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Loans Nationwide Impacted by Flood Zone Changes—Coming Out of SFHA vs. Going Into SFHA

2006: 6,767,936

In to Out—26,888

Out to In—46,235

2007: 9,573,487

In to Out—51,826

Out to In—110,817

2008: 15,716,853

In to Out—95,334

Out to In—151,252

2009: 18,177,562

In to Out—190,959

Out to In—246,156

Data source: National Flood Determination Association

Flooding—What are the Odds?

As I write this article, this month's precipitation in Reno approaches 2.14 inches, the record for the wettest October set in 1945. I, for one, am grateful that I finally had my roof replaced over the summer and we have remained warm and dry in spite of the wind, rain and hail.

But it is that very feeling of safety in your home that is violated when flood damage occurs. Surprisingly to some, flooding is one of the most common hazards in Nevada. Flood effects can be local, impacting a neighborhood or community, or very large, affecting entire river basins and multiple counties.

Some floods develop slowly, sometimes over a period of hours or days. But flash floods can develop quickly, sometimes in just a few minutes and without any visible signs of rain. Flash floods often have a dangerous wall of roaring water that carries rocks, mud, and other debris and can sweep away most things in its path. Overland flooding occurs outside a defined river or stream, such as when a levee or dam is breached.

It is important to remember that, fundamentally, floodplain

management is all about protecting lives and property. To that end, our first task as floodplain managers is to understand the nature of the flood risks within our communities so we can make wise and informed decisions about development in our communities. We must also effectively communicate those flood hazards within our communities so that our governments, businesses and individual citizens will have the information to make wise and informed decisions themselves and to understand their responsibility for protecting their own lives and property.

FEMA's Risk MAP program is a new hazard mapping initiative within FEMA to better define flood hazards and to facilitate communication of the associated risk. This issue of Nevada Floodplain Management News includes articles describing FEMA's Risk MAP program and how it differs from past FEMA flood hazard mapping.

Also in this issue are guest articles from the Clark County Regional Flood Control District and the Truckee River Flood Project Office in Reno. These articles report on what's going on in some of our Ne-

vada communities to mitigate flood hazards and improve our ability to withstand the next flood, in a manner consistent with environmental as well as public safety goals.

As we approach winter, the Western Regional Climate Center (WRCC) in Reno reports that the strongest La Nina condition in a half century is forming in the Pacific Ocean. Referring to the likelihood of flooding in the Truckee River Basin, Kelly Redmond of WRCC stated, "The odds go up 5 to 10 percent of what they usually are for having a more memorable flood event in a La Nina year than an El Nino year."

We Nevadans should understand better than most the odds associated with the so-called "100-year flood." This flood has a 1% chance of occurring each year. While the value of 1% may sound small, it translates to a 26% probability of occurring during a 30-year period, the length of the typical home mortgage. During that 30-year mortgage, you are 27 times more likely to experience a flood than have a fire—food for thought.

*Kim Groenewold, PE, CFM
Nevada Floodplain Manager*

What is Risk Map?

Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) is a new Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) program that provides communities with flood information and tools they can use to enhance their mitigation plans and better protect their citizens. Through more accurate flood maps, risk assessment tools, and outreach support, Risk MAP builds on Map Modernization and strengthens local ability to make informed decisions about reducing risk.

Vision

The vision for Risk MAP is to deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to action that reduces risk to life and property. Risk MAP builds on flood hazard data and maps produced during the Flood Map Modernization (Map Mod) program.

Goals

- **Flood Hazard Data**— Address gaps in flood hazard data to form a solid foundation for risk assessment, floodplain management, and actuarial soundness of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- **Public Awareness/ Outreach**— Ensure that a measurable increase of the public’s awareness and understanding of risk results in a measurable reduction of current and future vulnerability.
- **Hazard Mitigation Planning**— Lead and support States, local, and Tribal com-

munities to effectively engage in risk-based mitigation planning resulting in sustainable actions that reduce or eliminate risks to life and property from natural hazards.

- **Enhanced Digital Platform**— Provide an enhanced digital platform that improves management of Risk MAP, stewards information produced by Risk MAP, and improves communication and sharing of risk data and related products to all levels of government and the public.

