

# 2021 Annual Report

(January 1–December 31, 2021)

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) Foundation serves as the catalyst for ASFPM, its chapters and members to advance projects, education and policy initiatives that promote reduced flood risk and resilient communities.

What another unprecedented year it was in 2021! We have endured a great many challenges both personally and professionally, and the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) Foundation continues to make important contributions to the floodplain management community. Our 2021 accomplishments are attributed in large part to individuals, ASFPM Chapters, and companies that have supported us both financially and with their time. Because of this generosity, the Foundation continues to take important steps to realize our mission: **"To advance education, policy initiatives, and projects that promote reduced flood risks and resilient communities."** 

With so many competing priorities over the last year, the Foundation remains steadfast in its commitment to a more resilient future through its planning and execution of many important initiatives that can only be sustained through your continued support. The ASFPM Foundation wants to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" for the generous donations and support in 2021.

This 2021 Annual Report serves as a reminder of all the effort the Foundation has undertaken to accomplish its mission, which could not have happened without the continued support of our donors and sponsors.



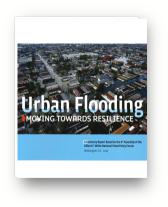
The Foundation continues to focus on the expansion of discussions on flood policy and future flood risk across the Nation and the world

#### PLANNING FOR THE URBAN FLOODING SUMMIT

An outgrowth of the Foundation's February 2020 report, titled "Urban Flooding: Moving Towards Resilience", was the start of planning in 2021 for an Urban Flooding Summit. Hosted by the Foundation, bringing together national and global leaders, to address the urban flooding conundrum.

The report, which was a result of the 6th assembly of the Gilbert F. White National Policy Forum, showcases the need for in-depth engagement on urban flooding issues. Important to the discussion, and a focus of the Urban Flooding Summit, is identifying ways in which the floodplain management community can obtain data and information that better represents low income and minority populations that are the most impacted by urban flooding yet the most underrepresented.

While planning for the Summit began 2021, it was halted due to impacts associated with COVID. The Foundation recognizes the critical nature of urban flooding and the need to address it, and as a result planning for Summit will begin again in 2022. The report, which provides an important framework for continued Summit planning efforts, can be downloaded from the ASFPM Foundation website <u>asfpmfoundation.org</u>.



Impact

The Foundation continues to support the education and mentoring of future flood risk management professionals

#### **FUTURE LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP**

Elizabeth Lacey, the 2020 recipient of the ASFPM Foundation Future Leaders Scholarship, this past summer worked as a water resources engineering intern with Michael Baker International in Washington, DC. This was made possible because of the networking that routinely occurs within the ASFPM Foundation family. In addition to the professional work experience, Elizabeth was able to experience firsthand what it's like to live in the thriving city of Washington, DC. ASFPM and the Foundation generously accommodated Elizabeth's housing by allowing her to stay in the ASFPM corporate apartment located in the heart of the city. The team Elizabeth worked with at Michael Baker International along with her mentor, Allison Andrews, who is also a Foundation Associate, reinforced her desire to pursue her degree in Civil Engineering.



Key skills she acquired through her internship included determining the base flood elevation for a 100-year flood in different areas, and working on the hydraulics and hydrology of a bridge project. Her experience applying hydraulics and hydrology in a practical setting allowed her to prepare for her senior year at Colorado State University. You can read Elizabeth's story about her internship by going to the ASFPM Foundation website.

The ASFPM Foundation started accepting applications for the Fall 2022 to Spring 2024 Future Leaders Scholarship on December 1, 2021. The scholarship will be in the amount of up to \$20,000 per year for two years. The winner of the 2022-2024 Future Leaders Scholarship will be announced at the ASFPM Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida in May 2022.

#### **STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION**

The ASFPM Foundation hosted the **11th Annual Student Paper Competition** at ASFPM Virtual Conference in May 2021. Annually, the Foundation brings the nation's brightest college students together to complete and present research on a floodplain management- related topic. Applications for the 2022 competition began in December 2021, and finalists will present their papers and the winners announced at the 2022 ASFPM Annual Conference.

Since 2011, the ASFPM Foundation has sponsored a student paper competition as a way to engage the next generation in important conversations about a number of topics and issues relevant to responsible floodplain management locally, nationally, and globally. Three finalists are invited to present their papers at the national conference where they also will be given the opportunity to fully participate and network with conference-goers. There they will be able to learn about a wide range of topics and areas of specialization that are relevant to their future career.

In 2021, first prize of \$1,000 was awarded to the paper titled, "Using Historical Information to Inform Planning for Floods after Fires," co-authored by Ying Chik (Vanessa) Lee, Alev Bilginsoy, Yiwen Chen, Dana Clark, Adam Dickenson, Kendal Harris, Xiaoyue Wang, and Shauna Wright; University of California – Berkeley. Second prize of \$750 was awarded for the paper titled, "Detecting Coherent Floods in the Northeast United States for Flood Risk Management," co-authored by Equisha Glenn and Naresh Devineni; The City College of New York. Their winning papers can be found on the ASFPM Foundation's website <u>asfpmfoundation.org</u>.

