

**DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
September 24, 2014**

The DRBC Flood Advisory Committee meeting, chaired by Gary Szatkowski, NWS Mount Holly, was held on September 24, 2014 at the DRBC offices in West Trenton, New Jersey.

Action Items:

1. Members to review FAC report, *Recommendations for More Effective Floodplain Regulations in the Delaware River Basin (October 2009)* for their review. This report was informed by the Floodplain Regulations Evaluation Subcommittee (FRES), convened at the request of the DRBC Commissioners from New Jersey and Pennsylvania to address Task Force Recommendation FR-1: Catalog, Evaluate and Update Existing Floodplain Regulations in the Basin.
<http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/programs/flood/floodplainregs.html>

Discussion Items:

- FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS) 101, Lowering Flood Risk and Insurance Rates, presentation by Mari Radford, CFM, FEMA Region 3
 - CRS is a voluntary program. Applied for by community, heavy with paperwork. Benefits include risk awareness, risk reduction, educated public, discounts on insurance to policy holders. Many communities could get a discount for actions they are already doing.
(slides from presentation available at <http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/about/advisory/flood/>)
- Model Floodplain Ordinance Crosswalk Tool: FAC discussing using the work of the Floodplain Regulation Evaluation Subcommittee (2009) to create a crosswalk of model floodplain ordinance language as a tool for local communities. This would be a voluntary tool; linked to State menus and the range of possible CRS points (% insurance reductions); would fulfill a recommendation of the Interstate Flood Mitigation Task Force
 - Would a subset of the FAC create the crosswalk? Would all states support and contribute to tool?
 - Opportunity to highlight model communities/watersheds, support risk reduction at the local level and show tangible incentives via possible insurance reduction
- FAC Priorities as discussed by members:
 - Improve forecasting interface at confluence of non-tidal/tidal river. Current NWS prototype for this type of model in Potomac (HECRAS up to fall line/NOAA storm surge models below, includes tides); discussion if Delaware Bay/River could be a future initiative
 - Information sharing with Emergency Managers/public on accessible flood forecasting tools (possible future workshops or online guide with links that could be shared via social media)
 - Continued information sharing/discussion regarding flood risk tools (FEMA non-regulatory risk GIS tools, USACE storm surge mapping)
 - Expansion of inundation mapping to tributaries given funding availability (ie Schuylkill)
 - Update repetitive loss analysis to aid basin communities
 - Continue to champion for gage support/ forecast updates
- Beginning October 1, 2014, Neshaminy Creek near Langhorne, PA streamgage (USGS 01465500) has been moved 0.55 miles downstream to Brownsville Rd due to the impact of bridge construction at the original gage location. Resulting gage heights are based on the current site location's characteristics and do not necessarily reflect similar conditions at the original location.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 3, 2014

**FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING ATTENDANCE**

September 24, 2014

NAME	AGENCY
AHNERT, Peter	National Weather Service (NWS), Middle Atlantic River Forecast Office
BONOS, Mary	Delaware Riverside Conservancy
BURD, David	Local Emergency Management: Lambertville, NJ
BUTKUS, Bob	Ocean County Office of Emergency Management
DUNN, Kim	Dewberry
FANOK, Su	The Nature Conservancy
HOGAN, Laurie	National Weather Service (NWS), Eastern Region Headquarters
KRUZDLO, Ray	National Weather Service (NWS), Mount Holly WFO
MILLER, Jason	United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Philadelphia District
OLIVIO, Dana	New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP)
PEDRICK, Gail	Delaware Riverside Conservancy
RADFORD, Mari	Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 3
RUGGERI, Joseph	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
RUPERT, Clarke	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)
SCANNAPIECO, Alycia	Delaware Riverside Conservancy
SCORDATO, John	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
SURO, Tom	United States Geological Survey (USGS) – NJ
SZATKOWSKI, Gary	National Weather Service (NWS), Mount Holly WFO
TAMBINI, Steve	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)
TESSIERI, Laura	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)
TESTA, Chris	New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM)
van ROSSUM, Maya	Delaware Riverkeeper
WHITE, Kirk	United States Geological Survey (USGS) – PA