



The B.F.E.*

* Base Flood Elevation

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 10

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Number 2

USGS Cooperative Program Wrestles With Instability

Since 1887, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) has operated a stream gaging program to collect information about the Nation's water resources. The USGS operates and maintains approximately 7,400 stream gages which provide long-term, accurate, and



(Photo courtesy USGS)

unbiased information that meets the needs of many diverse users. The data collected from stream gages is so critical that the USGS began planning the National Streamflow Information Program (NSIP) in 1999, which first

received Congressional funding in 2001, to operate and maintain the stream gages. However, many of the gages are at risk due to funding pressures.

The stream gaging program fulfills many purposes: water resources planning and flood mitigation, design of water storage and treatment facilities, water management and reservoir operations, water quality control, and flood forecasting. Balancing the priorities of stream gages to meet these purposes is driven by market forces as Federal, State, and local agencies, as well as USGS, contribute to the program based on their need for data for long-term planning or day-to-day operations. State agencies such as natural resource and transportation departments typically need data for planning and design. Other

agencies using the data are municipal,



(Photo courtesy USGS)

county, tribal, water districts, and river commissions with water-resource

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"WHAT'S OLD AGAIN IS NEW AGAIN - FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT IN THE 21ST CENTURY"

OFMA's 2008 Spring Technical Workshop Wrap-Up—The OFMA 2008 Spring Technical Workshop was held in the new Ardmore Conference Center in Ardmore, Oklahoma, on April 3, 2008. The event was designed to provide educational opportunities and a chance for local floodplain administrators as well as interested individuals and organizations to meet and share ideas.

The workshop began with the posting of the colors by the 910th Quartermaster Company, U.S. Army Reserves. Then through each topic to the closing session, presenters had first hand experience to share with participants. A special business meeting for OFMA members was held for consideration and vote of the Constitution and Bylaws. Afterwards Carl Watts with FEMA gave a NFIP Program Update. Then

Keynote Speaker, Joe S. Robinson, spoke about "Turn Around Don't Drown Design for Drivers Ed Classes." The lunch, catered by El Chico, was a splendid time for attendees to relax and visit. Afterwards, Wayne Busma, Ardmore City Engineer, presented on the City of Ardmore Floodplain Management. He was followed by a concise look at Oil and Gas Floodplain Regulation by presenters Janell Wood, CFM, Blaine County FPA, and Amy Brandley, CFM, Canadian County FPA. Closing the educational day Jim Orwat with FEMA, spoke about FEMA MAP MOD.

OFMA will host the 2008 18th Annual Conference on September 21-24, 2008, at the Reed Center in Midwest City. Be sure to mark your calendar to attend what will be an extraordinary event.

Flood Disasters, Loss of Life and Property, Politics – this is what is happening in Oklahoma!

Comments from the Chair

Once again we are in the start of the springtime rainy season. Beginning a little early and too much water for many areas of the State. The most devastating occurrence is the loss of life! The 2-year old girl in Cherokee County who was drowned because her mother drove into floodwaters, stalled her car, tried to walk out, and tried to throw her baby to the shore was inexcusable. I charge each floodplain administrator and each person involved in floodplain management to do everything possible to educate the public to "Turn Around – Don't Drown" (TADD) and not have another needless loss of life. I am grieved deeply by this incident. I have seen multitudes of vehicles driving through floodwaters on the evening news over the past few weeks. Totally inexcusable!

Our Oklahoma politics in action – OFMA introduced a good bill, HB 3297, into the State House of Representatives through Representative Wallace Collins, to give small communities the option to either have a floodplain board or not. Currently the law requires any community that is not in the NFIP to establish this five member board before they can join the NFIP. Small communities are having a very difficult time of finding five people to comprise this board. The Town of Sawyer is one that wants to join the NFIP, but cannot find five individuals to comprise the board. Mounds is having the same problem, so is Minco and others. There are about 87

communities in this same boat. These 87 or so communities are sanctioned by FEMA and can not receive any HMGP funds unless they join the NFIP. This bill passed the subcommittee and House Committee but was never brought before the House for a vote – DUE TO POLITICS! With assistance from OWRB and others, the bill was attached to a companion bill in the Senate this month. The Oklahoma Independent Oil Producers Association are now amending the bill (which is now public domain and no longer OFMA's) to try and standardized the permitting process for oil and gas development in a floodplain. This raises other numerous issues. Currently the bill is stalled in Committee and until resolutions are developed, it may go nowhere. Meanwhile, these 87 communities are facing another disaster season with "handcuffs" on relating to being sanctioned for funding.

On the brighter side, our OFMA Spring Technical Workshop was a great success. We thank Clark Williams, Vice Chair and Conference Committee Chair for his diligent efforts, along with Carolyn Schultz our Treasurer, and others who help support the efforts of OFMA. We look forward to our Annual Conference on September 21-24, 2008, in Midwest City. Check the OFMA web site for registration information. Get your hotel rooms early.

