

Floodplain and Shoreland Management

Notes

Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance

By the end of 2010, 48 Wisconsin counties – and the cities and villages in those counties – will have received and adopted new FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps. As part of the nationwide Map Modernization Program authorized by the U.S. Congress in 2003, this represents the most comprehensive update of the country's floodplain maps since the beginning of the program in 1968.

While for many communities the new maps represent a major step forward in utilizing better topographic data, aerial photography and updated engineering studies, this is not true for the entire state. Because the congressional act authorizing this program did not allocate enough funds to properly update all of the nation's flood maps, the maps for many Wisconsin communities are still based on older, less-accurate topographic data and may still display approximate study (Zone A) flood zones which don't provide critical information such as the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) or the floodway/floodfringe zones.

This is important to local officials and residents in flood zones for several reasons. For flood maps using old topographic data (10-foot contour elevation intervals), many structures may be inadvertently mapped in the regulatory floodplain due to the margin of error on these maps, which can be as great as five feet higher or lower than the actual BFE. Also, FEMA standards require that the floodplain boundaries on the new maps match the contour lines as close as possible. Because that standard may not have been employed on the old maps, the boundaries may expand or contract even though the topographic data has not changed. Finally, in some cases, existing engineering studies may be "de-certified" during the re-map-

ping process because the study does not meet federal mapping standards. In that case the area covered by the study will be downgraded from a zone AE (with BFE) to a zone A, which could change floodplain boundaries.

Once the new maps become effective, all lending institutions must determine or have a third party determine if a building or mobile home is located within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) as shown on the effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for the community. If any portion of the improvements is located within the SFHA, flood insurance is required.

Most lending institutions contract out this determination. Because of the specialized knowledge and complexity involved, this work is usually done by "third-party" flood zone determination companies. These companies range in size from single-person shops to multi-national firms which have set up separate divisions to manage the determination business. FEMA publishes a list of these companies at the following link - <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/fzone1.shtm>.

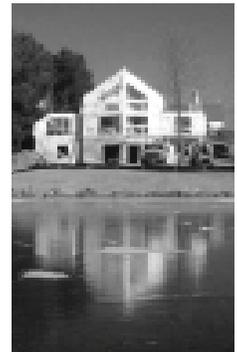
Regardless of size, all of these companies follow the same basic process in making these determinations: (1) Find the correct flood map; (2) Find the general location of the subject property; (3) Find the specific location of the subject property's improvements on the flood map; and (4) Identify the flood insurance risk zone as shown on the flood map.

Standard Flood Hazard Determination Form

To make the determination, all of these companies use the Standard Flood Hazard Determination Form (SFHDF), a



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Inside this issue:

HMGP Update	2
Community Rating System	3
NRCS Floodplain Easements	8
WAFSCM Membership Application	9
Map Modernization	10
Staff Changes	11
Training/Conferences	11

Continued on Page 4 . . .

Summer 2009

HMGP Update

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) administered by Wisconsin Emergency Management is helping residents devastated by the flood disaster of 2008 recover and move out of harms way while returning the floodplain back to its intended use of carrying flood waters. Since the floods of 2008 WEM has been actively helping communities through the requirements of the HMGP program.

The HMGP program has \$30.8 million available for mitigation projects. The funding available for the HMGP program is determined by the amount of money allocated for Individual Assistance and Public Assistance. Because Wisconsin has an Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan, the state received 20% of the total disaster assistance money allocated to fund the HMGP program. To date WEM has submitted 14 projects worth \$28.7 Million to FEMA for approval.

As of July 1, 2009, the Towns of Spring Green, Excelsior, the Village of LaFarge, and the City of Janesville have been approved and obligated with 3 applications still to be submitted to FEMA. The State's

priority for the program was acquisition and demolition of substantially damaged structures (over 50% damaged) with priority given to primary residences. Each project requires a local match (12.5%) to the HMGP funds. With the devastation that occurred in 2008 many communities are unable to invest funds in these projects and WEM is collaborating with the Wisconsin Department of Commerce to provide Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) money as the local match.

