



FACTSHEET

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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.



Congressional Research Service Takes a Deep Look into Private Flood Insurance & the NFIP

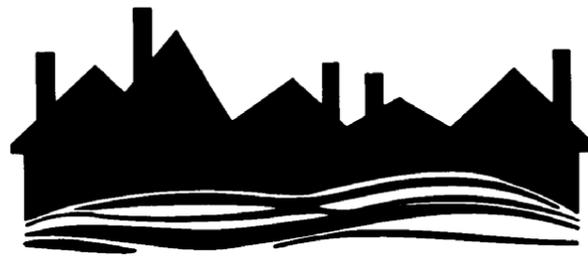
Inside this issue:

NFIP/CRS Corner - Freeboard is a Win-Win; and Online Resources	2-3
RiskMAP - Pre-Discovery Newsletter	4-5
ASFPM’s Certification Board of Regents	6
Louisiana Watershed Initiative: A New Statewide Approach to Flood Risk	7-8
LFMA—Fall Workshop Information and	9
LFMA—Fall Workshop Registration Form	10



The report describes the current role of private insurers in U.S. flood insurance, and discusses barriers to expanding private sector involvement. The report considers potential effects of increased private sector involvement in the U.S. flood market, both for the NFIP and for consumers. Finally, the report outlines the provisions relevant to private flood insurance in the House and Senate NFIP reauthorization bills. [Read the full report here.](#) ≡ ≡ ≡

(Taken from ASFPM’s The Insider Newsletter, July 2018 Edition)



NFIP/ CRS Corner

Freeboard is a Win-Win

One of the best strategies for reducing flood damage is elevating structures—at least to the base flood elevation (BFE) and preferably above that. It is not surprising, then, that nearly 80% of all CRS communities already implement at least a 1-foot freeboard standard. CRS communities recognize that a freeboard standard benefits them in at least three ways:

- 1) Property owners realize lower insurance rates on a structure that conforms to a freeboard requirement, because the extra level of elevation reduces the risk to that building.
- 2) Communities earn CRS credit for implementing freeboard, which translates into a CRS premium discount for their policy holders.
- 3) Freeboard standards result in reduced flood losses:
 - ⇒ Freeboard as credited under the CRS (at least 1 foot) is one of the floodplain management measures found to have statistical significance in reducing flood losses, according to a 2015 study by Texas A&M University;
 - ⇒ A study conducted by FEMA Region VIII after the 2013 floods in northern Colorado showed that losses would have been 30% higher had existing freeboard standards not been in place, and that the reduction in losses would be even greater in a larger, 100-year flood.

A Freeboard Prerequisite for CRS

Because of the undeniable value of freeboard in flood risk reduction, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) asked the CRS Task Force to consider making freeboard a prerequisite for joining the CRS. The CRS Task Force created the 2020 Freeboard Prerequisite Committee and, after studying the issue, the Committee has recommended to FEMA that a Class 8 freeboard prerequisite be implemented with the next (2020) edition of the CRS Coordinator's Manual. The CRS team presented details about the proposed prerequisite and engaged communities in discussions about it during the ASFPM conference in June.

The freeboard prerequisite proposed to FEMA would require future CRS Class 8 and better communities to enforce at least 1 foot of freeboard for all residential buildings (including their utilities, equipment, and mechanical systems) in the communities' Special Flood Hazard Areas where base flood elevations have been established by FEMA. Communities that do not implement a freeboard requirement would be limited to a CRS Class 9 rating. All communities that implement a freeboard requirement will receive CRS credit under Activity 430 (Higher Regulatory Standards).

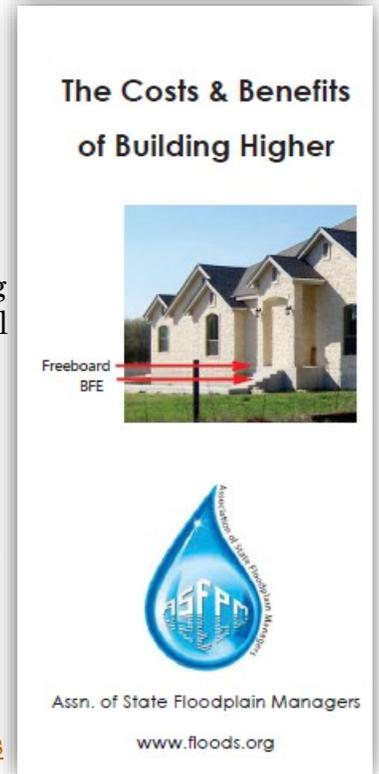
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The proposed Class 8 prerequisite supports the three goals of the CRS: reduce flood losses, support the insurance aspects of the NFIP, and foster comprehensive floodplain management, but it is also important for communities and homeowners. More information will be coming in future newsletters. All communities should also take time to consider whether a 2-foot or 3-foot freeboard standard would be appropriate for their communities.

