

The BFE*

* BASE FLOOD ELEVATION

2023 Annual Conference Update

Brandon Claborn PE, CFM - OFMA Conference Co-Chair

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The 2023 conference at the River Spirit Resort and Casino, Tulsa, was a resounding success. Thanks to everyone who worked hard to make it happen; the OFMA Board, speakers, sponsors, and attendees all play a crucial role in having a successful conference. I hope the educational content was valuable and everyone enjoyed the networking opportunities. This conference set a record with 270 attendees!

The conference began with a welcome from Bobby Howard, who serves as the Emergency Management Director for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and included a performance of the National Anthem in the Creek language and a color guard presentation. Dr. Daniel Kaniewski, Managing Director at Marsh McLennan and the visionary behind FEMA's pivotal disaster resilience programs, shared about the challenge of flood resilience in Oklahoma. We wrapped up the first morning with a panel discussion on the current state and future of floodplain management in Oklahoma, led by our current Vice-Chair Annie Vest, FNI, followed by a presentation on mitigating historic flooding at the River Spirit Casino. Back by popular demand, we had another panel discussion on various topics concerning the "Current and Future State of Floodplain Management" in the state of Oklahoma. Thanks to Annie for moderating as well as the CFM's joining me on the panel: Ellen Stevens, Rachael Cooper, Tom Leatherbee and Kenny Schwab.

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Words from the Chair

Annie Vest CFM | Mitigation and Disaster Planning Lead | Freese and Nichols

Annie is the Mitigation and Disaster Planning Lead at Freese and Nichols, and the Vice President of the National Hazard Mitigation Association. She currently serves as a Subject Matter Expert to the Department of Homeland Security CISA, Resilient Investment Planning, and Development Working Group. Annie is the former State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) for Oklahoma. She has extensive, real-world experience in hazard mitigation, pre and post-disaster, and emergency management. As SHMO, Annie was directly responsible for \$130 million in Federal Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) funds and the review and approval of Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. In 2016 she received the FEMA Region VI Regional Administrators Award for streamlining Hazard Mitigation and Hazard Mitigation Planning throughout FEMA Region VI.

Happy holidays to all our OFMA members! It's hard to believe how fast this year has gone, and as we near the end, I'm excited for what the new year brings. There's always something refreshing about starting anew – new beginnings, new chances. To me it seems 2023 happened in the blink of an eye, and here we are, contemplating resolutions again. As I write this in my role as the OFMA Chair, it feels somewhat surreal. It doesn't seem long ago that I was a young planner working for Ron Flanagan, and now, here I am. Realizing how quickly the past years have passed, I'm reminded time is fleeting. Personally, I prefer to take things one day at a time rather than setting resolutions. When I think of resolutions, I often think of the challenges, but perhaps it's more about embracing these changes and preparing for the future.

When I think about OFMA, I see several changes ahead that we must prepare for now while we have time. We've welcomed new board members and are seeking ways to integrate stormwater management more effectively into our organization. We're witnessing changes in familiar faces, with some retiring and new professionals joining. Our field is evolving rapidly with technological advancements, and we're facing increasing challenges with disasters and flood losses. All these things require us to evaluate the impact on OFMA organizationally. We need to learn

from the past and grow forward into the future.

Looking back at my own start with OFMA, I'll never forget working for Ron Flanagan and him bringing me to a Floodplain 101 class in Norman back in 2012 followed by lunch with Ken Morris and Gavin Brady. I appreciate how these early moments as a young fly on the wall shaped my career. The opportunity to learn from individuals like Ron Flanagan, Janet Meshek, Ann Patton, Paul Zachary, Tim Lovell, and Albert Ashwood and many others throughout the years has been remarkable. Listening and learning from Ron's discussions at his breakroom table, such as those with Charles Hardt, Tulsa's former Public Works Director, about the city's flood history, were more important than I realized at the time.

The 2023 fall conference, themed "Sharing the Challenge of Flood and Stormwater Management," showcased the collaborative spirit of our organization. I hope those who attended found it insightful and growth oriented. The record turnout was a highlight. I encourage you all to seek out and learn from professionals across various fields. The unique perspectives and lessons learned from such interactions can lead to truly innovative and practical solutions.

Our recent strategic planning retreat in Tulsa ignited a wealth of creative ideas, particularly

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around attracting new members and young professionals, and re-engaging our membership. We plan to boost engagement through our committees and regional representatives. If you're thinking about a role on the board, I'm more than happy to share the experiences and the connections I've made in this position.

As the year comes to an end, I remain hopeful that my time as Chair will inspire you to explore new ways to engage with OFMA. Consider this an open invitation to reach out for advice or just to connect. I'm always here to talk. Finally, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your OFMA chair.

Looking forward to the next time I see you all again.

Wishing you all safety, wellness, and a joyful holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Annie Vest, CFM

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Monday afternoon included fifteen different presentations in three tracts on topics including Transportation Funding, BRIC funding, Innovative Solutions for Funding Dam Safety Programs, Flood Decision Support Toolbox, BCA for Flood Mitigation Customized Approach, Holistic Stormwater Management, Urban and Suburban Floodplain Issues, H&H Case Studies in Norman, the City of Tulsa's Tupelo Creek project, Oklahoma County Triple X Road Relocation and Bank Stabilization project.

Monday evening included a gathering for new OFMA members, followed by the always popular Monday Night Vendor Social. Meshek sponsored a cornhole tournament and adult beverages, while OFMA provided a catered buffet-style meal at Jimmy Buffet's Margaritaville.

Tuesday brought an early morning discussion of OFMA Legislative and Policy issues over coffee led by Tom Leatherbee and followed by committee and regional representative meetings.

Our 2024-2025 Regional Representatives are:

- Region 1 — Mike Kimbro PE, CFM, ODOT
- Region 2 — Patrick Wilson PE, CFM, City of Broken Arrow
- Region 3 — Dennis Yochum, LeFlore County
- Region 4 — Johnny Barron, City of Altus
- Region 5 — Travis Small PE, CFM, City of Stillwater

We continued with plenary sessions, including a FEMA Region VI update and ASFPD Policy Discussion led by Chad Berginnis – Executive Director of ASFPD. It was an honor to have Chad join us at the conference this year. We had another round of breakout sessions before lunch: Innovative Approaches to Inform Design Decisions, Reintroducing the Community Rating System, and the Challenge of Trust in Floodplain Data Broken. Our annual business meeting was conducted during lunch. Lincoln Irvine called the meeting to order as OFMA chair and announced that Annie Vest would take over as OFMA chair, and Jessie Beck was elected as the Vice-Chair. Monica Cardin will fill in as past chair, and we wish Lincoln Irvine all the best in his new position in Utah.

Our education sessions continued through the afternoon with six different presentations highlighting successful flood mitigation projects, FEMA's BRIC program Dam Safety, development related issues, and LOMR request tips from a FEMA reviewer's perspective.

Freese & Nichols, Inc. hosted our second-ever Young Professionals social at the end of the day.

Tuesday evening was our annual awards banquet, which I was honored to emcee. The awards given by OFMA are critical to the growth and recognition of our members and others providing, leadership and support to issues critical to our success. Here's a list of those recognized at the banquet:

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Calendar Contest Winners

1st Place – Reagan Stamile – School of St Mary
2nd Place – Levi McReynolds – Pond Creek-Hunter
3rd Place – Hannah Armbrister – Roosa Elementary
Honorable Mention – Anny Jiron Mention – ASTEC Elementary

Scholarship Winners

Brooklyn Scott
Okmulgee High School

Reagan Cardin
Choctaw High School

Silver Scoop Award

Bobby Howard
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Special Recognition Award

Michael Hawkins, CFM
City of Lawton

Outstanding Recognition Award

Morgan Lozoya, PE
Meshek & Associates, LLC

Stormwater Innovator Award

Raymond Melton
City of Oklahoma City

Vernon Seamon
INCOG

R.D Flanagan Gold Project Award

City of Broken Arrow
Natural Rehabilitation of Stormwater Detention Park on Florence 2nd Subdivision

R.D Flanagan Platinum Project Award

Oklahoma City Water Utilities Trust
Oklahoma Conservation Commission
Oklahoma Water Resources Board
Atoka Reservoir Dam Rehabilitation

FEMA Region VI and USGS

Base Level Engineering Tools and Resources

Chairman's Award

Michael Kimbro, P.E.
Oklahoma Department of Transportation

Shanene Thomas
FEMA Region VI

Ben Frizzel Media Award

Mike Grogan
Fox23 Weather, Tulsa

Excellence in Hazard Mitigation

Annie Vest, CFM
Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Leatherbee – Robinson Award for Education/ Outreach

Brock Long
Hagerty Consulting

Charles Don Ellison Award

Brandon Claborn PE, CFM
Meshek & Associates, LLC

Public Official of the Year

Principal Chief David Hill
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Floodplain Manager of the Year Award

Rachael Cooper PE, CFM
Wagoner County

Wednesday began with an engaging presentation by Brock Long of Hagerty Consulting, who shared his experiences working as the FEMA Administrator in Washington, D.C., for the Trump Administration. Dr. Jason Vogel shared his thoughts and experiences on the Nexus of Stormwater and Floodplain Management. Our final session included a panel of industry experts sharing Oklahoma's water planning challenges.

