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## LFMA 28th Annual Technical & Business Conference

April 27-29, 2011

Holiday Inn

Lafayette, LA

*“Raise Now, Save Later”*

Registration is Now  
Open

Conference agenda & registration form is now available on  
our website at [www.lfma.org](http://www.lfma.org)

**Early Registration Discount deadline is April 11, 2011**

**FULL  
CONFERENCE  
AGENDA ON PAGE  
7 OF THE  
NEWSLETTER!**

**YOU DON'T  
WANT TO MISS  
THIS!**

### CONFERENCE HOTEL

The conference will take place at the Holiday Inn in Lafayette, minutes from I-10 & I-49. All room accommodations should be made directly through the hotel:

Holiday Inn—Lafayette  
2032 NE Evangeline Thruway-  
US 167  
Lafayette, LA  
(337) 233-6815 or  
1-800-942-4868



## **FROM THE CHAIR**

*I hope the start of 2011 has been a safe and happy time for the members of the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association. LFMMA*

*is once again gearing up for its Annual Conference that will be held in Lafayette, Louisiana this year. The Summer Workshop will be held in Monroe, and we are working on the Fall Workshop already.*



*Anyone interested in hosting a workshop should contact Darla Duet, Workshop Coordinator.*

*The Annual Conference will be held during the **Festival d' International**. This conference is shaping up to be outstanding and we realize that many communities have suffered budget cuts and limitations so with the conference being so centrally located we hope to have one of the largest participations ever!*

*The 2011 LFMMA Calendars have been printed and made available to Region Reps during the January 2011 Board Meeting in Lafayette. This is just a reminder that the National Conference for the Association of State Floodplain Manager (ASFPM) will be held during the month of May 2011 in Kentucky.*

*Recently Annual Membership Renewal Notices were sent out and to date the membership of LFMMA is over 325 with renewals still being returned. Not only is the membership growing but the number of CFM's assigned to the State is growing! Your certification shows that you are the expert for your community and that you are working on their behalf!*

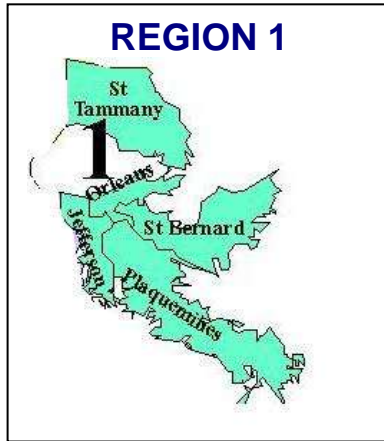
*Again I ask you, do not forget to mark your calendars for future conferences (State and National), workshops and board meetings. Check the website [www.LFMMA.org](http://www.LFMMA.org) as well as this newsletter for dates and locations. We are trying to make the website easier to read and also serve as a historical reference place. If you would like to speak on a special topic or have a topic discussed, please let your Region Rep or any LFMMA Board Member know.*

*As I close, once again let me say that we'll be looking forward to seeing each of you at the annual conference. Please don't miss out; make your reservations early!*

**"KEEP LOUISIANA SAFE THROUGH FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT"**

**James R. Demouchet, CFM  
Chairman**

## *A word from your Regional Representative...*



Around the region, the buzz is from the retirement of Tom Rodrigue, Jefferson Parishes first full time Floodplain Manager. Tommy's years of service to his community as well as to LFMA will be missed. Coastal Shoring got him to rise out of retirement and go back to work. No couch for you Tom... Newcomer and Toms replacement, Paula Blackwell, has taken over the floodplain management duties. Meanwhile, around the parish, Nora and Irvin in Grand Isle, Danika Gorrondona with the City of Greta, Margaret Broussard with the City of Harahan, Yvette Crain with the Town of Jean Lafitte, Carol Blanchard with the City of Westwego. St. Tammany Parish- Chris Brown (Mandeville) and Steve Benton (Madisonville) are awaiting

FEMA'S issuance of the DFIRM LFD. Once effective, this new flood map could and will save their residents thousands of dollars in flood insurance premiums. There are some appeals going on in the western part of the parish. Parish and FEMA engineers are working on these appeals and hope to have it resolved in the next few months. Floodplain managers Alan Pelegrin, Donna O'Dell, and Al Courouleau from their respective parishes have been keeping up with floodplain management issues.