Help in Explaining Freeboard

Whether you already have a freeboard requirement or are considering one (or a higher one), it can be challenging to explain to builders, local officials, community departments, and residents how it helps your community and your property owners. The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) has a helpful flyer on the benefits of freeboard. Using examples, it gives the key arguments in favor of a community's enforcing a requirement for building above the base flood elevation. To accompany the flyer, there is a guide and template for creating a similar flyer tailored to a community's own conditions. Local examples can be plugged in, and the flyer is designed to be printed on plain letter-sized paper and folded—making it simple and inexpensive to produce and reproduce. The flyer can be downloaded from the [ASFPM's website](#). The guide is posted on the [CRS Resources website](#). ≡ ≡ ≡



(Taken from the June/July 2018 Edition of the NFIP/CRS Update Newsletter)

Online Resources

At [CRSresources.org](#)

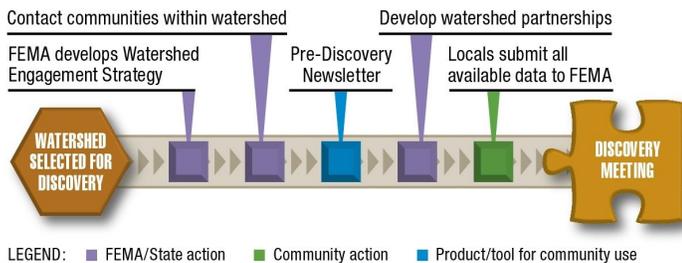


Don't forget to browse the CRS Resources website periodically to see what's been added in the way of CRS materials. All documents referred to in the Coordinator's Manual are posted here as soon as they are available. If you cannot find a piece of information or document, please notify your ISO/CRS Specialist or NFIP-CRS@iso.com. Here are some recent additions to the website.

- Webinar Schedule— A schedule is posted under the Training & Videos page of the CRS Resources website. This link has registration information. See the webinar schedule below.
- The most recent issue of the NFIP/CRS Update newsletter (April/May 2018), in case you missed it, along with all other past issues, can be found under the 100s page of the CRS Resources website.
- Success with CRS is a page on the CRS Resources website with articles about the many ways in which communities have found their own brand of success through the CRS. ≡ ≡ ≡

Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning Pre-Discovery Newsletter

