

National Capitol Region Hazus User Group Conference Call

Thursday, August 22, 2013 at 10am

Leader: Cynthia McCoy, FEMA Region III – Risk Analyst - 215-931-5530 - cynthia.mccoy@fema.dhs.gov

Thanks:

- Thanks to everyone who is attending the call today. A copy of the final presentation along with audio recording will also be posted on the NCR HUG websites.

Roll call:

- CO - Rich Chamberlain (URS)
- DC – Eric Berman (FEMA HQ)
- DE - John Laznik (University DE)
- DE - Mark Nardi (USGS)
- FL - Alison Kearns (Florida OEM)
- PA – Cynthia McCoy (FEMA Region III)
- PA – Mike McGeehin (RAMPP RSC Region 3)
- PA - Tom Mueller (Univ of California, PA)
- MD - Kimberly Pettit (FEMA HQ)
- MD - Zack Baccala (Atkins)
- NC - David Love
- NC - Joseph Kirby
- NC - Erik Coughlin (Atkins)
- VA – Jennifer McGee (AMEC)
- VA - Nate Smith (ICF International)
- VA - Nigel Waters (George Mason University)
- VA - Shane Parson (URS)
- VA - Steve Eberback (Baker)
- Garrett Shields
- Jeffrey Snood
- Robert McNally

**We apologize if anyone on the call was not included in this list.

Speakers:

- Cynthia – Meeting minutes, presentation and audio will be posted after the call today (slide 2)
- Agenda – (slide 3)
- Announcements (slide 4-5)

Announcements:

- Hazus is available for FREE download:
 - <https://msc.fema.gov/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/CategoryDisplay?catalogId=10001&storeId=10001&categoryId=12013&langId=-1&userType=G&type=14>

- There are a number of course scheduled at EMI. The last 4 for this year include (Slide 4):
 - **E190 Arc GIS for Emergency Managers:** October 21-24 2013
 - **E313 Basic HAZUS-MH:** November 18-21 2013
 - **E172 HAZUS for Flood:** December 2-5 2013
 - **E174 HAZUS for Earthquake:** December 9-12 2013

 - **L190 Arc GIS for Emergency Managers:** September 9-12 2013 *in Indianapolis, IN*

- FEMA Region III E313 Basic Hazus Training in October (Slide 5)
 - Intended for FEMA Region III State, County, Local Gov. & University partners.
 - **4 day Course** – Onsite and satellite based sessions
 - Will have remote training sites at Univ of DE, George Mason, and TBD in PA.
 - Please take this short survey to identify your current familiarity with HAZUS-MH and your interest in this upcoming training: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Y2DN2T6> :
Submit your answers by COB Friday Aug 23

- Updates from the 2013 Hazus Symposium (slides 6-11)
 - 5 Key Questions with responses
 - Q2: What Hazus needs to achieve its mission
 - Q3: What will Hazus look like in 10 year...participate in the online discussion
 - Q5: How else should Hazus evolve...other models?
 - A copy of all presentations from the HAZUS Symposium will be provided through the NCR HUG page on the UseHazus site.
 - Tom Mueller – Suggestion: Web based product would be more conducive to academia
 - Participate in this discussion - **HAZUS as an online, platform solution:**
<http://fema.ideascale.com/a/dtd/HAZUS-online/426350-14692>
 - Kimberly Pettit – Suggestion: A method that allows for easier collection of user supplied data for HAZUS inputs
 - Need to have a data feedback loop from the locals who maintain this data.
 - Robert McNally – Suggestion: A patch that will update federal census data between versions.
 - Eric Berman – Response to Hazus in the Cloud and User supplied data updates
 - Changes from tool to service...additional costs involved than just change of platform
 - User supplied updates to general inventory...changes FEMA role in maintenance of program
 - Looking at Pilots to test alternative methods
 - Further discussions to continue through the HERC
 - **Any additional comments or input – Please contact the HAZUS Outreach Team:**
hazus@arcaspicio.com