Thanks again to all who participated. We look forward to seeing you in Durant in 2024. If you have suggestions that can help make our conference better, please share them with me. bclaborn@meshekengr.com



Kenneth Schwab, PE, SE, CFM | Assistant City Manager
City of Broken Arrow



Stormwater Management: Please Define The Meaning

We had a great annual conference in September, followed by an excellent Post-Conference Board meeting and the annual Board Retreat in late October. Without question, stormwater, and more specifically, stormwater management, was a major topic of discussion. One of the biggest takeaways from the conference was that the Board needed to define stormwater management better or, at a bare minimum, clarify its intent. In today's society, the moment one mentions stormwater management, the overwhelming majority of people think stormwater quality. While stormwater quality is one aspect of the overarching concept of stormwater management, it is not the sole component. In fact, in most of our daily jobs in this profession of floodplain and stormwater, stormwater quality probably is a very small fraction of the job; yet, it is a part of the overall effort. So, with that said, I wanted to take an opportunity to help define what the Board has embraced and, at a minimum, hopefully help clarify its intent.

Straight up, floodplain management is the core of this organization. It always will be the core. Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association (OFMA) was established to promote measures to save lives and reduce property damages with respect to flooding. The organization will never stray from that mission. But in conjunction with that mission, there is so much more that we already embrace and that we can continue to expand upon and enhance that is truly stormwater management. This is the effort and focus the Board wants to incorporate into its purpose and mission. So, what is the Board's definition or meaning of stormwater management?

Well, first you must examine the professional makeup of our organization to help answer the question. We have stormwater professionals who work in the public sector as well as the private sector. Within the public sector, we have federal, state, and local government professionals. Each level of level of government truly has a different mission and purpose. On the federal level, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), United States Geological Survey (USGS), and United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), to name a few, these agencies are generally focused upon the establishment of the programs for stormwater or floodplain management, the rules governing these programs, and the grant funding that may exist. Entities like the USACE are obviously directly involved with the function and operations of the federally jurisdictional waterways and dams, like the Arkansas River and Keystone Dam, for example. Without a doubt, they have many other responsibilities and obligations, but in general, they fit in or alongside the categories identified.

At the state level, agencies like the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB), Oklahoma Emergency Management Agency (OEMA), and Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) are focused on establishing and implementing state regulations and code requirements directly associated with certain federal programs that have been distributed to the state, as well as state programs enact at the state level. In addition, they provide enforcement of the programs but also assistance to local governments. Some of these programs regarding stormwater and floodplain management include the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the state Comprehensive Water Plan, which incorporates the state Flood Plan. Likewise, the Oklahoma Conservation Commission (OCC) oversees a Flood Control Program geared toward building small flood control dams on tributaries upstream from rivers or large streams to serve as regional detention facilities and reduce downstream flooding effects. Of course, the Department of Environmental Quality also oversees stormwater management, but its purview of authority is generally with respect to the quality of the stormwater.

County governments have varying degrees of stormwater management, but most of their authority deals with the local stormwater aspects directly associated with its public roadway networks. Many have floodplain management aspects as well.

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However, at the local government level, say a municipality like a city or a town, stormwater management extends well beyond the regulatory floodplain. In a local government, stormwater management can include a host of activities, such as: planning of municipality-wide stormwater management efforts; review of public and private developments specializing on the stormwater and floodplain aspects; municipal capital improvement programs for both stormwater related issues and flood control matters; stormwater code enforcement efforts; illicit discharge investigations; construction inspections specifically regarding runoff, erosion, and sediment control associated with construction activities in direct compliance with the state General Permit OKR10; stormwater convey system mapping, monitoring, repairs, and performance oversight; permit efforts associated with earth modification activities, site drainage, and floodplain protection; coordination of environmental constraints and restrictions specifically with federal Clean Water Act, Sections 402 and 404; hazard mitigation efforts directly associated with stormwater and floodplain infrastructure; Community Rating System (CRS) oversight; National Flood Insurance Program oversight; floodplain management; oversight of the best practices requirements regulated through the state General Permit OKR04 for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System; oversight of the requirements for industrial stormwater activities as regulated through the state General Permit OKR05 for Industrial Stormwater requirements; stormwater utility fee program management; fee-in-lieu-of on-site detention program requirements; and above all, interactions with the municipality's administration and governing bodies couples with addressing the public concerns with most generally stormwater related issues.

I know some people refer to all aspects of runoff as floodplain management because it incorporates all of the various aspects of non-regulatory and regulatory floodplains. And it is. Other people just consider the runoff effects outside of the regulatory floodplain as local drainage. And they're right as well. But, in my opinion, all effort associated with runoff outside of the regulatory floodplain is significantly better defined and much easier to communicate to the public, who most likely is not as well-versed in these matters as the stormwater professional, as simply stormwater management.

For me, this is the concept that the Board voted to embrace more fully, with a specific focus on enhancing and expanding the organization's sphere of influence within the state of Oklahoma. The Board wants the organization to be the "one-stop-shop," if you will, for all things stormwater. The Board wants the organization to present a united voice on all stormwater matters within our state. Again, for me, this makes perfect sense. Above all, I hope this helps clarify the discussions at the conference and provides some background on what the Board has investigated and considered over the past year.



FEMA Region VI Engages Rural Communities Receiving New Digital Flood Maps

Dustin Busse, Communications and Outreach | Risk Analysis Branch | Mitigation Division | FEMA – Region VI

Recently, FEMA Region VI kicked off its first Base Level Engineering to Flood Insurance Rate Map (BLE-to-FIRM) mapping coordination meetings in rural communities of Texas and Oklahoma. The BLE-to-FIRM meetings transform how new flood risk information based on BLE data is shared. They are part of FEMA's Paper Inventory Reduction (PIR) studies. These meetings inform communities that only have paper flood maps, or no maps at all, that they are about to receive new digital flood maps. Communities with the most current flood risk data can make more informed decisions, leading to a more resilient community.

During the B2F meetings, FEMA showed the capabilities of the Estimated Base Flood Elevation Viewer and the BLE-to-FIRM Viewer. Both tools supply community-specific flood risk data. These interactive meetings bridge the gap between locally observed flooding, what is currently on the paper map, and what areas the new BLE data identifies as at risk of flooding. Afterward, local officials felt more informed about the project's timeline, early adoption of BLE data and its uses and next steps.

After each meeting, FEMA conducted two surveys. The first survey was the Risk MAP Pilot Customer Experience survey. This gauged the effectiveness of the BLE-to-FIRM mapping coordination meeting. The second asked local officials about the effectiveness of the PIR Toolkit materials – a compilation of helpful resources that describe, in plain language, what BLE is and how it can be used and adopted early. FEMA will use the survey results to refine outreach materials and improve Risk MAP meetings.



Photo Caption: Local officials attend a BLE-to-FIRM meeting in Pushmataha County, Oklahoma.

To learn more about BLE, visit Region VI's BLE Resource Library on FEMA.gov. You can also reach out to Dustin Busse at dustin.busse@fema.dhs.gov.

FEMA's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)

FEMA has released a new notice regarding FEMA's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) that will impact projects funded by FEMA programs.

