

**DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
September 7, 2016**



The DRBC Flood Advisory Committee meeting, chaired by Andrew Martin, FEMA Region II, was held on September 7, 2016, and hosted by the USGS New Jersey Water Science Center in Lawrenceville, New Jersey. Presentations from the meeting are available at <http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/about/advisory/flood/>

Action Items:

1. Members, who may have information for the USACE CWMS model, will provide it to Laura Bittner of the USACE. NWS and USACE will share flood impact information.
2. The summary of the May 24, 2016 meeting was approved.

Discussion Items:

- The Hydrologic Conditions Report and Outlook were presented by DRBC and NWS.
- Laura Bittner, USACE, presented information on the USACE Corps Water Management System (CWMS) model being developed for the basin. Funding comes from the National Dam Safety Program. The intent is to have standardized tools for USACE reservoir operators. The model builds on HEC-RESSIM reservoir model of the DRB and uses data (cross-sections) from previous flood studies for the HEC-RAS river-routing model. The rainfall-runoff model is HEC-HMS and will use the rainfall forecasts from the NWS. Also being developed is HEC-FIA, which is used for flood impact analyses. Floods of 1955, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2011, as well as the dry period in 2001, will be used to calibrate the model. The work is approximately 25 percent complete and a working model is expected next year.
- Anne Shelton, FEMA Region II, spoke about FEMA's Climate Resilient Mitigation Activities, stressing that ecosystem services, such as Green Infrastructure, could be included in the Benefit Cost Analyses (BCA) when evaluating projects for Hazard Mitigation Assistance. One caveat is the Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) without those benefits must be 0.75. She explained several types of projects including Aquifer-Storage and Recovery (drought), Floodplain and Stream Restoration, Flood Diversion and Storage, and Green Infrastructure. See <https://www.fema.gov/climate-resilient-mitigation-activities-hazard-mitigation-assistance> for more details.
- Kunal Patel, NJDEP, presented information about the FEMA Non-Regulatory Flood Risk Map Products, prepared by NJDEP for the NJ Delaware Bay Area (Camden, Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland and Cape May Counties). The products provide tools for community officials to communicate and educate residents about their flood risk and to use in planning efforts to reduce (or [mitigate](#)) flood risk. Through the outreach program, NJDEP was able to get feedback from residents about the mapping. The major products are Regional Flood Risk Maps, Watershed Flood Risk Reports (community based) and Flood Risk Databases (census block level). Also produced were Coastal Flood Risk Assessments, Flood Depth Grids, Areas of Mitigation Interest and Coastal Increased Inundation Areas. (<http://www.region2coastal.com/community-officials/flood-risk-tools/tool-descriptions/>). NJDEP plans to eventually post the products to an online web viewer in coordination with NJAFM. See <http://msc.fema.gov/portal> and/or <http://www.region2coastal.com/community-officials/flood-risk-tools/>.
- Updates from Members on Current Issues/Interests: Chris Testa noted that NJ received \$24 M in flood mitigation assistance from FEMA. Tom Suro indicated that the USGS deployed temporary storm surge sensors along the NJ Coast to supplement the USGS tide gage network for Hermine. Basic data will be posted on the USGS Flood Event Viewer. Andrew Martin requested that the NWS present on the Baton Rouge Flooding, which occurred this summer.
- **Next Meeting:** December 7, 2016

**DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING ATTENDANCE
September 7, 2016**

| NAME | AGENCY |
|--------------------|---|
| AHNERT, Peter | National Weather Service (NWS), Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center |
| BREWSTER, Jim* | NWS, Binghamton Weather Forecast Office (WFO) |
| BURD, David K. | Local Emergency Management: Lambertville, N.J. |
| HUGHES, Thomas* | Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency |
| KING, Steve | Burlington Office of Emergency Management |
| KRUZDLO, Ray | NWS, Mount Holly WFO |
| KUNAL, Patel | New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) |
| LIAGHAT, Hoss* | Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection |
| MARTIN, Andrew | Federal Emergency Management Agency Region II (FEMA RII) |
| McGUIRE, Meg | delawarecurrents.org |
| MILLER, Jason | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Philadelphia District |
| MOYLE, John | NJDEP |
| PATEL, Kunal | NJDEP |
| OLIVIO, Dana | New York City Department of Environmental Protection |
| QUINODOZ, Hernan | Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) |
| REISER, Robert | U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) New Jersey Water Science Center |
| RUGGERI, Joseph | NJDEP |
| RUPERT, Clarke | DRBC |
| SCORDATO, John | NJDEP |
| SHALLCROSS, Amy | DRBC |
| SHELTON, Anne | FEMA RII |
| STRASSER, Meredith | Talen Energy |
| SURO, Thomas | USGS New Jersey Water Science Center |
| TESTA, Chris | New Jersey Office of Emergency Management |
| VOWINKEL, Eric | Rutgers University |

* Attended via phone