For further information on the HMGP program, please contact Lynsey Kawski at 608-242-3222 or lynsey.kawski@wi.gov.



- Elevated House, Soldiers Grove WI 2008

Floodplain and Shoreland Management Notes

"Floodplain and Shoreland Management Notes" is published by the WDNR, Bureau of Watershed Management. Its purpose is to inform local zoning officials and others concerned about state and federal floodplain management, flood insurance, shoreland and wetland management, and dam safety issues. Comments or contributions are welcome.

This newsletter is supported by funding through FEMA Cooperative Agreement No. EMC-2007-CA-7008 as part of the Community Assistance Program - State Support Services Element of the National Flood Insurance Program. The contents do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the federal government.

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Community Rating System

The Community Rating System (CRS) is an incentive program that encourages communities to adopt floodplain management activities exceeding the minimum National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements. CRS has three goals, which are:

1. Reduce flood losses.
2. Facilitate accurate insurance ratings.
3. Promote the awareness of flood insurance.

In return for a community's adoption of standards that go above and beyond the minimum NFIP requirements, flood insurance premium rates for residents within the participating community are discounted. The discounts are designed to reflect the reduced flood risk to property owners resulting from the community's floodplain management activities, and the amount of the discount varies according to the community's level of effort.

Many communities have recognized the value of the CRS Program in reducing risk to floodplain property owners and consequently have actively pursued a variety of floodplain management activities to reduce flood risks to citizens. For residents and business owners, the program provides significant discounts on premiums for flood insurance policy-holders.

How does CRS work?

CRS communities are awarded points for their local floodplain management activities that exceed the NFIP minimum standards. Communities are placed into classes ranging from Class 10 (lowest class) to Class 1 (highest class) based on the total number of points accrued and other specific CRS requirements. All Wisconsin communities that join the program will enjoy a minimum 10% insurance premium discount due to the state's higher standards for floodplain zoning and dam safety. For communities that have higher standards, additional increases are possible, up to a Class 1 CRS rating which provides a 45% discount in flood insurance premiums.

The CRS program contains 18 groups of activities under which communities can acquire credit. These groups are organized under four overarching categories: public information, mapping/regulations, flood damage reduction and flood preparedness.

Public Information

Examples include:

- Maintaining information and access related to FEMA elevation certificates;
- Maintaining and providing information on flood insurance rate maps;
- Providing information on flood insurance purchase requirements;
- Conducting outreach to floodplain property owners through the mailing of a flood warning brochure and through a public outreach strategy developed with incorporated cities;
- Disclosing flood hazards through notices on title, permanent signage, flood plains delineated on plat maps and real estate transactions;
- Making floodplain information available via public libraries and a Web site; and
- Providing flood protection assistance to property owners through walk-in inquiries at the building department and customer information bulletins.

Mapping and regulations

Credit is available for new and revised floodplain mapping studies and other flood hazard mapping activities, including mapping channel migration hazard areas or coastal hazards.

Credit is also available for preserving open space in the regulatory floodplain and for maintaining those properties in a natural state (i.e. disallowing development) to provide beneficial floodplain functions.

Other regulations that exceed the minimum NFIP standards that a community could consider adopting, include, but not limited to:

- A 3-foot freeboard (height above the 100-year flood elevation) standard for

Continued on Page 7 . . .

Continued from Page 1 . . .

mandatory document that federally regulated lending institutions must complete or have completed as a condition of making, extending, increasing, or renewing a loan that is to be secured by improved real estate.

This form asks the following question: "Is the Building/Mobile Home in a SFHA (Zones containing the letters 'A' or 'V')?" The mandatory purchase of flood insurance is tied to the location of the improvements (building/mobile home) on the property and not the land itself. If no portion of the building (including decks and screened porches) is located within the SFHA on the flood map, then the federal flood insurance requirement does not apply.

