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News from Region 10



Flood of Information Series: Clackamas County, Oregon

Using flood study findings to raise flood risk awareness

In a recent study focused on flood event history in Clackamas County, Oregon, researchers identified a need for an educational resource supporting at-risk river basin communities. The Flood of Information Series provides a powerful public engagement tool, with information relating to future flood events in the Sandy River Basin and how residents can reduce their hazard risk.

The University of Oregon's Community Service Center utilized survey findings to begin a discussion focused around historical evidence, preparation for, and prevention of future flooding. This four-part video series offers material on Flood History, Channel Migration, Habitat Preservation, and Flood Insurance.

These short clips provide resident experiences in navigating property

protection following “pineapple express” events and channel migration due to the effects of climate change and glacial retreat.

“Some of the most destructive flood events in Clackamas County have been due to erosion where rivers migrate across their floodplain and carve new channels,” reports Jay Wilson of Clackamas County Disaster Management. With three presidential declarations in the last nine years for flood disasters, this county recognizes a need for flood awareness and development reform along the Upper Sandy River Basin.

For more information and to view videos, please visit [Clackamas County's YouTube channel](#).

Ask the Help Desk

The Region 10 Service Center is here to help local community officials and stakeholders with technical, training, mitigation, and mapping questions.

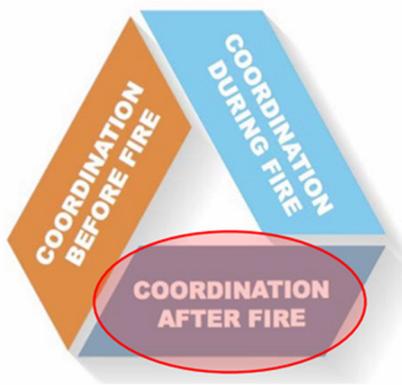
Email RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com.

Oregon Silver Jackets Post-Wildfire Flood Playbook

Clearing up the cleanup process

In September 2018, the Oregon Silver Jackets produced a new resource for communities consistently disrupted by wildfires. The Oregon Post-Wildfire Flood Playbook highlights the difficulties that follow these natural disasters. This guide contains resources for local governments to address increased flood risk and debris flows that can occur after large wildfires.

While this guide is geared towards emergency/floodplain managers and hazard mitigation planners, it can also be used as an educational tool for private landowners and local law enforcement. Conservation districts, state officials, and federal officials can use the playbook to understand other agencies' roles and responsibilities following the event of a wildfire.



The changes a watershed experiences as a result of a fire include non-absorbant ground surfaces, increased speed of water runoff, and mudflows due to brush loss and subsequent heavy rains.

According to this research, areas that have been severely burned could continue to experience post-wildfire risks such as flooding or debris flows

for two to five years following one of these natural disasters. An effort to coordinate an effective response to these occurrences is the primary focus of this resource.

This guide is available from the Silver Jackets webpage: [Oregon Post-Wildfire Flood Playbook](#).

Washington Silver Jackets Climate Resilience Project

Videos complete, Climate Resilience Resource Database being developed

**Travis Ball, PE, CFM
USACE Seattle District**

What are your community's greatest flood risk management concerns related to a changing climate? From levee performance impacts, to changing sediment loads, to rising sea levels, and dozens of other climate change considerations, we know our flood risk management (FRM) mission – in some ways – will look different in the future.

If we continue to plan for the future based strictly on patterns we have seen in the past, climate change impacts will leapfrog our current risk metrics. If the components of flood risk are probability, vulnerability, and consequences of the hazard – and the probability of more frequent and higher magnitude storm events is going to increase in many locations due to climate change – we must find ways to reduce vulnerabilities and consequences to keep or reduce our current flood risk.

The U.S Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) funded the Washington Silver Jackets team to explore climate resilience in FRM. This was a follow-up project to a partnership with UW-Climate Impacts Group which created a [Silver Jackets workplan](#) for incorporating climate considerations. Feedback from local community floodplain managers in

late 2018 helped the team formulate some tools for improving climate resilience in FRM, starting with a 6-part webinar series.