The requirements of this rule would apply to grants for projects funding the new construction, substantial improvement, or repair of substantial damage under FEMA programs such as Individual Assistance (IA), Public Assistance (PA), Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) programs, and grants processed by FEMA's Grants Programs Directorate (GPD) (involving grants for preparedness activities).

The proposed [regulation](#) and companion [policy](#) may be viewed at the imbedded links.

2024 SAVE THE DATES

2024 Spring Technical Workshop

April 9, 2024

River Spirit Casino Tulsa
8330 Riverside Pkwy
Tulsa, OK 74137

2024 Stormwater Quality Technical Workshop

July 17, 2024

Gaillardia Country Club
5300 Gaillardia Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73142

2024 OFMA Annual Conference

September 15-18, 2024

Choctaw Casino Resort - Durant
4216 S. Hwy 69/75
Durant, OK 74701

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OFMA has historically produced great conferences for an organization of its size, and this year's Spring Technical Workshop continued to raise the bar. The theme this year was "The Digital Age of Flood and Stormwater Management," and the workshop was held at the Hard Rock Casino Hotel & Resort in Catoosa on April 11, 2023. After the welcome, invocation, and National Anthem, Jon Phillips, State NFIP Coordinator, started us off with an update on the Oklahoma State Flood Plan, upcoming training opportunities, and current issues facing the state. Kim Jenson, Interim State Hazard Mitigation Officer with ODEMHS, provided an update from Emergency Management, and OFMA's Chair, Lincoln Irvine, shared OFMA's current issues and goals.

The morning plenary session jumped right into the conference theme. Chris Hill and I presented the Evolution of Technology in Floodplain Management, recapping the technology changes in the last 50 years of the NFIP program and took some guesses at future technological impacts, including machine learning and artificial intelligence. For our more experienced members, it brought back fond memories of light

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Words from the Chair

Lincoln Irvine PE, CFM | OFMA Chair



Volunteering for the Midwest City's Earth Day was a great opportunity for me to meet new people and discuss concerns and problems with the floodplain. It was also good for me to think through how to communicate with local community members about significant flooding topics. One of my favorite parts of the flood model was the detention scenario. It was interesting to me to describe to others at the event how detention works in a straightforward way. After slowly pouring the pitcher of water into the miniature detention pond with its small orifice, the flow was significantly reduced. The observers were amazed by the fact that the detention pond had reduced almost all the flooding impacts. I thought after my fifth or so flood trial that a regional detention basin would be very effective whenever it comes to controlling flooding impacts.

I was very impressed with all the experiences people had with flooding. I was amazed when one spectator told me that her trailer was flooded and that her home was permanently relocated downstream. One homeowner told me of his story of living through a 60-inch rain event in the city of Houston. I thought to myself, "Wow! These people should be a part of OFMA." People with firsthand flooding experience are highly motivated and, in my mind, considered to be experts at dealing with flooding problems. After all the related flood experiences, I resorted to my standard answers when asked the difficult questions about what to do about future flood problems. The best answer I could come up with was, Have you considered buying flood insurance? Or have you ever considered moving out of the floodplain? Overall, the event was a success.

Carrie Evenson wrote the following about the event: Public events, like our First Annual Earth Day Festival here in

Midwest City, are great opportunities to meet with local residents in a fun, light-hearted atmosphere while educating them on the importance of water in their daily lives. We don't get many opportunities to meet with people in a completely nonregulatory way to discuss flooding and water quality like we did on Saturday. I think these events are invaluable for that reason alone. With these events, you know people are really interested and paying attention when they stay and ask questions. Every time I looked in on your table, you were surrounded by people asking questions.

The other thing events like this do is allow us to highlight the work being done across the city by our Public Works. Often, the extraordinary work done by these individuals goes unseen because the systems they keep functioning are underground. Public events give our employees a chance to interact with the public and highlight the things they do on a daily basis to keep our municipality functioning.

I think any event with the public, whether it's a festival, Touch-a-Truck event, or community meeting, are good events for OFMA members to attend and provide information. The membership may just need a reminder that OFMA has a couple of flood models that are available for them to borrow and use.

We really appreciate OFMA's participation in Midwest City's event and you spending a freezing morning outside talking to our residents about flooding! We are planning the next one for April 20, 2024, if OFMA is interested in participating again.

I encourage all of you to take opportunities to share your expertise and experience. By sharing the experiences, we become stronger experts in our field.

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tables and planimeters and concerns about keeping up with the pace of change in technology. Our younger members laughed at the technologies they never heard of and were excited at the potential future applications of technology. Will Lehman, an economist with USACE's Hydrologic Engineering Center, shared insights from FEMA's Future of Flood Risk Data Initiative (FFRD). One of the big takeaways was the goal of shifting from a binary analysis (high flood risk if you are in the SFHA, little to no flood risk if you are out) to a probabilistic mindset to better represent risk and a graduated manner. Will also shared some examples of how "Big Data" and Machine Learning are already being used to improve analysis and communication of flood risk.

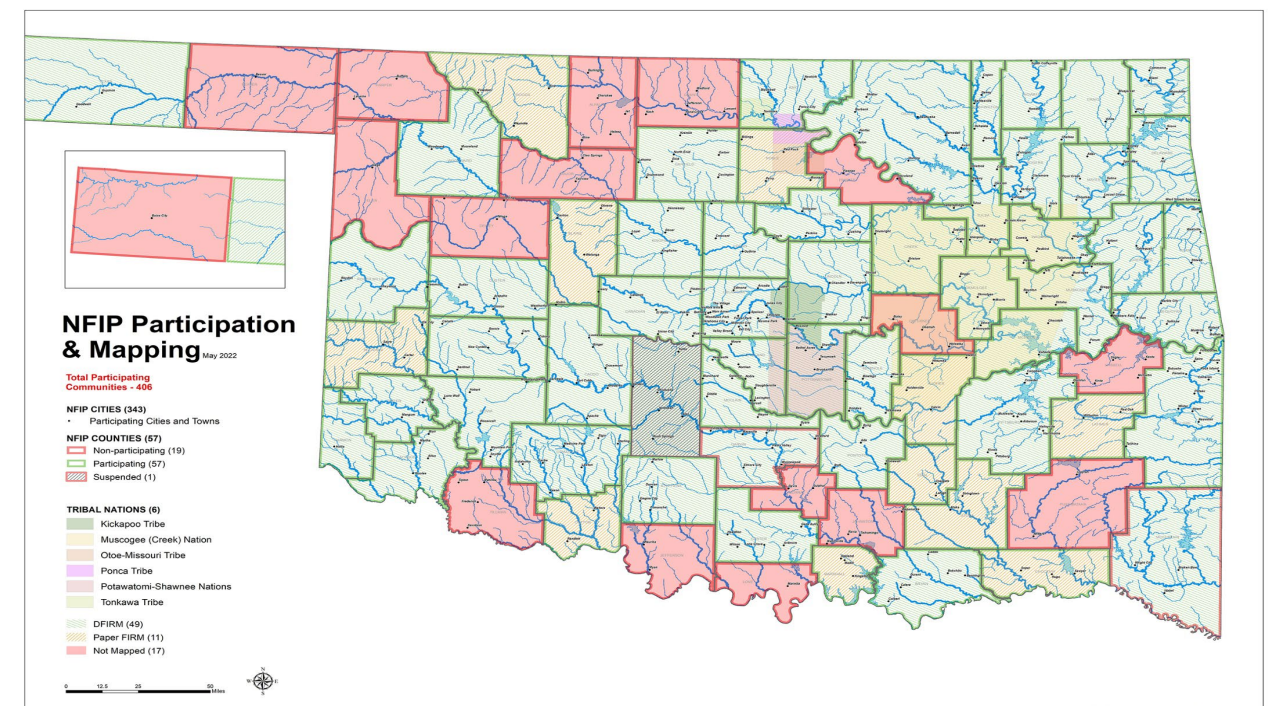
Attendees enjoyed a buffet lunch with a great view from the 18th floor with ample time for networking or just taking in the view.

The afternoon started with breakout sessions in three track tropics: Technical Topics, Mitigation and Resilience, and Rural FPA Toolbox.

