



## Hazus User of the Year!

### 2011 1st Quarter

Congratulations to Shanna Michael, Hazus Lead, AECOM; recipient of the 1st Quarter 2011 Hazus User of the Year award. Ms. Michael's extraordinary dedication, hard work, and independence have made her a leader in the use and implementation of Hazus at both the national and local levels. Ms. Michael was the technical lead for the first ever Level 1 and Level 2 Hazus analysis and reporting completed for a whole FEMA Region, and won the Innovative Applications Award for Hazus-MH at the 2010 Annual Hazus Conference.

Ms. Michael's work has many highlights especially in the areas of flood and mitigation. She is the Hazus lead for studying the impacts of climate change on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and improving coastal floodplain mapping. This groundbreaking project will have significant implications for protecting life and property nationwide. She is the Hazus lead from AECOM for conducting 10 square mile density stream analysis and loss estimations for all counties in FEMA Regions IV, VII, and IX for the Annualized Loss Estimation (ALE) project as well as the follow-on sensitivity analysis used to validate the results in those same regions. She led the GIS efforts in performing a Hazus-MH analysis for stream network creation for the Georgia Department of Water Resources. The stream networks were run at 1 and 10 square mile densities for various scoping projects.

Ms. Michael was also the Hazus project lead for the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for the Middle Rio Grande Region along the Rio Grande River in Texas. This project involved performing a risk assessment and loss analysis for seven counties along the Rio Grande River to update their hazard mitigation plan as part of the 5-year update cycle. In addition, Ms. Michael also conducted a loss analysis for use in a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan update for the City of Charlotte and for the Counties of Mecklenburg and Catawba in North Carolina. She led the GIS efforts in creating a Situational Awareness Web Tool for FEMA Region I. This project involved conducting a Level 1 and Level 2 analysis for FEMA Region I. The data was then used to create a mitigation and response website for responders to monitor weather and flooding and create reports for high-risk communities and critical facilities.

Ms. Michael is the Heartland HUG Leader, a regional group spanning the four states in FEMA Region VII. She is a Hazus Trained Professional and Certified Floodplain Manager. Ms. Michael has presented at multiple conferences including the Annual Hazus Conference. She possesses extensive GIS experience including GIS product development, project management, spatial data creation, maintenance, and training. Her eight years of GIS experience have been focused in DFIRM production for FEMA FISs and community outreach both locally and nationally.

FEMA is proud to present Shanna Michael with the 1st Quarter 2011 Hazus User of the Year Award for her outstanding commitment and achievement to the Hazus Program.

# Congratulations!



# FEMA