The only loans that are exempt from the mandatory purchase requirements, including the requirement for a flood zone determination, are those loans with an original outstanding balance of \$5,000 or less and a repayment term of one year or less, or loans made by state-regulated lending institutions that will not be sold to a Government Sponsored Enterprise such as Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac.

A determination must be made or obtained whenever a federally regulated lender makes, extends, increases or renews a loan secured by a building or mobile home. This requirement also applies to second mortgages and home equity lines of credit. In addition, federal regulators recommend that lenders and servicers, as a matter of safety and soundness, conduct periodic reviews of existing portfolios and perform prospective analyses on portfolio acquisitions, as well as monitor changes triggered by flood map revisions.

Property owners should always contact a reputable insurance agent to discuss their options after receiving the "Notice to Borrower" document from their lender. The amount quoted by the lender for "force-placed flood insurance" is usually higher than they would pay when working with an agent.

After a community adopts the new maps, it typically takes several weeks or more for the company to review the new data and determine if a structure was:

- in the floodplain (zone A or AE) and will remain in;
- in the floodplain and is now out; or
- out of the floodplain and is now in.

The third category generates the majority of the calls to local officials. For property owners newly identified in the SFHA, their first move should be to contact the lender and ask what additional data they would accept to remove the flood insurance requirement. Sometimes a site plan, subdivision map showing building site, aerial photo or other hard data may be enough to reverse the determination. Keep in mind that the reason most lenders have delegated the determination responsibility to a third party is because they don't have qualified staff or don't want to take the responsibility for making the call themselves. The property owner should start the discussion with the lender, but usually the determination company will be involved in any re-determination process.

While many determination companies may have reviewed additional information when making the initial determination, some smaller companies may only have the FIRM so any other information that the property owner or local official can provide is helpful. We cannot stress enough that it is entirely the lender's call at this stage as to whether or not they will accept any additional information. Please remember that lenders by nature are conservative folks and do have the option of requiring flood insurance as a condition of making the loan even if it can be shown that the structure is outside of the SFHA.

It is not uncommon for other parties, such as borrowers, surveyors, community officials, realtors, insurance agents, builders, or appraisers to have differing opinions about a property's flood zone designation. This can occur for a variety of reasons: (1) Reliance on information other than

the FIRM; (2) Historical information that differs from the flood map; (3) Updated information not reflected on the flood map; (4) Different interpretations of the flood map; or (5) A resistance to paying for the required flood insurance.

Lender Determination Review

When a dispute over a flood zone determination occurs, a discussion of the methodology used and a review of the flood map can often resolve the situation. A determination company representative can assist with this review, and may be able to resolve the dispute. If, after the review, the borrower still believes that the flood map has not been interpreted correctly, then the borrower, jointly with the lender, can request a Lender Determination Review through FEMA.

This review is a process through which FEMA will determine if the flood zone determination used by the lender is accurate. For example, if a lender is requiring flood insurance based upon a flood zone determination that states that the subject property is in the SFHA, then FEMA will confirm whether or not the property is indeed in the SFHA based upon the FIRM and issue a Letter of Determination Review (LODR).

FEMA requires the following items for this process: (1) A letter signed by both the borrower and lender requesting the review; (2) A copy of the lender's SFHDF; (3) A copy of the dated Notice to Borrower document; (4) A copy of the applicable FIRM; (5) All documents used by the lender to complete the flood zone determination; and (6) A check or money order in the amount of \$80.00 made payable to the NFIP. This request must be submitted within 45 days of the Notice to Borrower document.

Remember, differing interpretations of the flood map may occur from time-to-time, especially in areas where the flood map does not include details or for properties near the edge of the SFHA. The specific location of the building is fundamental to the flood zone determination; thus, a

few feet difference in a building's location can result in a different conclusion on the SFHDF.

When a discrepancy in flood zone determinations occurs between flood compliance vendors, the lending institution can request that the companies review their work, which hopefully leads to a consensus. In some cases, the vendors may be able to provide a flood map exhibit showing how they reached their conclusion. If the matter cannot be resolved, then the borrower and lender may elect to pursue a LODR, if appropriate.