William "Bill" Smiley with USACE Tulsa District started the closing plenary session with a presentation titled, Are You Data Ready? Identifying Key Data Sources to Technically Evaluate Flood Risk Impacts. This presentation did a great job of challenging our members on the application side of floodplain management with examples of things an FPA (and others) can do to better prepare for a flood event, including resources USACE can provide. Nicole McGavock, Service Hydrologist and Meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Tulsa Forecast Office, was our final speaker. Nicole shared current and future products the National Weather Service produces that can be used by the floodplain community.

If you missed a reference on a slide, presentations can be viewed/downloaded from our website at <https://okflood.org/2023-spring-technical-workshop-presentations/>.

A special thank you to Vice Chair, Annie Vest and those who helped make this year's workshop successful. Thanks also are due to Carolyn Schultz and Michelle Gourd for the many things they did to prepare for the conference and for running registration at the event.



NFIP Participation map from John Phillips', NFIP State Coordinator, presentation on the NFIP Program Update

FEMA Releases Additional Risk Rating 2.0 Data

If you haven't yet seen this, FEMA released Risk Rating 2.0 data publicly yesterday afternoon. See the data, at this link <https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance/work-with-nfip/risk-rating/single-family-home> and the table summary below.

Exhibit 1: Risk-based Cost of Insurance									
Single Family Home, Levee and Non-Levee, In-force on September 30, 2022 and rated under RR2.0									
OKLAHOMA STATE WIDE									
Range of Cost of Insurance	Policies in Force (PIF)	PIF Distribution	Average RCV	Average Risk-based Cost of Insurance	Percentage of Policies with Exposure To:				
					Inland Flood	Storm Surge	Tsunami	Great Lakes	Coastal Erosion
0 - 1,000	2,556	44%	371,203	682	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
1,000 - 2,000	1,753	30%	387,237	1,409	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2,000 - 3,000	692	12%	417,523	2,436	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
3,000 - 4,000	337	6%	444,841	3,458	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
4,000 - 5,000	244	4%	508,688	4,465	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
5,000 - 6,000	126	2%	545,687	5,499	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
6,000 - 7,000	88	2%	671,065	6,431	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
7,000 - 8,000	26	0%	860,155	7,381	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
8,000 - 9,000	13	0%	732,237	8,469	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
9,000 - 10,000	9	0%	926,818	9,543	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
10,000 - 11,000	3	0%	955,568	10,386	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
11,000 - 12,000	1	0%	1,051,760	11,242	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
12,000 - 13,000	-	0%							
13,000 +	-	0%							
Total	5,848		403,990	1,683	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Exhibit 2: Risk-based cost of insurance versus current cost of insurance: State Summary									
Single Family Homes, Levee and Non-Levee, In-force on September 30, 2022 & Rated Under RR2.0									
ID	State/Territory	Policies in Force (PIF)	Average Risk-based Cost of Insurance	Average Current Cost of Insurance	Percentage of Policies with Exposure To:				
					Inland Flood	Storm Surge	Tsunami	Great Lakes	Coastal Erosion
ALL	ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES	2,192,730	1,808	888	100.0%	60.7%	1.0%	0.2%	7.4%
AK	ALASKA	1,230	543	454	100.0%	2.5%	23.0%	0.0%	0.0%
AL	ALABAMA	19,745	2,051	927	100.0%	47.1%	0.0%	0.0%	16.1%
AR	ARKANSAS	6,335	1,583	849	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
AS	AMERICAN SAMOA	3	584	479	100.0%	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%	33.3%
AZ	ARIZONA	13,059	1,443	825	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CA	CALIFORNIA	89,572	1,689	901	100.0%	0.0%	14.8%	0.0%	2.9%
CO	COLORADO	7,910	1,644	860	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CT	CONNECTICUT	13,291	3,000	1,590	100.0%	62.3%	0.0%	0.0%	26.9%
DC	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	906	407	404	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
DE	DELAWARE	10,903	1,497	874	100.0%	82.9%	0.0%	0.0%	23.6%
FL	FLORIDA	597,967	2,213	958	100.0%	90.8%	0.0%	0.0%	9.1%
GA	GEORGIA	43,324	1,332	791	100.0%	64.7%	0.0%	0.0%	4.0%
GU	GUAM	60	2,438	1,449	100.0%	16.7%	53.3%	0.0%	13.3%
HI	HAWAII	6,489	3,653	1,437	100.0%	46.9%	75.1%	0.0%	18.7%
IA	IOWA	4,804	1,679	867	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
ID	IDAHO	2,673	1,633	862	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
IL	ILLINOIS	15,698	1,697	1,039	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%
IN	INDIANA	9,793	1,361	917	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%
KS	KANSAS	4,084	1,569	870	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
KY	KENTUCKY	9,231	2,201	1,060	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
LA	LOUISIANA	284,095	1,904	813	100.0%	84.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%

Continued from page 5

Continued from page 4

MA	MASSACHUSETTS	20,348	2,097	1,269	100.0%	66.1%	0.0%	0.0%	26.8%
MD	MARYLAND	21,928	742	608	100.0%	64.1%	0.0%	0.0%	39.4%
ME	MAINE	3,565	2,700	953	100.0%	49.2%	0.0%	0.0%	40.8%
MI	MICHIGAN	11,037	1,068	811	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	18.2%	0.0%
MN	MINNESOTA	3,914	1,832	943	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%
MO	MISSOURI	7,743	2,038	978	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
MP	NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	3	1,152	573	100.0%	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%	0.0%

Notes: Cost of insurance is defined as all premiums, fees, assessments and surcharges for a policy. Risk based cost of insurance is what policyholders would pay if they were paying their full actuarial rate (a rate based on the expected costs of losses and associated programmatic expenses) as evaluated under the rates implemented October 1, 2021 (Risk Rating 2.0). Note that rates will be updated periodically to reflect changes in risk. RCV (Replacement Cost Value) represents the estimated cost of replacing the building and any insured contents after a disaster, based on square footage and location-based data. This exhibit only includes Single-Family Home (SFH) policies that had transitioned to Risk Rating 2.0 by September 30, 2022. Any policies still rated under the legacy rating system at that point are not included in this exhibit. For this exhibit, all polices are shown with a \$25 Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act (HFIAA) surcharge.

Source Data: NFIP PIVOT Analytics and Reporting Tool (PART); data was retrieved on December 15, 2022.

Region 6 Holds Data Today for Resilience Tomorrow Workshop for CTPs

In February, the Data Today for Resilience Tomorrow workshop was held for CTPs in Region 6. It was a meeting for FEMA and CTPs to come together and give CTPs the tools and information needed to coordinate and carry out the Risk MAP process throughout the region. The workshop taught local CTPs about FEMA's program requirements and discussed ways to align with the Risk MAP vision of reducing the risk of life and property and increasing the number of resilient communities.

At the workshop, attendees received updates on FEMA grant processes, notable CTP projects underway, FEMA's Risk MAP priorities, and resources and tools to help improve and streamline their work. There were also interactive activities and breakout sessions that allowed attendees to work together and learn from each other. The workshop had to be held online because of the weather, but it was still a great chance for everyone to share their ideas and experiences.

Attending these workshops is a great way to get involved in regional CTP work and learn more about how you can better serve your community.



New Staff Member at OWRB

OWRB Floodplain Management welcomes Mr. Jason Tutkowski, CFM, to our floodplain management staff. Originally from Wisconsin, Jason began his career at OWRB more than five years ago in our Water Rights Administration Division and moved to Floodplain Management on May 1. He will be involved in all areas of floodplain management, with special emphasis on our Cooperative Technical Partners program and the State Flood Plan.

Congratulations to the winners of our Turn Around Don't Drown Flood Safety Poster Contest

OFMA appreciates all the hard work of teachers, parents, and many others who supported this year's poster contest.

The students who entered also deserve our thanks.

We hope that by working together to spread the Turn Around Don't Drown® message. Floodwaters will harm fewer people in Oklahoma.

This year, more than 464 participants submitted their beautiful artwork.



CONTEST WINNERS

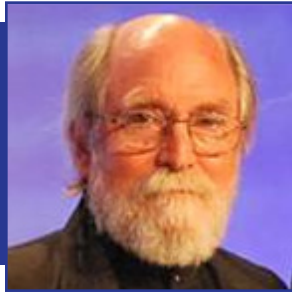
- 1ST PLACE** Reagan Stamile, School of St Mary
- 2ND PLACE** Levi McReynolds, Pond Creek-Hunter
- 3RD PLACE** Hannah Armbrister, Roosa Elementary
- HONORABLE MENTION** Anny Jiron, ASTEC Elementary

First, second and third place winners receive cash awards in the amount of \$150, \$100, and \$50, respectively. The top 13 posters in the state are published in the OFMA Turn Around Don't Drown® calendar. Each student participant is awarded a certificate of participation. Teachers receive a letter of appreciation.

