

Association of Montana Floodplain Managers 25th Annual Conference

Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown | Missoula, MT | February 25th – 28th, 2025

A CONFLUENCE ALONG THE CLARK FORK

AGENDA

Tuesday, February 25 (Preconference NOAA Workshop - Offsite - Missoula Library)

On Tuesday, February 25, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is hosting an all-day workshop at the Missoula, MT Public Library focused on exploring its newest extreme precipitation product: [NOAA Atlas 15](#). NOAA Atlas 15 is the latest update to the precipitation frequency data presented in [Atlas 14](#), the National Precipitation Frequency Atlas of the United States. Currently, a pilot version of NOAA Atlas 15 is available, using Montana as a test case. This pilot interface is being shared with the public so NOAA can collect feedback to improve the tool before final publication.

At the workshop, participants will engage directly with the National Weather Service development team for NOAA Atlas 15; discuss and provide feedback on the interface; and share the decisions they make relying on extreme precipitation products such as Atlas. Individuals interested in participating in this free, in-person workshop can register [here](#).

Tuesday, February 25 (Preconference DNRC Workshop - Montana Room)

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

"Floodplain Basics (101)" - For a highly entertaining and informative workshop to understand the National Flood Insurance Program. Join the MT DNRC dynamic duo, Nadene and Traci, as they help navigate the intriguing world of floodplain management. Shylea Wingard will also be on hand to provide practical insight and commentary.

Nadene Wadsworth
Traci Sears
Shylea Wingard
MT DNRC

Please email Traci Sears (tsears@mt.gov) or Shylea Wingard (Shylea.wingard@mt.gov) to register for this event.

1:15 PM - 3:30 PM

"Floodplain Bootcamp" – In-Person Mapping Session - Focus on on-line mapping products and how to use them. This workshop is a continuation of the floodplain bootcamp mapping sections. Participants should attend the free virtual floodplain mapping sessions prior to attending this workshop. If you are interested in knowing and understanding floodplain maps and studies, this would be an excellent workshop for you.

Peri Turk
Larry Schock
Ryan Murphy
MT DNRC

Please email Traci Sears (tsears@mt.gov) or Shylea Wingard (Shylea.wingard@mt.gov) to register for this event **Participants should also bring their laptops if possible.**

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

"Letter of Map Changes (LOMCs)" - What are LOMCs? When should they be used? More importantly how should they be submitted in the permitting process and when local officials should sign the Community Acknowledgment Forms? In-depth review of the LOMCs and Conditional Letters of Map Changes (CLOMCs). Peri and Larry are eager to address all of your burning questions surrounding LOMCS and CLOMCs.

Peri Turk
Larry Schock
Ryan Murphy
MT DNRC

Please email Traci Sears (tsears@mt.gov) or Shylea Wingard (Shylea.wingard@mt.gov) to register for this event

Tuesday, February 25

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM **Registration - Lobby**

4:00 PM - 8:00 PM **Exhibitor Setup Big Sky Atrium**

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM **AMFM Board Meeting - Montana Board Room**

Wednesday, February 26 Conference Sessions – Garden City Ballroom

8:00 AM	-	5:00 PM	Registration - Lobby	
8:30 AM	-	8:50 AM	2D Resources for Floodplain Managers and Community Officials	Conner Johnson, PE, CFM AECOM
8:50 AM	-	9:20 AM	Unseen Flood Risk: Irrigation’s Overlooked Hazards	Drew Vance PE, CFM DOWL
9:20 AM	-	10:20 AM	Assisting and Building Capacity Through Deployment	Tracie J Harrison, CFM Utah NFIP Coordinator Courtney Long, CFM Great West Engineering Traci Sears, CFM MT NFIP Coordinator Sara Hartley, CFM MT DES

10:20 AM	-	10:35 AM	Morning Break - Big Sky Atrium	Courtesy of NV5 Geospatial
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10:35 AM	-	11:05 AM	Chew on This	Margaret Doherty FEMA Region 8 Ted Heyd, RSP1 Michael Baker
11:05 AM	-	11:35 AM	Remote sensing applications to support large-scale riverine and floodplain assessments and monitoring	Mischa Hey NV5 Geospatial
11:35 AM	-	12:05 PM	Lessons from the Animal House Case – Johnson v. City of Bozeman	Charity Yonker, CFM /JD MT DNRC Land Use Attorney Shylea Wingard, CFM, MS MT DNRC Floodplain Planner

