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User Group calls:

October 13

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FEMA

Esri User Conference 2015: Hazus on Display

The annual Esri User Conference (UC) was held this year in San Diego, CA from July 20 – 24. The conference is an annual gathering of the world’s best and brightest GIS users and exhibitors. Attendees of the event were able to learn new skills and techniques, get a glimpse at some of the latest software releases in the mapping world, and talk to GIS professionals about specific mapping challenges they may be facing. Sessions at the conference were presented by both Esri staff and other software product teams. The conference is also well-known for being an educational hub for academics presenting on hundreds of papers from around the world’s best universities and think tanks.

Members of the Hazus Outreach Team attended the Esri UC. The Outreach Team brought along a display of Hazus capabilities, as well as important flyers and handouts related to upcoming Hazus events and news, including:



The Hazus Outreach Team provided potential Hazus users a chance to learn about recent updates and future planned enhancements.

- The future of Hazus Modernization
- The Hazus Conference 2015
- How to get involved with a Hazus User Group
- Hazus success stories from across the country

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Save the Date: Hazus Conference 2015

The 8th Annual Hazus User Conference will be held from December 9–11, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia at the Conference Center of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This year’s theme is “Hazus and the Emergency Management Life Cycle: From Practice to Policy.”

The Georgia Hazus User Group (GAHUG) sponsored event brings Hazus users together and provides an information sharing platform for success stories, best practices, lessons learned, recent research, workshops and discussions on Hazus topics of interest. Check out the [Hazus Conference website](#) for more information.



Registration is free and open to the public. Space is limited to 350 attendees. The deadline for registration is **December 4th, 2015**. If you have any questions, contact the Hazus Outreach team at hazus@arcaspicio.com or the volunteer coordinator, Terry Jackson at ylt8@cdc.gov.

[Register now!](#)



Upcoming Courses

[E0179: Application of Hazus-MH for Disaster Operations](#)
September 28 – October 1, 2015

[E0190: ArcGIS for Emergency Managers](#)
October 5-8, 2015

[E0170: Hazus-MH for Hurricane](#)
October 26-29, 2015

Download the course schedule and enroll at the [EMI Courses Page](#)

Contact Us

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Esri User Conference 2015 Continued

With thousands of GIS users attending and hundreds of exhibitors presenting from across the country and around the world, the Esri UC was a great venue for Hazus to connect with its current users and potential new users. The team established contacts with members of the emergency management community and interacted with students and academics interested in working with Hazus on research projects. In all, the Hazus team handed out several hundred informational flyers covering: how to train with Hazus, how to receive updates on Hazus news and information, and how to connect with other Hazus users working in the same region, area, or state.

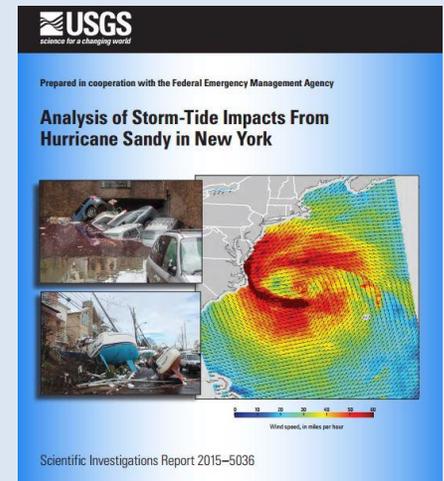
At the plenary showcase, where maps from across the country were displayed for Esri UC attendees, Hazus was on display through the work of Region VIII Risk Analyst and GIS Coordinator, Jesse Rozelle. His recent work with earthquake risk determination in Egypt was highlighted as part of the map gallery. Jesse's work was also part of a speaker session during the conference where attendees got a closer look at his work with international adaptation of the Hazus software in Egypt. As a recent speaker on the August National Hazus User Group (HUG) Call, Jesse's presentation is also available as a podcast through iTunes. Just search "Hazus Community" to learn more and download.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Study Looks at Hurricane Sandy Impacts and Losses by County

A new study conducted by the USGS in cooperation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and using the Hazus software has recently explored how various estimates for damage after a storm evolve in the cleanup periods after initial estimations in New York. The study marks the first time that USGS had completed a full cost estimation and loss analysis for a coastal storm of this nature.

Exploring a number of estimates, USGS hydrologists and scientists determined how building damage estimates change depending on the availability of certain types of information during different time periods. The team looked at periods of time directly during storm impact, two weeks after initial impact, and three months after initial impact.

Scientists were able to use Hazus' loss estimation flood module analysis to do their estimations on a block-by-block level throughout the research process. The FEMA-backed sensor placement prior to the storm, the high-water mark, and Hazus analysis after the storm have allowed for a greater level of understanding of damage that wouldn't have been possible otherwise. The efforts here will certainly help in estimating damage and losses for future coastal storms, especially in the Northeastern United States.



The USGS study, which is seen as opening the door to more reliable measurements of coastal storm impact estimates, can be found online in the [USGS Publications Warehouse](#).

In addition to the New York study, USGS is already underway with another study in New Jersey that will examine similar topics through the use of Hazus damage estimation coupled with USGS sensors and high-water mark data. This study is expected to be released later in 2015.