Chapter District 4
Annual Status Report

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Introduction
After a vote of the Board of Directors in 2022, the chapter district boundaries were shifted to balance the number of chapters for each district. Chapter District 4 is now comprised of the following 8 chapters: Arkansas Floodplain Management Association, Iowa Floodplain & Stormwater Management Association, Kansas Association for Floodplain Management, Louisiana Floodplain Management Association, Missouri Floodplain & Stormwater Managers Association, Nebraska Floodplain & Stormwater Managers Association, Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association, and Texas Floodplain Management Association.

Key Accomplishments
Chapters in District 4 have seen measurable growth in the last year. Numbers of Certified Floodplain Managers (CFM) continue to grow, as does attendance at conferences and trainings. In addition to that, many chapters have new board members as their membership is becoming more engaged.

- Arkansas presented 25 pairs of Turn Around, Don’t Drown signs to communities across the state.
- Louisiana held the first annual LFMA Flood Awareness week. Along with a successful social media campaign, several communities adopted resolutions recognizing the event and other held public outreach events. They are excited to grow this event in the future and work with state and local agencies to reach more people.
- MfSMA is currently planning their 2023 conference focusing on the 30th Anniversary of the Great Flood of 1993. They will have Dr. Gerald Galloway and their keynote speaker and Dr. Robert Holmes and a special guest speaker.
- TFMA held a Day at the Capitol. Around 30 volunteers visited all 150 representatives and 31 senators to discuss flood-related issues.

Challenges
The chapters all expressed some challenges in keeping newsletters and websites up-to-date and relevant. Several chapters are working on new formats for newsletters and updating websites. Since many of the people tasked with these items are volunteers, it can be a challenge to keep content fresh. The on-boarding process for new board members can also be a slow process. Several chapters are still working through the process of how to encourage the CFM exam with the new digital process. Traditionally, many chapters have offered the exam at conferences and events. While they understand this is still an option, the logistics are much different that for the paper exam.
Priorities

All chapters continue to prioritize training and education for their floodplain management professionals, as well as other key groups such as elected officials, students, and the general public. All chapters are looking for ways to strengthen relationships with other associations and organizations to continue to increase awareness of floodplain management and flood risk.

Recommended Actions

Resources to assist chapters with floodplain management training have been available, however, training for chapter administration, how to reach out to elected officials, and general public outreach would be a benefit to our chapters. With the board training materials being developed for the ASFPM board, this could be something that’s easily offered as a concurrent session at a future conference.