Thank you to the following schools for supporting student participation in this year's program:

- ASTEC Charter School, OKC
- Blackwell Elementary, Blackwell
- Bridge Creek Intermediate School, Blanchard
- Creek Elementary, Muskogee
- First Luthern School, Ponca City
- Hilldale Elementary, Muskogee
- Liberty Elementary, Broken Arrow
- Marble City Elementary, Marble City
- Maryetta Schools, Stilwell
- Pond Creek-Hunter, Pond Creek
- Putnam City Schools, Warr Acres
- Roosa Elementary, Claremore
- School of St Mary, Tulsa
- Skiatook Elementary, Skiatook
- Stone Canyon, Owasso
- Taloga Public Schools, Taloga
- Timberlake Elementary, Jet
- Tulsa Legacy Charter School, Tulsa
- Washington Elementary, Clinton





OFMA DRT Corner

Rev. W. B. "Bill" Smith, PE, CFM | OFMA DRT Coordinator

The OFMA Disaster Response Team (DRT) and the Drone Support Team (DST) are always looking for volunteers. I just did an introductory training for 23 people from a church in Edmond – mostly retired – but with the expertise from their pre-retirement work to assist. They are excited to participate. I will return to Edmond and do a detailed training exercise for them once I receive their OFMA memberships and DRT signups.

Over the years, we have had up to 87 volunteers, but over time people have moved, decided not to continue to participate, retired from their jobs, etc. We always need assistance.

So that leads me to Spring 2023. To date, there have been more than 100 tornados greater in the US than normal. As I write this (5/8/23), I am looking at the weather map for Missouri, and they are in for a day of very severe weather. There are some who believe that "tornado alley" has moved to the south and east of Oklahoma, but the conditions for tornados in Oklahoma have not changed. The fronts coming off the Rockies, the Gulf moisture, and the dry lines from New Mexico still combine over Oklahoma. They say the Jet Stream is pushing some of the severe weather to the southeast.

Our southeast part of Oklahoma has had more than its share of rain and runoff this year so far, so we are not out of the woods.

As before, I ask if You (Mr. Floodplain Administrator) and your communities are prepared for an event – severe flooding, tornado, earthquake, hail, or strong winds, that may affect your Special Flood Hazard Area and the structures within it. Are you prepared to do the necessary assessments required by your participation in the National Flood Insurance Program?

Remember, if your community has not pre-signed for disaster response, please contact Bill Smith, DRT Coordinator, or Tom Leatherbee, DRT Assistant Coordinator, for a community signup sheet. It will require a council or county commissioner board action to prepare and return the required letter of authorization to request the OFMA DRT/DST to come to your community, so – be prepared.

Be safe out there - Spring Storm Season has just begun.

Bill Smith, DRT Coordinator

918-625-2449 or wbsmith@hisinc.us



STORMWATER QUALITY TECHNICAL WORKSHOP JULY 19, 2023

OFMA is hosting the Annual Stormwater Quality Technical Workshop on Wednesday, July 19th, 2023.

Embassy Suites Oklahoma City Will Rogers World Airport
1815 South Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK, 73108
8:30 am to 4:30 pm

The workshop will include presentations on municipal stormwater management, low impact development, inspections and enforcement, and total maximum daily loads (TMDLs).

Representatives from COSWA, the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, the Oklahoma Conservation Commission, the Indian Nations Council of Government, and the Oklahoma Water Survey will be in attendance.

If you are looking for stormwater training for your inspectors or other city officials, this is a perfect opportunity to get them to a local workshop focused on stormwater quality.

Registration is \$100 per person and will be open soon.

Lunch and snacks will be provided.

If you have an interesting topic to present or want to recommend a speaker, please contact

Morgan Lozoya at mlozoya@meshekengr.com



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The BFE*

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2023 Stormwater Quality Workshop Update

Brandon Claborn PE, CFM - OFMA Conference Co-Chair

I was privileged to attend this year's Stormwater Quality Technical Workshop on July 19th at the Embassy Suites in Oklahoma City. It was great to see so many people in attendance, even more than last year! The event started with an opening plenary and welcome from Lincoln Irvine PE, CFM, OFMA Chair, setting the tone for an exciting day. Then, Jade Jones, Clinton Johnson, and Jordan Peebles provided updates from COSWA and GCSA, sharing how those regional organizations are allowing MS4s to share knowledge and leverage resources.

The plenary session continued with Tonya White from the Oklahoma Water Resource Board speaking about Non-Traditional OWRB Funding Solutions for Your System. That was followed by a Q/A financial assistance panel featuring Pamela Bensley from USDA, Kim Jenson from OEM, Lindsay Roland from ORWA, Candy Thompson, PE from ODEQ, and Julie Hudgins from Communities Unlimited, Inc.

Attendees enjoyed a buffet lunch with ample time for networking.

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Words from the Chair

Lincoln Irvine PE, CFM | Senior Project Engineer | Benham



Lincoln currently serves as a roadway & hydraulics/hydrology engineer for a vast array of publicly funded transportation projects. He is experienced in providing drainage solutions and engineering designs for various ODOT and county projects and has been recruited specifically for challenging drainage projects. As part of a multi-disciplinary engineering design team for a large scale project, he served as a drainage lead for the drainage design team. Lincoln is also proficient in analyzing hydrology and hydraulics, mapping floodplains, evaluating storm water systems, storm water treatment, and permitting.

Lincoln has a degree in civil engineering from the University of Utah. He is a Professional Engineer in Utah, California, and Oklahoma and a Certified Floodplain Manager in Oklahoma.

I'm writing this after the tremendous success of this year's Stormwater Quality Technical Workshop. Having worked on it last year, I can fully appreciate all the time and effort that was involved in pulling this off.

I would like to recognize Morgan Lozoya for all her hard work in putting the conference together. I was impressed by the sheer number of attendees at this conference; so many that we had to find more chairs for people to sit on in the plenary session.

On October 28, 2022, the Board voted to establish a committee to investigate the benefits and challenges of incorporating the very important Stormwater Quality group of professionals into OFMA. After the committee studied the impacts of such a move, it became apparent that a significant amount of work would be involved.

Organization changes include amending the OFMA constitution, logo, mascot, tagline, Mission statement, vision, and OFMA objectives.

In addition, much discussion has been had about the name of an organization that now serves Stormwater as an important

OFSMA
OFMA
ONE WATER

component of its mission, and the majority of the committee believes that adding "S" to the name is important for inclusiveness. However, this has not been a straight forward process. Many thoughts and ideas have come to the board members to narrow and aid in the selection process.

My conclusion is to let those members of OFMA who have dedicated so much of their time to the organization decide on a name that best represents the organization's future goals and identity.



Continued from page 1

The afternoon started with breakout sessions in three track topics: Construction Inspections, moderated by Morgan Lozoya, General Topics, Carrie Evenson, and Dr. Jason Vogel, covering Advanced Research Topics.

Randy Neprash from NMSA (National Municipal Stormwater Alliance) presented via Teams about TMDLs and MS4 permittees in Minnesota and some of the challenges when obtaining permits. He also shared tools and guidance for those permittees that were interested in making the process smoother. Randy further shared about NMSA, including recent activities and products, policy updates, and the future of the program.

Closing out the workshop was Myles Mungle from ODEQ. Myles first presented DEQ updates regarding the OKR04, OKR05, and OKR10 permits and closed with updates regarding TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) implementation. He also shared sections of TMDL implementation guidance documents that should be available later this year.

All in all, it was a truly informative and engaging event. If you still need to include a reference on a slide, presentations can be viewed/downloaded from our website at <https://okflood.org/2023-stormwater-quality-technical-workshop/>.

A special thank you to SWQ Chair Morgan Lozoya and those who helped make this year's workshop successful. Thanks also are due to Carolyn Schultz and Michelle Gourd for the many things they did to prepare for the conference and for running registration at the event.

Registration Open!



