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News from Region X

Hazus Modernization

The FEMA Hazus team is moving forward with the next step in Hazus Modernization, which includes the implementation of three main functional enhancements to the [Hazus-MH Flood module](#) (Inventory and Service Pack release):

- Applying the dasymetric GBS exposure distribution approach
- Synchronization of depth damage functions with the FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis tool
- Implement study region aggregation at custom jurisdiction or neighborhood levels

This next release is expected to launch later this spring. For more information regarding the goals of Hazus Modernization, please download the [Modernization Overview Flyer](#). If you have any questions regarding these enhancements, feel free to reach out to the Hazus Outreach Team at hazus@arcaspicio.com.

UW Starts New Master's Program in Floodplain Management

The University of Washington is starting a new Master's Degree Program that includes a Floodplain Management Option. The program combines online courses with resident summer sessions at UW's campus.

To learn more about the program, contact Bob Freitag at bfreitag@mindspring.com.

Upcoming Enhancement of FEMA's CNMS Tool

FEMA is enhancing its [Coordinated Needs Management Strategy \(CNMS\)](#) tool to allow registered users to submit and track mapping need requests, as well as provide a platform for FEMA Regions to review user-submitted requests and evaluate the requested geographic area for a potential new flood study.

The previous functionality of CNMS supports a public user interface that only displays FEMA's inventory of flood studies along streamline flooding sources with limited accessibility to records and data, and user interactivity. The new release will better utilize all CNMS capabilities in the management and visualization of FEMA's flood hazard mapping inventory, and provide access to approved users (regional floodplain administrators, community officials, city planners, etc.).

Since floodplains are constantly changing, the new functionality will also further enhance how FEMA tracks the validity of the flood study inventory and assess if information of Flood Insurance Rate Maps are accurately represented.

If you have any questions about the CNMS enhancement project, please contact the CDS Outreach Team at outreach@riskmapcds.com.



NORFMA News

NORFMA CRS Users Group

The CRS Users Group will meet Wednesday, April 22, from 1-3pm at the Tacoma Mall Plaza. To RSVP, contact Dennis-Dixon, ddixon@co.pierce.wa.us.

NORFMA Annual Conference

Save the Date! The NORFMA Annual Conference will be held in Post Falls, Idaho, on September 23-25. More information to come at norfma.clubexpress.com.

Featured Training

Webinar on FEMA P-50 and P-50-1, Simplified Seismic Assessment and Retrofit Guidelines for Detached, Single-Family, Wood-Frame Dwellings

April 15 – 12pm-1:30 pm (Pacific)
1.5 PDH



The purpose of this webinar is to summarize FEMA P-50 and to give a brief introduction to the companion report, FEMA P-50-1, *Seismic*

Retrofit Guidelines for Detached, Single-Family, Wood-Frame Dwellings. The FEMA P-50 and FEMA P-50-1 reports are updated and nationally expanded versions of the simplified assessment methodology and retrofit guidelines for detached, single-family, wood-frame dwellings that were originally developed under ATC-50 and ATC-50-1 for use in the City of Los Angeles following the Northridge earthquake (first published in 2002). The 2012 FEMA P-50 simplified assessment methodology uses a six-page form to assign each dwelling a structural score based on observed dwelling characteristics, a seismic

Ask the Help Desk

The Region X Service Center is here to help local community officials and stakeholders with technical, training mitigation, and mapping questions. Let us help!

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

hazard score based on dwelling location and site hazards, and a resulting Seismic Performance Grade between A and D-. The methodology goes on to identify retrofit options for assessed items and the corresponding improved Seismic Performance Grade should that retrofit be implemented. The FEMA P-50-1 report provides details on the retrofit of the dwelling's seismic deficiencies.

Intended Audience

The intended audience for this webinar includes building owners, building officials, home inspectors, design professionals, home builders, emergency planners, insurers, lenders, and any other persons involved in implementing or using results from the FEMA P-50 simplified seismic assessment methodology.

Registration is free, but required

For registration information, contact Bernadette Hadnagy of Applied Technology Council (ATC) at bhadnagy@atcouncil.org.

2015 ATC Webinar Program

The 2015 ATC Webinar Program is under development. To view upcoming scheduled and tentative webinars being planned, visit www.atcouncil.org/events-atcsei.



Upcoming Events & Training

(All times Pacific)

STARR: Determining Base Flood Elevations

April 16, 10am
Online* – 1 CEC

CRS: Preparing for a Verficiation Visit

April 21, 10am
June 16, 10am
Online* – 1 CEC

CRS: Drainage System Maintenance (Activity 540)

April 22, 10am
Online* – 1 CEC

NORFMA CRS Users Group

April 22, 1pm
Tacoma Mall Plaza

STARR: Floodplain Development Permit Review

April 29, 10am
Online* – 1 CEC

STARR: Inspecting Floodplain Development

April 30, 10am
Online* – 2 CEC

STARR: Elevation Certificates

May 14, 10am
Online* – 2 CEC

Introduction to CRS

May 19, 10am
Online* – 1 CEC

CRS and Higher Regulatory Standards

May 20, 10am
Online* – 1 CEC

CRS and Natural Floodplain Functions

June 17, 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.