Amite, Bayou Teche, Liberty Bayou-Tchefuncta, Tangipahoa, and Tickfaw Watersheds



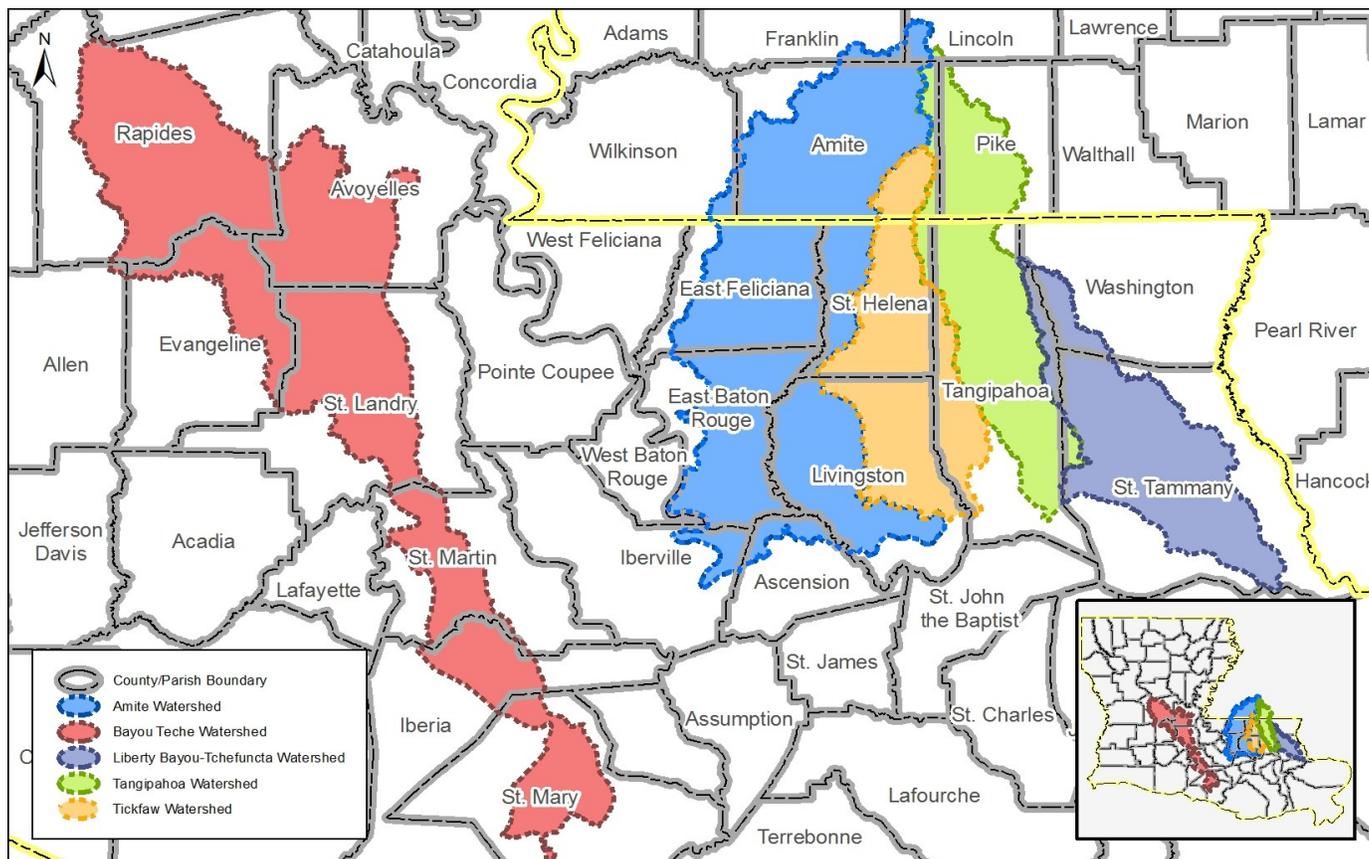
The Goal of Discovery:
To work closely with communities to better understand local flood risk, mitigation efforts, and other topics and spark watershed-wide discussions about increasing resilience to flooding and other natural hazards.

Risk MAP and Discovery

FEMA’s Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program will assist communities nationwide, assess flood risks, and encourage mitigation planning and taking action to avoid or minimize damage in the face of future disasters.

Through Risk MAP, FEMA provides information to enhance local mitigation plans, improve community outreach, and increase local resilience to floods. To assist with risk communication efforts and build a support base for hazard mitigation go to www.riskmap6.com/guidebook.aspx to view the *Risk Communication Guidebook for Local Officials*.

Communities in the Watersheds



Risk MAP

Amite, Bayou Teche, Liberty Bayou-Tchefuncta, Tangipahoa, and Tickfaw Watersheds

Pre-Discovery Newsletter

The Partners

During Discovery, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD) and FEMA partner with: Community officials; including leaders, floodplain administrators, engineers, planners, emergency managers, and GIS specialists; Federal, State, and regional non-profit organizations concerned with flooding or land use, and other locally-identified stakeholders.

The Discovery Meeting

Once communities provide LA DOTD with local flood risk and other data, LA DOTD schedules a Discovery Meeting to:

- Review and validate the flood risk data gathered
- Discuss the community flooding history, development plans, flood mapping needs, and flood risk concerns
- Review stormwater, floodplain management, and other community activities that relate to flood risk
- Discuss the vision for the watershed's future, as well as the importance of mitigation planning and community outreach

Local and National Flood Data Tell the Story

The data that FEMA has available at the national and regional levels only tell part of the story. For a holistic picture of a community's flood risk, LA DOTD relies heavily on information and data provided by the community itself. Because flood risk changes over time, this is a great opportunity to take a look at activities that impact your community's flood risks.

Why Is this Important?

