring in Santa Fe

A special thank you to all of our presenters, sponsors, and conference organizers for making our Santa Fe workshop a success.



Spring NMFMA Workshop



Spring NMFMA Workshop Sponsors



TADD Education and Outreach

Jeanette Spriggs

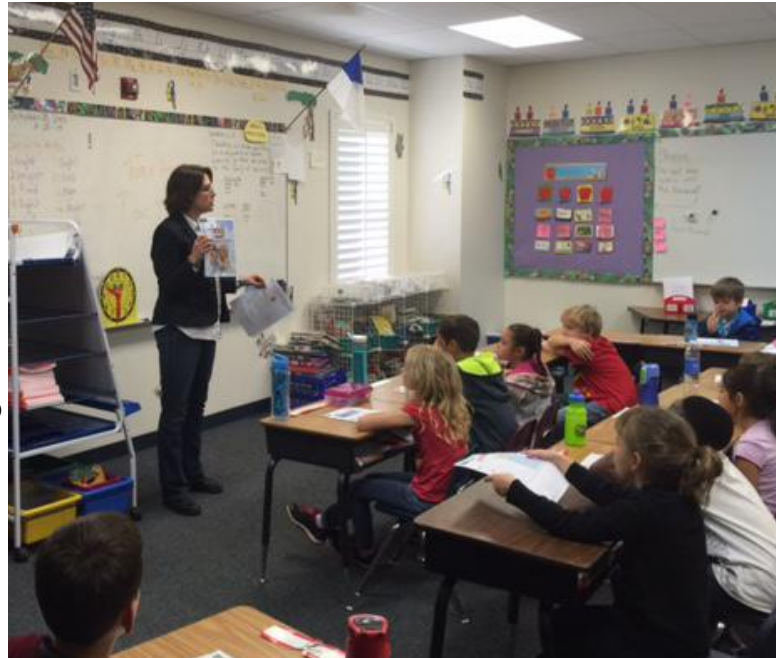
(575) 763-5731

jspriggs@currycounty.org

In October of last year, Jeanette, CFM and Randa participated in the New Mexico Floodplain Managers Association (NMFMA) flood awareness program. Part of this program was to present the dangers of driving across flooded roadways and explain TADD—Turn Around Don't Drown to 2nd-6th graders in the area. They did a presentation to the 2nd and 3rd grade classes of the Clovis Christian School. The children were then tasked with creating a drawing that fit the theme of TADD. The drawings were sent to NMFMA to be judged. Thirteen of all drawings submitted were chosen to make up a calendar that is published by the organization.

We are proud to report that Jaxson Odom from Mrs. Debbie Boney's second grade class won 3rd place overall in the state of New Mexico and was selected to be January 2017 in the calendar. Makaila Cleveland from Mrs. Jessica Rogers' third grade class was selected to be September 2016. These two students were picked from over 200 entries from 7 different schools from across New Mexico.

This was the first year that our office was able to go and present the information to students and with the 2 wins, we are excited to get out to the other area schools next year. Hopefully we will be able to educate the students as well as get them to win a spot in future calendars. If anyone is interested in the calendars, the office has a few available to give out.



From the Chair - Dave Turk

David Turk, CFM, GISP

(505) 238-3800

dave.turk@aecom.com



With the wildfire season upon us and the monsoon season right around the corner, highlights the important role that we all play in our communities as floodplain managers. I commend each of you for your participation in advancing this mission as floodplain management leaders across the state.

Among major events that have already occurred this year, NMFMA's Spring Conference was a huge success! I have received numerous comments about the excellent quality and value of the conference program held at the Buffalo Thunder Resort.

I extend great thanks to Joe Barela (Conference Director), Sean O'Melveny and Eric Nemeth (Program Directors), Mike Czosnek (Conference Committee Chair), Workshop Sponsors, and all presenters that contributed to its success. It is inspiring to see the tremendous amount of support from our membership that leads to such top notch conferences, technical workshops, and related events that NMFMA is proud of. Each of your contributions is recognized and valued by our members and communities. I would also like to congratulate the five people who passed the exam and earned their CFM this past spring. Great job!

NMFMA is currently coordinating with ASFPM again regarding bringing the L-273 Floodplain Management course to New Mexico. If you are interested please contact Jim DeAngelo (Training & Education Chair; 505-206-1750 or jim.deangelo@aecom.com) to express your interest. As always, these courses provided the necessary credits to keep your CFM current.

