



Sherri LeBas, P.E.
Secretary

LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT



FACTSHEET

DEC 10

Issued quarterly by the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development Floodplain Management Section

Volume 10 - Number 4

Staff Contacts:

Cindy O'Neal, CFM
Manager and Editor-in-Chief

Susan Veillon, CFM, Editor
Pam Lightfoot Miller, CFM
Flood Insurance Program
Coordinators
[225] 274-4354

The LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT *FACTSHEET* is published through assistance provided by FEMA under the Community Assistance Program State Support Services Element of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The contents do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Federal Government.



THE LFMA FALL WORKSHOP WAS HOSTED BY JEFFERSON PARISH ON OCTOBER 22, 2010 AT LAFRENIERE PARK IN METARIE, LA.



(PICTURED ABOVE) JONATHAN SMITH WITH ISO GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF THE CRS PROGRAM THE DAY BEFORE THE LFMA WORKSHOP IN JEFFERSON PARISH ON OCTOBER 21, 2010.

LFMA
FALL
WORKSHOP
&
CRS
WORKSHOP

Inside this issue:

Floodplain Management and Endangered Species	2
Preferred Risk Policy Extension Fact Sheet for Community Officials	3
Congratulations New Communities New FEMA Technical Bulletin 4	4
EMI Training Opportunities E273 Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP field deployed to Shreveport	5
2011 ASFPM Flood Conference and the 2011 LFMA Annual Technical & Business Conference	6
Guidelines for Accessory Structures	7

Floodplain Management and Endangered Species
by Dave Hiegel, CFM
FEMA Region VI
2 September 2010



We have all heard of No Adverse Impact (NAI) as promoted by the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM); I hope you consider the concepts of NAI as you carry out your floodplain management duties. In addition to avoiding impact to people's lives and properties, you should broaden your concerns to include endangered species.

Specifically, please take note of the fact that, effective October 1, 2010, FEMA will require that applications for CLOMRs* and CLOMR-Fs must include verification of compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA). You are welcome to read more; FEMA's August 18, 2010 memo explaining details is available at:**

http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/gs_memos.shtm

The guidance information included with the above-mentioned memo gives links to several resources, such as the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I suggest that you consult with those agencies to find out what endangered species, if any, inhabit your jurisdiction. It may also be a good step to share this news with your community's Mitigation Planners and Regional Planners.

I'd like to remind you that your local Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (in keeping with the NFIP regulations, 44CFR60.3a2) requires that your floodplain development permit process assures that all other necessary permits have been received. This has been and is true with or without FEMA's new rules about processing CLOMRs and CLOMR-Fs.

As it states in the above-referenced guidance, "Private individuals and local and state jurisdictions are required to comply with the ESA independently of FEMA's process."

The story behind this story is that FEMA and several communities were sued for permitting development in floodplains that were/are habitats for endangered species. With proper due diligence, your community can stay out of the "being sued" category.

***CLOMR = Conditional Letter of Map Revision**

****CLOMR-F = Conditional Letter of Map Revision based on Fill**

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Preferred Risk Policy (PRP) Eligibility Extension

Fact Sheet for Community Officials

The Basics

Flood risks are dynamic, and change over time due to community development and natural changes to the topography. The Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) are being updated throughout the Nation to better reflect a property's flood risk. Map revisions can result in properties currently located in moderate-low risk flood areas being newly designated into high-risk flood zones.

Flood insurance policy premiums can decrease or increase significantly as a result of map changes. Some property owners will find themselves in the position where their lender will require flood insurance when they didn't before. This is the result of the Mandatory Purchase requirement, a statute whereby property owners are required to purchase flood insurance if their mortgage is federally backed or regulated and their properties are located in high-risk flood zones (zones beginning with the letters A and V).

What You Need to Know

The NFIP PRP is a low-cost policy used to insure properties at moderate-low risk of flooding. To qualify for a PRP, flood loss history criteria must also be met.

The PRP Eligibility criteria have been expanded to include properties newly mapped into a high risk area for up to two years after the map revision. This PRP Eligibility Extension was created to help ease the financial transition of property owners whose properties are newly designated as high-risk and who would have no longer qualified for the low-cost PRP under the old rules. Property owners insured under a PRP in the past lost the PRP premium (at policy renewal) as a result of their property being newly mapped into a high-risk area.