Because flood hazards change over time, this effort provides a great opportunity to take a comprehensive look at the components that contribute to your community's and your watershed's flood risk. In addition to providing another perspective, participating in this process will increase your understanding of your flood risk and help you identify proactive steps you can

take to protect your community from losses to life and property that often accompany flooding.

LA DOTD asks communities to share whatever data they have to develop a holistic assessment of natural hazard risks and potential mitigation opportunities.

Data LA DOTD Requests from Communities

- Historical local flooding, mitigation activities, and grant projects, ongoing or planned
- Verifiable high-water marks located within the community
- Recent, ongoing or proposed projects since the previous map revision date
- Areas where there has been recent development or that are prone to future development
- Identify any flood control structures, such as berms, floodwalls, levees, or other types of channel improvements within your community
- Relevant reports or studies that include hydrology, hydraulics, survey or LIDAR
- Boundary, hydrography, building footprints, parcel, and transportation GIS data layers
- People or agencies that are utilizing GIS technology in your community
- Primary flood mapping needs of your community
- Areas in your community with repeated flooding
- Areas where the community feels the Special Flood Hazard Areas are understated or inadequate
- Areas where the community feels that the Special Flood Hazard Areas are overstated
- Projects identified in your community's hazard mitigation plan to help reduce the risk of future flood damage
- Comprehensive community/regional land use or watershed plans

(Produced by Dewberry)

Important Contacts – Regional Project Team

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ASFPM'S Certification Board of Regents

ASFPM's Certification Board of Regents (CBOR) recently released a [CFM Study Guide](#) to help you better prepare for the CFM exam. This new study guide explains recommended prerequisites, what to expect on exam day, links to all technical references backing up each exam questions, and supplemental study materials including videos and online tutorials. ASFPM's Certification Board of Regents (CBOR) Exam Workgroup—a separate group that works exclusively on the analysis and maintenance of the exam, met in Madison, Wisconsin this July. Besides the annual review and analysis, a key issue was trying to find out why exam scores have been declining nationally. They determined multiple factors contributed to declining scores. The biggest reasons being:



- ◆ Folks are just not prepared enough for the exam;
- ◆ There is a misconception that taking the 273 course and then the exam immediately after is enough preparation for the exam; and
- ◆ Potential issues with some exam questions.

Part 1: CFM Exam Preparation: Provides an overview, recommended prerequisites and other basic information about applying for, preparing for and taking the exam.

Part 2: Technical References: Provides the title and title to the technical reference used to validate answers to all of the questions on the exam.

Part 3: Exam Supplemental Review Materials: Provides links for additional review resources.

Part 1 CFM® Exam Preparation

Overview
The CFM exam measures a person's knowledge of a community's responsibilities under the National Flood Insurance Program and related floodplain management topics. The CFM exam contains questions in the appropriate areas for the following seven topic categories:

20-205	Floodplain Mapping
20-205	NFP Regulatory Standards
10-105	Regulatory Administrative Procedures
10-105	Road Features
10-105	Road Hazard Mitigation
10-105	Natural and Beneficial Functions
5-105	Overall context of Floodplain Management

Recommended Prerequisites
The Certification Board of Regents recommends CFM exam takers have either a minimum of two years of full-time floodplain management experience, OR a higher education degree in a related field, OR complete the four-day 023 Managing Floodplain Development through the National Flood Insurance Program course, which is offered by FEMA Region 3 (02373) or by ASFPM, a state NFP coordinator or state ASFPM chapter (02373). 023023 courses are designed to provide basic training on NFP minimum requirements for local officials administering floodplain management programs. The 023 course is not an exam prep class, but it does focus on the NFP and concepts of floodplain management, regulatory standards, minimum regulations, ordinance administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance.

NOTE: The CFM exam is a national exam. Questions are based on the minimum NFP regulatory standards. Some states and communities may have higher regulatory standards. Be sure to read that CFM exam questions must be answered according to the **minimum NFP regulatory standards**.

