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Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction
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News from Region X

Quinault Indian Nation Village Relocation

In November 2015, the Quinault Indian Nation's (QIN) was featured on the US Climate Resilience Toolkit website. The QIN has always faced the risk and uncertainty of tsunami but the community now faces a different type of threat—impacts from climate change. The article discusses the climate stressors and impacts that lead to their decision to relocate the lower portion of the Village of Taholah. These stressors and impacts along with the ever-present threat of tsunami served as reminders of the importance of proactively identifying at-risk populations, facilities, infrastructure, community assets, and determining measures to mitigate the risks.

Quinault Indian Nation at-risk populations & community assets:

- 20% of tribal membership (100 elders and 150 children)
- 175 homes
- K-12 school
- Several businesses
- Critical facilities (police, fire, healthcare, administration)
- Critical infrastructure (water, sanitation, communications, transportation).

With the support of the community, and a grant from the Administration for Native Americans, the QIN have initiated efforts to develop a master plan by 2016 to relocate the lower portion of the Village of Taholah.

To read more on the relocation and master plan for the Village of Taholah please visit toolkit.climate.gov.

FEMA Region X Mitigation Measures

Wildfires Cause Flooding, Mudflows and Erosion

The record-breaking north central Washington wildfires of 2014 and 2015 burned away much of the natural vegetation that is essential for absorbing rainwater. As a result, downstream communities and property have a heightened risk for severe flash flooding, mudslides, debris flows, and other erosion.



Wildfire sets the stage for flooding and property damage

To reduce the danger, federal, state and local government agencies, along with non-profit groups and private land owners, have worked cooperatively to plan and implement hazard mitigation projects. These have included seeding and other ground treatments, installation of debris racks, temporary berms, sediment retention basins and other measures. Flood warning systems have been improved, and many more projects are being planned and

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Wildfire (cont.)

funded. Despite the various protective measures and the natural regeneration that will occur, even light rainfall events can bring catastrophic flooding for the next several years. Full recovery from such intense and widespread wildfire is a very slow process.

An important way to reduce financial loss due to flooding and mudflow is through purchase and retention of flood insurance. Floods are the most common natural disaster in the United States, yet most homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage.

Flood insurance from the National Flood Insurance Program is available not only in areas at high risk of flooding, but in moderate- to low-risk areas as well. To protect your investment, you can purchase coverage for your home’s structure for up to \$250,000 and its contents for up to \$100,000. For businesses, structural and contents coverage is available up to \$500,000.

Sample annual premiums for a home in a moderate or minimal flood zone:

Building coverage	Contents coverage	Annual premium
\$20,000	\$8,000	\$167
\$50,000	\$20,000	\$262
\$250,000	\$100,000	\$452

These are rates as of Nov. 1, 2015. Building characteristics may affect policy pricing.

For more information regarding a flood insurance policy, contact your insurance agent. To assess your flood risk, find an agent or get more information, visit FloodSmart.gov.

Written by Roger Ferris

This article was produced by FEMA Region X Mitigation Division and originally appeared in the FEMA Mitigation Measures newsletter in November 2015.

Ask the Help Desk

The Region X Service Center is here to help with technical, training, mitigation, mapping, and project status questions. How can we help you?

Send your questions by email to RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com.

Sea Level Rise Case Study Webinar

Sea level rise adaptation tools for San Juan Archipelago & Salish Sea

In 2013 the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative (NPLCC) partnered with several groups, including Friends of the San Juans and Coastal Geological Services Inc., to develop a set of sea-level adaptation tools for San Juan Archipelago and Salish Sea. These tools would help determine how rising sea levels might affect the islands.

Please join the NPLCC on Thursday, December 10 from 11am-12pm for a presentation on this project and the process of developing useable tools for land managers.

Visit www.northpacificlcc.org for more information and to register for the webinar.

Suggested Reading

Methow Valley News

Following the Carlton Complex Fire in the Methow Valley in the summer of 2014, the largest wildfire ever to hit the state of Washington, the Methow Valley News published *Trial By Fire – The Methow Valley’s Summer of Disaster*. The publication examines what happened, looks to the path of recovery, and tells the stories of individuals who escaped the fires and floods.

The publication can be viewed at <http://issuu.com>.

NORFMA Workshops and Training

CRS Users Group
 December 17, 1-3 pm
 Pierce County Office
 Tacoma Mall Plaza, Suite 109
 2702 South 42nd Street
 Tacoma, WA

The CRS Users Group will be meeting for upcoming training on December 17. The agenda for the training is tailored for communities interested in joining the CRS with training on assistance with the initial applications and on successful creditable projects for smaller communities.

Please contact Dennis Dixon, ddixon@co.pierce.wa.us or call (253).798-3696 to RSVP or to receive a remote link to the meeting.

HEC-RAS2D Workshop Two-Dimensional (2D) Flow Modeling using HEC-RAS2D

January 27-29, 2016
 University Place, WA
[Click for workshop flyer](#)

NORFMA is offering a workshop on Two-Dimensional (2D) Flow Modeling using HEC-RAS2D January 27-29, 2016.

To register for the workshops, go to www.norfma.org. For more information, contact Henry Hu, hhu@WESTconsultants.com.



Online Training

(All times Pacific)

Floodplain Development Permit Review

December 8, 10am
Online* - 1 CEC

Inspecting Floodplain Development

December 9, 10am
Online* - 2 CEC

Introduction to CRS

December 15, 10am
Online* - 1 CEC

CRS: Developing Outreach Projects (Activity 330)

December 16, 10am
Online* - 1 CEC

Elevation Certificates

January 7, 2016, 10am
Online* - 2 CEC

CRS: Preparing for a Verification Visit

January 19, 2016, 10am
Online* - 1 CEC

CRS: Floodplain Management Planning (Activity 510)

January 20, 2016, 10am
Online* - 1 CEC

Tools for Determining BFE

January 21, 2016, 10am
Online* - 1 CEC

*To register for online courses, visit STARR's training site online at j.mp/starronlinetraining, or email RXTraining@starr-team.com.