The NFIP is extending the eligibility for the PRP for two years following the effective date of a map revision that has occurred on or after January 1, 2011. Property owners newly mapped into a high risk area by a map revision that occurred on or after October 1, 2008, will also be eligible for the PRP for two years beginning with policies effective on or after January 1, 2011.

To qualify for the PRP Eligibility Extension, property owners must prove that their property is currently or was previously zoned as moderate-low flood risk (located in flood zones B, C or X).

You may be asked to provide the property owner with documentation that will assist insurers in determining a property's eligibility for the PRP extension. Points are awarded towards CRS credits for providing this service.

Acceptable Documentation

Note: You are not required to provide documentation. However, any assistance to the property owner is appreciated.

A signed and dated letter from a local community official indicating the address, flood zone, map panel and map effective date.
A copy of the current or previous (historic) FIRM indicating the exact location of the property. Property owners can be referred to FEMA's Map Service Center to view and print a "FIRMette" of these maps at www.msc.fema.gov.

An Elevation Certificate (EC), indicating the address and flood zone of the building that is signed by a certified surveyor, engineer, architect, or local community official (as indicated on the EC).

A flood zone determination that guarantees the accuracy of the information.

A Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA).

A Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

A Letter of Determination Review (LODR).

Note: For LOMAs, LOMRs, and LODRs, property owners can be referred to a FEMA Map Specialist at femamapspecialist@mapmodteam.com or at 1-877-336-2627.

CONGRATULATIONS & WELCOME

On March 17, 2010 the **Village of Choudrant** in Lincoln Parish became an official NFIP community.

On September 1, 2010 the **Town of Clarks** in Caldwell Parish became an official NFIP community.

On July 23, 2010 the **Village of Dixie Inn** in Webster Parish became an official NFIP community.

On October 6, 2010 the **Village of Sicily Island** in Catahoula Parish became an official NFIP community.

On September 16, 2010 the **Village of Simpson** in Vernon Parish became an official NFIP community.

To date Louisiana has 306 communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program.

FEMA Technical Bulletin 4

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently released Technical Bulletin #4 in November 2010 regarding "Elevator Installation for Buildings Located in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) in Accordance with the National Flood Insurance Program." This Technical Bulletin provides information on the proper installation of elevators in SFHAs to reduce flood damages. The Technical Bulletin is posted at: <http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?fromSearch=fromsearch&id=1717>

Evangeline Parish is named for the heroine of one of America's most famous poems, *Evangeline, A Tale of Acadie*. Created in 1847, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, who has been called "America's greatest popular poet", *Evangeline* became not only America's most popular heroine but also an icon for many Acadians living in Louisiana today. Almost one hundred years ago the founding fathers of Evangeline Parish responded to the popularity of Longfellow's poem by using this most recognizable of names for the new parish they would fight to establish in 1911.

Opportunities for NFIP and CRS Training

Courses at the Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, MD

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) conducts courses on floodplain management and CRS-related topics. Tuition is free for state and local government officials and travel stipends are available. Call the training office of your state emergency management agency, see <http://training.fema.gov/>, or call EMI at 1-800-238-3358 or (301) 447-1035.

Here's the schedule for EMI's week-long classes of interest. For more information on these courses, see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMICourses/EMICourse.asp>.

— **Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP (E273)** This course is designed to provide an organized training opportunity for local officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinance. The course will focus on the NFIP and concepts of floodplain management, maps and studies, ordinance administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance. Course dates are: **January 24-27, 2011, May 16-19, 2011 and August 29-September 1, 2011.**

Note: E273 is also field deployed periodically.

— **The Community Rating System (E278)** This course covers the CRS, a nationwide initiative of FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program. It describes activities eligible for credit under CRS, how a community applies, and how a community modifies an application to improve its classification. Course date is **September 26-29, 2011.**

- **Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts (E194)** February 14–17, 2011
- **Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts II (E282)** May 9–12, 2011
- **Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts III (E284)** September 19–22, 2011
- **Basic HAZUS Multi-Hazards (E313)** January 17–20, 2011; September 19–22, 2011
- **HAZUS Multi-Hazards for Flood (E172)** January 3–6, 2011; July 11–14, 2011
- **HAZUS Multi-Hazards for Risk Assessment (E296)** September 12-15, 2011
- **Residential Coastal Construction (E386)** August 15–18, 2011
- **Retrofitting Flood Prone Residential Buildings (E279)** June 27–30, 2011

