

Central HAZUS-MH Users Group Meeting

August 22, 2008

Attendees

- Kevin Mickey (Indiana, The Polis Center)
- Frank Changa (FEMA Region V)
- Jonathan Marsch, (FEMA Region V)
- Jim MccLosky (MN)
- Robby Stoikes (WI)
- Charles Tizer (McCordsville, IN)
- Tim ?? (Ohio DNR)
- Martin ?? (Gary Sanitary District, IN)

State Reports

Minnesota

Jim M reported that Minnesota is working on a budget to perform a statewide level 1 analysis. They will then plan to incorporate that into their state implementation plan in 2011.

Wisconsin

Robby S reported that Wisconsin Emergency Management is nearing completion of the HAZUS-MH flood model for the state. 55 out of 72 counties are complete and the remainder are underway with completion anticipated in the next two weeks.

Ohio

Tim reported that Ohio completed 9 counties in a level 1 analysis. The Army Corps of Engineers did the remainder of the state. The results were used in the state mitigation plan.

Indiana

Kevin M reported that Indiana is anticipating approval of a pre-disaster mitigation grant to complete approximately 30 additional counties. When completed, this pending project

would result in the completion of approximately 90% of Indiana counties at a HAZUS level II analysis level.

The Indiana Geographic Information Council (IGIC) elected a new Executive Director, Philip Worall, on August 22nd. IGIC is a nonprofit membership organization of GIS users, professionals and educators. Administered by an elected board of directors, IGIC is recognized as the official statewide coordinating body for Indiana geographic information. IGIC is working with the state Geographic Information Officer and others within the state to develop the IndianaMap (<http://www.in.gov/igic/projects/indianamap/index.html>). This project represents a single, seamless map for the state of Indiana combined with framework layers which include boundaries, cadastral data, elevation, geodetic control, hydrography, orthophotography, and transportation. The majority of this information is obtained from local government in order to make available the best knowledge about the state. The vision of the project is to make this data free and downloadable. This has significant potential for HAZUS-MH users.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security are co-sponsoring two HAZUS-MH courses at the Indianapolis FEMA Joint Field Office. These courses are free to registrants. However, any required travel arrangements and associated expenses are the responsibility of the participant. Descriptions and dates for each course are provided below. If you have questions about the courses, please contact Kevin Mickey at 317.278.2582 or 317.371.4479. If you are interested in attending one or both of these courses, please send your complete contact information to kmickey@iupui.edu. The courses that are being offered include 'Introduction to Catastrophic Earthquake Planning Using HAZUS-MH' - Dates: September 16 and 17, 2008 and 'Comprehensive Data Management for HAZUS-MH,' Dates: September 17 to 19, 2008.

Illinois

Jared Owen was unable to attend, but he did ask via email that the group be made aware that Illinois has requested additional copies of HAZUS-MH from FEMA. In addition, while the state will be migrating to a GoogleEarth Enterprise solution, they will be retaining a limited number of ESRI product seats so that they can continue to run applications like HAZUS-MH.

Michigan

No report

FEMA Region V

Frank C reported that development of the FEMA Region V GIS Center is progressing on schedule.

Jonathan M reported that a number of earthquake planning activities are underway in the state of Indiana. These include a Region V workshop for federal and state officials being held in Indianapolis in late September, workshops related to the 8-state New Madrid study, and the Catastrophic Earthquake Planning Using HAZUS-MH workshop being held in Indianapolis in early September. These workshops and activities are not part of the same project, but they are related in that they are addressing the issue of earthquake risk within the region.

HAZUS-MH Users Conference Highlights

Kevin M reported that the HAZUS-MH conference was a success. There were approximately 250 people in attendance. Major highlights included:

- Discussion of the likely integration of HAZUS-MH with the RiskMap program. It is believed that this development has the potential to significantly expand the use of HAZUS-MH within the flood community since it may lead to a much stronger integration of HAZUS with other FEMA programs.
- Announcement of the *HAZUS Trained Professional* and *HAZUS Trained Practitioner* programs. These programs award individuals who have completed a specific list of HAZUS

courses at EMI or at an EMI recognized field course with a certificate, a pin, and recognition on the FEMA website.

User Group Resource Library Initiative

The group agreed to begin working on the creation of a resource library for HAZUS-MH users within FEMA Region V. The library will focus on the following objectives:

- Identifying experienced HAZUS-MH users within the region
- Identifying domain experts within the region that may or may not be HAZUS-MH users, but who possess knowledge of value to HAZUS-MH users. Examples might include seismologists, geologists, hydrologists, economists, etc.

We will begin the project by focusing on the identification of HAZUS users within the region that have at least a moderate level of experience. This information will be posted on the user group website.

Software Patches and Update Schedule

- HAZUS-MH MR3 Patch 2 - has been released. Major enhancements
- HAZUS-MH MR3 Patch 3 - scheduled for release in Fall 2008.
- HAZUS-MH MR4 - anticipated to be released in February/March 2009.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 6, 2008 at 11:30 am ET / 10:30 am CT. A dial-in number will be circulated in the near future.