Orleans Parish – Paul May and Pat Trainor are awaiting the completion of the levee projects presently underway by the Corp of Engineers. June 2011 can't come soon enough. That is the date the Corp has said their levees will be complete.

St. Bernard Parish- Floodplain Manager intern Mary Chimento has her hands full with her new position but is confident that she can do the job.

Plaquemines Parish – Mike Metcalf is finally catching his breath as the BP disaster recovery is slowing down. Mike is looking forward to the LFMA conference where he can share his experiences.

*Tom Rodrigue, CFM*  
*Wayne Berggren, CFM*



As everyone in or around our profession knows, April is Flood Awareness month, and with the Mississippi River among others on the rise, it is great timing. This is our time to shine and promote what we all live, breath and practice – flood awareness. Many participating communities use this time differently, but the important thing is to get the information out to the public.

I am constantly amazed time and time again of those in our area that just do not realize the threat flooding poses in certain parts of our Parishes. Well, that is where we come in as local floodplain administrators and managers. It is our job to get the word out so all citizens and individual property owners are aware of the measures which can be taken by himself or through government to reduce the risk of flood losses.

Some of our most devastating floods occur during the spring season. Many of us in Region II are impacted by the floods associates with the Amite Rivers and its tributaries. So go out and communicate, or educate the public you serve through any means you have. Be it proclamations by local elected officials, small presentations at Police Jury or Council meetings, articles in local papers or on billboards. It is not just your duty make sure proper permitting requirements are satisfied, but also to be proactive and get the information out.

Bottom line, our jobs are about public safety, general welfare, and protection of property. The best way to do our jobs is through education and information to enable the public at large to be aware. So, use Flood Awareness month for what it is, and make the best of your time and duty to the public you serve.

*Jim Ferguson , PE, CFM*



On Thursday, 10 March 2011, FEMA agreed to discontinue the use of “without levee” analysis as it pertains to flood maps. This will have a significant impact on **Lafourche Parish** DFIRMS. The Parish is anxiously waiting to see what the elevations on the new maps will be.

Lafourche Parish Government has announced the commencement of work on a parish-wide Comprehensive Plan for sustainable future growth and development. This plan will help Lafourche Parish accommodate development for the next 20 years.

Lafourche Parish President Charlotte Randolph has accepted an invitation from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency to become a member of its Local Government Advisory Committee’s Gulf Coast Restoration Workgroup.

*Darla Duet, CFM*

**Terrebonne Parish** is continuing to focus on the safety, health and beauty of our waterways. Using Community Development Block Grant funding, the Parish will be removing close to one hundred derelict vessels from six bayous. An RFP for the first 43 was released in early March. The nearly \$1 million project was preceded by a cooperative project between the Parish and the Coast Guard to remove 63 derelict vessels from navigable waterways. The Parish has also applied for funding through NOAA for a debris prevention program in cooperation with local nonprofit associations.

*Lisa Ledet, CFM*



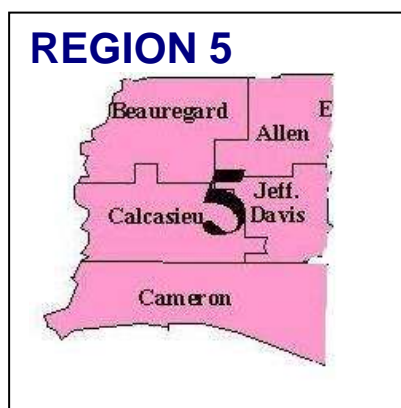
**St Mary Parish** - completed some hazard mitigation houses from Katrina/Rita funding. Working completing CAVS.

Franklin - Building official just completed floodplain 101 at EMI in Maryland.

**Morgan City** - has completed 5-yr cycle visit for CRS, waiting on outcome. Received class 5 BCEGS rating. Still working on DFIRM appeal.

**Vermillion Parish** - received money to assist with elevating structures along with funding allocated from Katrina/Rita.