- **Alignment and Synergies**— Align Risk Analysis programs and develop synergies to enhance decision-making capabilities through effective risk communication and management.

The Team

FEMA Headquarters and Regional offices will lead a team of contractors and stakeholder entities to deliver its Risk MAP program. The team is comprised of:

- FEMA Headquarters – responsible for overall program implementation
- FEMA Regions – manage Regional flood map production and help implement the Risk MAP outreach strategy

State, local and Tribal entities – help ensure that updated mapping information is used to make informed decisions regarding risk



The Risk MAP Lifecycle

Program Management (PM) contractor – provide general oversight for Risk MAP including integration of activities, development and implementation of a national outreach strategy, and stakeholder relations

Production and Technical Services (PTS) contractors – update flood hazard data and maps

Customer and Data Services (CDS) contractor – provide the digital platform for sharing flood mapping products and information

Flood Mapping Progress Report and Production Plan

The FY10 Flood Mapping Progress Report and Produc-

The vision for Risk Map is to deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to actions that reduces risk to life and property.

(Continued on page 3)

Hazard Mitigation Planning in Nevada

The Nevada Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (NHMPC) agreed to update the State Hazard Mitigation Plan and comply with the “Enhanced” requirements for the 2010 version of the State plan. The “Enhanced” portion is pending a national panel review. The draft of the entire State Hazard Mitigation Plan is available for review and input at

<http://www.nbmng.unr.edu/nhmmp/nhmmp.htm>. Please direct comments or questions to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer eashby@dps.state.nv.us.

Communities with Hazard Mitigation Plans in Nevada

<i>Community</i>	<i>Type of Plan</i>	<i>Date Approved</i>
Carson City	Multi-jurisdictional	November 2005
Clark County	Multi-jurisdictional	February 2007
Douglas County	Single-jurisdictional	March 2008
Elko County	Multi-jurisdictional	October 2008
Lincoln County	Multi-jurisdictional	January 2006
Nye County	Multi-jurisdictional	April 2006
Storey County	Multi-jurisdictional	December 2009
Washoe County	Multi-jurisdictional	October 2005
State of Nevada	State	October 2007

What is Risk Map? (continued)

tion Plan details FEMA’s progress in prioritizing and delivering modernized flood maps for areas of the United States with the greatest flood risk. The plan articulates a fairly significant philosophical and tactical shift in how FEMA delivers information necessary for flood risk reduction and sustainable community development. This significantly improved flood risk management approach weaves county-level flood hazard data developed in support of the NFIP into watershed-based risk assessments that serve as the foundation for

local Hazard Mitigation Plans and targeted risk communication activities.

Multi-Year Plan

FEMA has developed a Risk MAP multi-year plan spanning FY10-FY14. The plan, which was approved on March 16, 2009, outlines the program’s goals and objectives and summarizes FEMA’s approach to strategic planning and stakeholder roles and responsibilities. Using FY09 and FY10 appropriations for flood hazard mapping, FEMA is initiating flood map update projects to address gaps in required engineering and mapping for

high flood risk areas impacted by coastal flooding, levees, and other flood hazards (e.g., lakes, rivers, and ponds). Because of the focus on improving quality of flood hazard data supporting NFIP maps, flood mapping projects initiated in Risk MAP will result in targeted updates to portions of digital flood maps for jurisdictions in which flood hazard data needs to be updated, and may not include updates to all map panels contained within a county.

For more information go to www.fema.gov, and search on “Risk Map.”

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Floodplain Management Association Annual Conference



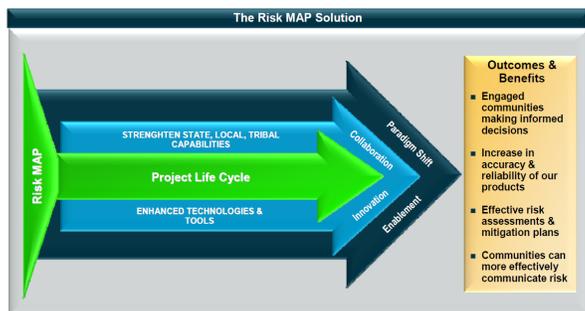
When the Shoe Doesn't Fit... Adapting to New Regulations

November 2-5, 2010, Loews Resort Henderson, Nevada

How is Risk MAP Different?

