

NORTH CAROLINA HAZUS USER GROUP

Meeting Minutes

1/28/2010

I. Call to order

Eric Coughlin called to order the regular conference call meeting of the NCHUG at 2:00 pm on 1/28/2010.

II. Roll call

Eric Coughlin conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

- Eric Coughlin, PBS&J
- Ken Taylor, NC Geological Survey
- Scott Wade, ECU
- Zack Wollard, Moore County
- Margaret Griffith, PBS&J

III. NCHUG Communications and General HAZUS News

Eric Coughlin and Margaret Griffith:

- Reminded members to fill out the FEMA [HAZUS users survey](#). This survey only takes a minute to complete and will be invaluable for FEMA to assess the HAZUS user community needs and direct future development of the software.
- Spoke about the [two HAZUS posters](#) accepted into the 2009 ESRI Map Book. These were first displayed at the 3rd Annual FEMA HAZUS Conference in Raleigh in August, 2009.
- FEMA 4th Annual HAZUS Conference in Indianapolis, August 23 – 25, 2010. [Registration now opened.](#)
- HAZUS MR-5 currently in development. Details on release date not available. This release will have a coastal surge model.
- If you have not already, sign up for [FEMA GOV Delivery](#). Daily email digests sent to your inbox will keep you up-to-date on any developments with HAZUS-MH as well as general FEMA news.
- Currently in development is a HAZUS-MH Technical Support “Help Desk” application. Right now you have the [Help Line and Help emails](#) to answer your technical issues. The goal of the new “Help Desk” will be to streamline and enhance users’ technical support needs. Stay tuned for more information.
- The NCHUG has its own forum page at [usehazus.com](#). Watch this space for updates to the HUG. Anyone can post if registered. Eric will try to use this space for most official HUG communications (as well as the [main NCHUG](#)

[page](#)). We should try to use this forum as our primary means of communication with each other.

- All HUG members should visit the [usehazus.com Forums](http://usehazus.com/Forums) regularly to stay connected with other HAZUS users, even across the country. Registration takes only a minute.
- All HUG members should visit the [usehazus.com Wiki](http://usehazus.com/Wiki) regularly to learn and share you knowledge with the HAZUS community. The Wiki is open for everyone to view. However, only registered users may add or edit and articles.

IV. Open Discussion

- a) Ken Taylor talked about his recent experience when the local news media contacted him shortly after the earthquake disaster in Haiti. He told them about some of the loss estimations he has ran for earthquake damage in NC using HAZUS. Please contact Ken for more information.
- b) Ken Taylor talked about the [Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists 53rd Annual Meeting](#) in Charleston in September. He is a meeting chair. We learned about Charleston's earthquake history...and possible future? UPDATE: There will be some level of HAZUS training at the conference, most likely an afternoon session and will be tailored towards the new HAZUS user, an overview.

V. New business

- a) Training. The NCHUG wants to facilitate HAZUS training for individuals and organizations that need it. Unfortunately it's tough to know who and how many people need what level of training. Please contact Eric if you are interested in HAZUS training for yourself or your organization. We have a few options for delivering training to you or bringing you to a training site in North Carolina.
- b) The NCHUG is moving to a bi-monthly group call. We have been trying to follow a monthly schedule but attendance has been light. We are also going to try and generate some buzz with guest speakers, web-based presentations and possibly joint meetings with neighboring states' HUGs.
- c) Let's make 2010 a fruitful year for our group. NC is a HAZUS-rich state with lots of users. Let's use the HUG to bring everyone together.

VI. Adjournment

Eric Coughlin adjourned the meeting at **3pm**.

Minutes submitted by: Eric Coughlin