*Shedrick Berard  
Carl Kraemer, CFM*



**Allen Parish** maps go into effect on March 17, 2011.

**Calcasieu Parish** adopted new DFIRMs and they have been processing quite a few LOMA requests.

**Town of Iowa** adopted DFIRMs that became effective February 18, 2011. Many thanks to all who worked to make the revision possible.

*Sandra Turley*



On February 15<sup>th</sup>, FEMA held an “Over the Shoulder” or “Risk Assessment” meeting for **Rapides Parish** officials to review draft “without levee” DFIRMs prior to Preliminary Maps being released. The release date was expected to be March 25<sup>th</sup>, but as a result of Congressman Rodney Alexander’s efforts, FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate has directed his staff to halt the “without levee” practice and re-examine its approach. We have been receiving a large volume of calls from homeowners,

insurance agents and mortgage lenders regarding flood insurance. We will continue to use 1984, 1997 and 1999 effective maps. We have also begun a wind retrofit project and have submitted are working on other HMGP applications.

**Vernon Parish** maps went into effect on March 3, 2011. They will also receive funding to restore the community’s Museum of West Louisiana that was damaged during Hurricane Rita.

*Melissa Becker, CFM*

**REGION 7**

On March 3rd representatives from FEMA VI held a coordination meeting with the Parish to provide an update on the mapping project. The meeting was well attended by officials from the city and parish, the levee districts, Senator Vitter's office and engineers.

FEMA is conducting a new flood study to revise the Flood Insurance Rates Maps and to assess the flood risk of communities that have unaccredited flood protection levees before it approves new flood risk maps. The **City of Natchitoches and Parish of Natchitoches** are included in that group of communities where the provisional levee accreditation has expired. Both communities still have

outstanding flood map appeals that are under review. No definitive time frame for this study was provided at the meeting according to FEMA reps. We therefore continue to use the original flood maps from the September 1987 and December 1998 studies.

*Juanita Fowler, CFM*

**REGION 8**

The levees are the main focus in Region 8. A letter written to FEMA by House members urging FEMA to discontinue the "without levee" analysis to determine new flood maps has prompted FEMA to temporarily halt new map studies on area where the levees are not accredited. In **Ouachita Parish**, a new flood study by FEMA had begun in February to re-map areas where PALs had expired. So, it looks like the old FIRM maps from 1994 are here to stay for a while.

Region 8 is looking forward to our annual conference in April. We hope to see everyone there!

*Lisa Richardson, CFM*

## LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

### 28<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE TECHNICAL & BUSINESS CONFERENCE

April 27, 28, 29, 2011

Lafayette, Louisiana

### "Raise Now, Save Later"

*Holiday Inn- Lafayette, LA - (337) 233-6815 or 1-800-942-4868*

*2032 NE Evangeline Thruway-US 167*

### Schedule of Events:

#### WEDNESDAY – APRIL 27, 2011

8:30 - 3:00 Registration

7:30 – 12:30 **Wetlands in the Fairway/Open Space**  
Technical Tour  
\*Acadian Hills GC, Lafayette, LA\*

#### SESSION I

2:00 – 2:15 **Welcome, City Parish President**  
*The Honorable Joey Durel-Lafayette, LA*

2:15 – 2:45 **Dr. Ehab Meselhe-C.H. Fenstermaker**  
*Development in the Floodplain & Floodway*

2:45 – 3:15 **Pat Skinner – LSU Ag. Center**  
*LSU Mapping Website*

3:15 – 3:30 B R E A K

3:30 – 4:00 **Monica Farris – UNO/CHART**  
*Building Partnerships in Mitigation*

4:00 - 4:30 **Larry Fordham/Joe Sloan**  
**FEMA-LRQ**  
*2 Year Preferred Rate Policy Extension*

5:00 – Till **Wine and Cheese Reception**  
*(Networking at its best)*

#### THURSDAY – APRIL 28, 2011

8:00 – 12:00 Registration

8:00 – 8:30 Coffee and Danish

#### SESSION II

8:30– 9:00 **Durand Elzey – USACE New Orleans**  
*The Big 5 Parishes Levee Certification*

9:00 – 10:00 **Dr. Joannes Westerink – Notre Dame**  
*The Evolution of Hurricanes Gustav & Ike*