The Constitution and Bylaw changes were passed by significant margins and our business is in order. Both documents are

being finalized and will be posted on the web site soon. We have developed a "White Paper" that is also being finalized to



be presented to FEMA and others concerning the interpretation of the FEMA regulations concerning the use of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding for Master Drainage Plans/Feasibility Studies prior to initiating structural measures for remediation of flooding in Special Flood Hazard Areas. My thanks to those who have helped in this endeavor.

OFMA Chair
W. B. "Bill" Smith, P.E., CFM

2007-2008 OFMA Annual Strategic Planning Retreat

On December 5-7, 2007, Chairman Bill Smith met with members of the "OFMA

Administrative Council"-Joe Robinson, Education Chairman; Ana Stagg, Legislative Chair; Phillip Beauchamp, Region 4 Representative; Gavin Brady, NFIP State Coordinator; Kent Wilkins, Field

Office Supervisor OWRB; Ken Morris, OFMA Executive Director; Clark Williams, Vice Chair; Marc Utley, Mapping and Engineering Committee Chair; Janet Meshek, BFE Editor; Marc Bolz, Region 5 Representative; Ellen Stevens, Association Secretary; Leslie Lewis, Region 1 Representative; and Jeff Bigby, Region 2 Representative at Post Oak Lodge just northwest of downtown Tulsa and Sand Springs. Past

Chairman Jim Coffey facilitated this three-day intensive planning effort to review the 2006 Strategic Plan and draft the 2007-2008 Strategic Plan currently posted on the OFMA web site, www.okflood.org. Mr. Coffey employed



numerous techniques keep the group on target and focused. The council members began work at noon on December 5, worked until 5 pm that day, then on Thursday began work at 8 am sharp and worked till 5 pm. Thursday evening Bill and Vernessa Smith hosted the team at their beautiful home in the enchanting countryside of Creek County. The group enjoyed the Smith's gracious hospitality

and delicious dinner. On Friday afternoon the group left with a sense of accomplishment and a zealous, confident attitude to implement the new OFMA Strategic Plan.

A special thanks is given to the Oklahoma Water Resources Board for supporting this very important OFMA effort.

Please go the OFMA web site and review the plan and provide any comments to the OFMA Board if you have any comments or recommendations for next year's planning process. If you would like to join the OFMA Administrative Council at the next Strategic Planning Retreat contact Vice Chair Clark Williams and let him know you are interested in helping OFMA improve floodplain management in the State of Oklahoma and the Nation.

TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN® POSTER CONTEST

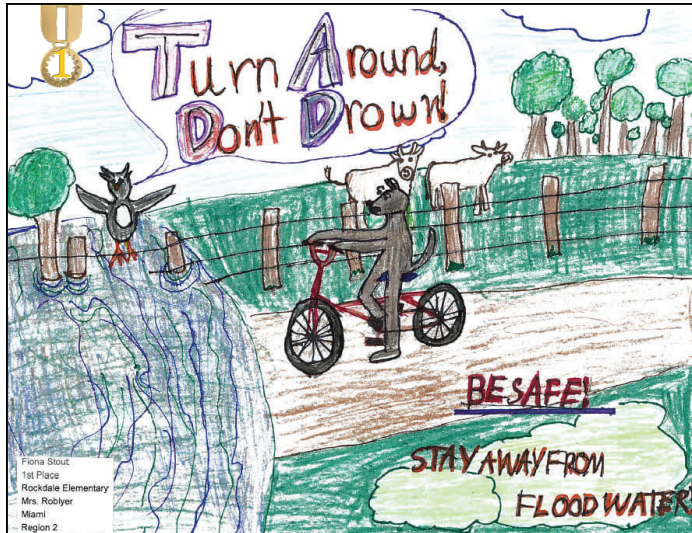


Fourth grade classes across the State of Oklahoma participated in a flood awareness poster contest sponsored by the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association. This program, designed to increase awareness of the dangers of floodwaters, is part of the nationwide Turn Around Don't Drown® campaign. Winners from each of the five regions were also voted to appear on the Turn Around Don't Drown® calendar due out in the fall. Contest winners received \$250 for first prize, \$150 for second prize or \$100 for third prize plus trophies and certificates. To receive your FREE OFMA Calendar please contact Ken Morris at 405-530-8800 while supplies last.