Preparing for the Exam
After meeting recommended prerequisites, you should review the list of materials in **Part 2: Technical References**. The answer to every question on the exam was verified using those resources.
The most frequently cited technical reference for the CFM Exam is FEMA Publication 400, "National Flood Insurance Program (NIP) Floodplain Management Requirements, A Study Guide and Desk

As a result, ASFPM, with CBOR's assistance, will heavily promote the new [CFM Study Guide](#) (we encourage you to do the same if you know someone is planning on taking the exam). The exam workgroup either replaced, amended or retired 17 questions on the previous exam. September 1, 2018 was the rollout date for the new/adjusted exam. We're hopeful that scores will improve through the new questions and the study guide promotion. ≡ ≡ ≡

(Taken from ASFPM's News&Views August 2018 Edition)



LOUISIANA WATERSHED INITIATIVE

working together for sustainability and resilience

The Louisiana Watershed Initiative: A New Statewide Approach to Flood Risk Reduction

In response to the devastation caused by the Great Floods of 2016, Gov. John Bel Edwards charged several state agencies with coordinating their efforts to develop a new approach to reducing flood risk across Louisiana. Over the past two years, this work has included efforts ranging from the development of a hydraulic and hydrologic model of the Amite Watershed to the development of watershed coalitions in coordination with parish, state and federal government entities.

These early planning and engagement efforts yielded quite a bit of data and information, with summary conclusions that include:

- ⇒ Ecosystem services maximized through the natural and beneficial functions of the floodplain and effective flood risk management go hand in hand.
- ⇒ The root of all wise decision-making is accurate, complete, transparent and accessible data.
- ⇒ Communities and local government entities need to be empowered and supported in meeting the demands of Louisiana's changing flood risk context.
- ⇒ The state should set the bar for sound flood risk management across Louisiana.
- ⇒ Sustainable sources of funding are needed to implement and maintain sound flood risk management practices across the state, and existing sources can be stretched and leveraged more efficiently if put toward a common goal.
- ⇒ Engagement, trust building and partnership toward collective action are necessary to maximize program effectiveness.

In taking the next step to build upon these efforts, Gov. Edwards issued an executive order that established the Council on Watershed Management – an interagency effort that includes DOTD, the Office of Community Development, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. One of the primary charges of this executive order is for these agencies to create the conditions for floodplain management at the watershed level, as opposed to the traditional political and jurisdictional boundaries that we know water simply does not recognize.

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LOUISIANA WATERSHED INITIATIVE (cont...)

Just a few months ago, the Council launched the Louisiana Watershed Initiative to serve as the programmatic arm of these coordinated floodplain management efforts across all involved state agencies. The Initiative's efforts are supported by subject matter experts working in an advisory capacity to build a foundation of data, projects, policies, standards, and guidance to manage our state's flood risks at the watershed level. These technical advisory groups are actively working to engage stakeholders across the state in these planning efforts, starting with each of you and the jurisdictions you work for and represent.

In the coming months, your input will be critical to informing how these efforts move forward, guided by objective, science-driven approaches to reducing flood risk and the knowledge you each maintain of your local communities. The Louisiana Watershed Initiative will soon host a series of workshops and meetings across the state, with much more to come in terms of local and regional community engagement. For more information on these upcoming meetings, please email watershed@la.gov with your name, title, and the parish or municipality for which you work. From there, we will be sure you receive updates on future meetings that may be taking place in or near your community.

For more information, please take a moment to read through the Louisiana Watershed Initiative's [vision white paper](#), released by Gov. Edwards in August 2018 as the foundation upon which efforts will progress moving forward. We look forward to seeing and engaging with you soon. ≡ ≡ ≡

(Provided by Mr. John Snow with Emergent Method)



Thanksgiving Wishes

With Thanksgiving being just around the corner, we would like to say...

We hope you all have a safe and happy Thanksgiving Holiday!!

From: Cindy, Pam, Susan, & Jenn



LFMA WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

2018 FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

FALL WORKSHOP:

DATE: Friday, October 5, 2018



LOCATION:

Edward A. Dufresne Community Center
274 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway
Luling, LA 70070

TIME:

8:00 am — 12:00 noon

\$25.00 fee for non-LFMA Members

REGISTER ONLINE AT:

<https://lfma.memberclicks.net/2018-fall-workshop>

MAIL OR E-MAIL THIS FORM BY

October 3, 2018 TO:

Melissa Becker, CFM

Rapides Area Planning Commission

1405 Frank Andrews Blvd.

Alexandria, LA 71303

mbecker@rapc.info

(PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLE)

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Professional Certifications or Registrations:

CFM PE PLS

Circle All that apply

****CFM Exam** will be offered following the workshop at 1:00 pm. Register directly through ASFPM at www.floods.org—click on “Certification”. Deadline to register for the CFM exam is **September 21, 2018**.**



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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