10:00 – 10:15 B R E A K

10:15 – 10:45 **Shona Gibson – Project Engineer**  
**FEMA Region 6**  
*Risk Map Discovery Update 2011*

10:45 - 11:15 **Jerry Daniels – Dewberry**  
*Bringing Map Modeling to Life*

11:15 - 11:45 **Jerome Zerique-LA Coastal**  
**Restoration**  
*New FEMA DFIRMs and the Effects to LA*

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch – Keynote Speaker  
James J. Donelon  
LA Commissioner of Insurance

#### SESSION III

1:45 – 2:15 **David Hiegel – FEMA Region 6**  
*Substantial Damage Estimator-2011*

2:15 - 2:45 **Mark Roberts – ICC**  
*ICC and the NFIP*

2:45 – 3:15 **Surya Ravulaparthi-Michael Baker**  
*Louisiana Coastal DFIRM Update*

3:15 - 3:30 B R E A K

3:30 - 4:00 **Jeffrey Giering - GOHSEP**  
*Louisiana Update*

4:00 – 4:30 **Cindy O'Neal & Staff**  
**LA DOTD-Floodplain Management**  
*Accomplishments 2010 – Goals 2011*  
*Panel Discussion*

5:30 – Till **Hospitality Cookout**  
*Downtown Lafayette*

#### FRIDAY – APRIL 29, 2011

#### SESSION IV

8:30 – 8:45 **Bart Standley - ASFPM**  
*Purpose & Goals of the ASFPM Foundation*

8:45 - 9:15 **Tom Rodrigue – Coastal Shoring**  
*Shoring/Elevation Contractor Requirements*

9:15 – 9:45 **Richard Kleiner – Southern Pine**  
**Products**  
*Raised House Construction*

9:45 - 10:00 B R E A K

10:00 – 10:30 **Rob Perillo – KATC-TV 3**  
*Hurricane Tracking Modeling*

10:30 - 11:00 **Linda Duhon – Vermilion Parish**  
**Pam Mattingly – Calcasieu Parish**  
*HMGP – Lessons Learned About DFIRMs*

11:00 - Til **General Business Meeting**  
**Election of Regional Representatives**  
**2011 Conference Wrap Up**  
*James Demouchet-LFMA Chairman*

1:00 – 4:00 **CFM Exam (pre-registered applicants only)**  
*Bonnie Anderson, CFM - Proctor*

(Registration must be made through the ASFPM by April 15, 2011 contact Anita Larson at (608) 274-0123 or online @ [www.floods.org](http://www.floods.org) )

#### FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT:

Conference Chair: Bonnie Anderson [bjannino@saranopro.org](mailto:bjannino@saranopro.org)

Program Chairs:  
Rodney Smith (504) 762-2547 [rodnew.smith@dhs.gov](mailto:rodnew.smith@dhs.gov) Wayne Berggren(504) 762-2296  
[wayns.berggren@dhs.gov](mailto:wayns.berggren@dhs.gov)

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS**

Louisiana Flood Plain Management Association is a group of about 300 members from all levels of government, the private sector and the university communities. We are held together by a common thread – the desire to reduce flood damages. To accomplish this, we

- encourage plans, projects and legislation for flood damage reductions
- support comprehensive floodplain management
- work for free and open exchange of information
- provide and promote training and assistances to local government
- advocate coordination among all levels of government and existing programs

As members of LFMA, we benefit from these objectives but to take full advantage of the organization, you need to become part of the leadership. The elected board of directors include the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Regional Representatives from the eight districts. The regional representatives

- Work on the annual conference and semi-annual workshops
- Help develop responses when the board chooses to comment on issues of state or national concern
- Distribute information to their regional members
- Bring ideas from their region to the board and
- Report on activity within the region to the newsletter

The opportunity for you to participate in these activities is approaching. All you need to do to be placed on the ballot is to provide the following information to the LFMA Secretary, Ms. Dana Guidry, CFM, [dguidry@cppj.net](mailto:dguidry@cppj.net) by April 20, 2011.



