Cooperating Technical Partners

ASFPM Monthly Conference Call

February 14, 2018

Attendees: Thuy Patton, Steve Story, Carey Johnson, and Alan Lulloff

Webinars: Webinar on inundation mapping scheduled for March 13th. After that - proposing to do a webinar on CNMS since this is part of FEMA metric for measuring performance associated with the national flood mapping program. Therefore, it would be good for CTPs to better understand CNMS. Carey indicated that they have a task to maintain the CNMS for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. They have hired Stantec to assist them in this task. Alan has reached out to Bradford Hartley (who works for one of the FEMA contractors responsible for CNMS maintenance) regarding presenting on this topic for the webinar. Rick Sacbibit has been contacted to authorize PTS support for the webinar. It would be good to have Kentucky as part of the webinar to showcase CTP involvement.

After that options discussed were BLE and 2D modeling. Steve indicated that Bozeman, MT appealed their mapping. They decided to use 2d to inform a 1D model. However, there were too many issues with stability, etc so did not use it. Another example is in Colorado where the State has hired Baker to do a 2D model for Zone A.

Alan indicated that ASFPM has a separate project looking at floodways. ASFPM is tasked by FEMA to look at historical intent of mapping floodways and to look at alternatives to floodways. The FEMA guidance says you can look at 1' surcharge for conveyance and loss of storage. They call it 1D steady state and unsteady modeling using 1D or 2D. Davis Murphy in KY is doing some 2D modeling for them. Carey is working on a white paper and will share that when it's done.

For the 2D modeling in Kentucky, they are finding some pros and cons. Difficult to do floodways, but can do Hydrology & Hydraulics at the same time. It provides a good baseline for communities to build on. Do a 1D unsteady to set the parameters for the 2D modeling.

It was agreed that the next webinar after CNMS would be on 2D modeling.

Best Practices – Carey previously shared a document on leveraging funding sources for mitigation. It would be useful to have similar examples on how to leverage other partners to fund mapping. Trying to focus on coordinating with other agencies and leveraging funds from multiple sources to maximize the amount of mapping.

- Steve indicated that in MT many of the stream gages are on local datums. MT is working with USGS to convert them to NAVD 88 so that they can use the gages for calibrating flood studies.
- Carey highlighted their efforts to complete the Lidar datset in KY. Had FEMA dollars allocated in 2016 (about $1million) and KY Transportation put in another $1million. They then leveraged CDBG and HUD funding to complete the effort. Cost was $250-275/sq mi.
- Steve indicated that MT is collecting QL1 and conducted a pilot project looking at capturing planimetrics and lowest adjacent grade for structures from the lidar dataset. They did field surveys to check the results and they were all within a foot. Steve will send out a draft report.

Thuy also had a LiDAR best practice from CO and we discussed combining the 3 best practices from MT, CO, and KY into an overall best practice document.

5 year implementation plan

They are combining the training and mentoring subcommittees. ASFPM has developed a web based system for providing mentoring for state NFIP coordinators. ASFPM gave FEMA support staff working on the CTP mentoring initiative a tour of the site a few weeks ago.

Performance metrics – They had developed a fillable form for collecting data on metrics but CTPs on the subcommittee felt it would too labor intensive to fill them out. It was mentioned that Kansas asks for and receives a summary sheet from the PTS contractor. They then can comment on discrepancies and what is missing.

Systems for reviewing CTP deliverables are taking too long. Thuy will send a SOP to the group.