



FACTSHEET

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SECRETARY

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NFIP/CRS Corner

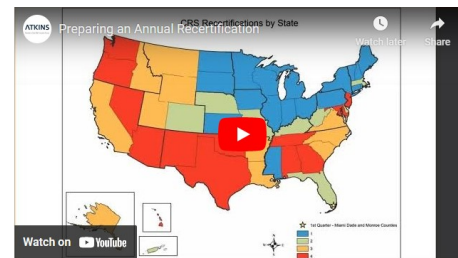
New Webpage Helps Answer Recertification and Annual Construction Certificate Review Questions

How do you fill out a recertification packet? What’s the reporting period or deadline? What documentation should be submitted? What is needed for an Annual Construction Certificate (CC) Review? These are just a handful of questions communities may have, especially new CRS Coordinators.

The [Recertification Information page](#) is dedicated to helping answer the most frequently asked questions regarding annual CRS requirements. For faster access, ISO encourages Coordinators to bookmark the page.

Some of the topics covered include:

- A pre-recorded webinar explaining the difference between a Recertification and Annual CC request.
- A chart explaining when each state will receive its Recertification/ Annual CC request and the submission deadline.
- What a Recertification packet looks like and how to complete it.
- Which CCs ISO reviews and why, and a guide on how to fill out a Permit List.
- How to understand a community’s reporting period.
- A list of activities that require documentation to be submitted annually.
- Helpful tips to keep communities efficient and organized. ≡ ≡ ≡



Just one of the many tools found on the Recertification Information page.

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(Taken from The NFIP/CRS Update Newsletter December 2022/January 2023)



NFIP/CRS Corner (cont...)



CRS Webinars

March 21	Preparing a Verification Visit
March 22	Stormwater Management Regulations (Activity 450)
April 18	Annual CRS Requirements
April 19	CRS & Floodplain Species Assessment
May 16	Preparing a Verification Visit
May 17	Floodplain Management Planning (Activity 510)
June 20	Introduction to the CRS
June 21	Developing a PPI and an Insurance Coverage Improvement Plan

CRS offers 1-hour webinars to help communities understand and meet their CRS requirements. Many will be recorded, so they can be accessed later. Registration is free but required, as space is limited. Some courses provide continuing education credits for certified floodplain managers (CFMs). See all of the CRS webinar trainings available on the CRS Resources website. All webinars begin at **12 pm Central time**.

For more on the CRS webinars, go to the Training tab of the [CRS Resources website](#). If you have questions about or suggestions for the CRS Webinar Series, contact Becca.Croft@atkinsglobal.com. [Click here](#) and type "CRS" in the search field to view webinars that are now open for registration.

If you would like to have a webinar on the FEMA Elevation Certificate, or a particular CRS activity, contact your ISO/CRS Specialist. ≡ ≡ ≡

(Taken from crsresources.org/training/)

WELCOME!!



The State Coordinating Office of the National Flood Insurance Program would like to introduce and welcome **Tatanisha White** to our team.



Discount Explanation Guide

Risk Rating 2.0: Equity in Action is FEMA’s individualized approach to risk assessment, built on years of investment in flood hazard information.

By using current data, flood models, and technology, FEMA considers many risk factors for individual properties, including frequency of flooding, multiple flood types, distance to a flooding source, and property characteristics such as elevation and the cost to rebuild.

Mitigation efforts, community programs, and other discounts can help reduce flood damage and, potentially, the cost of flood insurance. This guide provides discount information on certain rating variables that are generally applied to the building and contents premium.

Foundation Type

Below are the six Foundation Types, which provide important insight as to where the flood risk is likely to begin. Buildings Elevated with Enclosure Not on Posts, Piles, or Piers will have a higher premium than buildings Elevated without Enclosure on Posts, Piles, Piers, if all rating variables are the same.



First Floor Height

The First Floor Height (FFH), or the height of the building’s first lowest floor above the adjacent grade, is another rating variable critical to understanding the flood risk. Generally, buildings that are higher off the ground have lower risk. The following chart shows the discount percentage based on the foundation type and FFH, which is included in the amount charged for building and contents coverage. For example, a building with a crawlspace foundation and FFH of 3 feet above adjacent grade corresponds to a 22.1% discount compared to the same building having a FFH of 0. Between whole numbers, the discount for FFH is continuously provided (interpolated). For example, a building with a slab-on-grade foundation and FFH of 1.25 feet will receive a discount of -9.85%, which is a quarter of the way between the discount for 1 foot and 2 feet.