A lender may only rely on a previous flood zone determination when increasing, extending, renewing or purchasing a loan, not when a lender originates or makes a loan. The previous determination must have been completed within seven years on the same property and recorded on the SFHDF. Furthermore, the lender must confirm that no map revisions or updates since the original determination have placed the property into the SFHA or affected the area of the property.

The mandatory purchase of flood insurance decision must be based on the current FIRM for the property's community. The effective flood map supersedes a flood zone determination based upon a previous, outdated flood map. There is no "grandfathering" of the mandatory purchase requirement; however, a flood insurance policy may be rated on the prior flood map under certain conditions.

Letters of Map Change

If the Lender Determination Review does not resolve the issue, the property owner would need to hire a registered land surveyor and submit for a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA). LOMAs are a correction to the effective FIRM, demonstrating that the natural (no fill) Lowest Adjacent Grade (LAG) around the structure in question is actually above the BFE at the site.

The flood insurance requirement is not waived unless or until the LOMA is is-

Continued on Page 6 . . .

sued. Until the flood map is amended by the LOMA, lending institutions are bound by the information shown on the current FIRM. If a LOMA is issued, then the SF-HDF can be updated. Once this occurs, the flood insurance requirement may be waived. Importantly, the lending institution may continue the flood insurance requirement to protect its interest. The borrower should be encouraged to consider flood insurance coverage, as approximately 25% of all claims paid by the NFIP are on properties outside of the SFHA.

In some cases, where the building elevation would not support the issuance of a LOMA, but the property owner believes that the underlying technical data used to develop the map is in error, the owner has the option of hiring an engineering firm to restudy the stream to determine if the floodplain boundaries can be modified to remove the property from the regulatory floodplain. This would be a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

A LOMR is an official revision to a community's current flood map. It is used to change flood zones, flood elevations, mapping features, and floodplain and floodway delineations. Because a community must approve and adopt any revision to its flood map, requests for LOMRs must be made directly to the community. This is true even if the change is to a single property that will be raised by fill dirt. In this instance, a Letter of Map Revision Based On Fill (LOMR-F), which can revise the flood map for a single property, is the appropriate procedure. Other LOMRs are much more detailed, technical, and expensive, and may even involve revising the floodplain along the entire stretch of a river through a community.

A LOMR and a LOMA have different purposes. A LOMR involves revisions to a flood map based upon changes on the ground or new study data, as opposed to a LOMA, which is an amendment to a flood map because it mistakenly showed a property within the SFHA.

If a property owner is interested in ap-

plying for a LOMA or LOMR, the owner should contact a reputable engineering or surveying firm in the area who has done this type of work in the past. This is especially true for a LOMR, as the process is expensive and complicated.

Along with the completed application, applicants need to provide (1) A copy of the FIRM showing the location of the property; (2) An Elevation Certificate or other elevation documentation certified by a licensed surveyor or engineer; (3) A site plan or survey showing the location of the improvements on the property; and (4) A recorded deed or plat with the community's recordation stamp.

For Letters of Map Revision Based Upon Fill (LOMR-F), a Community Acknowledgement Form must be completed by a community official, stating that the structure to be built on the filled property will be reasonably safe from flooding. Because state and local standards require that land can only be removed from the floodplain if it is filled to two feet above the BFE and has dryland access, in most cases this form can be signed in confidence. All LOMRs, including LOMR-Fs, must involve the community since changes to a given property or geographic area might affect drainage to the surrounding area.

LOMRs and Conditional Letters of Map Revision (CLOMRs) are more detailed and technical than any other application procedure, requiring the active involvement of the community and FEMA; therefore, it is prudent that the applicant involve the community at the onset of the application. Contact FEMA with any questions regarding the required fees and documentation for a LOMR and CLOMR as they vary depending on the particular project.