OFMA OKLAHOMA
FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Sharing the Challenge of Flood and Stormwater Management

SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2023

River Spirit Casino Resort
8330 Riverside Pkwy, Tulsa, OK 74137

[OKFLOOD.ORG](https://okflood.org)

Visit our website for conference details and sponsorship opportunities.

<https://okflood.org/2023-annual-conference/>



OFMA Vice-Chair

Annie Vest, CFM | Mitigation and Disaster Planning Lead
Freese & Nichols

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding is now available, presenting an excellent chance for us to proactively address and mitigate flood-related risks. The HMGP, administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is a post-disaster grant initiative designed to assist communities in implementing long-term hazard mitigation measures. It aims to reduce the impact of future disasters and enhance community resilience against flooding and other natural hazards.

Available Funding Opportunities

- The HMGP funding offers various opportunities for floodplain managers and local authorities to develop and implement projects that prioritize hazard mitigation. Some eligible projects include:
- Flood Control Infrastructure: Constructing or enhancing levees, floodwalls, and other flood control structures to manage floodwaters effectively.
- Elevation and Retrofitting: Elevating critical structures above the base flood elevation and retrofitting existing buildings to minimize flood damage.
- Acquisition and Relocation: Purchasing flood-prone properties and relocating residents to safer areas, reducing exposure to flood risks.
- Natural Floodplain Restoration: Restoring natural floodplains and wetlands to absorb excess floodwaters, enhancing ecological balance.
- Early Warning Systems: Investing in advanced technology for improved flood forecasting and early warning systems.
- Public Outreach and Education: Initiating educational programs to raise awareness about flood risks and promote flood-safe practices among residents.

How to Apply for HMGP Funding?

The Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (ODEMHS) is currently accepting Notices of Intent (NOI) from communities interested in accessing these funds. While the exact total funding amount remains undisclosed, applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. To maximize their chances of receiving funding, interested parties must adhere to FEMA's guidelines and, at minimum, submit cost-effective, technically feasible projects identified in a FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan. NOIs can be submitted to ODEMHS online at ok.emgrants.com. Contact Kim Jenson, the Interim State Hazard Mitigation Officer, with questions at kim.jenson@oem.ok.gov.

Things to Consider Before You Apply

To be eligible for funding, communities must have an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan from FEMA. However, it's important to note that funding is limited, and the exact amount available is unknown. Without this information, it is difficult to determine if applying for funds is worth the effort. My recommendation is to submit a NO. If your NOI is approved, work with the state to gauge your chances of receiving funding from FEMA. If the likelihood is low and your budget to invest in upfront project scoping is low, it may be best to wait until August for non-disaster grant Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) during FEMA's Resilience Month.

Helpful Mitigation Resources

[Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide | FEMA.gov](#)

[Summary of FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance \(HMA\) Programs | FEMA.gov](#)

[Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program | FEMA.gov](#)

[Resources for the Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program | FEMA.gov](#)

[Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities | FEMA.gov](#)

[Resource List for the BRIC Grant Program | FEMA.gov](#)

FEMA Releases Innovative New Resources for Advancing Equity Throughout the Nation

Over the past year, FEMA published several innovative equity and hazard mitigation planning resources. These include RNP's Building Alliances for Climate Action, the Inspiration Book: Arts and Experiential Learning, and the Guide to Expanding Mitigation: Making the Connection to Older Adults.

Each of these resources works to advance equity in its own way. For instance, the RNP's [Building Alliances for Climate Action](#) calls for prioritizing resilience benefits for communities at the forefront of climate change. These often include underserved and socially vulnerable communities. These communities may face higher risks than other populations in a region. Building Alliances for Climate Action also highlights partnerships across the whole community, such as faith-based and neighborhood groups. These types of partnerships advance equity; they support historically underserved communities. They are key to building the social capital needed to address the impacts of climate change.

[The Inspiration Book: Arts and Experiential Learning](#) shows FEMA and partners how to engage with communities in non-technical ways. This makes risk information more accessible to a broader audience. The book looks at how arts and experiential learning projects can raise awareness, share knowledge, connect a community, and engage partners. The resource dives into the steps for starting an art and experiential learning project. It also gives examples of successful projects.

FEMA released its Guide to [Expanding Mitigation: Making the Connection to Older Adults](#), created in partnership with the AARP. It advocates for more collaboration in resilience planning for older adults. Building resilience must include learning about the needs and concerns of older adults. It must also include partnering with organizations that work with them. The guide highlights the value of creating accessible communities for all ages. It recommends ways for community officials to include older adults in efforts to reduce risk through hazard mitigation.

FEMA is making a major push to advance equity in hazard mitigation planning. These resources are just the start of an agency-wide shift to improve resilience for all communities, including underserved and socially vulnerable populations.

FEMA's New "Safer Communities" Coloring Book Series Teaches Hazard Awareness to Youth

FEMA published two coloring books for children in its Safer Communities Series: [My Rain Garden](#) and [My Safe Yard](#). The series teaches children about flood risk and disaster mitigation using age-appropriate language. The new coloring books engage kids aged 4 to 7 about how to make their homes more resistant to damage from natural hazards.

The coloring books are available in both English and Spanish. They are filled with illustrations that reflect diverse characters and homes. Each book also has a short narrative related to each topic. It also has a glossary of terms to help children build their resilience vocabulary.



The books also provide directions for environmental learning activities. For example, the My Rain Garden coloring book describes how to go on nature hunts and build a rain garden. The My Safe Yard coloring book also contains fun activities, including templates for creating Storm Superhero masks. This book teaches children about how severe wind and flooding can cause damage inside and outside their homes.

The Safer Communities coloring books have been shared nationwide. This includes the Community Education and Outreach program and hazard awareness events at hardware stores and elementary schools. The books are a big hit at events like TEDx MileHigh and the NAHB International Builders' Show. In addition, local community flood mitigation initiatives used them with their engagement strategies.

For more information, visit FEMA.gov or <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/risk-management>.

You can also contact Dustin Busse, Communications and Outreach Coordinator, at dustin.busse@fema.dhs.gov.



FEMA Map Coordination Meetings

Jason Tutkowski, CFM | Floodplain Management Specialist and CTP Coordinator OWRB



Love County Map Coordination Meeting.

on any changes in community boundaries, areas of expected growth, and areas that have been affected by recent disasters. FEMA experts, Oklahoma floodplain management staff, local officials, and stakeholders were all able to collaborate and discuss ways to improve the data and how it could be used to streamline floodplain development permitting in the counties and communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), as well as how non-participating communities could use the information to build resiliency.

Attending map coordination meetings such as these are a great way to get involved in floodplain mapping efforts in your community and learn more about the resources and tools available to reduce flood risk.

If you have any questions or comments, you can email Jason at jason.tutkowski@owrb.ok.gov.

FEMA Releases New Elevation Certificate and Dry Floodproofing Certificate

The new Elevation Certificate and new Dry Floodproofing Certificate have been approved and should be used going forward through 06/30/2026. Also included with the July 7 announcement from FEMA's Flood Insurance Directorate is an attachment providing updated underwriting guidance on how to use the revised EC form for first-floor height.

In addition, we have been informed that for CRS reviews, they will strictly use the date the form is official. So, if a surveyor signs it on, or after, July 7, 2023, it must be the new form, or it will be marked as an Error on their EC. They held to that line during the last EC transition period, and they will do the same this time as well. This is based on FEMA guidance in the past and a confirmation of this policy again as they went through the review process of this new EC.

You can read more [here](#) or visit <https://nfipservices.floodsmart.gov/sites/default/files/w-23006.pdf>

FEMA Region 6 Risk MAP Program team leadership, along with AECOM, a member of the Compass Production and Technical Services Joint Venture, led map coordination meetings in Latimer, Pushmataha, and Love Counties on July 11th, 12th, and 13th. Separate meetings were held for each county – one each in the towns of Wilburton, Antlers, and Marietta – to discuss the Base Level Engineering (BLE) to Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) mapping update process, address questions about flood hazard data, and understand current flood risk.

