



# FACTSHEET

Dec 2016

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

Volume 16 Number 4

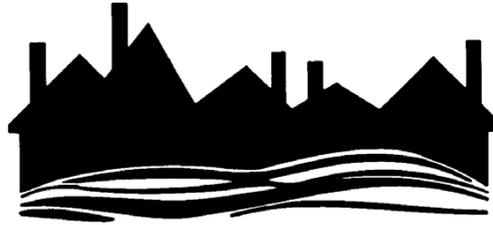
**Staff Contacts:**

Christopher P. Knotts, P.E.  
Chief, Public Works & Water  
Resources Division

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

Susan Veillon, CFM  
Pam Lightfoot, CFM  
Jenn Rachal, CFM, Editor  
Flood Insurance Program  
Coordinators  
[225] 379-3005

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



## NFIP/ CRS Corner

### COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM

Nine CRS communities will be receiving their 5 yr. Verification Visit during fiscal year (FY) 2017. The purpose of this visit is to determine if the community has been accomplishing the requirements of the activities for which they applied.

If you are due a visit, you should review your 2013 CRS manual to determine what paperwork will be needed for the verification visit. Jonathan will send to you a crosswalk of what activities you are currently getting credit for, along with the element, and how many points you scored on your previous visit.

The following CRS communities are due for their 5 yr. Verification Visit during our next fiscal year (FY 2017):

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Bossier City      | French Settlement |
| Livingston Parish | Lutcher           |
| Mandeville        | Ouachita Parish   |
| Ruston            | Scott             |
| Zachary           |                   |

**Inside this issue:**

FEMA Reps Reassignment	2
L273 Course Ask B&T	3
New 2017 CRS Manual	4-5
ASFPM Conference LFMA Conference Community Trivia	6
Goodbye, Dave.	7

Effective January 1, 2017, Louisiana will be assigned new FEMA Region VI Representatives. Please refer to the map for your new FEMA contact.

**Darrin Dutton**

**DarrinD.Dutton@fema.dhs.gov**

**(202) 805-6852**

**John Miles, Jr.**

**John.MilesJr@fema.dhs.gov**

**Office: (940) 297-0185**

**Cell: (816) 588-2878**

**Pedro Perez**

**Pedro.Perez@fema.dhs.gov**

**(337) 200-0651**



# L273 Course

October 24-27, Floodplain Administrators, support staff, and state officials attended a [L273 Course: Managing Floodplain Development through the National Flood Insurance Program \(NFIP\)](#) . David Hiegel, Erin Cobb, and Alan Johnson (FEMA Region 6 staff members) taught students that came from all over Louisiana about the Basics of the NFIP. There were approximately 28 students that were able to attend the course.

## Ask Boudreaux and Thibodeaux

Submit Floodplain Management questions to Jenn Rachal at [jennifer.rachal@la.gov](mailto:jennifer.rachal@la.gov) to be answered by FEMA and State Staff in an upcoming newsletter.

Merry Christmas  
from Cindy, Pam,  
Susan, and Jenn



# CRS Coordinator's Manual for 2017 Coming Soon

In accord with its routine three-year cycle, the CRS is preparing to release an updated version of the *CRS Coordinator's Manual*. The draft document is undergoing final review at the Office of Management and Budget to ensure adherence with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act. When OMB issues its final approval and sets an effective date—expected to be January 1, 2017—the new *Coordinator's Manual* will be available for download at [www.CRSresources.org](http://www.CRSresources.org) and at other sites.

Unlike the previous, 2013, edition, the upcoming *Coordinator's Manual* will include no major changes. Numerous improvements, clarifications, and minor corrections are being made, some of which are quite important even though they do not require substantive changes to a community's CRS program or procedures. Some of the 2017 changes are discussed below.

The CRS Team thanks all the communities who provided feedback about the *Coordinator's Manual* from month to month, pointing out places where the language could be clearer, where another example would be useful, or how criteria or scoring could be adapted to ensure an approach to credit that is appropriate in a wide range of circumstances.

## Things to Know

- You do not need to change your preparation for your next verification visit. Just get ready as you always do. As usual, your community's coverage under the new edition will be phased in and your ISO/CRS Specialist will work with you to spot any different documentation or other changes that will apply to you in the future.
- The 2017 *Coordinator's Manual* is expected to become effective January 1, 2017, and will be available for download at [www.CRSresources.org](http://www.CRSresources.org).
- Changes from previous editions will be marked with vertical bars *[like this]* in the margins of the pages of the 2017 *Coordinator's Manual*. This will help you spot places that you may want to review, to see if the change affects your community.