Grandfathering

Properties newly placed in the floodplain, placed in a different flood zone or that have a revised BFE may be eligible for grandfathering. This means that, whether

or not they had a flood insurance policy in effect on the effective date of the new maps, they may still be able to obtain a policy which is based on the previous flood zone and BFE. The key, for post-FIRM structures, is whether the structure was built in compliance with the maps/regulations in effect at the time the structure was built.

As an example, let's assume that the old BFE was 500 feet and the structure was built with the lowest floor at 502'. When the new FIRMs are issued, the BFE is now 502 feet. If the structure was built in compliance with the old FIRMs (lowest floor two feet above 500 feet) the policy would still be rated based on the old BFE, which means the rate would be for a lowest floor two feet above BFE. This grandfathering clause could cut the costs of a flood insurance policy by 50% or more.

For pre-FIRM structures, this policy means that they can still receive the subsidized rates in effect for the new zone rather than the actuarial rates.

Grandfathering does not apply to Preferred Risk Policies (PRP). These policies are available, at a reduced rate, for policies written on structures outside of the SFHA. For structures which have now been placed in the SFHA, the PRP will expire at the end of the calendar year and must be replaced with a standard flood insurance policy rated for a zone X. The cost will rise significantly, but will still be much cheaper than if it was actuarially rated.

The purpose of grandfathering is to lock in a flood zone and the BFE the policy is based on, providing a much more favorable rate than if the policy was rated based on the new flood zone/BFE. However, this program does not lock in a rate. Rates will rise along with policy costs, as with any other type of insurance.

For information on LOMC, please contact the local floodplain administrator or contact FEMA at 1-877-366-2627 or go to www.fema.gov Search LOMC.

- most structures and critical facilities;
- Requirement to provide compensatory storage at the same elevation for fill placed in the floodplain;
- A zero-rise standard throughout the floodway to preserve flood conveyance;
- Restriction on development in areas where depths exceed 3 feet and velocity exceeds 3 feet per second;
- Prohibit all structures in the floodway;
- Higher standards for manufactured home parks located in the floodplain;
- Requirement to remove temporary structures from the floodplain during the flood season;
- Density restrictions in portions of the floodplain under land use and critical areas protection measures; and
- Regulating development within channel migration zones.

A community can also receive credit for maintaining surveyed benchmarks, geographical information systems flood data layers and copies of all flood insurance rate maps issued for the community.

Flood damage reduction

Communities can implement a wide range of outreach projects each year in to mitigate FEMA repetitive loss properties within their jurisdiction and subsequently restrict this land from further development. Other ideas include a home/structural elevation program, an annual inspection and maintenance program of drainage systems and a capital improvement program to repair problems areas.

Flood preparedness

You can receive CRS credit for Flood Warning Center operations and for the State Dam Safety program for dam operations.

More Information

Scott Cofoid with the Insurance Services Office in Illinois is the CRS Coordinator for the state of Wisconsin. If your community would like more information about the program or would like to join, please contact Scott at 815-220-1002, or SCofoid@iso.com.

NRCS ANNOUNCES FLOODPLAIN EASEMENT ASSISTANCE FOR LANDOWNERS

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced the selections for its first national sign-up for floodplain easements through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The easements will cover more than 36,000 acres of land in 36 states. There was tremendous interest in the program, with more than 4,200 applications, totaling over \$1.4 billion for 479,000 acres of flood-prone land nationwide.

“Even with the tremendous national competition for funds, Wisconsin will receive \$19.7 million to accept easement offers from 23 of the 254 total applicants,” said Pat Leavenworth, State Conservationist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Wisconsin. “That will involve 4,040 acres being restored to floodplain.” Wisconsin had 254 applications from landowners for 14,707 acres to be put into easement during the signup, which ended April 10.

The new easements in Wisconsin are in clusters along the Sugar River in Rock and Green Counties, the Pecatonica River in Lafayette County, the Baraboo River in Columbia County, and the Kickapoo River in Vernon County. All these rivers have had significant flooding in recent years.