## THE MITIGATION CORNER

By: Michael D. Hunnicutt, CFM

The 2011 Hurricane Season is fast approaching and we all need to be prepared, personally and professionally. When disaster strikes, you need to know your responsibilities as a Floodplain Manager and Community Official. FEMA offers a wide range of materials and brochures that can make all of our jobs easier to accomplish as well as explain to the public different programs and benefits available from FEMA. This issue of the “Mitigation Corner” will focus on “The NFIP and how it relates to Disaster Preparedness” and how a community official can use this information to help your community.

Before a disaster strikes your community, assess your needs as a community official. Do you and your staff have the proper training to advise residents and business owners in your community for preparing for a disaster? Do you know the risk in your community, and where these risks are? Are you knowledgeable on the CFR44 as it relates to the National Flood Insurance Program and your responsibilities as a community official? Be prepared for any disaster. If you need training, contact Region VI, Louisiana Recovery Office, or State NFIP Officials for information on upcoming available training for you and your staff. Know your flood maps and where the risks are in your community. Read and understand your Parish or Cities Ordinances as well as the CFR44, and know your responsibilities.

After a disaster strikes your community, be prepared by knowing how you can help your community recover quickly. Do you know your Substantial Damage and Substantial Improvement regulations and responsibilities? Have you or your staff been trained on Substantial Damage Estimator? Have you been in contact with the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness recently? Are you familiar with the Grants available from FEMA and other Federal Agencies for Disaster Recovery? Substantial Damage and Substantial Improvements are very important after a disaster. FEMA’s Substantial Damage Estimator Software is available free and training is also available to local officials to learn how to assess damage to a structure after a disaster for compliance purposes. FEMA Region VI, Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, and the Louisiana Recovery Office offers the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to help communities recover after a Federally Declared Disaster. There are also Hazard Mitigation Grants that are non-disaster related available to communities. The FEMA Library is an excellent outlet to review and download FEMA Publications filled with information on these and other programs available to help fund recovery efforts in your community.

FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. If you have any questions about the Mitigation Section of FEMA or any of its programs, you can contact Michael Hunnicutt, CFM, Deputy Section Chief, Hazard Mitigation Division, NFIP/Compliance, FEMA, DHS, at 504-762-2298 or visit FEMA website at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

### The requirements to maintain your ASFPM CFM Certification are:

- You must earn at least 4 of your required CECs in your first year of the two year period.
- Over the two year period, acquire 16 Continuing Education Credits (CEC's), of which a maximum of 12 can be earned in any one year.
- On or before completion of the two years, submit the renewal form (ASFPM will send you) and the appropriate fee for recertification, furnishing a listing of the training and/or education courses you have completed.

**For a current list of ASFPM Certified Floodplain Managers visit:**

[www.floods.org/Certification/certlist.asp](http://www.floods.org/Certification/certlist.asp)



### EXAM OPPORTUNITY

**CFM Exam** will be offered following the E-273 Class in Shreveport, LA on **April 1st** and following the LFMA Annual Conference in Lafayette, LA on **April 29th**

Please register at [www.floods.org](http://www.floods.org)  
click on Certification

**You must be pre-registered. Walk-ins NOT accepted.**



The E-273 Class has been scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>. The CFM Exam will be given on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. The class will be presented at the Holiday Inn at 102 Lake Street in Downtown Shreveport (318) 222-7717. The Holiday Inn rooms are \$74 - \$79 per night. Everyone should schedule their own hotel reservations.

**Cindy N. O'Neal, CFM**  
**Louisiana NFIP State Coordinator**

## Alexander Introduces Fair Treatment of Levees Act of 2011

RELEASED 02/17/11

CONTACT: Jamie Hanks | (202) 225-8490

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander, R-Quitman, today introduced legislation to ensure the fair treatment of existing levees and flood control structures under the national flood insurance program.