[continued on next page]

Discount Explanation Guide (cont...)



First Floor Height* (In Feet)	Slab on Grade	Basement	Crawlspace (including Subgrade Crawlspace)	Elevated with Enclosure Not on Posts, Piles, or Piers	Elevated with Enclosure on Posts, Piles, or Piers	Elevated without Enclosure on Posts, Piles, or Piers
0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
1	-8.0%	-8.0%	-8.0%	-8.0%	-9.0%	-10.0%
2	-15.4%	-15.4%	-15.4%	-15.4%	-17.2%	-19.0%
3	-22.1%	-22.1%	-22.1%	-22.1%	-24.6%	-27.1%
4	-28.4%	-28.4%	-28.4%	-28.4%	-31.4%	-34.4%
5	-34.1%	-34.1%	-34.1%	-34.1%	-37.6%	-41.0%
6	-36.7%	-36.7%	-36.7%	-36.7%	-43.2%	-46.9%
7	-39.3%	-39.3%	-39.3%	-39.3%	-48.3%	-52.2%
8	-41.7%	-41.7%	-41.7%	-41.7%	-53.0%	-57.0%
9	-44.0%	-44.0%	-44.0%	-44.0%	-57.2%	-61.3%
10 - 14	-46.3% to -54.4%	-46.3% to -54.4%	-46.3% to -54.4%	-46.3% to -54.4%	-61.1% to -73.3%	-65.1% to -77.1%
15 - 25	-56.2% to -70.9%	-56.2% to -70.9%	-56.2% to -70.9%	-56.2% to -70.9%	-75.7% to -86.6%	-79.4% to -88.9%

*Although the chart shows FFHs up to 25 feet, we recognize it is rare that the FFH will reach those measurements for most foundation types.

Flood Openings

Policyholders may receive a mitigation discount if the building’s enclosure or crawlspace is constructed with proper flood openings or engineered openings with documentation. Flood openings can lower a building’s flood risk as they allow floodwaters to flow through a building’s enclosure or crawlspace. The following chart shows the discount percentages based on eligible foundation types and FFH. For example, a building Elevated with Enclosure Not on Posts, Piles, or Piers with a FFH measurement of 9 feet above the adjacent grade corresponds to a 11.8% mitigation discount, compared to the same building without proper flood openings, which would receive no flood openings discount. Between whole numbers, the discount for Flood Openings is continuously provided (interpolated). For example, a building with a crawlspace foundation and a FFH of 4.25 feet will receive a discount of -2.225%, which is a quarter of the way between the discount for 4 feet and 5 feet.

First Floor Height* (In Feet)	Crawlspace (including Subgrade Crawlspace)	Elevated with Enclosure Not on Posts, Piles, or Piers	Elevated with Enclosure on Posts, Piles, or Piers
1	-0.5%	-0.5%	-0.5%
2	-1.1%	-1.1%	-1.1%
3	-1.7%	-1.7%	-1.7%
4	-2.1%	-2.1%	-2.2%
5	-2.6%	-2.6%	-2.7%
6	-5.2%	-5.2%	-3.2%
7	-7.4%	-7.4%	-3.7%
8	-9.6%	-9.6%	-4.3%
9	-11.8%	-11.8%	-4.7%
10 - 14	-13.8% to -20.6%	-13.8% to -20.6%	-5.1% to -7.1%
15 - 25	-22.1% to -27.1%	-22.1% to -27.1%	-7.8% to -9.0%

*Although the chart shows FFHs up to 25 feet, we recognize it is rare that the FFH will reach those measurements for most foundation types .

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Discount Explanation Guide (cont...)



Machinery & Equipment

Policyholders may receive a **5% mitigation** discount if certain covered Machinery and Equipment (M&E) and appliances servicing the building, whether inside or outside the building, are elevated to at least the elevation of the floor above the building's first floor.

Floor of Interest: Number of Floors in Building

The building's number of floors above the ground (excluding enclosures, on grade or subgrade crawlspaces, basements, and attics used only for storage) may result in reduced insurance rates. For example, a building with three floors may receive a greater discount for this rating variable than if that same building had only one floor. The table below shows discounts based on the number of floors in the building and occupancy type. This rating variable does not apply to residential or non-residential units.