Attendees were given a run-through of FEMA's Base Flood Elevation to Flood Insurance Rate Map Viewer (B2F) and encouraged to provide input to FEMA

New FPM 101 Location in Langley, OK

OWRB added another Floodplain Management 101 class to the 2023 training calendar. It will be held at GRDA in Langley, OK. 6 CECs will be awarded, and it's one of only a handful of opportunities left to earn credits before CFM renewal time at the end of September. The class in September 12, 2023, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. and is located at GRDA Eco Center. 420 HWY 28. Langley, OK 74350.

To register, contact cheyanne.reynolds@owrb.ok.gov. For additional training opportunities please see the schedule below.

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Training Calendar

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Course Descriptions

FPM 101: Introduction to Floodplain Management provides attendees with the most up-to-date information on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), major floodplain management concepts, maps and studies, ordinance administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance.

FPM 202: Beyond the Basics offers a concentration on one or more specific areas of floodplain management, such as ordinance administration, permitting, outreach, elevation certificates, mitigation, substantial damage/substantial improvement, post-disaster activities, mapping and determinations, and violations and enforcement.

OFMA Special Topics in Floodplain Management are hosted by Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association staff and feature a wide array of speakers and topics, including floodplain management ethics, storm water management, flood resilience, hazard mitigation planning, post-disaster events, and rural floodplain management.

[Register for a class today!](#)

Space is limited. Courses, dates, and locations are subject to change or cancellation.

OWRB Courses

Aug 15, 2023	FPM 101	Central Park Community Center	1500 S Main St, Broken Arrow, OK 74012
Aug 22, 2023	FPM 101	OHP Training Center	3600 N MLK Blvd, OKC, OK 73111
Sep 12, 2023	FPM 101	GRDA Eco Center	420 HWY 28, Langley, OK 74350
Oct 17, 2023	FPM 202	OHP Training Center	3600 N MLK Blvd, OKC, OK 73111
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The BFE*

* BASE FLOOD ELEVATION

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2023 Spring Technical Workshop April 12, 2023

Hard Rock Hotel and Casino Tulsa
777 West Cherokee Street
Catoosa, OK, 74015

To register online click the button below. If you prefer to pay by check or receive an invoice, please download the pdf and send it along with your payment to:

OFMA
Attention: Carolyn Schultz
PO Box 8101
Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

Workshop fees will be \$75 for members and \$100 for non-members.

CEU certificates will be emailed to the participants

[REGISTER NOW](#)





Words from the Chair

Lincoln Irvine PE, CFM | OFMA Chair

Congratulations to OFMA's new Chair

Lincoln currently serves as a roadway & hydraulics/hydrology engineer for a vast array of publicly funded transportation projects. He is experienced in providing drainage solutions and engineering designs for various ODOT and county projects and has been recruited specifically for challenging drainage projects.

As part of a multi-disciplinary engineering design team for a large scale project, he served as a drainage lead as part of a drainage design team. Lincoln is also proficient in analyzing hydrology and hydraulics, mapping floodplains, evaluating storm water systems, storm water treatment, and permitting.

Lincoln has a degree in civil engineering from the University of Utah. He is a Professional Engineer in Utah, California, and Oklahoma and a Certified Floodplain Manager in Oklahoma.

As the new year begins, thoughts of resolving to do better and improving as an individual come to mind. That leads me to think about the tremendous impact that the OFMA organization has had and can have on its members. Being a member of OFMA, I think of all that I have learned from the organization and am excited for what is to come. As a board, we have discussed all the good that OFMA brings. We understand there are often some difficult challenges to overcome, but we look to our goals to lead the way. The OFMA leadership is enthusiastic about welcoming new stormwater members to its organization. Promoting stormwater is a worthwhile goal.

We have reorganized the OFMA organization to direct more of its resources to what makes more sense. One of these new committees is the OFMA Stormwater Committee. The committee is tasked with the essential act of providing for and representing its stormwater members. OFMA, with its new stormwater committee, is working towards a stronger emphasis on stormwater development, training, and certification. Additionally, the committee is considering some rebranding options to add an "S" to the logo to help associate Stormwater with being a part of the organization."

Our next major OFMA activity is the Legislative Reception, Wednesday, February 22, 2023, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the state capitol building. All OFMA members are

welcome to attend. Even if you can't attend, you can help out. When we get closer to the date, please contact your representative and senator and encourage them to attend. OFMA will send out invitations and make contacts, but there is nothing like hearing from a constituent to get their attention. You can find their contact information by clicking on Find my Legislator at <https://www.okhouse.gov> or clicking on, Find My Senator at <https://oksenate.gov>.

Finally, OFMA would like all its members to attend the 2023 Spring Technical Workshop on April 12 at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Tulsa. We are anticipating a spectacular conference in Tulsa this year. OFMA's technical conference and the annual conference are great options for learning how your peers are handling issues and options for applying new technologies to solve problems. Registration and agenda details will be available when they are complete.

We anticipate a wonderful year ahead. We encourage you to take some time to consider how you can better identify, manage and even mitigate flood risk in your community, and share it. Make it a goal to contribute, and as a result, we can all be better.

Sincerely,

Training Calendar

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[Register for a class today!](#)

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Mar 15, 2023	FPM 101	Frisco Center	101 S 4th St, Clinton, OK
May 16, 2023	FPM 101	OHP Training Center	3600 N MLK Blvd, OKC, OK 73111
Jun 13, 2023	FPM 101	Eastern OK University	1802 College Ave, McAlester, OK 74501
Jul 11, 2023	FPM 202	Canadian Valley Tech Center	1401 Michigan Ave, Chickasha, OK 73018
Aug 22, 2023	FPM 101	OHP Training Center	3600 N MLK Blvd, OKC, OK 73111
Sep 12, 2023	FPM 101	Central Park Community Center	1500 S Main St, Broken Arrow, OK 74012
Oct 17, 2023	FPM 202	OHP Training Center	3600 N MLK Blvd, OKC, OK 73111
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OFMA Advanced Courses		
Feb 21, 2023	Canadian Valley Tech Center	1401 Michigan Ave, Chickasha, OK 73018
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Apr 19, 2023	GRDA Eco Center	420 HWY 28 Langley, OK 74350
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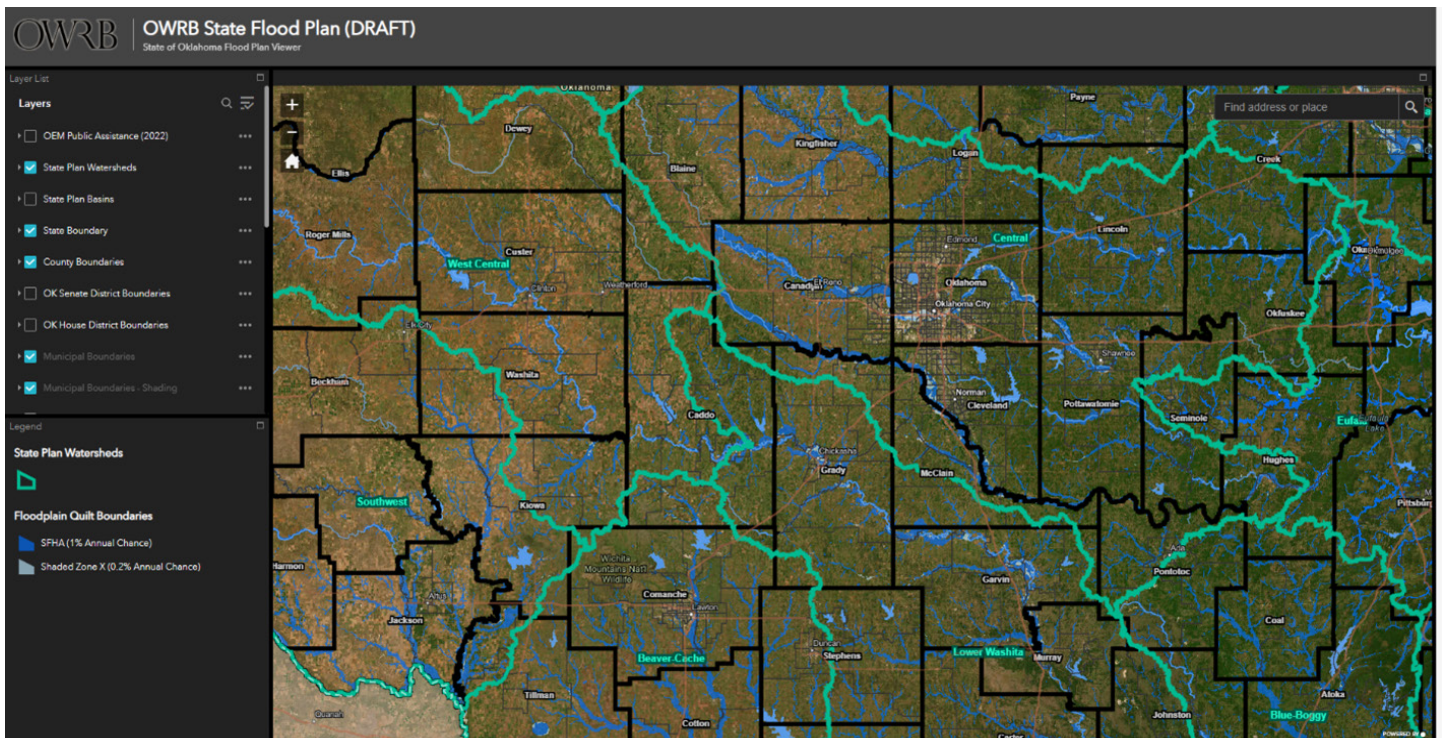


