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# News from Region X

## Mitigation Success in Lewiston, Idaho



The first phase of a two-phase storm water improvement project in Lewiston has been completed. In 2010, the City of Lewiston was awarded a \$2.12 million Pre-disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant sub-award to update and rebuild the storm water drainage system in and around City and County government buildings and State Highway 12 as it passes through Lewiston. The City's grant application described the problem as "[e]ven beyond what is increasingly recurring and worsening damage to residential and commercial buildings in the area, another conclusion of the City's analyses is that the floods are increasingly impacting primary City and County services and FEMA-identified critical facilities." These facilities included the Sheriff's Office, a fire station, the County Courthouse, the US Post Office, City Hall, City Police Station, Fire Marshall's office, Lewiston's Community Center which includes the housing services for the elderly and disabled and the Idaho State Office Building, among others.

The project design was significantly complex with several redesigns needed to meet the grant budget limitations and permitting

requirements. The picture above dramatically illustrates a complex engineering solution for the intersection of the storm water outfall pipes and a previously unknown hot-water effluent pipe coming from the Potlatch plant. As seen here, there are six 18-inch drainage pipes crossing under the 36" effluent pipe. These replaced the original two 12-inch pipes separated by 3 blocks. The collection system covers more than 223 acres and will protect the public and property from frequent storm events and rain-on-snow events. Streets and curbs were redesigned as storm water collectors and improvements were made to catch basins and manholes. Curbs were cut and ramps built to improve accessibility. The drainage pipes were installed using boring and pipe-pulling machines in order to avoid trenching in the streets.

Significant amounts of storm water needed to be conveyed from the 10-block area, across and down several streets, across State Highway 12, across another commercial building area, under several Burlington Northern railroad tracks and berms, across the city's by-way road and into the US Army Corps catch basin system adjacent to the Port of Lewiston's dike system. The engineering contractor, Horrocks Engineers, received the 2013 ACEC of Idaho Engineering Excellence Award in the Water and Storm water category for its work on this project. IBHS was mentioned in the award as the funding source and the

*Continued on next page*

**Mitigation** (cont.)

plaque hangs proudly in the hallway near the Administration area, Building 600.

This project is the first phase of a two-phase storm water capital improvement effort. The second phase, funded by a \$2.3 million FMA sub-grant, has already commenced with construction to continue next spring. The City of Lewiston is to be commended for its excellent development and management of both projects. Appreciation is extended to FEMA for its portion of the grant funding and to the Idaho Silver Jackets for its assistance in expediting a solution to an Army Corps permitting issue. These flood hazard mitigation projects demonstrate the effectiveness of hazard mitigation planning and Federal/State/County/City partnerships.

*Thanks to Mark Stephensen, Idaho State Mitigation Officer for this story.*

## NORFMA Idaho Floodplain Workshop

Registration is now open for the Idaho Floodplain Workshop, in Boise on September 19 at the Bureau of Reclamation Snake River Office. Come learn about critical changes to the important NFIP Insurance Regulations and see elements Bureau of Reclamation water delivery systems and of Boise flood control systems. Training includes morning technical sessions and an afternoon field trip. Information and registration can be found at [www.NORFMA.org](http://www.NORFMA.org).

### Newsletter Ideas?

Let us know what you want to see in future issues! Email suggestions, events, or questions to [RXNewsletter@starr-team.com](mailto:RXNewsletter@starr-team.com).

## FEMA's New Tribal Consultation Policy

Administrator Craig Fugate recently announced the Tribal Consultation Policy, beginning a new phase of engagement and collaboration with American Indian and Alaskan Native tribes.

The new policy emphasizes the role of tribal governments in forming FEMA policy with tribal implications that impacts Indian Country. The policy outlines the requirements and guidelines for FEMA officials and employees to follow to ensure meaningful consultation with tribes.

### Online Training

(All times Pacific)

#### NFIP Basics

September 4, 10 am  
Online\* - 1 CEC

#### CRS Webinar Series: Preparing an Annual Recertification

September 16, 10am  
Online\* - 1 CEC

#### CRS Webinar Series: Drainage System Maintenance

September 17, 10am  
Online\* - 1 CEC

#### Elevation Certificates

September 18, 10am  
Online\* - 2 CECs

#### CRS Webinar Series: Introduction to CRS

October 21, 10am  
Online\* - 1 CEC

#### CRS Webinar Series: Developing Outreach Projects (Activity 330)

October 22, 10am  
Online\* - 1 CEC

#### Comparing Hydraulic Models and Actual Flooding

December 4, 10am  
Online\* - 1 CEC

\*To register for online courses, visit STARR's training site online at [j.mp/starronlinetraining](http://j.mp/starronlinetraining), or email [RXTraining@starr-team.com](mailto:RXTraining@starr-team.com).

The Tribal Consultation Policy can be found on the [FEMA Tribal Affairs Webpage](#).

*If you have questions, please contact FEMA's Intergovernmental Affairs Division at (202) 646-3444 or at [FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov).*

## September is National Preparedness Month

During National Preparedness Month, take action by planning a National *PrepareAthon!* Day on or around September 30th. *PrepareAthon!* is a national, grassroots campaign for action to increase community preparedness and resilience through hazard-specific drills, group discussions, and exercises. Throughout the year, America's *PrepareAthon!* helps communities and individuals across the country to practice preparedness actions before a disaster or emergency strikes and focuses attention to the importance of creating a more resilient Nation by bringing stakeholders, communities, and individuals together to take action and join the conversation on resilience.

### PrepareAthon! Goals

Increase the number of individuals who

- Understand which disasters could happen in their community;
- Know what to do to be safe and mitigate damage;
- Take action to increase their preparedness; and
- Participate in community resilience planning

To learn more, visit [www.ready.gov/prepare](http://www.ready.gov/prepare).

# RiskMAP

Increasing Resilience Together



### 5K fun run/walk to practice tsunami evacuation routes

September is National Preparedness Month and Pacific Northwest coastal communities are leading by example. Cannon Beach, Oregon will host Race the Wave, their first hazard-themed fun run designed to

blend awareness and action into a single activity.

Race the Wave is a 5k tsunami fun run/walk that follows an actual tsunami evacuation route in Cannon Beach. On September 28, participants will learn about earthquake and tsunami hazards so they can make informed decisions and take actions to be better prepared, creating a more resilient community. The race route begins on the beach and finishes at the higher ground of one of the

community's evacuation meeting points, where Cannon Beach will host a preparedness fair with interactive booths for all to learn more about how to prepare for emergencies and disasters.

*For more information and to participate in Race the Wave visit the community [Facebook page](#).*