Number of Floors in Building	Single Family Home Building Occupancy	All Other Building Occupancies (Excluding Residential Unit and Non-Residential Unit)
1	0.0%	0.0%
2	-10.0%	-10.0%
3	-30.0%	-30.0%
4	-	-37.3%
5	-	-42.3%
6	-	-45.9%
7	-	-48.8%
8-100	-	-51% to -69%

Floor of Interest: Floor of Unit

For a residential or non-residential unit inside a multi-floor building, the floor where the unit is located may impact the premium. Units above the first floor receive a higher discount as shown in the table below.

The Floor Where the Unit is Located	Residential/Non-Residential Unit Building Occupancy
1	0.0%
2	-71.8%
3	-88.4%
4+	-88.9%

Statutory Discounts

FEMA provides statutory discounts on the first \$35,000 of coverage for buildings and \$10,000 of contents coverage for pre-Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) primary residences and newly mapped properties, as well as those in the Emergency Program or located in the AR or A99 food zone.

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Discount Explanation Guide (cont...)



The table below shows the discount percentage that applies to the policy's first term of eligibility for the statutory discount. For subsequent renewal terms, the statutory annual increase cap applies.

Statutory Discount	Discount Percentage
Newly Mapped	70%
Pre-FIRM Discount	60%
Emergency Program	60%
AR Zone	60%

CRS Discount

Under Risk Rating 2.0: Equity in Action, Community Rating System (CRS) discounts ranging from 5% to 45% are applied uniformly. The community's CRS discount applies to all CRS eligible NFIP policies in the community regardless of food zone.

Note: A loss and expense constant is applied to the full risk premium separate from any of the discounts mentioned above. As a result, the difference in full risk premium between any two quotes will not exactly match the percentages listed. Additionally, certain discounts may not apply to the coastal erosion portion of the premium, if applicable. Policies may also be subject to minimum or maximum rates by peril and coverage, which may impact how discounts are applied and the specific amount of premium savings. ≡ ≡ ≡

Learn more at fema.gov/flood-insurance/risk-rating



(Taken from [FEMA.gov](https://fema.gov) April 2022)

NOAA to Launch Major Advancement in Seasonal High Tide Flooding Predictions

In 2023, NOAA plans to unveil a new model to more accurately predict when and where high tide flooding will likely occur up to a year ahead of time. This new information will help coastal communities better prepare and respond to potential flooding.

NOAA's National Ocean Service plans to implement the model by the end of 2023. When ready, NOAA will incorporate the model into a new seasonal to annual coastal flood outlook, building on the agency's [Seasonal High Tide Bulletin](#) and [High Tide Flooding Annual Outlook](#). These online resources show users when and where high tide flooding is most likely in the coming months.

NOAA currently provides a range of dates each season when the tides will be highest. With this update, each day in the calendar year will be assigned a likelihood of actual flooding to occur to better enable communities to make risk-informed management decisions, like whether to close roads, perform maintenance on storm drain systems, or prepare flood mitigation actions for vulnerable infrastructure.

"This new approach represents an important step forward in our ability to predict coastal flooding for months to years into the future," said Mark Osler, NOAA senior advisor for coastal inundation and resilience.

The new statistical model relies on tide predictions, sea level rise trends, and seasonal changes in coastal sea level to predict the daily likelihood of high tide flooding days. As sea levels continue to rise, the model will become even more capable of predicting the increasing number of flood events.

The [2022 Interagency Sea Level Rise national report](#) projects an average rise in sea level of approximately .25- .3 meters (10-12 inches) in the next 30 years. This change will be as much as the rise measured over the last 100 years. Models also indicate that by 2050, moderate flooding — the flooding that causes damage — will occur, on average, more than 10 times as often as it does today. NOAA scientists detail the effort in a peer-reviewed journal article published in [Frontiers in Marine Science](#). ≡ ≡ ≡

(Taken from ASFP's The Insider, January 2023)





Floodplain Manager's Notebook



(By Rebecca Quinn, CFM, from ASFPM The Insider, March 2023)

In the January 2023 Issue of ASFPM's *The Insider*, Rebecca asked readers to suggest topics for the Notebook. Several people responded with a number of suggestions. In the March 2023 Issue she touched on questions about accessory structures, solar installations, and electric vehicle chargers.