Lastly, the NMFMA Board is planning to conduct its Annual Retreat during the weekend of August 20-21, in Albuquerque. Please submit any topics to me or any Board member that you would like for us to discuss and possibly incorporate into our annual strategic planning.

Thank you for your attention. Please enjoy your summer and all my best wishes in your continued participation in floodplain management leadership in the state and across your communities!

Lightning: The Underrated Killer

Kerry Jones

(505) 244-9150

kerry.jones@noaa.gov

Summertime is nearly upon us and that means barbecues, festivals, sporting events, fishing, hitting the trails, camping, and many other recreational activities. In short, summertime means a lot more people are spending a lot more time in the great outdoors. But summer is also the peak season for one of New Mexico's (and nation's) deadliest weather phenomena -- lightning.



Bench struck by lightning at Capulin Volcano National Monument in northeast New Mexico. Photo courtesy of Kerry Jones.

But consider these lightning statistics:

- ~25 million cloud-to-ground lightning strikes occur in the U.S. each year.
- Each year in the U.S., more than 400 people are struck by lightning.
- On average between 55 and 60 people are killed in U.S. though fortunately the trend has been downward in recent decades
- 26 lightning fatalities were documented across the country in 2015, including 2 in New Mexico both involving motorcycles
- A vast majority of lightning victims are male
- Only about 10% of people struck by lightning are killed. Hundreds of others suffer permanent neurological disabilities.

Lightning: The Underrated Killer



Cloud to ground lightning near Estancia, NM on June 16, 2015. Photo courtesy of Cory Long.

Avoid the Lightning Threat

Have a lightning safety plan. Know where you'll go for safety and how much time it will take to get there. Make sure your plan allows enough time to reach safety.

Postpone activities. Before going outdoors, check the forecast for thunderstorms. Consider postponing activities to avoid being caught in a dangerous situation.

Monitor the weather. Look for signs of a developing thunderstorm such as darkening skies, flashes of lightning or increasing wind.

Get to a safe place. If you hear thunder, even a distant rumble, immediately move to a safe place. Fully enclosed buildings with wiring and plumbing provide the best protection. Sheds, picnic shelters, tents or covered porches do NOT

protect you from lightning. If a sturdy building is not nearby, get into a hard-topped metal vehicle and close all the windows. Stay inside until 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder.

If you hear thunder, don't use a corded phone except in an emergency. Cordless phones and cell phones are safe to use.

Keep away from electrical equipment and wiring. Water pipes conduct electricity. Don't take a bath or shower or use other plumbing during a storm.

June 19-25, 2016 is national Lightning Safety Awareness Week. Take some time to learn more about lightning and how to stay safe this summer. <http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov>

June 12-17, 2016 is Monsoon Awareness Week. Take some time to learn more about monsoon and how to stay safe this summer. <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/abq/?n=preawaremonsoonhome>



Pictures from the McKinley County Water Festival and outreach work conducted by Kerry Jones with the NWS May 11, 2016





New Mexico Certified Floodplain Managers

Grant Pinkerton, CFM
Chair, Certification Committee

The CFM exam was proctored at the NMFMA Spring Workshop at the Buffalo Thunder Hotel and Casino in Santa Fe, NM. Congratulations to the following new CFMs who passed the exam in Santa Fe:

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Gabriel Boyle, CFM | City of Elephant Butte |
| Abriel Carrillo, CFM | City of Albuquerque |
| Jame Eisenberg, CFM | USCOE |
| John Miller, CFM | Town of Taos |
| Christopher White, CFM | Rio Arriba County |

There is still a lot of confusion about CFM renewals. For those of you CFMs who are due for renewal in January of every other year, you will get 2 renewal reminders. One reminder will come from our web site thru Club Express telling you that your NMFMA MEMBERSHIP dues of \$35 should be paid by January first. The second reminder will come from me reminding you that your CFM RENEWAL of \$25 is due by January first. Be sure to read the reminder email carefully so you know what you are paying. You can pay each of these fees on the web site with a credit card. To pay the membership renewal, just click on the Renew link by your name when you sign in and follow the directions. To pay for the CFM renewal, go to the Event Calendar and pull up the last day of the month your CFM is due in (January or July). Click on CFM Renewal and fill out the form as tho you are registering for a conference.

