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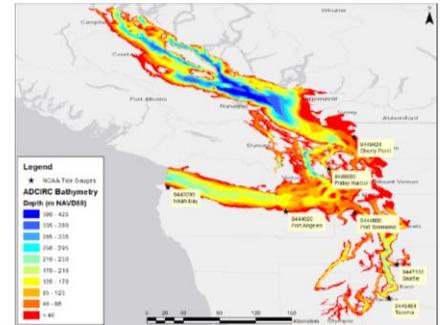
# News from Region 10

## Washington State Coastal Flood Studies

From 2009 to 2013, FEMA was funded to update all of the country's coastal flood maps, most of which were last completed over 30 years ago with limited technology, topography, and data. In Washington State, most of these older coastal studies were drawn using only engineering judgement with no derived flood elevations, even in the city of Seattle. There are now 14 Washington counties that are being updated which include 136 communities in the countywide footprints, 18 tribes in the coastal footprint and 26 tribes impacted overall. All 14 counties have newly derived coastal flood elevations from detailed Puget Sound coastal models. The process to get this information fully utilized in the community's regulatory framework requires a lot of coordination:

- Meeting with the community and tribal staff to share draft maps and discussing community outreach for the preliminary maps,
- Supporting community-led public meetings on the maps,
- Initiating a 90-day regulatory appeal period, resolving appeals and comments, and
- Working with the communities to update their floodplain ordinances to reflect the new understanding of the risk.

During these meetings, Region 10 has met with about 130 members of community and tribal staff at both the draft map and preliminary map stages. There have been 17 open house public meetings on these maps for 12 counties so far, including one



**ADCIRC Model for Puget Sound**

in Aberdeen in 2014. At these meetings, over 750 members of the public have attended.

Five of these Washington counties have gone through their full regulatory process and their maps are considered “effective” maps. Another five will make it this year. These maps have allowed the Chehalis Tribe to move to being a full participant of the National Flood Insurance Program, the Hoh Tribe and the Quileute Tribe will follow by the end of this year and next year, respectively.

While updating floodplain ordinances in Grays Harbor County, six communities chose to adopt at least nine standards that go beyond FEMA's minimum requirements including adding three feet of freeboard, ensuring no adverse impact to neighboring landowners, restricting hazardous materials from the floodplain, etc.

The new studies lay the groundwork for establishing technical credibility with communities that FEMA can build on through the Risk MAP process to help communities take

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Washington Coastal (cont.)

mitigation action to reduce their exposure to natural hazards.

These studies have helped greatly to build on relationships between FEMA Region 10 and Washington Department of Ecology, Department of Natural Resources (WA DNR), Sea Grant, Emergency Management Division, and others.

One outcome of Risk MAP is a completed risk assessment for each community. FEMA has partnered with WA DNR as well as our national contractor STARR to create an inventory of structures in the Puget Sound and outer coast. This structure-specific data enables the use of Hazus to determine impacts from earthquakes and floods, as well as risk exposure for other hazards including tsunamis, landslides, and volcanoes. Combining this natural hazard data with the community's infrastructure and bringing in State partners who can offer their expertise and financial resources (grants) to mitigate risk initiates the Region 10 Risk MAP Resilience process.

In addition to identifying mitigation actions, the risk assessment data can also be used for preparedness, response, and recovery at all levels of government. Five of the 14 coastal counties have started the Resilience process, including Pacific, Grays Harbor, Kitsap, Whatcom, and Pierce Counties. The Resilience meeting offers a significant opportunity to connect with State and Federal partners while advancing conversations on risk reduction activities. [Kitsap County utilized this process to discuss their risk of a Seattle Fault Earthquake.](#)

The remaining resilience meetings are expected to occur in 2017 and 2018.

For more information about Risk MAP in Washington, contact [Jerry.Franklin@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Jerry.Franklin@ecy.wa.gov).

**NORFMA News****Annual Conference**

September 26-29, 2017  
Seaside, Oregon

The theme for this year's NORFMA annual conference is: *Managing Assets for the Future: Resilient Coastal and Riverine Floodplains.*

Registration will open soon, and the [Call for Abstracts](#) is now open. NORFMA is seeking submissions for presentations (or workshops) on integrated projects and management approaches, coastal issues, regulations, local perspectives, and more. A variety of topics make for interesting and informative conferences. If you have an idea, please submit and participate. Abstracts are due July 8th.

For information about the conference, visit [www.norfma.org](http://www.norfma.org).

**Online Training****Flood Provisions of the International Residential Code**

This two-part course covers basic information on the flood provisions of the IRC. Its goal is to educate floodplain management and building officials, design professionals, and builders about building code provisions that satisfy NFIP requirements, coordinating building codes and local floodplain management ordinances, and the distinctions between the I-Codes and NFIP regulations. The course can be accessed at the links below:

- Part 1: <http://bit.ly/2qYfCug>
- Part 2: <http://bit.ly/2sONV3t>

For a limited time, this course will be available free of charge.

Access FEMA's free building code resources for all hazards at <https://www.fema.gov/building-code-resources>.

**Ask the Help Desk**

The FEMA Region 10 Service Center is here to help local community officials and stakeholders with technical, training, mitigation, and mapping questions. Send your questions to [RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com](mailto:RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com).

**Featured Training****Mitigation Planning Coffee Break Series: Integrating Community Wildfire Protection Plans and Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans**

June 23, 2017  
10am-11am

Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans (NHMP) and Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) both benefit communities striving to reduce risk to natural hazards. The requirements of what needs to be in the plans have a lot of similarities, therefore some communities have chosen to integrate the two planning documents.

Join the FEMA Region 10 mitigation planning team as we highlight the benefits of integration, steps communities can take to integrate their current NHMP and CWPP and how the state agencies can work together to achieve plan integration.

Guest speakers will include representatives from Idaho Department of Lands and Idaho Emergency Management.

CECs available for ASFPM CFMs. Registration is free, and required. Visit <http://j.mp/starronlinetraining>.

Remember, your registration is unique to you. Don't share it. Encourage others to individually register.

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Increasing Resilience Together

## Online Training

(All times Pacific)

### CRS: Preparing for a Verification Visit

June 20, 10 am  
Online – 1 CEC

### CRS: Developing Outreach Projects

June 21, 10 am  
Online – 1 CEC

### Floodplain Development Permit Review

June 22, 9 am  
Online – 1 CEC

### Inspecting Floodplain Development

June 22, 10:30 am  
Online – 1 CEC

### Integrating Community Wildfire Protection Plans and Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans

June 23, 10 am  
Online – 1 CEC

### CRS: Changes in 2017 Coordinator's Manual

July 18, 10 am  
Online – 1 CEC

### CRS: Class 4 Prerequisites

July 19, 10 am  
Online – 1 CEC

### Elevation Certificates

July 20, 10 am  
Online – 2 CECs

### Developing an Effective Mitigation Strategy

July 28, 10 am  
Online – 1 CEC

### CRS: Preparing an Annual Recertification

August 15, 10 am  
Online – 1 CEC

### CRS: Flood Warning and Response (Activity 610)

August 16, 10 am  
Online – 1 CEC

### Incorporating Climate Adaptation into Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning

August 25, 10 am  
Online – 1 CEC

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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).



# RiskMAP

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