

Meeting Logistics	
Date	March 12, 2013
Time	3:00pm Eastern Standard Time
Location	Conference Call
Description	Monthly national meeting with Hazus User Group members
Facilitator	Kathleen Goulding

Agenda	
Welcome	Kathleen Goulding
Hazus Updates	Kathleen Goulding
2013 Florida Statewide Hurricane Exercise	Richard Butgereit
HERC Revival	Paul Sambanis
Updates from Regions/Groups & Closing Remarks	Kathleen Goulding

User Group Discussion

Welcome

- Welcome to the March Hazus User Group conference call!
- If you have any ideas for future calls or would like to present on a call, please contact us at hazus@arcaspicio.com
- This call was recorded and will be available on iTunes as a podcast – search for ‘Hazus Community’ within the Podcasts section

Hazus Updates

- The March issue of the Hazus HotZone newsletter was distributed Friday, March 8th
 - The newsletter went out through GovDelivery, was posted to the Hazus LinkedIn page, and emailed to Hazus User Group leaders
 - If you haven’t received the newsletter and would like to, please email hazus@arcaspicio.com
- Featured in this HotZone was an article about tracking regional Hazus training courses
 - In order to publicize and coordinate regional training courses, if anyone is hosting or helping facilitate a Hazus regional/field training course, please let the CDS Outreach team know by emailing hazus@arcaspicio.com with the title of the course, the location, and the dates
- The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) has four Hazus training courses available in the next few months
 - Below is a list of courses and their respective dates. Information on how to apply is provided below as well.
 - Course: E0190 - ArcGIS for Emergency Managers
 - Date: March 25-28, 2013
 - Course: E0313 - Basic Hazus-MH Enroll
 - Date: April 29 - May 2, 2013
 - Course: E0172 - Hazus-MH for Flood
 - Date: May 13-16, 2013
 - Course: E0296 - Application of Hazus-MH for Risk Assessment

- Date: June 24-27, 2013
 - To apply for a Hazus training course, please visit: <http://training.fema.gov/Apply/>
- Starting in mid-April 2013, Hazus software will be available to download online
 - Users will be able visit the Map Service Center (MSC) site (<https://msc.fema.gov>) to download Hazus software and state datasets
 - Note: International users are not eligible to download Hazus software and must order a DVD by contacting the FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX)
 - The benefits of the online download option include:
 - No wait time – instant download instead of receiving a DVD in the mail
 - Choice of downloading Hazus software and/or individual state datasets
 - Easy access to customer service

2013 Florida Statewide Hurricane Exercise – Richard Butgereit, Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)

- The 2013 Florida Statewide Hurricane Exercise is occurring from Monday, May 20th until Thursday, May 23rd
- The exercise has grown to really include 3 exercises, the Florida State Emergency Response Team’s annual statewide hurricane exercise overlapping with 2 other exercises – NORTHCOM’s Ardent Sentry and the National Guard’s Vigilant Guard
- FDEM was also contacted late last year from HiFLD to the Regions contact with a request from the DHS Geospatial Management Office looking for opportunities to “exercise the DHS Geospatial Concept of Operations” with a state exercise
 - For those not familiar with the GeoCONOPS, the CONOPS is an effort focused on the geospatial communities supporting DHS and emergency management activities per the National Preparedness Goal
 - Planning is underway with
 - GSA GMO
 - FEMA HQ/R4/NESC
 - NGA
 - AFNORTH
 - A good place to follow development of the GeoCONOPS is to monitor the website of the National Alliance of Public Safety GIS available at www.napsgfoundation.org
- For the 2013 exercise, two efforts within FEMA have come along to provide federal, state, and local responders assistance with Hazus specifically both in exercise and real-world events:
 - National Exercise and Simulation Center
 - The center provides sustained exercise and training support, particularly through their tool SUMMIT
 - Modeling Taskforce – MOTF
 - Supports running Hazus and providing derivative products during disasters
 - SUMMIT is a modeling and simulation software environment that enables analysts, emergency planners, responders, and decision makers to seamlessly access integrated suites of modeling tools & data sources for planning, exercise, or operational response
 - SUMMIT may use Hazus and “chain” results from Hazus into other modeling softwares to further enhance results
 - FDEM looks forward to working with the NESC during prior to and during the hurricane exercise to improve model results and damage estimates
 - For more information on SUMMIT: <https://dhs-summit.us/index.html>

- To request SUMMIT access: <https://share.sandia.gov/summit/contact-us.html>
- FDEM looks forward to a successful exercise this year and will be:
 - Using Hazus as an integral tool for exercise planning, response, and recovery
 - Partnering with FEMA NESC and MOTF particularly on Hazus products
 - Using statewide updated databases for our Hazus analyses
- You can follow along during the exercise by:
 - Monitoring FDEM's GATORx available at <http://map.floridadisater.org/gatorx>
 - Monitoring FEMA GeoPlatform available at <http://fema.maps.arcgis.com>
- Georgia is participating in the exercise as well
- Pat Hicks from New Jersey asked more about SUMMIT and the National Exercise and Simulation Center (NESC), to understand better how another state could request support
 - Richard mentioned the DHS SUMMIT site, where there is more information (<https://dhs-summit.us/index.html>)
- Pat Hicks also asked about how to find out more Hazus information in her area
 - Eric Berman gave the Region II POC name – Brian Shumon, who Pat can connect with
- Tom Mueller asked about incorporating Hazus into course curriculum
 - Tom would like to see more educational materials using Hazus and implement Hazus into his classroom
 - Kathleen, with the Hazus outreach team, spoke up and mentioned that the next topic we'll be discussing is about reviving the Higher Education and Resources Consortium (HERC), which is dealing with helping professors use Hazus in their classrooms

Higher Education Resources Consortium (HERC) Revival – Paul Sambanis, University of Illinois at Chicago

- The Higher Education Resources Consortium (HERC) group was recently re-established to promote the use of Hazus in higher education
- The HERC leadership team has been meeting to discuss the goals, initiatives, and next steps
 - The leadership team came up with a mission statement:
 - The HERC's mission is to increase Hazus-related training and accessibility in higher education settings, facilitate research into furthering the Hazus tool or model, and to act as an important conduit for ideas and feedback between the higher education community and FEMA
 - Paul Sambanis with the University of Illinois at Chicago, recently became one of the leaders of the group and will continue to work with the Hazus Outreach team in order to grow membership and develop initiatives
 - The group is looking for more members who are part of the higher education community and who use Hazus
 - If interested, please email HAZUS.HERC@gmail.com or hazus@arcaspicio.com and you will be added to the distribution list and informed of future activities
 - Join the HERC group on LinkedIn (this is a new LinkedIn group and we are currently exploring our 2013 initiatives)

Next Hazus User Group Conference Call

- The next Hazus User Group call will be April 16th, 2013 at 3pm Eastern Time
- The presentation for that call will be available on the LinkedIn Hazus Group page a few days before the call