Risk MAP Solution

Building on the Risk MAP Multi-Year Plan, FEMA has developed a Risk MAP Solution to



to achieve the program's vision. The Solution introduces new strategies and products designed to achieve

the goals and objectives laid out in the vision.

Project Prioritization

Guides FEMA's investments in engineering, mapping, assessment, and planning support in order to achieve Risk MAP objectives

- Applies a quantitative approach to determine which communities FEMA will study

Elevation Data Acquisition

Improves engineering data and supports risk assessment data development

- Elevation data is essential to the accuracy and reliability of flood hazard data
- Updated digital elevation data enables better risk assessments
- Detailed, digital elevation data supports innovative risk communication products

Watershed Study Approach

Improves engineering credibility and opens the door to understanding risks in a more holistic, comprehensive way

- Encourages work across

community boundaries and a more comprehensive understanding of flooding

- Allows for a better understanding of flood hazards as a result of more comprehensive assessments of stream and tributary relationships
- Provides a framework to evaluate flood risk, engineering need, elevation data acquisition availability and gaps, and availability of community contribution by watershed

Engineering and Mapping

Identifies flood hazards, provides local floodplain management data, supports the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and provides data for risk assessments and mitigation plans for flood hazards

- Includes the scientific collection, processing, and analysis of flood hazard data to provide communities with accurate flood maps and risk assessment products
- Engineering and mapping data provide the foundation for more effective risk communications through assessments and also enable effective mitigation at the local level
- Includes significant investments in the flood mapping of areas impacted by levees and coastal flood hazard

Risk Assessment

Allows communities to make informed mitigation decisions by providing products and technologies that communicate and visualize risks

- Equips communities with the information and tools they need to develop effective

mitigation plans

- Provides communities with flood risk information through a Flood Risk Report, Flood Risk Map, and Flood Risk Database

Mitigation Planning Support

Provides technical assistance, incentivizes risk reduction activities at the local level, and develops the programmatic infrastructure to monitor community efforts

- Enables communities to assess risks and identify actions to reduce vulnerability to those risks
- Enhances collaboration with and among local stakeholders
- Provides tools to improve communities' understanding of risk and facilitate mitigation planning and local risk reduction efforts
- Incentivizes local effective mitigation planning and risk reduction activities

Risk Communications

Motivates citizens to make informed decisions regarding their risks and encourages communities to take the lead in protecting their constituents

- Enhances local capabilities to communicate effectively with constituents about risk
- Allows for an exchange of information about risk between FEMA and other stakeholders
- Provides customizable communications plans, key messages, and materials to communities
- Facilitates national and local collaboration through key partnerships

The watershed study approach improves engineering credibility and opens the door to understanding risks in a more holistic, comprehensive way.

Risk MAP Discovery and the Watershed Approach

In *Guidelines and Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping Partners (Guidelines)* FEMA defines technical requirements, product specifications for Flood Hazard Maps and related NFIP products, and associated coordination and documentation activities. When it was distributed in February 2002, the *Guidelines* combined FEMA technical, programmatic, and administrative procedure publications, guidance documents, and memorandums regarding Flood Hazard Map production. In April 2003, FEMA updated the *Guidelines* to reflect current requirements for FEMA products and processes, including changes to the processes and products associated with implementation of Flood Map Modernization (Map Mod). FEMA is now in the process of updating *Guidelines* to incorporate the programmatic goals and objectives of its Risk MAP initiative.

Discovery

One of the most significant changes being introduced into FEMA's flood risk mapping process as a result of Risk MAP is the concept of *Discovery activities* prior to initiation of a FEMA flood risk study.