This is from the last CFM article:

The CEC requirements for maintaining your CFM has changed. You are still required to earn at least 16 CECs during each 2 year period, but you no longer are required to earn CECs every year. The CFM Program is explained in the Charter, which can be found on the NMFMA web site on the Certification page and also in the Resource Library.

If you are interested in taking the exam, please remember that no matter what paperwork or on-line registration you submit for any specific workshop, class, or other function, **YOU MUST SUBMIT A CFM EXAM APPLICATION PACKET** to the Certification Board before you can be scheduled to take the exam. The packet is downloadable from the Certification page of the NMFMA website. The Application Packet should be mailed to the Roswell address noted in the packet. Any questions should be directed to Grant Pinkerton, Certification Board Chair, at nmcfm@cablone.net.



In and Around New Mexico with the State NFIP Coordinator

Bill Borthwick, CFM, State Floodplain Coordinator

(505) 476-9617

william.borthwick@state.nm.us

Mitigation Action Recognition Awards and Animas Watershed Discovery

Are we headed in the Right Direction?

New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (NMDHSEM) has been requested by FEMA Region VI to present Mitigation Action Awards to selected active National Flood Insurance Program communities in New Mexico. The selected communities (possibly one or two) would get a recognition award at the Fall NMFMA Workshop in Deming. There are several selection criteria. However, one of the criteria is the status of implementation of mitigation actions identified in local mitigation plans. FEMA Region VI will be selecting communities in New Mexico and Oklahoma for the Mitigation Action Awards because of our success with the Cooperating Technical Partners activities. NMFMA is delighted that the award presentations will be made at the Fall Workshop!

As part of the Cooperating Technical Partners effort, FEMA Region VI, DHSEM and Earth Data Analysis Center will be conducting Discovery Meetings this summer. The focus of the meetings will be on the Animas Watershed, a Hydrologic Unit Code 8 ('HUC 8') watershed. This watershed is contained in Southern Colorado and San Juan County. The Discovery process is utilized to identify flood hazards, associated flood risk and mitigation activities. The process also provides for the exchange of information among the various stakeholders. The goal of the is to identify mitigation actions that communities can implement to make their jurisdictions more resilient.

NMFMA members should be congratulated for keeping their communities reasonably safe from flooding. Keep in mind, the best source of information about flood risk in your community is your local floodplain administrator.

Question: Are we headed in the Right Direction?

Answer: Absolutely! New Mexico communities are taking the right steps towards becoming resilient communities.

From the Conference Committee

Mike Czosnek, CFM

(575) 835-0240

mczosnek@socorronm.gov

The Conference Committee has resumed conference calls with Conference Directors and Program Directors for upcoming workshop/conferences. We are currently scheduled for the 2016 Fall Workshop/Conference, September 20-23 in Deming. Phil Butz is the Conference Director and Nicole Friedt is the Program Director.

Anyone wishing to give a presentation should contact either of them. In April 2017 we are scheduled for our Spring Workshop/Conference in Albuquerque at the Isleta Hotel and Resort. Loretta Hatch is the Conference Director. Sean O'Melveny is the Technical Track Program Director and we are in need of a program director for the balance of the workshop/conference. Anyone interested should contact any member of the Conference Committee (Michele Truby-Tillen, Grant Pinkerton or Mike Czosnek) or Loretta Hatch. We are also schedule for the 2017 Fall Workshop/Conference to be held at Angel Fire. Burl Smith is the Conference Director and the Program Director position remains open. Again, anyone interested should contact any member of the Conference Committee or Burl Smith.

The Conference Committee is looking for a venue and Conference Director for the 2018 Spring Workshop/Conference. Interested parties should contact any member of the Conference Committee.

The workshop/conference held last spring at the Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino was a success. We offer special thank you's to Joe Barela, Conference Director, Sean O'Melveny and Eric Nemeth Program Directors. At the request of the Conference Committee they were able to allow some time in the agenda for help for folks filling out the reimbursement forms. The hope was that this would speed up the reimbursements. As of the date of this writing we remain in a " we'll see" mode. It is anticipated that reimbursements will continue for the foreseeable future and we will continue to schedule some time for folks to fill out the forms at the workshop/conference.

Fall Conference Presenter Request

Nicole Friedt, CFM

The results are in! From the feedback received at the Spring Conference, a lot of you would like more presentations from your fellow floodplain administrators. How did you go about learning this new role as a FPM when you first started? What interesting challenges have you had to face?

