

Cooperating Technical Partners – ASFPM CTP subcommittee Monthly Call –March 11, 2021

Attendees: Alan Luloff, Brooke Seymour, Darryl Rockfield and Dave Knipe

Webinars:

(Not discussed but for the record: The webinar on New Datums was presented by NGS and FEMA on February 24th. We had 1016 attendees which set a new record. The recording and other materials associated with the webinar are posted on the CTP Information Exchange webpage.)

Regarding upcoming webinars, we discussed focusing on State Business Plans. Darryl indicated that they would be willing to present on their State Business Plan. Dave's presentation at the conference focused on Indiana's mapping cost estimating tool that they use for planning their mapping efforts. We discussed whether other states would have the data needed for a similar effort in their state. Dave indicated that he was contacted after the conference by several FEMA regions about the tool. He indicated he could present on a webinar in June.

Best Practices

Nicolle Maccherone has developed enhancements to the draft MO best practice write-up with input from Darryl. Alan will check on the status.

The MHFD best practice will be provided to Nicolle next. The next likely best practice to be drafted will be the State of Maryland. (Note: Discussed on the last call was that Maryland has developed an application wherein lines showing the extent of flooding associated with BFEs plus three feet in coastal areas. The intent is to show the impact of sea level rise or the fact that there is uncertainty. They call the application CRAB.)

Missouri flood mapping

Darryl indicated that they should be able to provide the summary of their comparison of floodway width based on 2D vs 1D modeling soon.

CTP – FEMA Regions

We discussed that FEMA Regions are inconsistent regarding using the CTP program for the mapping efforts in their region. Rebecca Pfeifer with the State of Vermont has expressed frustration to ASFPM that FEMA Region I is unwilling to create a CTP agreement with Vermont. Vermont would like to do the COM (community outreach) efforts in their state. All of the counties in the state are at some point in the mapping process in order to develop model backed SFHAs. Communication on the mapping schedule has not been provided to the state. Rebecca has reached out to Laura to see if Vermont could partner with FEMA Headquarters. Rebecca indicated that she had a virtual meeting with Laura and Rick Sacbibbit this week. They indicated that Vermont partnering with headquarters is not an option. Rebecca is considering contacting their Congressional delegation.

Dave indicated that one of the issues is that Region I gets the least amount of mapping funds among the regions. Though the population is significant the area of the region is relatively small. We discussed that the percent of funding in each region that is provided to CTPs is not common knowledge. Region VIII recently had a CTP meeting for region. At that meeting the region displayed a graph showing the

distribution and indicated that the materials from the meeting were available to attendees. It may be useful to highlight the regions that are making the best efforts to partner with CTPs.

We discussed how to ensure that all the regions were aware of the benefits of partnering with CTPs. Leverage was mentioned. (Note: The amount of leverage provided by CTPs is an important component of the annual CTP snapshot which is often provided to Congressional representatives. FEMA/Laura is working to get CTPs to improve the documentation of leverage provided.).

In discussions with one state CTP recently they indicated that when comparing their mapping projects with FEMA PTS contractors, while some mapping projects can take longer; the quality of their mapping is better, their communication with communities is better and they are can complete their projects at less cost.

They indicated that in their state the quality of the PTS work is poor and they do not inform the state about scheduled mapping related meetings with communities. Lack of communication on the schedule and details of community meetings is problematic for their NFIP coordinator in preparing the state CAP-SSSE funding needs for the region. The state feels that the QA/QC contractors make comments on their mapping that are often not important and at times nonsensical and miss major errors associated with PTS work in their state. Recently a PTS contractor completed riverine mapping for a county where the quality was so poor that it has been scrapped by the region and the region is providing funding to the state CTP in the next MAS to redo the riverine mapping for the county.

It was noted that one of the reasons for the high quality of CTPs is that they have skin in the game. They have to live with the mapping.

CTP contact list

When discussing potential efforts of the subcommittee to address CTP issues a listing of CTPs would be useful. ASFPM developed a listing some time ago. When people register for the CTP webinars they are asked if they are CTPs and ASFPM adds them to the list. We can review the listing to see which entities identify as CTPs.

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