- Cynthia - Hazus Data Governance on the Geoplatform (slide 12)
 - o FEMA's Hazus Average Annualized Loss Viewer on the Geoplatform :
<http://fema.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=cb8228309e9d405ca6b4db6027df36d9>
 - o FEMA HAZUS POCs will receive data from the producers, conduct quality reviews, and submit the data to the FEMA GeoPlatform to gradually replace the AAL as the "Best Available Data."
 - o HAZUS Average Annualized Loss Viewer on the GeoPlatform will be used for situational awareness
 - o FEMA Region III will provide the Risk MAP HAZUS Risk Assessments on the Geoplatform, and indicate where other HAZUS projects exist
 - o Provide link from the AAL viewer to the PASDA website (Please see **HAZUS Ready Data** at the end of the slide deck (slide 72) or at the end of the minutes for links to the existing data)
 - Will include HPRs, depth grids, and HAZUS inventory databases for public download
 - Updates roughly every 6 months (or more often as needed)

- Presentation – The "Last Frontier" in Hazus: Innovative Users of Hazus in Seward, Alaska (slide 13-52)
 - o Presented by Dr. Shane Parson (by URS)
 - o The Project – Update local Hazard Mitigation Plan, evaluate all hazards and potential damages, incorporate climate change, and develop mitigation approaches
 - Conducting Hazus field data collection
 - Prepare to get wet, and use the correct technology
 - Modeling non-typical buildings with Hazus User-Defined Facilities
 - Photos & community data
 - How to account for glacial till deposition
 - Use LiDAR!
 - Using Hazus to model climate change impacts (for glacially fed systems)
 - Run Hazus for range of flows
 - o Q: Nigel Waters – modeling Calgary floods, challenges due to underground storage. How can this be modeled in HAZUS?
 - A: Shane Parson – Suggests using other engineering models to perform the modeling, with outputs that can be utilized in HAZUS for further analysis

- "How to" Presentation - Community Viz: Combining risk assessment + development impact analyses
 - o Community Viz is an extension of GIS, developed by Placeways LLC
 - o Current tools: **Scenario 360** + **Scenario 3D**
 - o **New** tool (still being tested) HAZUS Risk Assessment Wizard + Exporter
 - **Scenario 360**: Allows for comparing the environmental impact and social value of different development scenarios and decisions
 - **Scenario 3D**: Allows the user to develop interactive 3D visual scenes to illustrate decisions, and communicate the impacts of development decisions
 - **HAZUS Risk Assessment Wizard + Exporter**: Comparing potential losses due to natural hazards, for multiple development scenarios
 - Test possible hazard mitigation strategies applied to building placement
 - o **Free Download of Scenario 360 + 3D**:
<http://placeways.com/communityviz/resources/downloads/freetrial.php>

- For a trial version of Community VIZ with the HAZUS Risk Assessment Exporter, Please contact Kelley Lewelling: kelley@placeways.com
 - Step by step process for running Scenario 360, Scenario 3D and the HAZUS Risk Assessment Wizard + Exporter is provided in the slide deck.
- New HAZUS Ready Data:
 - **FEMA Region III Risk MAP HAZUS Hpr. Files:**
<ftp://www.pasda.psu.edu/pub/pasda/fema/HAZUS/>
 - **FEMA Region III Risk MAP Depthgrids:**
<ftp://www.pasda.psu.edu/pub/pasda/fema/>
 - **Geospatial Web Portals:**
 - **FEMA Region III Risk MAP Information Portals:** www.riskmap3.com/
 - **USGS Flood Inundation Mapper:** <http://wim.usgs.gov/FIMIRReview/FloodInundationMapper.html>
 - **USGS Stream Stats:** <http://water.usgs.gov/>
 - **NCR HUG Google Drive shared site** has been set up to facilitate HAZUS data and training collaboration. To register, email your Gmail ID to Jenna (jenna.mcgee@amec.com) and the files will be shared with you. If you do not already have a Gmail ID, it is free to sign up for one.

Related Documents/Links:

- Slide Deck with Audio Recording:
 - http://www.usehazus.com/uploads/forum/August222013_NationalCapitolRegionHUG_PresentationFINAL.pdf

Next Call:

- Thursday, September 26th at 10am EST
 - Conference # 1-267-507-0240; Pass code # 697620
 - The slide deck will be sent out closer to the date of the call
- Looking for volunteers to present on a current or past HAZUS project and a “How to” presentation to illustrate HAZUS tips and tricks, or best practices.