How did you deal with a difficult or unusual situation that

occurred in your role as a community FPM? This is your opportunity to help your fellow FPMs by giving a presentation at the Fall Conference. You don't have to be an expert. You don't have to have all the answers. You just have to be willing to talk about one of your experiences. We are all in this together, and we can all learn something from each other. Contact Nicole Friedt (nicole.friedt@state.nm.us) with ideas for how you can share your experience with the group.



Picture Courtesy of Michele Truby

From the Education and Outreach Committee

Jim DeAngelo, CFM

(505) 855-7490

Jim.DeAngelo@aecom.com

It's been a busy few months. As I reported at the conference the NMFMA now has 3 flood simulation models for the use of the membership to bring flood awareness into the communities. The three flood models are located in Farmington, Albuquerque, and Los Cruces please think about your geography and contact the keeper of the model closest to you to work out details on when it is open for use and how to transport it.

Farmington Model Keeper: Michele Truby: TrubyM@sjces.net

Albuquerque Model Keeper: Jim DeAngelo: jim.deangelo@aecom.com

Las Cruces Model Keeper: J.D. Padilla: jdpadilla@las-cruces.org

Also please keep in mind that there is training to be had at EMI and online. If you would like to take EMI courses please coordinate with Bill Borthwick at William.borthwick@state.nm.us

EMI Training

FEMA has announced the dates for two floodplain management courses at the Emergency Management Institute in Maryland.

E0273 Managing Floodplain Development through the National Flood Insurance Program

<https://training.fema.gov/emigrams/2016/1243%20-%20training%20opportunity%20-%20e0273%20fy16%20and%20fy17.pdf?d=5/10/2016>

If you are unable to attend an NMFMA sponsored L0273 course, please consider attending the same course being offered at EMI in September, October, and November.

E0194 Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts

<https://training.fema.gov/emigrams/2016/1244%20-%20training%20opportunity%20-%20e0194%20fy17.pdf?d=5/10/2016>

If you have already completed E0273 and would like to increase your floodplain management knowledge, consider attending this advanced course at EMI which is being offered at the end of January 2017.

Lastly, NMFMA is coordinating with ASFPM to host the E/L 273 course in NM this late summer or early fall. Dates availability and other details will be transmitted once things have been finalized.

As we move into Summer, stay safe and have fun

USGS WaterAlert System

Michael Camponovo, CFM
mcamponovo@edac.unm.edu

Gold King Mine Release Water Alert System

USGS Water Alert

<http://water.usgs.gov/wateralert/>

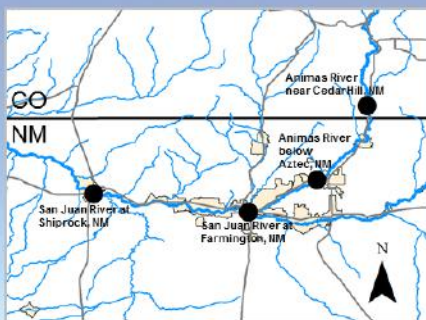
Subscribe to gages to receive email or text message at discharge, temperature, pH, specific conductance, or turbidity thresholds of your choice.

USGS Real Time Stream Flow and Water-quality Parameters

<http://nm.water.usgs.gov/>

Questions?

New Mexico Water Science Center
John Bumgarner, Director,
jbumgarner@usgs.gov 505-830-7901
Johanna Blake, Project Chief
jmtblake@usgs.gov 505-830-7953
Jeb Brown, Hydrologist
jebbrown@usgs.gov 505-830-7915



Animas River at Farmington, NM
August 8, 2015



Animas River at Farmington, NM
February 25, 2015



installed sonde water quality sensors that notify Michele if pH levels increase indicating a potential increase in suspended metals.

How It Works: Below are the steps used to create your own custom WaterAlert messages courtesy of Anne Tillery and Mark Gunn with the USGS.

Using the USGS WaterAlert system, the user can subscribe to e-mail or mobile phone messages when precipitation, stage, or discharge at a gage exceeds a threshold that the user selects.

The USGS WaterAlert site may be accessed at:

<http://water.usgs.gov/wateralert/>

After clicking the WaterAlert link, a map of North America and part of Central America will appear on your screen. Under Site Selection – State or Territory, select New Mexico
– Data Type, select Precipitation or Surface Water

A map of New Mexico with rain gage or stream gage locations will appear. Zoom in on your area of interest.