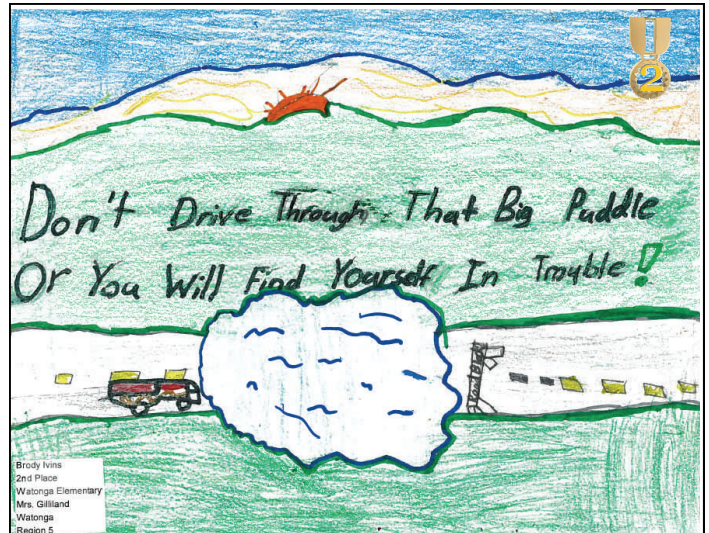
Each year, more deaths occur due to flooding than from any other thunderstorm related hazard. Why? The main reason is people underestimate the force and power of water. Many of the deaths occur in automobiles as they are swept downstream. Of these drowning, many are preventable, but too many people continue to drive around the barriers that warn you the road is flooded.

Whether you are driving or walking, if you come to a flooded road, Turn Around Don't Drown®. You will not know the depth of the water nor will you know the condition of the road under the water.

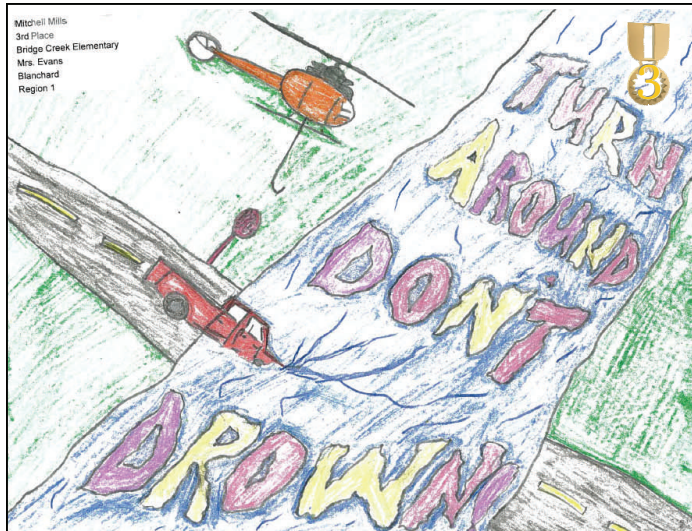
AND THE CONTEST WINNERS ARE....



First Place statewide was awarded to Fiona Stout at Rockdale Elementary in Mrs. Roblyer's class located in Miami—Region 2.



Second Place statewide was awarded to Brody Ivins at Watonga Elementary in Mrs. Gilliland's class located in Watonga—Region 5.



Third Place statewide was awarded to Mitchell Mills at Bridge Creek Elementary in Mrs. Evans's class located in Blanchard—Region 1.



Honorable Mention statewide was awarded to Drew Smith at Durant Intermediate in Mrs. Kidd's class located in Durant—Region 3.

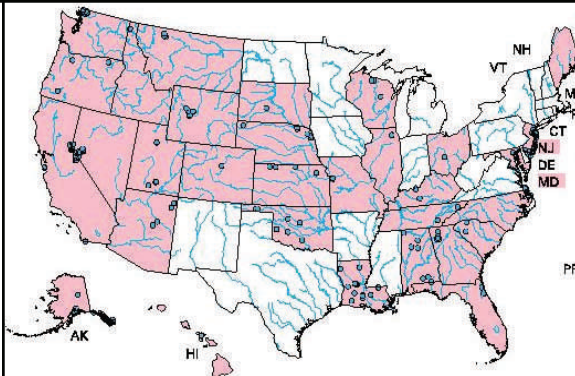
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management and policy responsibilities.

The USGS National stream gaging network is a unique partnership that fulfills many functions, is funded by numerous agencies, and is operated by one. This unique arrangement provides several important strengths and at least one weakness related to the determination of priorities for the number and location of stream gages. Among its strengths, the USGS stream gaging program provides nationally consistent and impartial data essential to water management and regulation across jurisdictional boundaries. Data is available to all potential users regardless of whether they help fund the network, which greatly expands the use of the information. Within each State, members of the water resources community play an active role in helping the USGS set priorities for stream gages, thereby enlisting financial support and fostering agreements on the functions and locations of the stream gages. Sharing the cost of stream gage operations means that a larger number of stream gages may be operated across the country than if the USGS funded the program alone.

The major weakness of this arrangement is that the USGS cannot design the network unilaterally - less than 15% of the funds that support stream gages are solely under the control of the USGS. Federal agencies, particularly the Corps of Engineers, traditionally have supported stream gages

for planning and design as well as day-to-day operations. However, Federal priorities for stream gages in some areas are left unmet. Finally, State and local funding from cooperators or data users (e.g. municipalities, counties, water districts and conservancies, river commissions, tribes) continues to be constrained as budget shortfalls are



Threatened stream gages operated by the USGS total 176

Coop Program funds. The USGS negotiates annually with its funding partners and tries to make sure that the three critical

definition of stream flow characteristics) of a particular region of the Nation. If data for a stream gage is of local interest only, such as an intrastate water allocation or water-quality control permit, the stream gage will not be supported by the Coop Program funds. The USGS negotiates annually with its funding partners and tries to make sure that the three critical priorities listed above are met, and that the cooperators' needs are met.