ACCESSORY STRUCTURES AND WET FLOODPROOFING

Referring to FEMA's policy and guidance in FEMA P-2140 (Floodplain Management Requirements for Agricultural Structures and Accessory Structures) and Technical Bulletin 7 (Wet Floodproofing Requirements and Limitations), the questions were what's the logic behind the size limits and why aren't accessory structures in Zone V required to have breakaway walls? Neither question is answered in FEMA's guidance, but I'm willing to speculate!

First, let's keep in mind that the NFIP regulations are silent about accessory structures, which means strictly speaking they all should be elevated or dry floodproofed (Zone A/AE only). Plus, the 1993 edition of TB 7 said wet floodproofed accessory structures can only be allowed by variance. That means we should appreciate FEMA formalizing a policy and publishing guidance that prescribes limits that allow us to issue permits, instead.

Accessory structure size limits. FEMA P-2140 guidance says "FEMA considers size limits based on flood zone, where "small" means not larger than a one-story two-car garage in flood zones identified as A zones (A, AE, A1-30, AH, AO, A99, and AR) and not larger than 100 square feet in flood zones identified as V zones (V, VE, V1-30, and VO)." The 1993 edition of TB 7 also called out "two-car detached garage or smaller." FEMA P-2140 indicates the "footprint of a typical two-car garage is about 600 square feet in area."

My guess is the 600 sq. ft. limit in Zone A is a balance between a reasonable useable size for most properties, while not so large as to tempt many owners to illegally convert non-elevated buildings to uses other than parking and storage. Of course, we know that many tiny homes are designed to be considerably smaller than 600 sf, which means local officials should remain alert for illegal conversions of non-elevated accessory structures.

The 100 sq. ft. limit in Zone V is a bit more of a puzzle. Perhaps it has to do with the expectation that larger accessory structures are more likely to be fairly robust, perhaps solid enough to divert waves and water towards buildings, which could contribute to damage.

Accessory structures in Zone V and breakaway walls. We all know that enclosures below elevated buildings in Zone V must have non-supporting walls that are designed to break away under flood loads. When the walls fail, the elevated building is protected from excess water and wave loads that could result if the walls were solidly constructed. Well, a non-elevated accessory structure doesn't have any building above to be protected. That's not a very satisfactory rationale, but it's the best I have. Anyone out there have another theory?

SOLAR INSTALLATIONS, AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGERS

In the [November 2018 Insider](#), I reminded readers that development activities that are subject to floodplain regulations include structures other than buildings. Remember, the NFIP definition for development includes "any manmade change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures."

In general, structures other than buildings must be designed and constructed to resist flood damage. That includes being solid enough to not wash away, being made of flood damage-resistant materials, and having electric and mechanical components elevated or protected. The performance expectation for protected equipment is in 44 CFR § 60.3(c)(3)(iii) which specifies equipment must be located (i.e., elevated) or designed to "prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding." Equipment that serves buildings and structures other than residential buildings can be protected with dry floodproofed enclosures.

Solar installations. Solar panels installed on buildings should meet the same requirements as any other equipment that serves buildings — elevated or designed to "prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during

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Floodplain Manager's Notebook (cont...)



conditions of flooding” (what that means when it comes to solar panels is a mystery to me!). Ground-mounted solar panels that serve buildings should meet the same requirements (elevated or protected). I suppose panels could be surrounded by a dry floodproofed structure, but something about that doesn't quite seem right. In any case, doesn't it make sense that power systems must be protected just like HVAC system components? In the box below is what I wrote about solar farms in the November 2018 Insider.

Solar Panels for Solar Farms

After I got over my initial surprise at the question, I can see why some floodplains are attractive for solar development. Many floodplains are flat, many previously used for agricultural purposes don't require removal of trees, and increasingly, the cost of flood-prone land is lower than parcels outside of flood zones.