- Move your cursor to a rain gage site, marked with blue squares, or a surface-water site, marked with green triangles. When the hand turns to a pointing finger, the name of the site will appear.
- Click on the blue square or green triangle, and a site window will appear giving the site number, site name, and the total precipitation for the previous 24 hours for a rain gage site, or the current gage reading for a surface-water site.



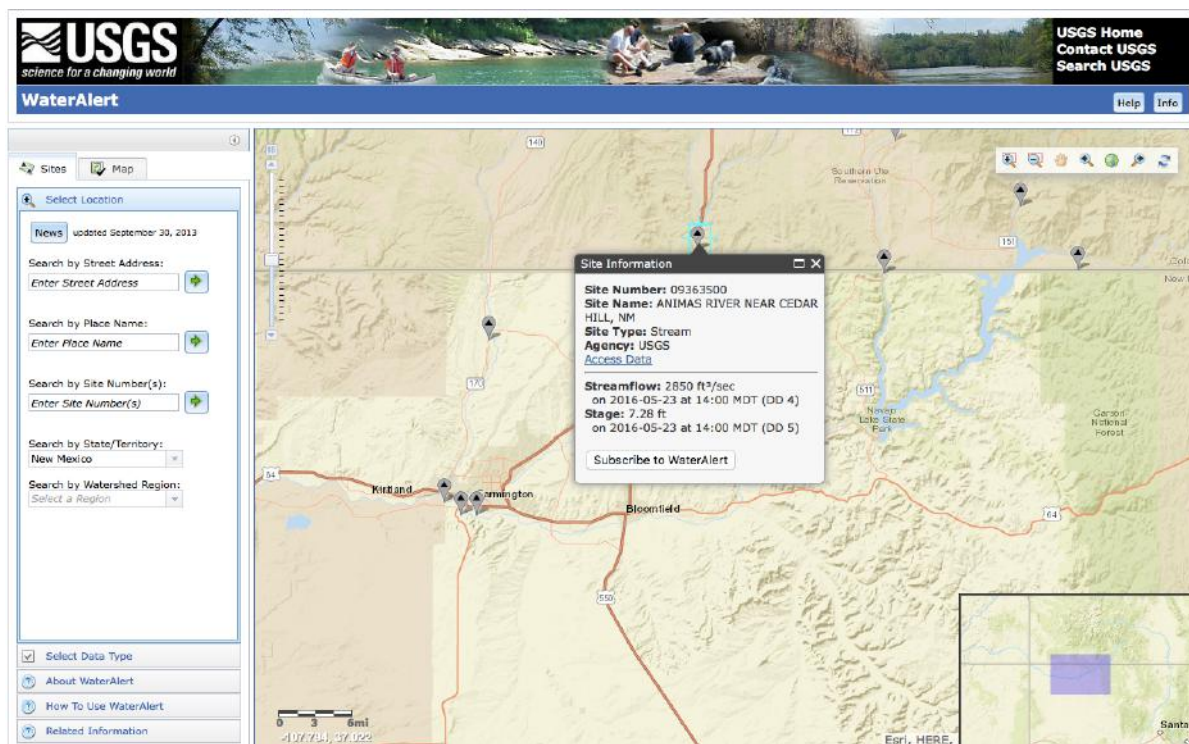
USGS WaterAlert System

- Click on the site number, and you will be directed to a graph showing the rainfall or stream stage and discharge* recorded at this gage over the previous week. The box at the top of the page contains options to change the time period covered by the graph or to view a table containing the numerical data.
- The "Subscribe" button at the bottom of the site window will open a subscription form web page through which you can sign up to receive an e-mail or mobile phone message when rainfall, water stage, or discharge at that site reaches a threshold that you select.
- Note that you must sign up separately for each gage in which you're interested. Also, you must respond to the initial e-mail message, as directed in the message, in order to activate your subscription to each gage. This ensures that the e-mail you entered was correct and functional.

A second way to subscribe to e-mail or mobile phone messages is to access the USGS New Mexico Water Science Center web page at: <http://nm.water.usgs.gov> and click on the "USGS Post-Wildfire Hydrologic Monitoring in New Mexico" link at the top of the web page. A web page displaying gages for the Little Bear and Whitewater-Baldy Fire areas will appear.