Managing floodplain Development through the NFIP (E273)

is being field deployed from FEMA Region VI to the City of Shreveport on March 28-31, 2011. The CFM exam review and test will be given on Friday, April 1, 2011. The class and CFM exam will be held at the Holiday Inn at 102 Lake Street in Downtown Shreveport (318-222-7717). The Holiday Inn rooms are \$74.00 per night. Everyone should schedule their own hotel reservations. Anyone interested in taking this class can contact Susan Veillon with the state office of the NFIP at 225-274-4354 or susan.veillon@la.gov. Limited space is available.

To register for the CFM exam, go to the ASFPM web page at <http://www.floods.org>



The Premier Flood Conference

15-20 SEATS 2011 SUITE

May 15-20, 2011
Louisville, KY

Flood Risk Management:
The Winning Ticket

15-20 SEATS 2011 SUITE

May 15-20, 2011 | Louisville, KY

The Premier Flood Conference

"Flood Risk Management: The Winning Ticket".

The Association of State Floodplain Managers will convene the world's largest and most comprehensive floodplain management conference – the 35th annual gathering – the week of May 15 – 20, 2011, in Louisville, Kentucky.

REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2011 ASFPM Annual National Conference will be available in January, 2011. Please check the <http://www.floods.org> webpage for registration materials in January!

LFMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

April 27 -29th, 2011

2011 LFMA Annual Conference
Holiday Inn - Lafayette (The Holidome)
Lafayette, LA

Check the LFMA website for details as they become available . [HTTP://WWW.LFMA.ORG/CALENDAR.HTM](http://WWW.LFMA.ORG/CALENDAR.HTM)

TO BE ANNOUNCED: THE LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION WILL CONDUCT ITS SPRING WORKSHOP IN MONROE. IN JULY 2011. CHECK THE LFMA WEBSITE FOR THIS INFORMATION AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE. . <http://www.lfma.org/calendar.htm>

GUIDELINES for ACCESSORY STRUCTURES

The adoption and implementation of the following standards would satisfy NFIP objectives for construction of small accessory structures, 500 square feet or less, without elevating the floor level to BFE:

A / AE ZONES

Accessory structures shall not be used for human habitation (including working, sleeping, living, cooking, or restroom areas).

Accessory structures shall be designed to have low flood damage potential (wet flood-proofing).

Accessory structures shall be constructed and placed on the building site so as to offer the minimum resistance to the flow of floodwaters.

Accessory structures shall be firmly anchored to prevent flotation which may result in damage to other structures. This is a mandatory measure, pursuant to Section 60.3(a)(3)(i).

Service facilities such as electrical and heating equipment shall be elevated at or above the BFE or flood-proofed.

Openings to relieve hydrostatic pressure during a flood shall be provided below BFE in conformance with Section 60.3(c)(5).

V ZONES

The following standards are required to properly regulate accessory structures in addition to A Zone requirements:

Accessory structures meeting the criteria of small or low-cost, such as small metal/wooden sheds that are “disposable, must be unfinished on the interior, constructed with flood-resistant materials below the BFE and used only for storage.

Consideration must be given to the effects the debris from the building will have on adjacent buildings.

Detached garages are **not** allowed in V-Zones.

The structural system shall utilize pilings, adequately embedded to resist scour and lateral deflection. The lowest horizontal structural member of roof systems, including plates and beams connecting the upright supports of the structure, shall be placed at or above the BFE.

Any small accessory structure enclosure below the BFE shall be constructed with “breakaway walls”, such as wooden lattice or insect screening, in conformance with Section 60.3(e)(5).

Floors shall be at or very close to grade.



We wish all of you,

Merry Christmas

&

Happy New Year

Cindy, Pam and Susan



Our goal is flood loss reduction . . .

If you or someone you know would like to receive future copies of this newsletter please contact our office:

LA DOTD
Floodplain Management Section
8900 Jimmy Wedell Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70807

PHONE: 225-274-4354
FAX: 225-274-4351
E-MAIL: susan.veillon@la.gov
WEBSITE: <http://floods.dotd.la.gov>

LA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT – SECTION 64
PO BOX 94245
BATON ROUGE LA 70804-9245