12:05 PM	-	1:30 PM	Lunch on Your Own	
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1:30 PM	-	1:50 PM	Welcome and Opening Comments Annual Update from the AMFM Board	AMFM Board Members
1:50 PM	-	2:50 PM	Keynote Speaker: The Road Less Traveled: Taking the No Adverse Impact Highway to Resilience	Chad M. Berginnis, CFM ASFPM Executive Chair

2:50 PM	-	3:05 PM	Afternoon Break - Big Sky Atrium	Courtesy of AMFM
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3:05 PM	-	3:30 PM	DNRC’s Floodplain Mapping Program Updates	Hannah Shultz Monica Conlin MT DNRC
3:30 PM	-	4:00 PM	Requiem for a Drain: Inventorying and Rehabilitating Montana’s Highway Culverts	Jennifer Johnson, PE, CFM George Metzger, PE Layne Davies, PE Montana Department of Transportation
4:00 PM	-	4:45 PM	Floodplain Permitting: A Jeopardy! Game (The Sequel)	Peri Turk, PE Ryan Murphy, PE MT DNRC
4:45 PM	-	5:00 PM	DNRC Awards	Shylea Wingard, CFM, MS MT DNRC Floodplain Planner

6:00 PM	-	9:00 PM	Evening Social - Big Sky Atrium	Courtesy of KLJ
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Thursday, February 27 Concurrent Sessions A (General) – Garden City Parlor AB

8:15 AM	-	9:00 AM	Floodplain Administrators Interactive Panel Discussion	Rob Livesay - Ravalli County Sean O'Callaghan - Gallatin County Matt Hiemel - Missoula County Larry Schock - DNRC
9:00 AM	-	9:45 AM	2024 Upper Yellowstone Channel Migration Map	Jeannette Blank Montana Freshwater Partners
9:45 AM	-	10:15 AM	Bank Stabilization Projects Post-Flood	Courtney Long, CFM Great West Engineering, Inc.
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM			Morning Break - Big Sky Atrium	Courtesy of Allied and Michael Baker
10:30 AM	-	11:10 AM	Overview of FEMA's Modeling and Mapping of Levee Systems	Jamie Prochno, PE Civil Engineer, FEMA Region 8 Roger Denick, PE, CFM, PMP STARR II / Region 8 Service Center
11:10 AM	-	11:30 AM	Belt, Montana Levee and Floodplain Evaluation	Bradley R. Hoefer, CFM U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Omaha
11:30 AM	-	12:00 PM	Montana Silver Jackets – Many Partners, One Team. Statewide Collaboration to Reduce Flood Risk Throughout Montana	Laurel J. Hamilton, P.E. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Omaha
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM			General AMFM Membership Luncheon - Garden City Ballroom <i>(Lunch on your own for non-members)</i> Brightways RISE Challenge Lunch Presentation	Courtesy of Great West Engineering, Morrison Maierle, and HDR
1:30 PM	-	2:00 PM	Should a LOMA Always be Trusted? Taking a Deeper Dive into a Migrating River	Rob Livesay Ravalli County Planning Matt Johnson, PE, CFM RESPEC
2:00 PM	-	2:30 PM	Emergency Floodplain Permitting for the City of Malta Sewage Lift Station	Lorie Bond City of Malta Jonathan Weaver, PE, CFM Great West Engineering
2:30 PM	-	2:50 PM	DRAFT Map Adoption for Regulatory Purposes & FEMA Policy #104-008-2	Mike Day, PE WGM Group, Inc. Mickey Navidomskis, PE DNRC Floodplain Engineer
2:50 PM - 3:05 PM			Afternoon Break - Big Sky Atrium	Courtesy of WGM
3:05 PM	-	3:50 PM	Funding Partnerships for Flood Mitigation	Kelly Smith City of Three Forks Including agency staff from DNRC, Great West Engineering, and Headwaters Economics
3:50 PM	-	4:15 PM	Navigating the Flood Funding Maze: Tools and Strategies for Rural Montana	Bridget Mitchell, PE Headwaters Economics
4:15 PM	-	4:40 PM	Utah Post Wildfire Team building	Tracie J Harrison, CFM Utah NFIP Coordinator
4:40 PM	-	5:00 PM	Caras Park – Working/Permitting in the Clark Fork River Floodplain	Taylor Winkel, PE RESPEC
5:00 PM	-	6:00 PM	Caras Park Construction Tour	Nathan McLeod City of Missoula Taylor Winkel, PE RESPEC
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM			Evening Social - Big Sky Atrium	Courtesy of Pioneer Technical, RESPEC, and WET