Alexander's bill says FEMA may not use the assumption that an existing levee or flood control structure does not exist to designate an area as having new flood hazards pursuant to issuance, revision, updating or any other purpose to implement changes in flood insurance maps. An exception will be granted in cases where no affected community notifies FEMA of objections to the Administrator's hazard modeling processes within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

Alexander says this bill would **“force FEMA to take into consideration the level of actual protection provided by an unaccredited structure. This legislation will give everybody involved—Members of Congress, FEMA, and constituents—more time to thoroughly investigate flooding risks and ensure those risks are being accurately assessed.”**



FEMA's remapping program has faced significant opposition in regions with unaccredited flood control structures. FEMA has an all-or-nothing approach to accounting for some levees on the flood maps, meaning that if a particular levee has not been accredited, FEMA will redraw the given flood map as if the levee does not exist at all.

Alexander says he believes, **“This practice is controversial, imprecise, and will potentially force countless Americans to unnecessarily purchase costly flood insurance.**

**“Perhaps most importantly, this practice causes Americans to lose faith in the map modernization process itself, and a healthy, solvent flood insurance program relies on willing cooperation from our citizens and communities. Taxpayers all across the country simply cannot understand how the federal government can make a flood control structure, which they can see with their eyes and touch with their hands, just disappear.”**

The full text of the bill is attached.

[Fair Treatment Of Levees Act](#) ( 02/17/11 02:22 PM PST)

## Alexander's Pressure Gets Results

RELEASED 03/10/11

### **Alexander's Pressure Gets Results FEMA Reassesses Flawed 'Without Levee' Practice Due to Alexander's Legislative Leadership**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander, R-Quitman, today received notification from FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate that he has directed his staff to halt its flawed “without levee” practice as a result of Alexander's legislative leadership.

In recent weeks, Alexander spearheaded two endeavors in his campaign to call crucial attention to the levee remapping process. He introduced H.R. 764, The Fair Treatment of Existing Levees Act of 2011, as well as directed a bipartisan effort of 49 House Members in a letter urging FEMA to discontinue its use of “without levees” analysis to determine new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) in instances where communities would be negatively impacted by the lack of accuracy. These are the latest initiatives in Alexander's aggressive levee crusade, and thankfully, a positive outcome has been reached.

FEMA's remapping program has faced significant opposition in regions with unaccredited flood control structures. Before the strong challenge exuded by Alexander and his colleagues, FEMA had an all-or-nothing approach to accounting for some levees on the flood maps, meaning that if a particular levee did not meet regulatory

requirements, FEMA would redraw the given flood map as if the levee never existed, dismissing any protection the current structure provides.

According to Alexander, **“This practice is controversial, imprecise, and will potentially force countless Americans to unnecessarily purchase costly flood insurance.**

**“Perhaps most importantly, this practice causes Americans to lose faith in the map modernization process itself. A healthy, solvent flood insurance program relies on willing cooperation from our citizens and communities. Taxpayers all across the country simply cannot understand how the federal government can make a flood control structure, which they can see with their eyes and touch with their hands, just disappear.”**

Alexander says that this legislative pressure **“led FEMA to finally re-examine its approach so that the needs of our citizens are better and more fairly served.”**

According to the letter from Fugate, “FEMA will temporarily withhold issuing Final Determinations for those communities whose levees do not meet accreditation requirements and would clearly benefit from this new approach.”

**“Now, all involved—Members of Congress, FEMA and constituents—have more time to thoroughly investigate flooding risks and ensure those risks are being accurately assessed,”** said Alexander. **“This is a win for property owners from coast to coast.”**

## **Alexander Introduces Legislation to Define Levee Maintenance Responsibility**

RELEASED 03/16/11

### **Alexander Introduces Legislation to Define Levee Maintenance Responsibility *Time to Bring Our Levees Up to Par***

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander, R-Quitman, filed legislation that would require the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to take responsibility for major maintenance for the Red-Ouachita River Basin Levees of Arkansas and Louisiana. Regarding his bill, Alexander issued the following remarks:

**“With FEMA’s recent announcement to withhold its ‘without levee’ approach, it’s time to address whose responsibility it is to get our levees up to par. Until this point, these roles have not been clearly defined.**

**“In the past, the Corps has had levee maintenance under its control and budget, and this is where it should stay. Many local and state levee boards lack the revenue stream to bring our levees to a standard that can be certified. Moreover, many flood control structures have suffered severely from a long-term lack of funding for repairs, maintenance and upgrades.**

**“My bill puts the burden of responsibility on the shoulders of the federal government, and not on the backs of local levee districts.”**

A copy of Alexander’s legislation is attached.

