

**DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
May 24, 2016**



The DRBC Flood Advisory Committee meeting, chaired by Andrew Martin, FEMA RII, was held on May 24, 2016, and hosted by the USGS New Jersey Water Science Center in Lawrenceville, New Jersey.

Presentations from the meeting are available at <http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/about/advisory/flood/>

Action Items:

1. Future meeting presentations may include: a) Incorporating Green Infrastructure into FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Program; b) Delaware River Non-Regulatory Products (Inundation Depth Grids); and c) NJ 2019 State Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
2. The summary of the January 13, 2016 meeting was approved.

Discussion Items:

- The Hydrologic Conditions Report and Outlook were presented by DRBC and NWS.
- Gary Szatkowski presented information about the vertical datum for storm surge estimates. It is being transitioned from Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) to Mean Higher High Water (MHHW). MHHW is less variable than MLLW when comparing locations along the Atlantic Coasts of NJ and DE. The change is related to the reporting categories of coastal flooding and does not affect local inundation depth mapping.
- Robert Shedd, the new Service Coordination Hydrologist for the NOAA/NWS Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center updated the FAC on improvements to the Meteorological Model Ensemble Forecast System (MMEFS) graphics, which were developed through the social science study with the Nurture Nature Center. He also provided an update on the Hydrologic Ensemble Forecast System (HEFS) and the National Water Model, which can provide 30-day hydrologic forecasts. NYCDEP uses the HEFS to determine the which FFMP release table to use.
- John Callahan of the Delaware Geological Survey presented on the Delaware Coastal Flood Monitoring System, including the history behind its development, the many sources of information used by the system and a demonstration of the website. He also discussed some on-going projects including more historical analyses of coastal storm climatology, model validation, issues with inland bays and tidal storm surge prediction and the Coastal Storm Severity Index (CSSI).
- Chris Testa provided information on FEMA's FLOOD Mitigation Assistance Grant Program. The FMA is a non-disaster competitive grant program. Funding can be provided for the mitigation of NFIP insured flood prone-properties. The grants can be used to pay for activities such as elevations and acquisitions, but not for rehabilitation.
- Updates from Members on Current Issues/Interests: As part of the FEMA post-preliminary process on map adoption, communities in Mercer, Camden, Gloucester, Salem and Cumberland Counties are in the process of re-adopting their Local Flood Damage Prevention Ordinances. The Salem and Cumberland County FEMA FIRM and FIS will go effective on June 16, 2016. The Mercer County FEMA FIRM and FIS will go effective on July 20, 2016. The Camden and Gloucester County FEMA FIRM and FIS will go effective on August 17, 2016. To remain in good standing with the NFIP, communities must re-adopt their ordinances before the effective date of their respective map.

Next Meeting: September 7, 2016

**DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING ATTENDANCE
May 24, 2016**

NAME	AGENCY
BABUS, Ronald*	National Park Service (NPS)
BREWSTER, Jim	National Weather Service (NWS), Binghamton (WFO)
BURD, David	Local Emergency Management: Lambertville, NJ
CALLAHAN, John	Delaware Geological Survey (DGS)
COON, William*	United States Geological Survey, NY
GOULD, Chris	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
HOGAN, Laurie	National Weather Service (NWS), Eastern Region Headquarters
JANOWICZ, Jon	United States Geological Survey, NJ
LIAGHAT, Hoss	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP)
MARTIN, Andrew	Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region II (FEMA RII)
MCGUIRE, Meg	Delaware Currents
MILLER, Jason	United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Philadelphia District
MOYLE, John	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
OLIVIO, Dana	New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP)
OLIVER, Molly	Delaware County, NY Watershed Affairs
PIZARRO, Dana	O'Brien & Gere
REISER, Bob	United States Geological Survey (USGS) – NJ
RUGGERI, Joseph	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
RUPERT, Clarke	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)
SCORDATO, John	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
SHALLCROSS, Amy	Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)
SHEDD, Robert	Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center, National Weather Service
SMITH, Cleighton	Bergmann Associates
STRASSER, Meredith	Talen Energy
SURO, Tom	United States Geological Survey (USGS) – NJ
SZATKOWSKI, Gary	National Weather Service (NWS), Mount Holly WFO
TESTA, Chris	New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM)
TUTHILL, Gary	New York State, Division of Homeland Security (NY DHSES)
VOWINKEL, Eric	Rutgers
WHITE, Kirk	United States Geological Survey (USGS) – PA
WILLIAMS, David	Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency

*attended via phone