Progress Continues of Oklahoma State Flood Plan

Aaron Milligan, CFM | OWRB, Environmental Programs Manager

The Oklahoma State Flood Plan team presented updates to the Plan at the Governor's Water Conference in December. Additionally, State Legislators were briefed on progress and shown a demonstration of the GIS viewer under development. The presentation and brief generated valuable feedback for continuing work on the Plan.

The data collection phase of the Plan is nearing completion, pending a meeting with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to discuss flood risk to roads and transportation infrastructure. The next phase of the Plan will include discussions of flood risk reduction, flood "hot spot" analysis, and identification of factors for prioritization of flood mitigation projects. The expected completion date for the Plan is late 2023.



2023 SAVE THE DATES

2023 Spring Technical Workshop

April 12, 2023

Hard Rock Hotel and Casino Tulsa
777 West Cherokee Street
Catoosa, OK 74015

2023 Stormwater Quality Technical Workshop

July 19, 2023

Embassy Suites Oklahoma City
Will Rogers World Airport
1815 South Meridian
Oklahoma City, OK 73108

2023 Annual Fall Conference

September 17-20, 2023

River Spirit Casino
8330 Riverside Pkwy
Tulsa, OK 74137

Calling Grade School Artists!

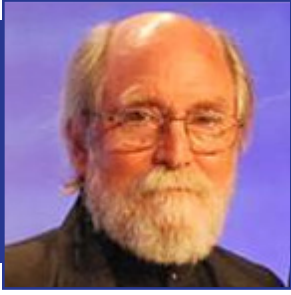
Turn Around Don't Drown Flood Safety Poster Contest

Each year more deaths occur due to flooding than any other thunderstorm-related hazard. Why? The main reason is people underestimate the force and power of water. Many of the deaths occur in automobiles that are swept downstream. Many drownings are preventable, but too many people continue to drive around the barriers that warn you that the road is flooded and Turn Around Don't Drown. Participation in the Turn Around Don't Drown Flood Safety Poster Contest helps children learn and inform their parents about flooding hazards. A particularly timely subject given

last year's record flooding. Plus, students and their teachers could win cash prizes. If this is something your local school (third through fifth graders) would like to participate in, please contact your Region Representative (contact information on Page 8) to receive 2023 OFMA calendars, including this year's calendar contest guidelines.

Calendar submission deadline is April 1, 2023.





OFMA DRT Corner

Rev. W. B. "Bill" Smith, PE, CFM | OFMA DRT Coordinator

Many have heard me talk about this graphic – from a stormwater runoff, stormwater quality, and floodplain perspective and how they interact with each other. As the rain falls (stormwater management), it flows overland or in ditches or culverts and eventually reaches a floodplain (floodplain management). Along the way, it picks up oil, grease, trash, and contaminants (stormwater quality).

But now think about how this same interaction is affecting Disaster Response. California is the latest and best example, along with China and other parts of the world, responding to the havoc of severe and extreme storm events in the past eight weeks.

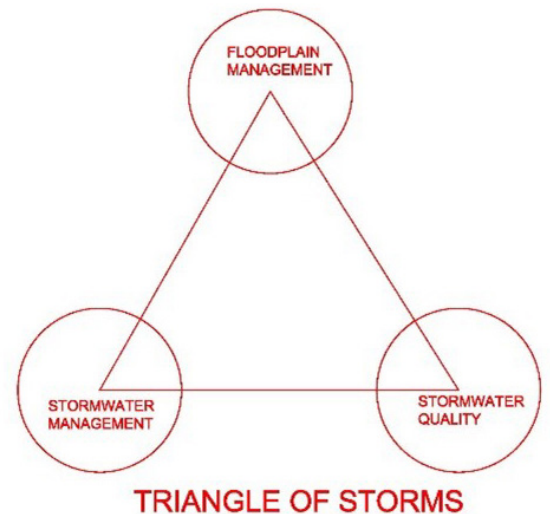
These severe rains cause excessive stormwater runoff. During that severe stormwater runoff, mudslides occur, and houses and structures are swept off their foundation. They are destroyed, creek banks are collapsing, and structures, pavement, bridges, culverts, and pipes are now floating or rolling down the streams, creeks, and rivers – contaminating everything that is flooded.

Sanitary and storm sewers are overflowing, causing grey water affecting humans, animals, plants, and anything being touched. And again, as the stormwaters grow in magnitude and flow with the contaminated stormwater quality, they reach the floodplains, contaminating everything in sight and out of sight. Then the storm stops, the water recedes, and the debris and contamination is left on the overbanks and channel slopes. Much of this is never cleaned up – left to be washed away by future rainfall events, mulched during mowing, or just left to decay – 200 years for a polyethylene bottle.

I watch the first responders as dedicated professionals – firefighters, police, emergency management, and electrical crews – putting their lives in harm's way – running toward the disaster instead of away. Subject to health risks, physical harm, and emotional stress – as are their families who worry about those on the front lines during disasters. Next time you see one of these very special first responders – reach out, shake their hand, and thank them for their dedication to helping others in need.

As we used to hear on Hill Street Blues from Sgt. Phil Esterhaus – "Let's be Careful out there".

And don't forget – Spring is around the corner – you still have time to clean out ditches and culverts to allow the floodwaters to flow.



Community Rating System Online Resources

Originally published from the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System – December 2022/January 2023 Newsletter.

If you cannot find information about the CRS or a document you need, please notify your ISO/CRS Specialist or NFIPCRS@iso.com. Below are helpful guidance documents and general information that can be found on the CRS Resources website.

[Making Corrections to the Repetitive Loss List](#) is a one-page CRS handout that describes the new procedure communities submit to FEMA corrections to the repetitive loss list, using the Repetitive Loss Update Worksheet, also known as the AW-501.

[CRS Credit for Stormwater Management](#) is a full guide, including examples, to help communities tailor their stormwater management and watershed management programs in ways that reduce flood losses, protect natural processes, and earn CRS credit. This 2020 edition provides background on the creditable management techniques, discusses the legal aspects of such management, and describes various ways to document the creditable activities.

Webinar Schedule—This is posted on the [Training & Videos page](#) of the CRS Resources website. All classes begin at 1 p.m. Eastern/10 a.m. Pacific.

- January 17 Annual CRS Requirements
- January 18 CRS and Higher Regulatory Standards
- February 21 Introduction to the CRS
- February 22 Flood Warning & Response (Activity 610)
- March 21 Preparing an Verification Visit
- March 22 Stormwater Management Regulations (Activity 450)
- April 18 Annual CRS Requirements
- April 19 CRS & Floodplain Species Assessment

Issues of the “NFIP/CRS Update” newsletter (and now the “Community Rating System Newsletter,” can be found [here](#). The new newsletter will be posted on FEMA.gov soon.

[Success with CRS](#) is a website with articles about the many ways communities have found their own types of success through the CRS.

Resources to Promote Flood Insurance

The [FloodSmart](#) website and its [agents page](#) have an array of materials targeted toward consumers and insurance specialists. [NFIP Claims Handbook](#) (FEMA F-687) guides policyholders in filing claims for flood damage. There are free materials available from [FEMA's media library](#).

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