Typically, stream gages lack local support for a couple of reasons. The first is that hazard warning information is generally thought of as a Federal function and States and localities are not accustomed to paying for it. For example, information on

Five Federal goals are identified as those that should be met by the core set of USGS-funded stream gages in NSIP. Many other goals exist; these are the highest priority.

Interstate and International Waters - Interstate compacts, court decrees, and international treaties mandate long-term, accurate, and unbiased stream gaging by the USGS at State-line crossings, compact points, and international boundaries.

Streamflow Forecasts - Real-time stage and discharge data are required to support flood forecasting by the National Weather Service across the country.

River Basin Outflows - Resource managers need to account for the contribution of water from each of the Nation's 350 major river basins to the next downstream basin, estuary, ocean or the Great Lakes.

Sentinel Watersheds - A network of stream gaging stations is needed to describe the ever-changing status as it varies in response to changes in climate, land use, and water use in 800 watersheds across the country that are relatively unaffected by flow regulation or diversion and typify major ecoregions and river basins.

Water Quality - Stream gaging stations are needed to provide the streamflow information in support of the three national USGS water-quality networks: one that covers the Nation's largest rivers; the second for intermediate-sized rivers; and the third for small, pristine watersheds.

addressed at this level.

Due to the fact that the stream gaging network depends heavily on State and local partner, or "Cooperator's", interest and funding there are often significant year-to-year changes in individual stream gages remaining in operation, thereby causing instability in the network. This instability has important implications because the loss of long record stream gages reduces the potential value of streamflow information for infrastructure design applications and environmental assessments. This data is vital to the characterization of regional hydrologic conditions and understanding the changes occurring in streamflow. In Fiscal Year 2005 and 2006 nearly 200 critical long record stream gages were discontinued.

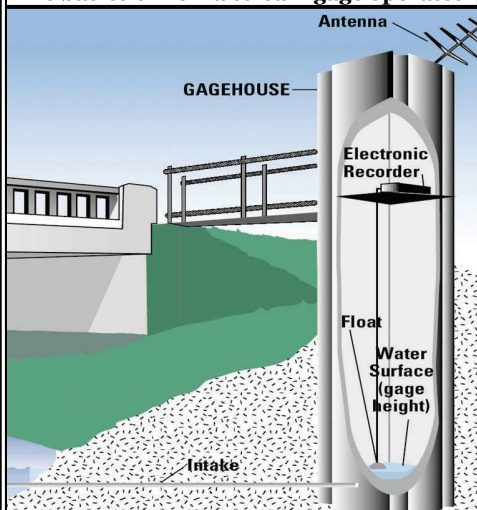
Stream gages are supported with cooperative funds if the data are used by other Federal agencies for flood and drought forecasting or operational purposes, or if the data enhances the hydrologic understanding (improved

severe storms (tornado or hurricane), earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are all funded by Federal money. Thus, emergency management agencies are not accustomed to budgeting for the data-collection and data-dissemination functions. Also, because of technological changes in the last couple of decades (satellite data transmission, Doppler radar for precipitation estimates and improvements in flood forecast models) the USGS streamflow data are now much more valuable from a hazard warning perspective than they were in the past. However, no agency's budget (NWS, USGS, FEMA, or State or local agencies) have been enhanced to take advantage of this real-time benefit.

To facilitate the dissemination and use of discharge data, the USGS began to provide real-time discharge data to government agencies and the general public through the National Water Information System (NWIS.) The NWIS contains hydrologic

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The basics of how a stream gage operates



NHA Honors W.B. "Bill" Smith with Henwood Lifetime Achievement Award

Washington, DC (Apr. 15, 2008) — The National Hydropower Association is pleased to announce that it will honor W.B. "Bill" Smith, P.E., with its Dr. Kenneth Henwood Award for lifetime achievements and contributions to the hydropower industry at its annual conference this year. A civil engineer and chair of the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association, Smith currently works with the consulting firm he launched in Tulsa in 2000.

"Bill Smith's passion for advancing hydropower technologies — and bringing its environmental, energy, and economic benefits to people throughout the world — are unmatched," said NHA executive director Linda Church Ciocci. "Thanks to his determination and drive, people everywhere from small-town Arkansas to rural Guatemala enjoy the benefits of having a reliable, affordable resource like hydropower in their regions."

Smith, who once served on NHA's board of directors with Kenneth Henwood, has been involved with NHA and its predecessor industry groups for more than 30 years. He has served as NHA's president, and he founded the organization's international committee, leading trade missions across the globe.

