

Cooperating Technical Partners – ASFPM CTP subcommittee Monthly Call – December 10, 2021

Attendees: Alan Lulloff, Brooke Seymour, and Darryl Rockfield

Webinars

The webinar on the QR3 checklist was held on November 30th.

Brian Koper is developing an Applied Approaches document on non-levee embankments. The document will be released in December. Brian has been reached out to regarding putting on a webinar on the document in February or March. [Note: Brian has replied and the document will be completed in January so the February/March time frame works for him.]

CAP-SSSE

FEMA has recently conducted a review of the CAP-SSE program and has created tiers. The tiers are foundational, proficient and advanced. There are 10 states including Missouri that are in the advanced tier.

Leverage

MN is using models developed for water quality modelling and enhancing them for flood hazard mapping. There was discussion about how those existing models are counted for leverage.

Brooke indicated that the Mile High Flood District conducts all of their flood studies with their own funding. They then submit it to FEMA PTS contractors for inputting the studies into the MIP including the QR3 check. Brooke indicated that it is not counted as leverage.

MO 2D Modeling

MO is working to get run times down. From version 6.0 to 6.1, run times have in some cases ballooned from 4 hrs to 40 hrs. On average run times are 4 to 8 times as long.

The 2D modeling workshops went well.

Scientific Review Panel

Maps for the City of St. Louis area are scheduled to go out in February of 2022. This includes the flood study for the City of Brentwood, MO. Though aware of this study update, the city submitted a CLOMR that FEMA approved. The contractor that reviewed the CLOMR submittal did not look at the draft modeling. The study that is in effect uses 20,000 cfs. The study for the CLOMR uses 10,000 cfs. The updated study uses 18,000 cfs.

Darryl indicates that they have had several meetings with the community and that they will likely appeal the new study and that it will likely go to the scientific review panel.

One option MO is considering is going with 2D modeling but they are concerned about opening up the flood gates. Other nearby communities will then also want 2D modeling.

This is an example of the benefit of the LOMR review partners program. Had MO been a LOMR review partner they would have been aware of the study being updated and would not have approved the CLOMR request.

Non- regulatory products

FEMA has included an option for mapping projects for the FEMA regions to include BFE plus one, two and three feet as part of the project. This would be included primarily for coastal projects but it seems that Region X is also including it for riverine projects. It is unclear if other regions are also doing so.

There was discussion regarding the frequency of flood depth grids being provided with mapping projects. How flood depth grids are developed for floodways was discussed. It had been proposed that flood depths grids developed for floodways only show the surcharge within the floodway. ASFPM objected to this since the additional flooding caused by the additional filling allowed in the flood fringe associated with the surcharge extends beyond the floodway. FEMA determined that guidance on flood depth grids be put on hold.

It is felt that flood depth grids are not regularly provided for 1D modeling. MHFD is doing it but not providing it to FEMA.

MO is routinely generating additional mapping products that show the BFE plus freeboard amounts.

MO mapping portal

MO is ready to provide a demo of the mapping portal they are developing.

AL 12/20/21