#### **RISE:** Resilience.Innovation.Sustainability.Environment

The ASFPM Foundation again partnered with FEMA Region VIII and Earth Force to sponsor the RISE: Resilience.Innovation.Sustainability.Environment. Challenge. Also referred to as the RISE Challenge, it is part classroom learning, part competition, and part summit focused on natural hazards and student-led learning. It engages students in the exploration of their communities to determine where they are vulnerable to natural disasters and tasks them with developing their own ideas for making their community more resilient.

Sixteen projects from Colorado middle and high schools were submitted for the 2021 competition. Hotchkiss High School of Hotchkiss, Colorado took first place in the 2021 challenge; their winning entry proposed community awareness about the importance of planning for potential evacuation in the face of a wildfire their community could experience.

Hotchkiss High School received a \$1,000 prize for their project and the other five finalist schools received prizes. All prize money was donated by the ASFPM Foundation. Allison Andrews, ASFPM Foundation Associate, and Brad Anderson, ASFPM Foundation Executive Board Trustee and Projects Committee Chairperson, served as judges during the final phase of the competition.

## Impact

# current flood risk management professionals

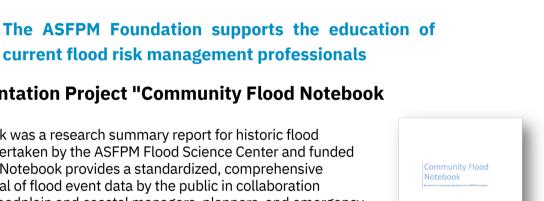
#### **Historic Flood Documentation Project "Community Flood Notebook**

The Community Flood Notebook was a research summary report for historic flood documentation, which was undertaken by the ASFPM Flood Science Center and funded by the ASFPM Foundation. The Notebook provides a standardized, comprehensive platform for storage and retrieval of flood event data by the public in collaboration with local, community-based floodplain and coastal managers, planners, and emergency managers. The Notebook allows communities to harness "crowd sourcing" capabilities through the use of mobile devices to engage the public in the flood documentation process, giving them ownership in the effort. The Community Flood Notebook can be found on the ASFPM Flood Science Center website www.floodsciencecenter.org.

#### A National Floodplain Functions Alliance and Wetland Mapping **Consortium Workshop**

Since 2017, the ASFPM Foundation has been planning and funding a series of workshops with the Association of State Wetland Managers (ASWM). These workshops help to improve the floodplain mapping program by integrating geospatial data developed and used by the wetland mapping community to identify wetland and floodplain functions. The data is used in part to support the development of naturebased solutions aimed at reducing flood risk.

Workshops were held in 2018 and 2019, and most recently on February 10, 2021 titled "Federal Program and Policy Changes Needed to Advance Integrated, Functional Mapping of Floodplains and Wetlands for Nature-Based Solutions." Summary reports were prepared for each workshop and can be found on the ASFPM Foundation website www.asfpmfoundation.org.







#### **Annual Fundraising Activities**

The ASFPM Foundation expresses its deepest gratitude to all of our generous donors, without which none of the work we highlight in our 2021 Annual Report would be possible. To name a few:

- Again in 2021, the ASFPM Annual Conference was held virtually due to COVID. The Foundation was able to accommodate the virtual format by again hosting its "Not a Silent/Live Auction Non-Event," which would typically be held in person at the conference. This didn't deter the generosity of many of you, because we raised over \$22,000 for the Foundation!
- The ASFPM Foundation #GivingTuesday campaign was held this year on November 30th. Our goal was to exceed last year's donations, and we targeted raising \$30,000 with all donations going to the Future Leaders Scholarship. Our mission was accomplished because we raised nearly \$31,000 for the scholarship. Important to our success were matching donations by Dewberry and an anonymous donor, which helped us not only reach but exceed our goal!

#### **Special Thanks to ASFPM Foundation Corporate Partners**

It goes without saying that the floodplain management community owes a great deal of its success to the dedication and hard work of our corporate partners. They not only provide financial support, but also support their staff's contribution of time and energy to actively participate on Foundation committees, conduct policy events, and plan and carry out special projects. The ASFPM Foundation recognizes that without these important contributions of our corporate partners, we would not be as successful in accomplishing our mission. Just this past year alone, the following corporate partners donated more than \$77,000 to the Foundation:

AECOM	Guidehouse	Moffatt & Nichol
Anderson Consulting Engineers	H2O Partners	Molly O'Toole & Associates
ATCS	Halff Associates	NIYAMIT
Atkins North America	Harney Peak	P. Oz Consulting
CDM Smith	HDR Engineering	Ogilvy
Dewberry	ICF	RCQuinn
Enginuity Engineering Solutions	Jacobs	SmartVent
Flood Control America	Meshek & Associates	Spicer Group
FM Approvals	Mead & Hunt	Stantec
French & Associates	Michael Baker International	Tetra Tech

### **Income and Expenses**





For more information, contact: George Riedel, Donor Coordinator 703-447-3831

#### ASFPMFoundation.org