

**DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 28, 2012**

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The DRBC Flood Advisory Committee meeting, chaired by Tom Suro, USGS, was held on November 28, 2012 at the DRBC offices in West Trenton, New Jersey.

Action Items:

1. Bring attention to the Delaware River Basin Interstate Flood Task Force **Recommendation FW-14: Coastal Flooding Impacts**. In light of Sandy, the committee would like investigate means to implement this recommendation from the 2007 report.
2. Investigate funding possibilities and possible partners to extend the Chesapeake Inundation Prediction System (CIPS) to the Delaware. The desired outcome is a **real-time, high-resolution, land inundation forecasting capability for the Delaware Bay**. Forecasting would use an ensemble-forecast approach for tropical cyclones, nor'easters, and other high-wind or weather events that cause coastal flooding and demonstrate those results in inundation mapping readily usable by emergency managers and public/private sector users.
3. Investigate funding possibilities to develop a HEC-RAS model with a wind component (\$100,000). This would allow for a model that the National Weather Service (NWS) could apply to the Delaware Bay during storm surge events. There is currently no **method to forecast storm surge in the Delaware Bay**.

Discussion Items:

- Reports by Agencies Following Hurricane Sandy (NWS, USGS, USACE, NRCS, FEMA, NJ):
 - Technical capabilities are outstripping our ability to get people to understand how to respond and react in an emergency
 - Need for Delaware Bay storm surge forecasting capabilities
 - Need for social sciences to aid in public communication and outreach
- Delaware Bay Coastal Flood Risk Study/Risk MAP in the DRB: FEMA has initiated a coastal analysis and mapping study to produce updated Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs) for coastal counties within Region 2 and 3. This includes counties that border the Delaware Bay. The Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) initiative will include both regulatory products (Flood Insurance Rate Maps, FIRM) and non-regulatory products (Changes since Last FIRM, Depth Grids, Flood Risk Assessments and Areas of Mitigation Interest).
 - Need exists for risk communication and mitigation planning in high risk areas of the DRB
 - Delaware Bay Coastal Mapping being produced 2012-2014
 - Sea Level Rise not accounted for in mapping, but cities/communities can request additional depth grids for planning purposes
- Animated Maps Showing the Response of USGS Gages to Sandy/Irene: An animated graph of predicted vs observed water surface elevations in the Delaware Estuary as a result of Hurricane Sandy storm surge and an animated map of the response of USGS discharge gages in the Delaware River Basin to Hurricane Sandy were shown. Both were produced using USGS data by John Yagecic, DRBC.
- 2013 FAC Chair/Vice Chair: David Williams, PEMA, will take over as chair at the committee's next meeting. Gary Szatkowski, NWS Mount Holly, was elected as the committee's vice chair for 2013.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 27, 2013

**FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING ATTENDANCE**

November 28, 2012

NAME	AGENCY
AHNERT, Peter	National Weather Service (NWS)
BELL, Richard	County Emergency Management: Delaware County, NY
BURD, David	Local Emergency Management: Lambertville, NJ
CAPECCI, Don	PPL Generation
DEANGELO, Jim	Michael Baker Corporation
GAUL, Andrew	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP)
GOULD, A. Chris	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
HOGAN CARR, Rachel	Nurture Nature Center
McCOY, Cynthia	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region III
MCKILLOP, George	National Weather Service (NWS)
MILLER, Jason	United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Philadelphia District
MOLZAHN, Bob	Water Resources Association of the Delaware River Basin (WRADRB)
OLIVIO, Dana	New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP)
PEDRICK, Gail	Resident
ROLAND, Mark	United States Geological Survey (USGS) - PA
RUGGERI, Joseph	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
RUPERT, Clarke	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)
SHALLCROSS, Amy	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)
SMITH, Cleighton	Cleighton Smith Engineering LLC
SURO, Thomas	United States Geological Survey (USGS) - NY
SZATKOWSKI, Gary	National Weather Service (NWS)
TESSIERI, Laura	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)
van ROSSUM, Maya	Delaware Riverkeeper
WESTFALL, Greg	Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) - NJ
WHITE, Kirk	United States Geological Survey (USGS) - PA
WILLIAMS, David	Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)
Zigon-Richardson Valerie	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)