National Flood Insurance Program  
Community Rating System

## Coordinator's Manual

FIA-15/2017



OMB No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_

## Four Things that will be Different

- The CRS repetitive loss categories will be changing. Category C communities will be those with 50 or more repetitive loss properties (compared to 10 or more such properties under the current *Coordinator's Manual*). With this change will come a requirement that repetitive loss areas be addressed either in Planning Step 5.c. for floodplain management plans (FMP) (Section 512.a under Activity 510 (Floodplain Management Planning)) or included in a repetitive loss area analysis (RLAA) (Section 512.c). There will be more explanation about this requirement in the next newsletter. For most Category C communities, attention to repetitive loss areas already meets the CRS requirements, but some communities may need to give more consideration to their repetitive loss areas as they develop or update their hazard mitigation plans or other plans.
- The three special flood-related hazards supplements (dealing with coastal erosion, tsunami hazards, and inland hazards) to the *Coordinator's Manual* are being discontinued. Communities who map and/or manage areas subject to one of the seven CRS-credited special flood-related hazards will see that, in the 2017 edition, all the credit criteria, scoring details, and other needed information for receiving credit have been folded into the *Coordinator's Manual* itself. This eliminates the need for the extra documents, and makes it easier to see how the special flood-related hazards credits relate to broader management techniques, i.e., mapping, higher regulatory standards, open space, and the like.
- With the 2017 *Coordinator's Manual*, credit for being a Cooperating Technical Partner (CTP) is being retired and credits within other floodplain mapping elements are being increased to offset that loss. The majority of communities will see their points go up in other mapping elements. This shift will allow for fair credit to communities that, for one reason or another, do not or cannot avail themselves of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's CTP program.
- The freeboard prerequisite for becoming a CRS Class 4 community is being clarified. Between the 2007 and 2013 *Coordinator's Manuals*, a revision to the prerequisites language led inadvertently to a misunderstanding, namely that freeboard was not required throughout a community's entire Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), and in particular in unnumbered A Zones. Most Class 4 and better communities already were properly implementing the freeboard requirement, so going back to the original interpretation is not a burden. However, with new language clarifying that the one-foot freeboard requirement must be implemented throughout the SFHA, other communities will have time to update their ordinances, and require that a base flood elevation (BFE) be established at the time of development in unnumbered A Zones.

## Looking Ahead

The next issue of the newsletter will cover more changes that will be coming in the 2017 *Coordinator's Manual*. These will include a standard for incorporating sea level rise within several CRS elements, options for watershed management planning (WMP) credit for coastal communities, the elimination of channel debris removal (CDR) credit under Activity 540 (Drainage System Maintenance) as a prerequisite for other credit, and other improvements and clarifications.

*NFIP/CRS Update Newsletter: September/October 2016*

# Save the Dates



**April 30-May 5, 2017**

ASFPM's 41st annual national conference

Please visit [www.asfpmconference.org](http://www.asfpmconference.org) for more information.

## 34th Annual LFMA State Conference

Alexandria, Holiday Inn

April 19-21

For more information please visit [www.lfma.org](http://www.lfma.org)



Community Trivia

## Ponchatoula

The Indian name Ponchatoula means "flowing hair", arrived at by Native Americans as a way of expressing the beauty of the location with much moss hanging from the trees.

Each April, the City of Ponchatoula puts on the state's largest free festival in honor of the beloved strawberry, The Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival.





**As of January 1, 2017, David Hiegel will no longer be the FEMA NFIP Specialist for the State of Louisiana.**

**After working with somebody for over 20 years, it's impossible to say he will not be missed. David was not only our colleague, he was our friend, teacher, partner, and biggest supporter.**

**After 20 years of helping us educate Louisiana floodplain managers he deserves a break. He will be the NFIP Specialist in New Mexico.**



**The Leprechaun of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish will now be Lobo Louie the Wolf of the University of New Mexico. From a Fighting Tiger to a Lobo Wolf will be a big change but I'm sure our favorite "Floodie" can handle it.**

**Goodbye, Dave.**



**From  
Cindy O'Neal**

**See you later, Alligator!**

**-Pam, Susan, and Jenn**

*"May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind always be at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
and rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand."  
-An Old Irish Blessing*



Our goal is flood loss reduction . . .

This public document is published at a total cost of \$ 0.32. 350 copies of this public document were published in this First printing at a cost of \$ 112.00. This document was published by the Louisiana Department of Transportation Reproduction Unit, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, to inform the public of the National Flood Insurance Program the authority of Louisiana Revised Statute Title 48. This material was printed in accordance with standards for printing by State Agencies established in R.S. 43:31.

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

LA DOTD

PHONE: 225-379-3005

Floodplain Management Section

FAX: 225-379-3002

1201 Capitol Access Road

E-MAIL: [Jennifer.Rachal@la.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Rachal@la.gov)

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

WEBSITE: <http://floods.dotd.la.gov>

LA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT – SECTION 64

PO BOX 94245

BATON ROUGE LA 70804-9245