The easements will be acquired over the coming year and restored to a natural state while creating jobs in rural areas. Restoring these lands to a natural state offers both environmental and economic benefits. Natural floodplains help reduce off-site damages from floods by storing water. They also provide excellent wildlife habitat, and reduce soil erosion to the river. When cropland fields are flooded, tons of soil, fertilizer and chemicals are washed into the river and add to the sediment load and hypoxia in the rivers and ultimately, the Gulf of Mexico. But, as a restored floodplain covered with natural

vegetation, the amount of sediment and chemical loading in the river system is reduced.

All of the proposed easements in Wisconsin are mainly cropland fields along increasingly flood-prone rivers. As these fields will no longer be cropped, they will no longer suffer damages and receive crop insurance or disaster payments.

In addition, applications were given priority if they supported habitat for threatened or endangered species, and if they were in geographic proximity to each other and to other protected wildlife areas to create a wildlife corridor and for greater flood holding capacity.

Offers to landowners were made in June, 2009. Restoration work will begin this year, after the land is surveyed and the easement, which is permanent, is legally attached to the deed. Restoration may involve filling ditches and removing dikes, breaking tiles, or in many cases simply seeding and planting native vegetation or trees. Under the easement, the landowner retains ownership, private access and continues to pay property taxes, but the land must remain a floodplain with no alterations or buildings that would impede that function or result in damages.

The USDA Emergency Watershed Protection Program allows NRCS to acquire permanent easements on private land or land owned by units of state and local governments that have been damaged by flooding at least once in the last 12 months or twice in the past 10 years. Once the easements have been established, NRCS will pay 100 percent of the conservation work to restore the land to its natural state.

For information about USDA's floodplain easements, please visit <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/ewp/Floodplain/index.html>.

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION FOR FLOOD- PLAIN, STORMWATER AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT (WAFSCM)

9

Membership Application/Renewal Form

For January 2009 – December 2009

Membership Fee: \$20.00

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Ext.: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Would you like to receive occasional announcements, newsletters
and/or notices via E-mail: Yes ___ No ___

Other Affiliations: _____

Primary Interest: ___ Floodplain ___ Stormwater ___ Coastal

Specific Interest: _____

Please include a check for the annual Membership Fee of \$20.00
made payable to: *WAFSCM*

Return to:

Roxanne Gray

WAFSCM

c/o Wisconsin Emergency Management

2400 Wright Street

Madison, WI 53707-7865

If you have questions, call Roxanne Gray at (608) 242-3211 or *Roxanne.gray@wisconsin.gov* or
visit the WAFSCM website at *http://wi.floods.org/*.

DNR Website for Mapping Status

The Department of Natural Resources has developed a website to provide communities and others with information regarding the Flood Map Modernization Program in Wisconsin. The website contains information on project status, the public open house schedule, the comment and appeal process, post preliminary map process and other mapping related issues.

Links to FEMA's website are included. The FEMA sites are for information on Letters of Map Change and the Map Service Center.

For further information regarding the Flood Map Modernization Program contact:

Amanda Schwoegler - Process Issues
amanda.schwoegler@wisconsin.gov
 Bob Watson - Technical Issues
robert.watson@wisconsin.gov
 Ken Hinterlong - FEMA
ken.hinterlong@dhs.gov

The website is located at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/dsfm/flood/mapping.htm>.

Scheduled Flood Risk Open Houses

The purpose of Flood Risk Open Houses is to present the preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps to local officials and the public for review and comment. The open houses also provide an opportunity for FEMA and the DNR to provide local officials with information on ordinance adoption and floodplain management.

At the afternoon meeting for local officials, information will be presented on how the maps were made and the procedure for filing appeals or comments as well as information on the next steps in the mapping process. Staff from FEMA's mapping contractor and the DNR will be available to answer questions regarding the maps and the NFIP.

