

Hot Topics in Floodplain Management: Understanding Changes to the Community Rating System Manual and the Biggert Waters Act

August 14, 2013

Mississippi State University Coastal Research and Extension Center
1815 Popps Ferry Road
Biloxi, MS

Meeting Objectives

- Review recent changes to the Community Rating System (CRS) manual.
- Identify ways for communities to maintain their current CRS points given recent changes to the manual.
- Understand the Biggert Waters Act and what it means for premiums in local communities.
- Discuss the status of pending legislation associated with the Biggert Waters Act.
- Understand MEMA's role in disaster protocols.
- Share floodplain management challenges and identify strategies and tools to overcome these challenges.

AGENDA

8:00 a.m. **Registration and coffee**

8:30 a.m. **Welcome, Objectives, and Introductions**

*David Ruple, Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
Tracie Sempier, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium
Marian Hanisko, NOAA Coastal Services Center*

Helping participants understand the impacts of recent changes to the CRS manual and tips to help communities maintain their ratings

Jonathan Smith, ISO Community Ratings Specialist

Understanding the Biggert Waters Act and anticipated impacts on local insurance premiums

Susan Wilson, Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch, FEMA Region IV

10:15 a.m. **Break**

10:30 a.m. **Overview of pending legislation associated with the Biggert Waters Act**

Niki Pace, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Legal Program

MEMA's Role in Disaster Protocols

Jana Henderson, Director, Office of Mitigation, MEMA
Stacey Ricks, NFIP State Coordinator, MEMA

Panel discussion/Q&A

Susan Wilson, Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch, FEMA Region IV

Jana Henderson, Director, Office of Mitigation, MEMA
Stacey Ricks, NFIP State Coordinator, MEMA

Niki Pace, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Legal Program

Brainstorm floodplain management challenges

All participants

12:00 p.m. Lunch (on-site)

12:45 p.m. Addressing our challenges: small group discussions

All participants

- What needs to be done to overcome the challenge?
- Which key partners need to be involved?
- What resources do we need to accomplish this?

Report out and identify tangible next steps

All participants

Summary/Wrap-up

Tracie Sempier, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium
Larissa Graham, Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

3:00 p.m. Adjourn!