*U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander, R-Quitman, represents the 5th Congressional District and serves on the House Appropriations Committee. Alexander founded and serves as co-chairman of the Congressional Levee Caucus.*

## Mitigation's successful partnership with Google

Jack Anderson  
Emergency Management Program Specialist  
FEMA - Regional & Disaster Support

Google has launched an e-reader service that uses Google Books to, making every FEMA publication housed on the platform convertible to formats that can be downloaded and read on portable e-reader devices such as Kindles, iPads, iPhones, Android phones and a broad range of eReader devices. A description is available at Google's [eReader service](#), and click on [FEMA publications](#) for a sample of FEMA's publications.

Mitigation initiated a project in 2009 that made the FEMA the first federal agency to make their content available through Google Books. Google Books is an online resource that allows publishers to offer viewable, searchable and downloadable versions of their publications on the Google Web site.

Working with External Affairs and the FEMA office of the Chief council, FEMA mitigation publications were the first to be added to the [Google Books](#) Web site. These are free of charge, and can be downloaded and shared in PDF format.

There are currently more than 80 mitigation publications available on the Google Books Web site, and each publication is available for download to an eReader device. Searching Google Books by author, users are able to locate and download mitigation publications in PDF or eReader formats. Click [here](#) to view a sample search.

Providing our publications on this extremely public and widely used format will greatly expand their reach as well as provide more convenient and immediate service to our current stakeholders, according to FEMA Mitigation officials. FEMA Mitigation is constantly striving to advance the goals and message of mitigation, reducing the risk to life and property, and this ongoing effort to engage technological advances in distributing publications and guidance exemplifies our commitment to innovative solutions.

## FEMA, State of Louisiana Sign Agreement to Expedite Mitigation Projects

Release Date: February 1, 2011  
Release Number: 1603-932

» [More Information on Louisiana Hurricane Rita](#)  
» [More Information on Louisiana Hurricane Katrina](#)

NEW ORLEANS, La. -- The Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness today announced finalization of an agreement to help shepherd forward mitigation projects and speed recovery for Louisiana residents.

The Louisiana State-Specific Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Secondary Programmatic Agreement was developed to streamline review and compliance of as many as 15,000 federally-funded mitigation projects in the state, including many for historical properties.

“This milestone agreement is a response to the extraordinary circumstances caused by hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and will help thousands of Louisiana residents complete their recovery and adequately prepare for future disasters. The agreement also helps in safeguarding Louisiana’s historic landmarks,” said FEMA’s Regional Administrator for Region VI Tony Russell.

The HMPG Secondary Programmatic Agreement calls for mitigation projects to be reviewed on a community level rather than individually. This new review and compliance process will allow state and federal officials to deal more effectively with the magnitude of mitigation projects in Louisiana, including those that fall under historic preservation requirements, and expedite completion.

The state has received \$1.47 billion in HMPG funding from FEMA for Katrina and Rita, of which \$750 million has been dedicated to Louisiana’s Office of Community Development to fund eligible mitigation projects for up to 15,000 individual private residential properties.

Under the agreement, FEMA will undertake treatment measures to offset potential adverse affects that may result through home elevations, demolitions, or other work. The agreement calls for surveying of thousands of properties in the state, as well as an inventory of the current condition of historical properties, which will promote better management of Louisiana’s landmarks.

The agreement also calls for archaeological testing in various city parks in New Orleans and a state park in St. Tammany Parish to compile information of resources and how better to protect them. Public outreach and education initiatives are other key components, which will give Louisiana citizens access to the information about historic and other property resources.

“The end result of this agreement will be very beneficial to Louisiana. Much of the information and data gathered through these treatment measures will give citizens useful tools to assist with recovery, now and in the future,” said Louisiana Recovery Office Environmental Liaison Officer Katherine Zeringue.

In addition to GOHSEP, FEMA worked with 15 other entities to bring the agreement to fruition, including the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, federally-recognized Indian tribes, various parish government officials, and other preservation organizations.

*FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.*

## CAP Coordinators Meeting

Region VI held the CAP Coordinators Meeting in Denton, Texas on March 2-4, 2011. Approximately 60 people attended representing FEMA, State NFIP Coordinators, and State Floodplain Management Associations for all 5 states in Region. The meeting started with a welcome from Mr. Tony Russell, Regional Administrator for Region VI, and comments from both Frank Pagano and Ross Richardson from the Mitigation Branch at Region. All 5 State NFIP Coordinators and State Floodplain Management Associations gave presentations and updates on their status. The Louisiana Recovery Office in New Orleans and the Association of State Floodplain Managers also gave a report on their status. Topics of Discussions were FEMA's Fiscal Year 2011 Budget, Risk Map Status, Scientific Resolution Panel, Mitigation Outreach Strategy, Touchpoints, Post Preliminary Outreach, ISO/CRS, and the CAV/CAC Updates and Tool. Overall, the meeting was very successful and Lisa Jennings, as usual, did an excellent job in coordinating and setting up the sessions and events.



*Ross Richardson speaking on current NFIP issues*



May 15-20, 2011 | Louisville, KY

**2011 ASFPM National Conference**

Registration is now open at

[www.floods.org](http://www.floods.org)

**APRIL IS FLOOD  
AWARENESS  
MONTH**



**Calendar of Events**

**2011**

**March 28 – 29**

E-273 Class  
Holiday Inn  
Shreveport, LA

**April 1**

CFM Exam  
Holiday Inn  
Shreveport, LA

**April 7 – 8**

Urban Watersheds Research Institute  
Stormwater BMP Selection, Design &  
Economics  
Denver, CO

**April 27 – 29**

LFMA Annual Conference  
Holiday Inn  
Lafayette, LA

**May 15 – 20**

ASFPM Annual Conference  
Galt House Hotels & Suites  
Louisville, Kentucky

**July**

LFMA Spring Workshop  
Monroe, LA



## LFMA Recipe Roundup



### RECIPES

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#### Crawfish Cornbread

From: Real Cajun Recipes

**Makes:** 8 servings  
**Prep Time:** 30 minutes  
**Cook Time:** 45 minutes  
**Ready In:** 1 hour, 15 minutes

This dish is really a meal in itself! Did you know - The swamp crayfish digs a burrow up to 3 ft (91 cm) deep with a water-filled cavity at the bottom in case of drought. The eggs develop while attached to the swimming legs of the female and look like miniature adults when hatched. Source: encyclopedia.com

#### Ingredients

1 pound precooked <u>crawfish</u> tails	1 pound grated cheese
3 seeded and chopped jalapeno peppers	1 large chopped onion
1 large can cream style can	1 stick butter (8 tbsp)
1 tbsp vegetable oil	3 eggs
1 tsp Creole Seasonings	1 tsp baking soda
2 packages cornbread mix	

#### Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Pour vegetable oil in a 10 inch cast iron skillet and place in oven to heat eight minutes. Mix all ingredients in a large bowl. Pour cornbread mixture into hot skillet and bake for 45 minutes

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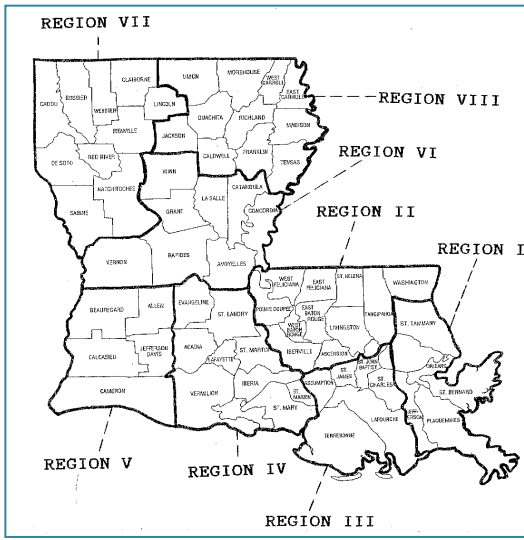
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*Floodwatch is published by the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association. Information and opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect the views of all members. Items for publication and other editorial matters should be directed to the Editor: [mbecker@rapc.info](mailto:mbecker@rapc.info)*