Discovery will be required for all new and updated flood risk projects. Discovery will be used for determining whether a flood risk project is appropriate and will provide visibility to stakeholders as FEMA and

FEMA's Cooperating Technical Partners (CTPs) initiate flood risk and mitigation discussions and deliver flood risk information. Discovery is completed under a different task order than a flood risk project and occurs before any kind of flood risk project is initiated or project scoping decisions are made, before funds are committed or obligated via grants or contracts, and before a flood risk project is contracted. Consequently, after Discovery is completed, it may be decided that a project is not appropriate in that watershed for that year.

Watershed Approach

Discovery will occur on a *Hydrologic Unit Code-8 (HUC-8)*¹ watershed basis in accordance with the watershed approach in order to represent the impacts of floods in a natural flow regime rather than in relation to political boundaries. Discovery at a watershed level means that all stakeholders within the watershed are involved.

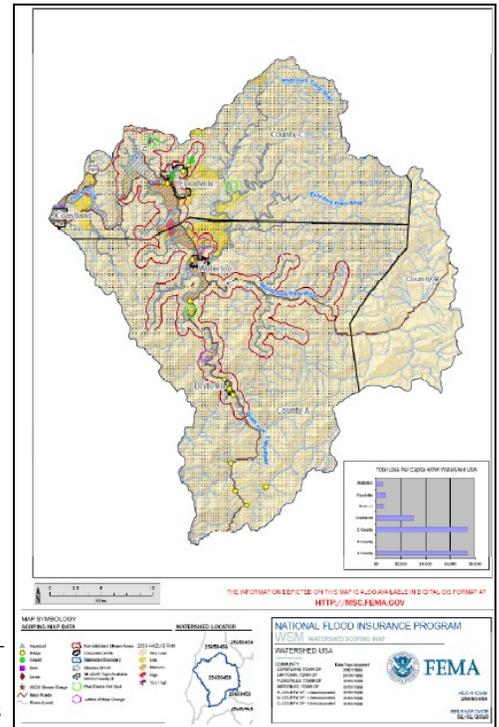
¹ *Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) - Hydrologic unit codes are a way of identifying all of the drainage basins in the United States in a nested arrangement from largest (Regions) to smallest (Cataloging Units). The term watershed is often used in place of drainage basin. HUC-8 is the 8-digit Hydrological Unit Code representing the smallest watersheds known as hydrologic cataloging units. A listing of all hydrologic cataloging units and corresponding HUC-8 codes may be found on the*

U.S. Geological Survey website at: <http://water.usgs.gov/GIS/huc.html>

Appendix I: Discovery

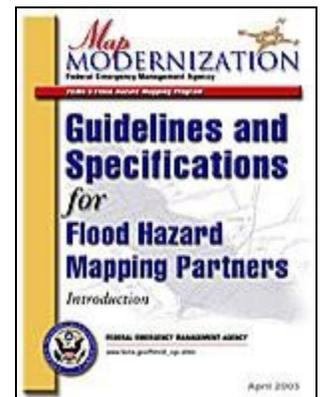
The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has developed a revised draft for *Appendix I: Discovery of FEMA's Guidelines and Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping Partners*. This Appendix will replace the previously-issued *Appendix I* that contained the Project Scoping Toolbox and the guidance for Scoping and Pre-Scoping activities. Discovery describes the process to be applied by FEMA Regions, Cooperating Technical Partners, and other Mapping Partners in performing Discovery activities in a watershed of interest that may lead to a flood risk project being initiated.

The revised document will be available for public review and comment through **November 22, 2010**. Written comments and suggestions may be submitted to FEMA by e-mailing: guidancecomments@starr-team.com or may be mailed or faxed to the number below. Send all correspondence to **PBS&J, 12101 Indian Creek Court, Beltsville, MD 20705, Fax: 301.210.5156, Attention: Jen Marcy.**



Discovery Map of watershed study area.

Discovery will occur on a HUC-8 watershed basis in accordance with the watershed approach . . .



