NFIP - FLOOD RISK & REGS

SELECTED SLIDES FROM THE JUNE 27, 2014 WEBINAR

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM)

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VIEW AT: HTTP://LEARN EXTENSION.ORG/EVENTS/1505

NFIP STATE AND COMMUNITY OFFICIALS

- NFIP State Coordinators with contact information
  http://www.floods.org/index.asp?menuID=274&firstlevelmenuID=185&siteID=1

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- Community Floodplain Administrator – ask State

NFIP FLOOD POLICIES - MAJOR PLAYERS

State | Policies in Force
-----|------------------|
California | 241,262
Florida | 2,017,533
Louisiana | 476,918
North Carolina | 137,838
New Jersey | 240,570
New York | 192,841
South Carolina | 199,344
Texas | 619,765
Virginia | 114,393
All states and territories | 5,424,175

As of 4/30/2014

http://bsa.nfipstat.fema.gov/reports/1011.htm
Provides Policies, Coverage, and Premium by Community

NFIP COMMUNITY STATUS BOOK

- Data for each community
  - Date of the initial FIRM
  - Date the community entered the program
  - Date of the current Effective FIRM (latest panel)
  - Status of participation
- State Summary Statistics
  - Number of Communities participating
  - Number of Communities suspended

http://www.fema.gov/cis/NC.html your state’s initials

THE FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM)

Basis for Rating Flood Insurance

Basis for Regulating Development

- NFIP reform legislation highlighted the significance of the FIRM

Turning from "What it says"

...to "What it means – the impact"
**ALTERNATIVES TO ELEVATION**

- **Non-Residential Buildings**
  - Dry Floodproofing
  - Compliant
  - No insurance penalty if protected to BFE+1

- **Agricultural Buildings**
  - Wet Floodproofing
  - Not compliant, Variance
  - Insured as “Below BFE”

FEMA P-936, Floodproofing Non-Residential Buildings (2013)
http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/34270

Wet floodproofing is accepted but not credited in rating insurance!

**MESSAGES FOR CONSUMERS**

- Protect yourself from future flood damage
  - Buy flood insurance –
    - It’s not part of “homeowners”.
    - Make sure you have “contents” coverage.
  - Recognize the flood risk, build above BFE
    - If you HAVE too
    - …and even if you don’t
  - Get involved, especially in the map “comment period”
  - Know that flood maps are old news when you get them
    - Build as though future BFEs will be higher
    - FIRMs do not consider future conditions

Where can you insert these messages into your Extension programs?

**MESSAGES FOR COMMUNITIES**

- Don’t ignore this program
  - Maps will come, regardless
  - Maps will be better if the community participates
  - Early adoption of a new map helps everyone
- Adopt and enforce the ordinance
  - People building in the SFHA will suffer from delays or non-enforcement of the ordinance.
  - People who suffer from a community’s NOT enforcing the ordinance sue their local government - successfully.

How can you share this knowledge with your Extension audiences?

**NFIP STATUS AND UNCERTAIN FUTURE**

- NFIP has to be re-authorized in July 2017
  - Still $26 billion in debt with no repayment plan
  - Affordability study underway – counter to solvency
  - Mapping is “under the gun”
- NFIP still induces building at flood risk
  - Regulatory standard is 26%-chance in 30 years
  - Weather extremes, rising seas and development not considered in defining flood zones on the FIRM
- Policy holders are dropping their policies (BW-12)
- Looking for ways to privatize flood insurance

**NFIP COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM**

- CRS Participation
  - Nearly 3.8 million policyholders, in
  - 1,296 communities
  - implementing local mitigation, floodplain management, and outreach activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements.
  - Reduces insurance premiums in the community by 5 – 45%, depending on the CRS Class rating. Points-based.

http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/15846

Without-levee analysis being replaced with a new Levee Analysis and Mapping Procedure (LAMP) – new maps on hold

Levee Certification

Using Criteria from FEMA Regulations

One Team: Relevant, Ready, Responsive, Reliable