OK, now what? I did what I expect many of us do when contemplating a new scenario – I turned to the Internet. My search quickly turned up guidance developed by Pima County (Arizona) Flood Control and similar guidance issued by Monterey County, California. With some variations to reflect conditions and local requirements, the guidance specifies:

- The lowest edge of all photovoltaic panels at or above the 100-year water surface elevation when at full-tilt
- Electric service equipment, bottom of the structural frame of construction trailers, and inverter skid platforms at least 1 foot above the 100-year water surface elevation
- Column embedment sufficient to provide structural stability assuming full depth of scour during the 100-year event
- Fencing to provide for flow-through of 100-year flood waters
- Access drives constructed at grade

Now, consider solar installations serving individual buildings. What requirements apply? Well, solar panel roofs likely already are elevated above the BFE. Ground-mounted panels wired to provide power to buildings should be treated like other mechanical and electrical systems – elevated or designed to meet the requirements for location below the BFE (designed to “prevent water from accumulating with in the components”). I'm guessing elevation is the only feasible option.

(Taken from ASFPM's The Insider, November 2018)

EV chargers. It's not a surprise that the answer for these installations is the same as the electrical components for solar installations — elevate or protect! The reader who suggested I add this topic to the mix found quite a few resources online. I'll comment on three of them:

1. PG&E (Pacific Gas & Electric) publishes [guidance on installation of Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment, \(3.E\)](#) stating that “If a charging station is in a flood zone, all chargers must be installed above the base flood elevation or waterproofed to include personnel protection so that it complies with codes for electrical equipment which may become submerged.”
2. An article published in [2012 by FireRescue1](#) (appears to be an aggregator for fire and rescue) reported on EV charging stations installed in a New Jersey casino parking garage in an area where overnight parking is not allowed because of flood risk. An engineer with the National Fire Protection Association said it may be poor planning as the "flood-prone area is a bad spot to put stations pumping out up to 240 volts of power."
3. The U.S. Department of Transportation has a stake in some EV chargers installed in floodplains because of Executive Order 11988. [DOT's guidance issued in 2022](#) acknowledges that federal agencies usually can fund or approve parking lots in floodplains because they don't impact the flow of water. DOT goes on to say that those who want to install EV chargers in floodplains “need to confirm with the manufacturer that it can be safely inundated with floodwater up to the height of the base flood elevation, or the project sponsor will need to elevate the charger.” ≡ ≡ ≡

(Taken from ASFPM's The Insider, March 2023)



Flood Insurance Outreach and Education Resources You Can Use

While many in the insurance world may not realize this, YOU, the floodplain manager (and others in similar positions) are often the go-to person for questions around flood insurance. This especially occurs when the insurance agent can't answer a policyholder's questions. While ASFPM has CFMs who are licensed insurance agents and/or work for a flood insurance provider (Write Your Own company or vendor) – which is GREAT – most of you are not there to provide quotes or discuss coverages in detail. However, you and your staff do need to stay informed about coverages and recent changes so you can be a valuable resource to your residents and business owners when they do have questions.

The NFIP provides numerous resources for insurance professionals, including online training courses and marketing materials. Most of the agent trainings are at a basic enough level that floodplain managers can learn a lot too, so we encourage you to check them out. Plus, they are free!

Likewise, the marketing pieces created for agents can easily be used by local officials; e.g., sent in mailers, handed out at public meetings, shared during an office visit, posted on websites. There is also a wide array of free seasonal and topical social media graphics, images and videos that you can use. Visit the [NFIP Resource Library](#) to see all of marketing and outreach pieces. To save on printing costs, some of the pieces are available in bulk by completing the [NFIP Publication Order Form](#).



Here are a few examples of publications and trainings available:

General Flood Insurance Publications

- [NFIP Map Updates & Flood Insurance](#)
- [Answers to Questions About the NFIP](#)
- [Regional Group Flood Insurance Policy \(GFIP\) Toolkit](#) (which includes other GFIP resources)
- [Federal Disaster Assistance: Meeting the Flood Insurance Requirement](#)
- Why Do I Need Flood Insurance: [English](#); [Spanish](#) (and four other languages)
- Protect the Life You've Built: [English](#); [Spanish](#)
- Infographics on what's covered: [Homeowners](#); [Renters](#)
- NFIP Summary of Coverage Brochure: [English](#); [Spanish](#)

Risk Rating 2.0 Related Publications and Videos – this [webpage](#) provides a one-stop location of RR 2.0 related material being created by FEMA. This includes:

- Short topical videos – These include an [Overview](#), [What is Build and Covered](#), and Rating Variables ([Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#))
- [Fact sheet](#) and [FAQ](#)
- Technical Guides: [Rate Explanation](#), [Discount Explanation](#), [Renewal](#)



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Flood Insurance Outreach and Education Resources You Can Use (cont...)