Stormwater Quality Solutions in Arid Las Vegas Valley

By Andrew Trelease, Clark County Regional Flood Control District



Upper Las Vegas Wash

As part of the Federal Clean Water Act (1972), many medium to large communities across the country are required to obtain National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit coverage for their stormwater discharges into waters of the United

States. The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) is responsible for issuing Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits in qualifying Nevada communities. On February 9, 2010 NDEP issued a new MS4 permit to entities in the Las Vegas Valley to allow discharges into Lake Mead, the Las Vegas Wash and its tributaries. One of the new permit requirements is to design and implement a New Development and Significant Redevelopment (NDSR) program to address runoff from areas of urban growth. However, Clark County MS4 permittees are finding it difficult to build a sensible program using Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approaches which include heavy emphasis on development level controls that capture site runoff and dissipate it through infiltration.

Historically, local on-site

infiltration and retention basins have been discouraged in the Las Vegas Valley due to poor soils which will not allow seepage into the aquifer. Instead, the Valley has adopted a regional approach to flood risk reduction, which includes building dozens of large detention basins typically serving several square miles rather than hundreds of smaller basins serving single lots or sub-divisions. These regional basins contain low-flow outlets to downstream conveyance facilities, and do not rely on infiltration to drain. Valley permittees are considering retrofits to these existing regional detention basins to increase their ability to trap pollutants.

Across the country another common NDSR program approach is to use vegetated channels to provide natural filtration for stormwater flows. However, due to severe drought conditions in the western U.S., coupled with an average annual rainfall of only 4.2 inches in the Las Vegas Valley, vegetation will rarely survive on its own, and using municipal water supplies for irrigation is discouraged.

While the unique nature of the Las Vegas Valley makes it difficult to implement a sustainable stormwater quality program using “standard”

program elements, other unique arid region factors contribute towards an effective program. For example, with a historic average of only 11 days per year of substantial rainfall (greater than 0.1 inch), the municipal street sweeping program is very effective in removing pollutants before they can be washed into the storm drains. Also, watering restrictions and turf reduction programs implemented in the Las Vegas Valley have led to a significant decrease in residential lawns, thus reducing the amount of fertilizers used by residents.

The Las Vegas Valley permittees are currently in the development stage of the revamped stormwater quality program which is expected to begin implementation in summer 2011. The permittees are continuing to work with NDEP to develop a stormwater quality program that makes sense for an arid climate. Program developers believe the long term success hinges on tailoring the program to the specific characteristics of a desert environment, rather than using conventional elements from national programs which may be ineffective and costly in extreme environments such as Las Vegas.

While the unique nature of the Las Vegas Valley makes it difficult to implement a sustainable stormwater quality program using “standard” program elements, other unique arid region factors contribute towards an effective program.

PRP Flood Insurance Eligibility Extended

This summer the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) introduced a new flood insurance rating option for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to help reduce the financial burden placed on property owners whose buildings are newly mapped into a high-risk flood area. If a building in a moderate-to-low risk flood zone (Zones B, C, or X) was newly mapped into a high-risk Special Flood Hazard Area (in Nevada, Zones A, AE, AO or AH) and was secured with a federally regulated or insured loan, lenders require flood insurance. While the property owner may have been able to buy a lower-cost Preferred Risk Policy (PRP) before the new flood maps became effective, any policy purchased after the map revision would have to be rated at more expensive standard-rates. Recognizing the financial burden this places on affected property owners and that updating flood maps is continuing with FEMA's new Risk MAP effort, FEMA is extending the eligibility of writing the lower-cost PRP for two years after a revised flood map's effective date.

Buildings that have been newly mapped into high-risk flood zones due to a map revision on or after October 1, 2008 and before January 1, 2011, are eligible for a PRP for two policy years effective between January 1, 2011, and December 31, 2012. Buildings that are newly mapped into a high-risk flood zone due to a map revision on or after January 1, 2011, are eligible for a lower-cost PRP for two policy years from the map revision date. At the end of the two year period, policies on these buildings must be written as standard-rated policies; however, there are additional rating options available, which could result in additional savings (e.g., grandfathering, elevation rating, higher deductible).

For more information and details on the PRP two-year extension, go to the FloodSmart website at www.floodsmart.gov or call the NFIP Help Center at 1-800-427-4661.



The number of Certified Floodplain Managers continues to grow in Nevada. The following lists where our Nevada CFMs are located.

Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Program

The role of the nation's floodplain managers is ever expanding due to increases in disaster losses, the emphasis being placed upon mitigation to alleviate the cycle of damage-rebuild-damage, and a recognized need for professionals to adequately address these issues. Floodplain managers come from a variety of curricula and backgrounds; there is no college-level degree program for floodplain management.



The Association of State Floodplain Managers CFM Program for professional certification of floodplain managers seeks to promote wise use of

the nation's floodplains, help reduce the nation's flood losses, and protect and enhance the natural resources and functions of floodplains. The program recognizes continuing education and professional development that enhance the knowledge and performance of local, state, federal, and private-sector floodplain managers.

The benefits to individuals that maintain CFM certification include:

- CFMs have confidence in their level of knowledge of floodplain management,
- Earning the CFM designation

tells others that your professional capabilities have been recognized by a national program,

- Certification is a strong motivation to continue education and it can help you meet qualifications in the job market.

An initial CFM designation will be valid indefinitely, provided that the applicant complies with the biennial (every two years) renewal requirements which include continuing education credits and submittal of a renewal application and fee.

For more information on the CFM program, go to the ASFPM website at www.floods.org.

Boulder City	3
Caliente	1
Carson City	2
Fernley	1
Gardnerville	1
Hawthorne	1
Henderson	20
Las Vegas	25
Minden	3
North Las Vegas	3
Overton	1
Reno	14
Sparks	4
Washoe Valley	3



Truckee River Flood Management Project

By Mimi Fujii-Strickler, Truckee River Flood Project Office

Every 5-10 years, the Truckee River overflows its banks, causing great damage to residents, businesses and infrastructure. In the 1997 New Year's Day Flood, damages exceeded \$1 billion across 6 counties, with \$700 million in Washoe County alone. Damages from a similar flood in the future are expected to top \$2 billion in Washoe County.

After the 1997 Flood, a group of community members embarked on a mission to create a cohesive, long-range solution to the devastating flooding in our area. They called themselves the Community Coalition and they created the goals for the Truckee River Flood Project:

1. Reduce flood damages and deaths from a 1997-type flood (117-year event);
2. Restore 50 miles of the Truckee River from Reno to Pyramid Lake and provide fish passage;
3. Enhance recreation and open space amenities in the Truckee Meadows.

At an estimated \$1.5 billion, the Flood Project is the largest public works project ever undertaken in northern Nevada, combining flood control, ecosystem restoration, and recreation together in one visionary, integrated effort. The Army Corps of Engineers is expected to contribute approximately 2/3 of the project cost (~\$1 billion) with the local community contributing about \$500 million. The Flood Project is funded by a 1/8 cent sales tax initiated in 1998. The sales tax has been estimated to raise \$100 million in bond proceeds for the project. Additional revenues are needed to complete the local share of \$500 million.

The FPCC has done much to advance the project, creating hundreds of new jobs along the way:

- Acquired 13 properties (140 acres) along the river valued at over \$50 million
- Initiated the Truckee River Action (TRAction) program and constructed 4 early start projects:
 - Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Levee and Floodwall
 - 102 Ranch Ecosystem Restoration
 - Lockwood Ecosystem Restoration
 - Lower Mustang Ranch Ecosystem Restoration
- Completed feasibility or design for 3 additional TRAction projects:
 - Virginia Street Bridge replacement
 - North Truckee Drain relocation
 - Hidden Valley Home Elevation program
- Upgraded and took over management of the regional flood warning system
- Worked with the Nevada Legislature to pass 3 new laws to help the Flood Project:
 - AB 5 – Authorization of about \$5 million in funding for ecosystem restoration
 - AB 54 – Authorization to implement home elevation and flood-proofing program
 - SB 175 – Authorization to create a Joint Powers Authority, enact fees, use County Bond Bank
- Obtained \$25 million in grant funding for the project

At an estimated \$1.5 billion, the Flood Project is the largest public works project ever undertaken in northern Nevada, . . .



Example of a home elevation project in Tehama, California

(Continued on page 9)



ASFPM
The Premier Flood Conference

15-20 SEATS 2011 SUITE

May 15-20, 2011
Louisville, KY

Flood Risk Management:
The Winning Ticket

The Premier Flood Conference

15-20 SEATS 2011 SUITE

May 15-20, 2011 | Louisville, KY

Truckee River Flood Management Project (continued)

Where are we now?