The webinar series featured speakers from USACE, NOAA, Washington Sea Grant, UW Climate Impacts Group, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, among others. Topics included climate science, coastal and riverine projections and datasets, planning tools, culvert replacement and design, and case studies. The audio and video of the presentations were recorded and are housed at the project site on the [Washington Silver Jackets webpage](#).

In addition to the webinar series, the team is compiling an inventory of online resources for climate resilience and flood risk management. The database is geared toward materials easily utilized by flood risk managers as they identify, assess, and plan for potential challenges arising from climate change in their FRM missions.

The SJ team will continue to look for opportunities to build a climate resilience learning network. The more we share, collaborate, and innovate the more effective our climate resilience work will be.

For more information or to be added to the SJ Resilience mailing list, contact Travis Ball, USACE, at travis.d.ball@usace.army.mil.

Newsletter Ideas?

Want to spread the word about an upcoming event or recent success story? Let us know what you want to see in future issues! Articles can be up to 500 words and may include pictures.

Email RXNewsletter@starr-team.com.

Featured Trainings

L273: Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP
 April 29 – May 2, 2019
 Central Point, OR

Hosted by FEMA Region X and the Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM), this course is designed for local officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinance. The course will focus on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and concepts of floodplain management, maps and studies, ordinances administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance.

The primary audience for this course is local floodplain officials, including building inspectors, code enforcement/zoning officers, planners, city/county managers, attorneys, engineers, and public work officials. Federal/state/regional floodplain managers are also encouraged to attend. The course is designed for those officials with less than three years of floodplain management experience.

Tuition is free for those accepted; there are no travel or salary stipends available. To apply, please use the following application form: [FEMA Form 119-25-1 Application](#).

Please direct any questions to the course coordinator at michelle.schmeling@fema.dhs.gov.

CFM Exam
 February 15, 2019
 Hillsboro, OR

The ASFPM Certified Floodplain Manager Exam will also be hosted at the Washington County Department of Land Use & Transportation office in Hillsboro, Oregon on February 15th from 9am – noon. Please note that only the exam is being hosted, and no training workshop will be held in conjunction with this testing opportunity.

In order to take the exam, you must submit your completed application along with the appropriate fee to ASFPM. The CFM application form is available online at <http://www.floods.org>.

Exam space is limited to 10 people, so early registration is encouraged.

For more information, and the specific exam location, contact the exam proctor, Rocky Brown, rocky_brown@co.washington.or.us or via phone at 503-846-7914.

Resilience Workshop Feature: King County, Washington

Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan supported by diverse local collaboration

Last month, a regional hazard mitigation planning workshop was held in partnership with King County Emergency Management, the Washington State Emergency Management, Department of

Ecology, Department of Natural Resources, and the FEMA Region 10 Risk Analysis Branch. The goal of the workshop was to identify what hazards impact the communities of King County and begin to discuss needs and strategies to mitigate those risks.

In total 80 attendees participated in the workshop, representing a diverse audience of staff from the County and cities, special purpose districts, hospitals, education institutions, and State and Federal partners. Attendees walked through risk assessment results produced from FEMA’s Risk MAP program and new, and soon to be, released landslide and tsunami assessments produced by the Department of Natural Resources. The discussion leveraged existing local data, and using online mapping viewers, participants were able to view the hazard data in concert with planning, transportation, and critical facility data.

In support of the King County Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan update, this workshop provided a method for local staff to view and use data to inform their local mitigation plan and decision-making process to achieve resilience goals in their communities.



Job Openings in the Region

Position	Link	Location	Closing Date
State of WA Dept. of Ecology: Flood Risk Reduction Coordinator/Senior Planner	https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/washington/jobs/2299798/flood-risk-reduction-coordinator-senior-planner-environmental-planner-4	Lacey, WA	Continuous

Online Training

(All times Pacific)

CRS: Introduction to CRS

January 15, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

CRS: CRS and Coastal Hazards

January 16, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

Floodplain Development Permit Review

January 17, 9 am
Online – 1 CEC

Floodplain Development Inspections

January 17, 10:30 am
Online – 1.5 CECs

Elevation Certificates

January 31, 10 am
Online – 2 CECs

Determining BFEs

February 14, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

CRS: The Role of the CRS Coordinator

February 19, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

CRS: Repetitive Loss Properties

February 20, 10 am
Online – 1 CEC

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