



Central HAZUS-MH User Group Meeting

November 16, 2009 11:00 am to 12:00 pm EST

Attendees

Adam Campbell, The Polis Center
Gerald Nieman, Indiana Department of Transportation
Jamie Caplan, Jamie Caplan Consulting
Jonathan Remo, Southern Illinois University
Lisa Graff, Illinois State Water Survey
Robby Stoikes, Wisconsin Emergency Management
Summer Griffin, PBS&J

HAZUS Activity Reports

Illinois

Lisa Graff reports nothing new; still running HAZUS for 4 county mitigation plans, modeling the flood hazard, and updating critical facilities for these counties.

Adam Campbell reports contract to start in Clark County. Their plan should go fairly quickly.

Indiana

PDM grant moving along; close to 75 – 80 percent counties in the grant are completed. Last week a comprehensive data management course at The Polis Center was given with 12 attendees.

Lisa Graff questions if CDMS classes will be held in Indiana somewhere? Adam isn't sure but will check with Kevin Mickey. *(Follow-up information from Kevin Mickey: the Indiana Department of Homeland Security is planning to schedule several HAZUS-MH courses over the coming months at locations around Indiana. As with previously sponsored IDHS courses, the intent is for these courses to be free and open to anyone that is interested in the training. Course dates and locations will be announced in the next few weeks.)*

Gerald Nieman questions if HAZUS is working on the bridge layer. At the present time, bridges are referenced by their NBI or Federal number. Adam Campbell states that Jack Schmitz has a working on bridge layer, and would be the best person to talk with about the issue. *(Follow-up information from Kevin Mickey: at present there is no additional inventory update work being done for HAZUS-MH. However, it is entirely possible that such work will be done in relation to future versions of HAZUS-MH. As a reminder, users that want to relate external database information to a HAZUS-MH feature class should include a key field value – such as NBI or Federal number – in a comments field of the HAZUS inventory. It is widely recognized that there is opportunity for improving the way that inventory data is managed between applications such as HAZUS-MH and other data dependent tools. Users are encouraged to share their concerns about these needs –as well as ideas for addressing them – with FEMA.)*

Minnesota

The Polis Center is talking to Stacey Stark at Minnesota Duluth GIS Lab in reference to installing HAZUS, contract to do statewide flood analysis should be ready this week, hoping to have Kick-off Meeting first week of December.

Michigan

No Report

Ohio

No Report

Wisconsin

No Report

FEMA Region V Updates

No Report

Strategic Priorities

Best Practices

Jon Remo initiated a discussion about developing best practices that can help the HAZUS-MH user community develop credible loss estimations. Questions that were offered for discussion included:

- What hazards are we – the CHUG region - interested in analyzing?
- How does a HAZUS-MH user determine what the largest plausible earthquake is for their area? (it was suggested that best policy is to talk to USGS or geologic survey.)
- How do user defined hazard maps apply to the CHUG region?
 - How should Shakemaps, soils maps, and liquefaction maps be applied for earthquake analysis in the CHUG region?
 - How can hazard maps (flood and earthquake) be obtained?
 - Are there different versions of flood and earthquake hazard maps and which ones should be used for what purpose?
- What is the 'standard' approach to using HAZUS to predict damage in the CHUG region?

This turned into a fairly technical discussion about earthquake analysis and flood analysis. It included the best ways to collect and use data. Shakemap links will be placed on the CHUG webpage. Jon is happy to be a resource to anyone in the region needing assistance.

Over the coming months the CHUG will work to address these questions and others that are likely to arise. We anticipate forming subcommittees formed of current CHUG steering committee members as well as experts in the community who can contribute useful technical and other types of domain expertise to developing clear and concise best practices that can be shared with the CHUG user community.

2010 Meeting Schedule

January 8, 11 to noon ET

February 12, 3 to 4 pm ET

March 19, 3 to 4 pm ET

April 16, 3 to 4 pm ET

May 14, 3 to 4 pm ET

June 11, 3 to 4 pm ET

July 9, 3 to 4 pm ET

August 6, 3 to 4 pm ET

September 17, 3 to 4 pm ET

October 8, 3 to 4 pm ET

November 12, 3 to 4 pm ET