At the evening meeting, the preliminary FIRMs will be available for the public to review. Staff from FEMA's mapping contractor and the DNR will be available to answer questions regarding the maps and the NFIP.

August 13, 2009 Crawford County
 Crawford County Administration Building
 225 N. Beaumont Rm 236, 2nd Floor
 Prairie du Chein, WI
 2:30 PM Local Officials Meeting
 6:00 PM Open House for Public

August 18, 2009 Trempealeau County
 Whitehall City Center
 18620 Hobson Street
 Whitehall, WI
 2:30 PM Local Officials Meeting
 6:00 PM Open House for Public

Current Letters of Final Determination

Letters of Final Determination (LFD) have been issued for several counties. Once an LFD has been issued, all communities in the county participating in the NFIP have six (6) months to amend the local floodplain ordinance to include the new FIRMs and Flood Insurance Study. Communities which do not adopt by the effective date of the maps will be immediately suspended from the NFIP. Communities which do not currently participate in the NFIP have one (1) year to join the NFIP and adopt the new maps.

LFDs have been issued for the following communities:

County	Effective Date	County	Effective Date
Brown County	August 18, 2009	Sauk County	December 18, 2009
Walworth County	October 2, 2009	Monroe County	January 20, 2010
Fond du Lac County	November 4, 2009	Waupaca County	January 20, 2010
Barron County	December 3, 2009		

For further information and updates go to <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/dsfm/flood/mapping.htm>.

DNR Staff Changes

Brooke Bushman–Watershed Management

Brooke has left her position with the Dam Safety/Floodplain Management and Shoreland Programs. She provided outreach, policy and planning services for both programs. Brooke is now working for the Wisconsin Wetlands Association as an Outreach Programs Coordinator. Since joining WWA, she has helped launch the Wetlands Gem Program. Her duties have been taken over by Gregg Breese (Shoreland 608-261-6430) and Miriam Anderson (Floodplain 608-266-5228).

Kate Barret–Floodplain Management Program

Kate has left her position as Floodplain Program GIS Manager for the Map Modernization Program. She was responsible for leading and coordinating the GIS work for DNR's role as a floodplain mapping partner in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Map Modernization Initiative. Kate is now working in the Office of Great Lakes as a GIS Analyst. Her duties have been divided among the other members of the Mapping staff.

11

Floodplain Management Training

The Wisconsin DNR Floodplain Management staff will be conducting two Floodplain Management 101 Workshops during August. The workshops are designed to provide county, city and village building inspectors, zoning administrators and planning staff a basic understanding of the requirements of the NFIP and ch. NR 116. The workshops will include information on determining when are permits required, how to apply for a Letter of Map Change and community responsibilities. Interested local government officials are also encouraged to attend.

August 13, 2009 Crawford County
Crawford County Administration Building
225 N. Beaumont Rm 236, 2nd Floor
Prairie du Chein, WI
10:30 AM - 1:00 PM

August 18, 2009 Trempealeau County
Whitehall City Center
18620 Hobson Street
Whitehall, WI
10:30 AM - 1:00 PM

For further information, contact Gary Heinrichs at either 608-266-3093 or gary.heinrichs@wisconsin.gov.



2009 Conference

The 7th annual Wisconsin Association of Floodplain, Stormwater and Coastal Managers conference will be held October 7 - 9, 2009 at the Barker's Island Inn Resort and Convention Center in Superior, Wisconsin. The 2009 conference will be a joint conference with the Minnesota Association of Floodplain Managers. The theme of the conference will be "Floods Know No Boundaries". If you are interested in reserving exhibit space or being a conference sponsor, contact Cindi DeBruine, Exhibitor/Sponsor Chair at cdebruine@rasmithnational.com. Questions regarding presenting a paper during a concurrent session should be sent to Tom Ganfield at tganfield@baxterwoodman.com. For any other questions regarding the conference, contact Conference Co-Chair David Fowler at DFowler@mmsd.com.

Floodplain and Shoreland Management Notes

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Dam Safety, Floodplain Section.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
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