Training – while targeted for agents, [these trainings](#) are great learning resources for floodplain managers:

- Provides listing of when the Key Fundamentals of Flood Insurance webinar is being taught; eight are being taught just in March! The training is updated with Risk Rating 2.0.
- Recordings of their agent webinar learning series, which are based on topics like spring flooding, flood after fire and social media best practices.
- Online trainings via FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute, including basic training, Increased Cost of Compliance, and Elevation Certificates.

As always, if you have an insurance question, please feel free to email ASFPM’s Flood Insurance Committee at InsuranceCorner@floods.org. ≡ ≡ ≡

(Taken from ASFPM’s The Insider, March 2023)

Strategies and Action Plan for Protecting and Restoring Wetland and Floodplain Functions

Since 2017, the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) Foundation has collaborated with the Association of State Wetland Managers (ASWM), the National Floodplain Functions Alliance, and the Wetland Mapping Consortium to provide funding and active participation in a series of four workshops, the focus of which was to:

“Improve floodplain mapping integrating geospatial data being developed and used by the wetland mapping community to identify wetland and floodplain functions.”

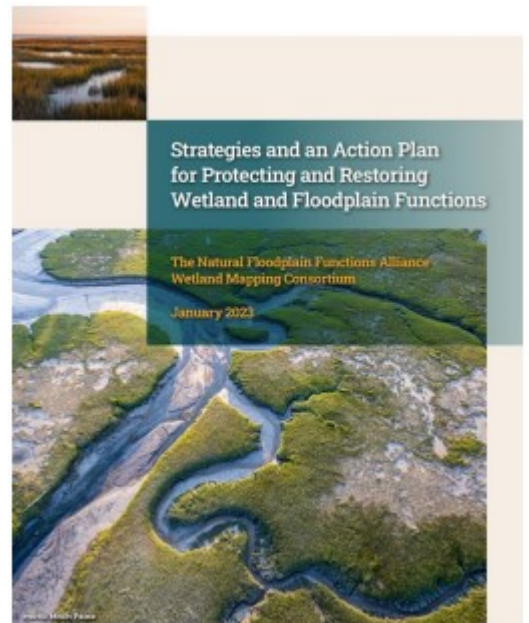
Each of the first three workshops had a targeted discussion topic, which attendees discussed at length, offering their professional insights and informed opinions.

- ◆ The **first workshop** – conducted in 2018 was titled *“Exploring Opportunities for Integrated Mapping and Functional Assessment of Riverine and Coastal Floodplains and Wetlands.”*
- ◆ The **second workshop** – conducted in 2019 was titled *“Data Needs, GAPS and Interoperability for Integrated Mapping and Functional Assessment of Riverine and Coastal Floodplains and Wetlands.”*
- ◆ The **third workshop** – conducted in 2021 was titled *“Federal Program and Policy Changes Needed to Advance Integrated Functional Mapping of Floodplain and Wetlands for Nature – Based Solutions.”*

The final workshop, which convened in 2022, was a culmination of discussions during the first three workshops, and resulted in the development of strategies and actions, which were memorialized in the January 2023 final report, titled *“Strategies and an Action Plan for Protecting and Restoring Wetland and Floodplain Functions.”* The final report and summary workshops reports are available on the Reports and Publications page of the [ASFPM Foundation website](#).

For more information about the National Floodplain Function Alliance Wetland Mapping Consortium, please visit [website](#) or contact Brad Anderson, ASFPM Foundation Projects Chair, at Brad.Anderson@acewater.com. ≡ ≡ ≡

(Taken from ASFPM’s The Insider, March 2023)



SAVE THE DATE!



LFMA 2023 Annual Conference

March 29-31, 2023

City of Ruston

at the

Lincoln Parish Library Events Center

Mark your calendars and make plans to join us in a new host City for this year's event. Click [here](#) to register and click [here](#) for conference agenda.

2023 ASFPM Conference

May 7-11, 2023

Raleigh, North Carolina



[For more info: View 2023 ASFPM Conference](#)



Our goal is flood loss reduction . . .

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

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

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