"We seek several special qualities when selecting a Henwood winner," said Donald H. Clarke, the Henwood selection committee chair and a past Henwood honoree. "We look for persistence in overcoming obstacles, a deep understanding of how engineering, environmental, and economic factors interrelate, and a fair-dealing, plain-spoken approach to business. But, most of all, we want to see exceptional dedication to hydropower and unflagging enthusiasm and leadership within the industry. Those are qualities Ken Henwood embodied, and they are attributes Bill Smith continues to demonstrate."

Smith is a professional engineer who received degrees from both the State University of New York at Morrisville and the University of Missouri at Rolla. After

graduation from Missouri in 1974, he joined the Tulsa consulting firm Benham-Holway Power Group, eventually rising to become executive vice president during his 27-year tenure there. Known as a tireless advocate for both his projects and the industry, Smith has led hydropower development projects in more than 26 countries and throughout the United States and he continues to pursue new hydropower projects through his consulting work.



From left to right—Don Clarke, Henwood Committee Chair, recipient W.B. Smith and Rick Miller, NHA 08-09 President

The Dr. Kenneth Henwood Award is the hydropower industry's most prestigious individual achievement award. NHA established the award in 1990 in memory of Kenneth Henwood, an NHA board member, engineer, and project developer who died while working a project in California.

Governor Proclaims May Flood Awareness Month

OKLAHOMA CITY - April 28, 2008—Because spring marks the unofficial beginning of the state's flood season and to make

citizens aware of flooding problems and solutions, Governor Brad Henry has designated May as "Flood Awareness Month" in Oklahoma.

"We remind citizens that heavy rains and severe storms typically occur in the early spring months, making this one of the most dangerous times of the year," says Duane Smith, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB).

"This proclamation will be of tremendous help to the Water Board in educating the public on flood safety procedures and

floodplain management techniques," Smith adds. Earlier, Governor Henry proclaimed March as "Flood Insurance Month," part of a state campaign to spread the word about the availability of affordable flood insurance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Oklahoma currently boasts 380 NFIP member communities, which consist of municipalities, counties, and tribes.

"Severe flooding episodes occur in Oklahoma virtually every year, most frequently in the spring and fall," says Gavin Brady, NFIP State Coordinator. "Implementation of sound floodplain management and building strategies, particularly through the NFIP, is the most effective way for communities to avert potential flood damages." However, he encourages communities to go "above and beyond" minimum NFIP standards, consistent with the national Association of State Floodplain Manager's ongoing 'No Adverse Impact' initiative. Brady points out that 89% of homes in Oklahoma's designated floodplains have no flood insurance.

On an individual basis, Brady reminds Oklahomans of the dangers of driving into floodwaters. "Almost one-half of all flood-related fatalities occur in vehicles, primarily when people drive into flooded highway dips or low drainage areas at night. As little as six inches of water can cause drivers to lose control of their vehicles. Two feet of water will sweep most cars off the road," he says.

Also, OWRB partners with the Oklahoma Insurance Department in providing workshops for insurance agents and insurance adjusters. A listing of workshop dates and locations may be found at www.owrb.state.ok.us. Agents and adjusters may earn six CEC's by attending one of these workshops.

"Oklahoma consumers need to be aware that their basic homeowner's insurance policy does not provide coverage to protect against damages created by flooding," said Insurance Commissioner Kim Holland. "I encourage everyone to consult the latest floodplain maps or visit with their local insurance agent to assess their need for flood insurance."

For more information on Flood Awareness Month and the National Flood Insurance Program, call Gavin Brady at 918/581-2924.



Governor Henry (right) with Gavin Brady, NFIP State Coordinator

PLEASE JOIN US!

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

18th Annual Conference



“Oklahoma Floods – How Prepared Can We be in a Changing Climate”

Monday, September 22 – Wednesday September 24, 2008

Sheraton Midwest City Hotel at the Reed Center

Something's happening to our World Climate – it's changing rapidly which leads to more intense weather events – something we are all aware of now....and it's Happening in Oklahoma!

After the Floods of 2007, our Annual Conference this year will focus its theme and tracks on Climate Change. The effects of a changing climate will impact both structural and nonstructural floodplain management in the future. The Conference Program will provide you with some perspectives and approaches to deal with the impacts of a changing climate.

Themes and Tracks -

The Times are Changing – Climate

Let's Look at It – Oklahoma from NW to SE – Water runs downhill

Manage What We've Got

Structural Management – Where are We?

Non-Structural Management

Pulling it Together

Where are We Going

Designed for anyone involved with floodplain issues:

- Floodplain Administrators
- Planners
- Engineers
- Insurance Agents
- Lenders
- Real Estate Professionals
- Elected & Appointed Officials
- Local, State & Federal Government Employees
- Interested Citizens
- Dam Owners
- Developers
- Emergency Responders
- Teachers and Students

Workshop provides 6 CECs.

Plan to attend, register early, reserve your hotel room(s), and participate.