- Select a gage by clicking the "link" in the "Current Conditions" column that corresponds to the gage of interest. You will see a web page displaying one or more graphs.
- Find the graph you are interested in (precipitation, stage, or discharge) and click on "WaterAlert" just below the lower right corner of the graph. A subscription form web page will open and you can fill out the form and respond to the confirmation e-mail as described in the bullets above.
- If you want to see a map display of the gage location, click on "map" to the right of the gage of interest.

*Only stage (height of water) data will be available for Bonito Lake. For the Rio Bonito at the Highway 48 bridge, only stream stage will be initially available. Stream discharge will be available after a mathematical relation between river stage (height of water) and discharge has been established. The stage-discharge relation is developed by making a series of in-stream discharge measurements at several different river stages.



Training News

EMI

The FEMA Emergency Management Institute has an informational bulletin on classes that they will be having in Emmitsburg, MD as well as online offerings.

<https://training.fema.gov/emigrams/>

When you find a course and date you are interested in, coordinate with Bill Borthwick, NMDHSEM to process the appropriate paperwork. Details about applying for EMI are available [here](#).

Potential Courses and Dates

- E172 Hazus-MH for Flood | June 20-23
- E179 Hazus-MH for Disaster Operation | September 26-29
- E190 ArcGIS for Emergency Managers | July 18-21
- E273 Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP | June 27-30 | September 12-15
- E282 Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts II | July 11-14
- E284 Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts III | August 29-September 1
- E278 NFIP CRS | April 18-21 | July 18-21 | September 19-22
- E317 Comprehensive Data Management for Hazus-MH | August 29-September 1 | September 26-29

ASFPM Updates

In this month's [News&Views](#), Steve Samuelson, ASFPM's Region 7 Director and NFIP Specialist for the Kansas Dept. of Ag, writes, "Using Increased Cost of Compliance Coverage to Elevate a Home."

Chuck Chase, NFIP Specialist & Outreach Coordinator at Nebraska DNR, shared, "Ugly is Not a Floodplain Violation," which turns out to be pretty funny and packed with great advice for floodplain managers.

ASFPM Chair Ceil Strauss asks, "What if we had a flood and the media didn't show up?" Her point being that floods ARE happening, but mitigation measures ARE working, which for the media translates into a non-story.

ASFPM's Policy Advisor Larry Larson talks about a positive partnership with the National Association of Realtors. And ASFPM's Executive Director Chad Berginnis says, "Dam I love my job!" but he doesn't love the fact that many aren't aware of the risks when they live near a dam.

The ASFPM Foundation just held a State Flood Risk Symposium in New York. Read about the ideas generated and some actionable goals that came out of the discussions.

Every wondered how the Certified Floodplain Manager program got started, and where it's headed? It's in here. Along with so, so much more. Enjoy!



The Voice – Increasing Awareness, Encouraging Mitigation Action

FEMA Region VI

FEMA Region 6 has just released the latest issue of our Mitigation News and Information resource, The Voice, and it is available on our website at [http://www.riskmap6.com/documents/resource/VOICE_March_PDF%20v1_508%20\(002\).pdf](http://www.riskmap6.com/documents/resource/VOICE_March_PDF%20v1_508%20(002).pdf)

The Voice is also being distributed in an HTML email delivery system in order to improve the experience for our subscribers. Now you can easily share specific content and stories on your own media channels.

You can sign up on RiskMAP6.com to receive future issues of The Voice upon publication release, and as always, access to past issues of The Voice are available on our website, www.riskmap6.com. We hope you'll appreciate the new format and share with others.