The federal Flood Project plan is now being finalized with an expected completion date of 2012. The Corps and Congress must approve the plan before federal funding for construction can be appropriated.

In order to raise additional funding and make our match for the federal project, a Joint Powers Authority is being considered. The city of Sparks has already enacted fees to help fund the Flood Project, with businesses and residents all paying their share. Now Washoe County and Reno residents are businesses are expected to chip in.

The new JPA will also consolidate flood management activities and provide a unified voice for the project. It will provide a stable base for operating and maintaining the project, streamline administration, and reduce costs by reducing the size of the board and eliminating duplicative approval processes.

The text of the JPA agreement has been drafted and the FPCC is now considering it. Final approval is anticipated in early 2011. Many public outreach events, including a town hall, public workshops and stakeholder meetings have been held in the last few months. More are expected. It is important for the whole community to rally behind the flood project if we are to compete for scarce federal funds and “get ‘er done.”

What's next?

The formation of the Joint Powers Authority is the essential next step. It moves us closer to having the means to create jobs and to design and construct more of the 50 elements encompassed by this project. Upcoming projects include:

- Restoration of the river at the Tracy Power Plant area,
- Design and construction of the Living River Parkway in the Mill and McCarran area, and
- Construction of the North Truckee Drain.

Interested community members are always welcome to join in the Flood Project discussion and should contact us at www.truckeefflood.us or 775-850-7460.

It is important for the whole community to rally behind the flood project if we are to compete for scarce federal funds and “get ‘er done.”



NDWR

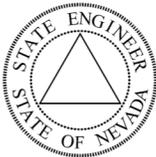
NEVADA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT NEWS

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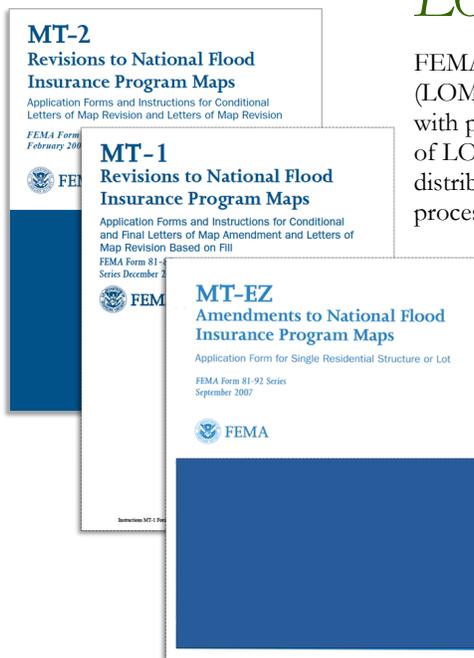


Nevada Floodplain Management News is a publication of the Nevada Floodplain Management Program.

The Nevada Floodplain Management Program was established in the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Water Planning by the 1997 Nevada State Legislature after the need for a statewide flood management program became apparent when damages from the 1997 New Years Flood on the Truckee River were assessed.

In the Spring of 2001 the Nevada Floodplain Management Program was transferred within the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and was later confirmed by Governor's Executive Order, dated April 10, 2003, to its current residence within the Division of Water Resources under the direction of the Nevada State Engineer.

LOMC Clearinghouse



FEMA's Customer and Data Services (CDS) has launched the Letters of Map Change (LOMC) Clearinghouse, which will centralize the administrative functions associated with processing MT-EZ, MT-1 and MT-2 requests. Specific activities include creation of LOMC case files, upload and scanning of data, processing of associated fees, and distribution to the appropriate Production and Technical Services (PTS) firm for processing.

As a result, there is a new mailing address. Beginning immediately, requestors should mail their applications and supporting data to:

LOMC Clearinghouse
7390 Coca Cola Drive
Suite 204
Hanover, MD 21076
Attn: LOMC Manager

For more information about the LOMC Clearinghouse, please contact FEMA Map Information eXchange at **1-877-FEMA MAP** (1-877-336-2627) or e-mail FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com