OFMA has reserved rooms at Sheraton Midwest City Hotel at the Reed Conference Center, 5800 Will Rogers Road, Midwest City, Oklahoma 73110

1-800-325-3535, 1-405.455.1805 www.sheraton.com/midwestcity.

Cost is just \$81 or current prevailing Government Rate for Single, or Double plus tax per night.

Reservations due no later than August 29, 2008. Mention you are with Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association.

(Continued from page 4)

information collected by the USGS during the past 120 years. In this way real-time, hourly streamflow data for more than 6,500 stream gages as well as historical daily data over the entire network including stream

gages, wells, and chemical data from rivers, streams, lakes, springs and ground water is available. The on-line availability of the USGS data enables users to more easily

perform hydraulic and hydrologic analyses that are essential to the planning, design, and operation of water-resources projects. At the same time, serving the data through the World Wide Web has greatly reduced the

number of data requests that the USGS previously processed manually.

Over time, the USGS stream gaging network has changed as new needs for streamflow data have emerged and new technologies for

"In Oklahoma, we currently have 145 surface-water stations. Some of the gages have existed for almost 100 years and allow us to make informed water management decisions that balance resource utilization and ecological integrity. Unfortunately, the long-term sustainability of many of those gages is in jeopardy due to continued funding pressures." - Derek Smith, Chief, Water Quality Divisions and Kim Winton, Director, USGS Oklahoma Water Center in a letter to all USGS Cooperators dated February 8, 2008

data collection, analysis, and dissemination have evolved. In recent years, the USGS has focused on adapting new communications technologies to serve water-resource managers better, developing more efficient data-collection technologies, and expanding partnerships with other Federal, State, and local agencies. The USGS needs your support to be able to continue these processes and help protect life and property

from floods and to manage our water resources and aquatic environments.

References

[USGS Circular 1123](#), The Stream-gaging Program of the U.S. Geological Survey (By Kenneth L. Wahl, Wilbert O. Thomas, and Robert M. Hirsch)

[USGS Fact Sheet FS-209-95](#), Stream Gaging and Flood Forecasting, A partnership of the U.S. Geological Survey and the National Weather Service (By Robert R. Mason, Jr., USGS, and Benjamin A. Weiger, NWS)

[USGS Fact Sheet FS-006-97](#), Streamflow Information for the Nation (By Robert R. Mason, Jr. and Thomas H. Yorke, USGS)

[USGS Fact Sheet 2004-3068](#), Cooperative Water Program, A Partnership in the Nation's Water-Resource Program (By Bruce E. Taggart)

<http://water.usgs.gov>

Membership Drive Contest

In April 2006, the OFMA Membership Committee was formed to recruit, retain, and mentor OFMA members. The Committee developed this membership contest initially in 2006 as a way to increase the membership numbers and encourage existing members to spread the word about the benefits of OFMA membership. As of May 2008, OFMA has over 400 members and the Board is committed to seeing that number increase.

The Contest Rules are simple – encourage people interested in floodplain issues to become a member of OFMA and share experiences with other floodplain administrators. All current OFMA members (except OFMA Board and Committee Members) are eligible to participate. The new member's application must be submitted or postmarked by August 31, 2008, and the member's (contestant's) name must be noted on the application. The top three contestants with the most points will be the winners. The points are calculated as follows: **3** point for a Corporate Member, **2** points for an Agency Member and **1** point for a Full Member. The winners and prizes will be announced at the Fall Annual OFMA Conference in September.

Good Luck!

Omeed Mollaian, P.E., CFM
OFMA Membership Committee Chair

HMGP FUNDING

W. B. Smith, OFMA Chair, has written a White Paper entitled the "Use of FEMA HMGP Funding." In this document Mr. Smith has presented OFMA's position in regards to the availability and use of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding from FEMA as well as the types of projects the funding may be used for.

All interested parties are encouraged to read the document submitted by Mr. Smith. You may do so by following the link below or by accessing OFMA's website.

http://www.okflood.org/pdf/OFMA_HMGP_Funding.pdf

ANSWERS TO TOUGH QUESTIONS



FEMA

To provide assistance before or after a flood, the National Flood Insurance Program has developed a document entitled, "Answers to Tough Questions" that will help provide answers and reassure those affected by a flood. The document may be accessed from:

<http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=2811>



Question: Under the OWRB Accreditation program, what is the accreditation year and when does your accreditation expire?

Answer: The accreditation year is July 1- June 30 each year. Your accreditation expires June 30 of each year.

Question: If you are the accredited floodplain administrator for your community what is required to renew your accreditation?

Answer: The official FPA is required to attend at least 6 hours of approved floodplain management training each accreditation year.