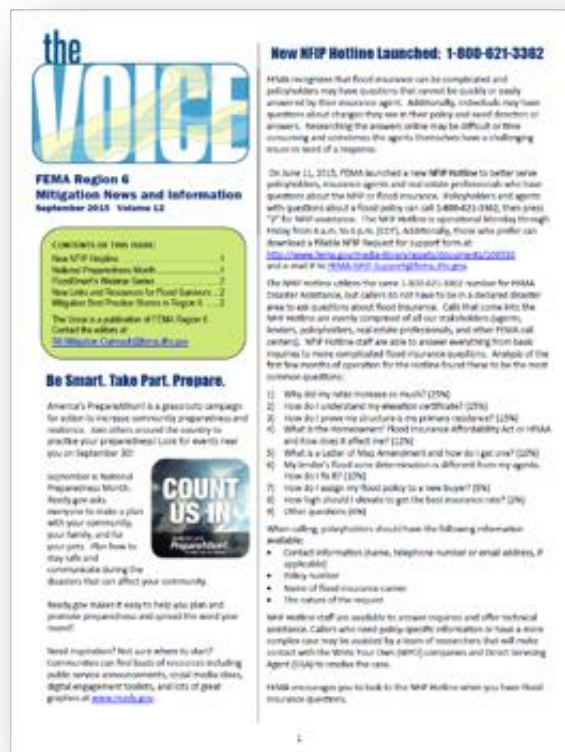
The March 2016 issue features information on how your community can participate in the High Water Mark Initiative (HWMI), a community-based awareness program that increases local awareness of flood risk and encourages actions to mitigate that risk. Last quarter we featured a story on the City of Leon Valley, Texas, and the steps they've taken to become our first HWMI community. Since then, we've developed a flyer explaining more about the program and how to get involved.

Also in this issue of The Voice, we've focused on preparing for Spring flooding. Whether you're a homeowner, agent, or local official, we encourage you to share information on understanding your local risk and the steps to take to reduce that risk. We've featured several FloodSmart tools you may want to check out.

Remember to sign up to participate in FEMA Region 6 "Virtual Brown Bag" Webinars, our online training demonstration series to help communities create useful GIS products with the flood risk products delivered during a Risk MAP study here: <https://r6virtualbrownbag.eventbrite.com>

RiskMAP6.com

"Helping communities understand a complete picture of their natural hazard risk"



FROM THE EDITOR

Michael Camponovo, CFM

(505) 277-3622

mcamponovo@edac.unm.edu

As usual I continue to be impressed with all of the work being done across New Mexico to educate people about flood related hazards by our members. A special thank you to Jeanette and Randa for their work in Curry County and all the rest of you who have been taking the floodplain simulator out to your communities.

Should you find yourself traveling on I-40 through Knoxville anytime, be sure to look me up. You just never know who will stop by.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Camponovo".

Michael Camponovo

Purpose of the NMFMA

1. *To promote public awareness of proper floodplain management;*
2. *To promote the professional status of floodplain management and secure all benefits resulting there from;*
3. *To promote a liaison between individual concerns with proper floodplain management and to encourage the exchange of ideas;*
4. *To keep individuals concerned with proper floodplain management well informed through education and professional seminars and to provide a method for dissemination of information, both general and technical;*
5. *To inform concerned individuals of pending floodplain legislation and other related management matters, and;*
6. *To study and support legislation pertinent and necessary to the effective implementation of floodplain management matters.*

Executive Board

Chair: David Turk, CFM, GISP
(505) 855-7543

dave.turk@aecom.com

1st Vice Chair: Michele Truby-Tillen, CFM

(505) 867-7651

mtruby@sjcounty.net

2nd Vice Chair: Curt Temple, CFM

(575) 258-5934 ext 1

planning@tularosa.net

Secretary: Shawn Penman, PhD, CFM

(505) 277-3622 x 227

spenman@edac.unm.edu

Treasurer: J.D. Padilla, CFM

(575) 528-3131

jdpadilla@las-cruces.org

Executive Director: Grant Pinkerton, CFM

(575) 937-1691

nmcfm@cablone.net

Regional Directors

Region 1: Nicole M. Friedt, CFM

(505) 827-5329

Nicole.Friedt@state.nm.us

Region II: Paul Dugie, CFM

(575) 525-5558

pauld@donaanacounty.org

Region III: Joe B. Barela, P.E., CFM

(505) 204-2265

joebengineering@msn.com

Region IV: Mike Czosnek, CFM

(575) 744-4892

mczosnek@socorronm.gov

Committee Chairs

Certification/Legislation

Grant Pinkerton, CFM

(575) 937-1691

nmcfm@cablone.net

Conference

Mike Czosnek, CFM

(575) 835-0240

mczosnek@socorronm.gov

Training/Education

Jim DeAngelo, CFM

(505) 206-1750

jim.deangelo@aecom.com

GIS

Eric Nemeth, CFM

(505) 855-7417

eric.nemeth@aecom.com

Newsletter Editor

Michael Camponovo, CFM

(505) 277-3622 x 228

mcamponovo@edac.unm.edu