Thursday, February 27 Concurrent Sessions B (Technical) – Garden City Parlor CD

9:00 AM	-	9:30 AM	Addressing Hydrologic Data Deficiencies Using Stochastic Storm Transposition	Matthew Deshotel, PE Dewberry
9:30 AM	-	10:15 AM	NOAA Atlas 15: A Precipitation Frequency Tool to Help Build Climate Resilience	Doug Kluck NOAA

10:15 AM	-	10:30 AM	Morning Break - Big Sky Atrium	Courtesy of AMFM
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10:30 AM	-	11:00 AM	Flood History of Northwest Montana and U.S. Geological Survey Flood Frequency Updates	Seth Siefken, PE USGS
11:00 AM	-	11:20 AM	USGS Indirect Flood Measurements in Montana	Dan Armstrong USGS
11:20 AM	-	11:40 AM	Paleofloods – What they are and what we can learn from them	Haylie Brown USGS
11:40 AM	-	12:00 PM	A Tale of Two Hydrographs: Comparative Analysis Between HEC-RAS 2D Rain-on-Mesh and Traditional Rainfall-Runoff Modeling	Sarah Pfiefler Michael Baker

12:00 PM	-	1:00 PM	General AMFM Membership Luncheon - Garden City Ballroom <i>(Lunch on your own for non-members)</i> Brightways RISE Challenge Lunch Presentation	Courtesy of Great West Engineering, Morrison Maierle, and HDR
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1:30 PM	-	2:00 PM	Silver King Fire Flood and Debris Analysis	Drew Burman, PE, CFM WSP
2:00 PM	-	2:30 PM	A Comparison of Complex Hydraulic Modeling along Crabtree Creek using HEC-RAS 1D/2D and SRH-2D	Emma Bones, PE Dewberry
2:30 PM	-	2:50 PM	Advancing Floodplain Modeling and Mapping: Overcoming Challenges Using 2D HEC-RAS Models	Meredith Miller, EIT, CFM Dani Halloran AECOM

2:50 PM	-	3:05 PM	Afternoon Break - Big Sky Atrium	Courtesy of Allied and Michael Baker
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3:05 PM	-	3:35 PM	HEC-RAS 2025: Advancing Floodplain Modeling	Hudson White, EI DOWL
3:35 PM	-	4:05 PM	The Great (West) Yellowstone Adventure – Data Collection in the Upper Yellowstone Basin	Justin Evertz, PE Great West Engineering
4:05 PM	-	4:25 PM	Sevenmile Creek Restoration – Reconnecting Floodplain to an Incised Stream and Revising Flood Maps	Ronda Burns, PE, CFM Confluence Consulting, Inc.

6:00 PM	-	9:00 PM	Evening Social - Big Sky Atrium	Courtesy of Pioneer Technical, RESPEC, and WET
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Friday, February 28 Conference Sessions – Garden City Ballroom

8:30 AM	-	9:30 AM	From Risk to Action: How BLE data leads to Floodplain Management, Mitigation Projects, and Funding	Jerri Daniels, CFM Dewberry
9:30 AM	-	10:00 AM	Resilient Montana: FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Assistance Funding Overview	Sara Hartley CFM MT DES Andrew Long MT DES
10:00 AM	-	10:30 AM	Dam Safety and Downstream Development	Karl Kingery PE, CFM Hydrometrics, Inc.

10:30 AM	-	10:45 AM	Morning Break - Big Sky Atrium	Courtesy of Forerunner
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10:45 AM	-	11:05 AM	Flooding Tools for More Effective Decision-Making	Eli Goldstein Forerunner
11:05 AM	-	11:30 AM	How to Communicate Like a Hostage Negotiator	Shylea Wingard, CFM, MS MT DNRC, Floodplain Planner
11:30 AM	-	12:00 PM	ArtWorks	Margaret Doherty FEMA Region 8
12:00 PM	-	12:30 PM	Beavers as Floodplain Engineers and Stewards	Elissa Chott National Wildlife Federation

Adjourn