Web Sites

OFMA www.okflood.org

ASFPM www.floods.org

OWRB www.owrb.state.ok.us

FEMA www.fema.gov

OEM www.ok.gov/oem

Corps of Engineers (USACE)

www.swt.usace.army.mil

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

ok.water.usgs.gov

Advanced Study Institute

web.uccs.edu/geogenvs/natoasi

CLOMR/LOMR Forms:

www.fema.gov/fhm/frm_form.shtm

EPA NPDES Phase II site:

www.epa.gov/npdes/

SMRC Stormwater Mgr Resource Center:

www.stormwatercenter.net

FEMA Official NFIP Site:

www.floodsmart.gov

Link to: 44 CFR Ch. I (10-1-02 Edition)

http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/fr/wais_idx_02/44cfrv1_02.html

Webmaster: Tinna Song-Wallis

tsong@cox.net

Calendar of Educational Opportunities

- 2008 Floodplain Management 101 or Map Modernization; the Map Adoption Process, & Advanced Floodplain Management**
 Floodplain Management Class Schedule. Apply online or Contact Cathy Poage (580) 256-1014
 August 14, 2008 - 101 in Norman, Advanced in Tulsa
 October 14, 2008 - 101 in Norman, Advanced in Norman
 January 15, 2009 - 101 in Norman, Advanced in Tulsa
 February 2-6, 2009 - Week long CFM in Norman
 February 12, 2009 - 101 in Norman, Substantial Damage Estimator in Norman
 March 3, 2009 - 101 in Lawton, Advanced in Lawton
 March 5, 2009 - 101 in Woodward, Advanced in Woodward
 March 10, 2009 - 101 in Bartlesville, Advanced in Bartlesville
 March 12, 2009 - 101 in Norman, Substantial Damage Estimator in Tulsa
 March 24, 2009 - 101 in McAlester, Advanced in McAlester
 April 9, 2009 - 101 in Norman, Advanced in Norman
 May 12, 2009 - 101 in Norman, Letter Of Map Change in Norman
 May 14, 2009 - 101 in Norman, Letter Of Map Change in Tulsa
- ASFPM 32nd Annual Conference;** May 18-23, 2008; Reno, NV.
www.floods.org
- FEMA's Annual National Flood Conference;** May 20-23, 2008; Chicago, IL. Sponsored by the NFIP; website: www.fema.gov/business/nfip/natl_fldconf.shtm
- National Floodproofing Conference IV;** November 17-20, 2008; New Orleans, LA
- 2008 National Hydraulic Engineering Conference;** August 26-29, 2008, Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland, ME, 04101. Sponsored by the FHWA, MDOT and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Cold Research Laboratory; website: www.maine.gov/mdot/workshops-conferences-events/workshops-events.php
- OFMA 18th Annual Conference;** September 21-24, 2008, Sheraton Midwest City Hotel at the Reed Conference Center, Midwest City, OK, 73110. Contact: OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101; website: www.okflood.org.
- 2010 ASFPM National Conference;** June 13th-19th, 2010, Oklahoma City OK. Local Host OFMA; website: www.okflood.org.

OFMA General Store

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association gifts are now available. The attractive OFMA articles are of the highest quality. You will be proud to wear and display them.

To Order: OFMA

P.O. Box 8101

Tulsa, OK 74101

Or call Carolyn Schultz

(918) 669-4919



OFMA Golf Shirt	
(S, M, L, X-L)	35.00
Briefcase	25.00
Baseball Cap	
(One size fits all)	15.00
Insulated Mug	10.00
Umbrella	20.00
Portfolio	25.00
Lapel Pin	3.00
CFM Lapel Pin	5.00

Shipping and handling \$4.95 per order.

2010 ASFPM National Conference

June 13th—19th, 2010, Renaissance Hotel & Conference Center, Oklahoma City, OK



The week of June 13th—19th, 2010, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) will convene the world's principal floodplain management conference. The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association (OFMA) is the local host for this exciting event. At this once-in-a-life-time opportunity local, state, and federal officials, as well as consultants, industry leaders and additional interested parties will be gathered together attending sessions relevant to a single theme.

During the week industry experts will organize plenary and concurrent sessions and share progressive information in techniques, programs, and resources to accomplish flood mitigation, watershed management, and other community goals.

Please plan now to join with participants from across the nation at this electrifying event. Look to upcoming issues from the *BFE* or ask *OFMA*, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101; website: www.okflood.org for more detailed information as we draw closer to this occasion.



Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

Vision

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association advocates the protection of the natural functions of the floodplain through education, training, and service to Oklahomans.

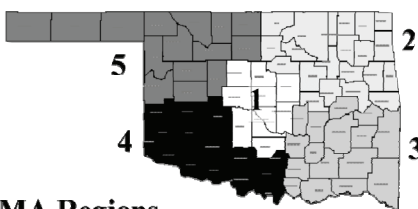
Mission

We encourage and support, with our partners, flood-safe development and flood mitigation. We promote sound floodplain management practices and the natural and cultural benefits of the floodplain. We support the floodplain management profession through education and certification.

Saving lives from floods and reducing property loss from floods are paramount to us.

An Invitation to Join OFMA

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association is a non-profit organization primarily dedicated to providing information and education to the public about reduction of loss of life and property due to flooding.



The best investment that \$30.00 can buy in the future of your state is a membership in the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association.

OFMA Regions

OFMA Membership Application

Name: _____

Fax: _____

Title: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Work Phone: _____

Address: _____

Detach and Mail to:

OFMA

P.O. Box 8101

Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

New Member: ☐

Renewal: ☐

Region (see map): 1 2 3 4 5

Committees:

- ☐ Mitigation
- ☐ Mapping and Engineering
- ☐ Education/Legislative
- ☐ Certification
- ☐ Conference
- ☐ Research

Dues Schedule:

First-Year dues for joining OFMA are listed below. The fiscal year for membership starts October 1st and ends September 30th.

Full Membership	\$ 30.00
Student Membership	15.00
Associate Membership	20.00
Agency Membership	50.00
(Plus \$10.00 per employee designated by the Agency)	
Corporate Sponsor	100.00



Map Mod Winding Down

Notes from the State NFIP Coordinator
Gavin Brady, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, NFIP

In the United States, 80% of all natural disasters are flood related. Almost every American faces some risk of flooding while nearly 30 million people live in floodplains where the chance of flooding is about 1 in 4 over the course of a 30-year mortgage. Although never an exact science, flood maps are essential in helping us determine areas of flood risk.

In 2004, FEMA began the digital mapping process we know as "Map Modernization". Flood maps are accessed more than 30 million times each year for planning and design activities and for lending and real estate transactions. As we continue to move towards a paperless society, Map Mod is also looking towards the future. FEMA had originally planned to map the entire Nation. After taking a closer look into the program an adjustment was made to scale down to 90% of the U.S. population. In Oklahoma, 41 of the 77 counties have already been identified and will be mapped. Representatives from FEMA, OWRB, USACE and the mapping contractor spent 2 weeks in Oklahoma last month conducting 14 scoping meetings. These meetings were held in Mayes, Delaware, Adair, Sequoyah, Le Flore, McCurtain, Texas, Kingfisher, Lincoln, Custer, Seminole, Pontotoc, Jackson and Caddo Counties. These meetings were held to discuss the Map Mod process and give the community a better understanding. Thank you to those community officials who attended the meetings. This is the last group of counties to be scoped under the Map Modernization program. We have been told Map Mod will evolve into "Risk Map" however the funding and details of the new program have yet to be released.

With the 41 scoping meetings



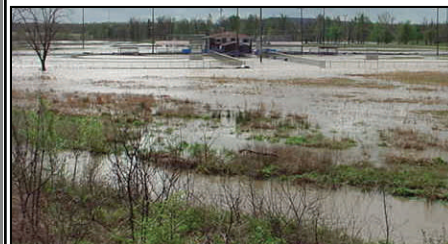
complete, it's time to focus on the next phase of Map Mod. The map contractor will take up to 18 months to review the data acquired and produce the digital flood insurance rate map (DFIRM). Once the map is produced, FEMA will schedule a coordinators consultation organizational (CCO) meeting to give communities a chance to review and

comment. If a community has an issue with the new maps, that community will have 90 days to submit an official appeal or protest. After the 90 days FEMA will address the A and P's and may or may not accept them. If a community has no A and P's the maps will usually be completed 12 months after the CCO meeting. If protests are received it may take an additional 6-12 months. The next step is to receive a letter of final determination (LFD). Don't you love all these acronyms? When the LFD is sent to your community it will have the "effective date" the map becomes official. The LFD is sent approximately 6 months prior to the effective date giving that community plenty of time to (1) adopt the map and (2) adopt a new set of ordinances or regulations.

Once the LFD has been sent, the OWRB will contact each community within that County and schedule a meeting to discuss the map and ordinance adoption process. We've conducted these meetings in McLain, Osage, Cleveland, Canadian and Washington Counties and have over 30 more counties to visit in the next 1-3 years. The OWRB looks forward to this challenge and especially the opportunity to work with you.

Gavin Brady, CFM
NFIP State Coordinator

Flood Zone



Pictures taken from the flood event April 9th and 10th, 2008, in McAlester, Oklahoma. At one point in time, over two inches of rain fell in a seven-hour period as severe weather impacted the area. Pictures taken by Cliff Pitner, Floodplain Administrator, City of McAlester.

OFMA recently responded with \$400 to a request for donations from the ASFPM Foundation Development Committee Chair sent to chapters nationwide. These donations will allow the Foundation to provide ongoing support for the Gilbert White Floodplain 2050 Forum, the Foundation Symposium, the half-time sponsorship of a grant application writing position for the ASFPM Executive Office, the Nick Winter Scholarship, initiative research and materials, and many other programs in support of advancing sound floodplain management throughout the nation. OFMA is asking for its members to help cover the cost of this support for the Foundation. Please remember that your donations are tax-deductible and help support the great work being done nationwide.



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Change Service Requested

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Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association 2007-2008

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