

HAZUS HOT ZONE

September 2010 Issue

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2010 HAZUS-MH PROGRAM AWARDS

Best Adaptation of the HAZUS Earthquake Model

Winner: Murray Journeay, Research Scientist, Earth Sciences Sector, NRCan, Canada

Best Adaptation of the HAZUS Flood Model

Winner: ESP Associates, PA

Best Adaptation of the HAZUS Flood Model

Winner: Roberto Ramirez, Risk Analyst, FEMA Region VI, Denton, TX

Best Adaptation of the HAZUS Hurricane Model

Winner: Annie Ding, Director of GIS, CivilTech Engineering, Inc. Cypress, TX

Best Overall Use of the HAZUS Model

Winner: Kelly Durst, Risk Analyst, FEMA Region X, Seattle, WA

Outstanding Student Award

Winner: Megan Carlson, Graduate Research Assistant, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Carbondale, IL

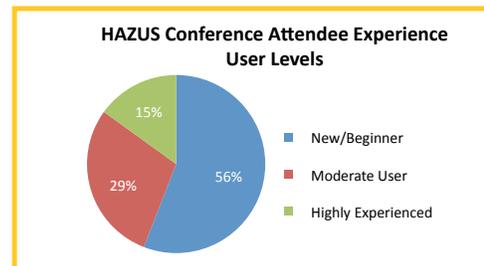
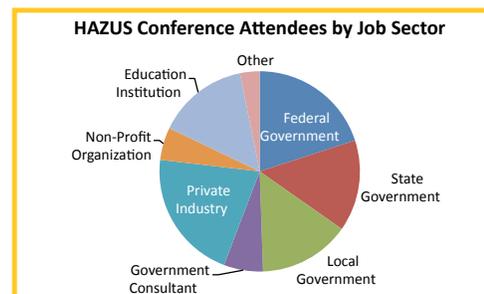
HAZUS User Group Leadership Award

Winner: Shelby Hudson, GIS Specialist, AMEC Earth & Environmental, Lakewood, CO

4th Annual HAZUS Conference

The 4th Annual HAZUS Conference was held at the Indiana Government Center South Building, August 23-25, 2010 in Indianapolis, IN. More than 175 people attended the FEMA sponsored conference and the conference evaluations rated the event a great success. Attendees had many networking opportunities, educational sessions and presentations, and training through the Basic HAZUS and Comprehensive Data Management Course workshops.

The Conference attracted a diverse group of attendees including GIS specialists, emergency managers, geologists, state/local planners, and educators—all interested in learning more about the technology and its ability to help save lives and protect property. This year, the number of new users attending the conference also increased and the more experienced users took several opportunities to share knowledge and success stories.



When asked, attendees reported conference highlights included the wide range of presentation topics, such as Risk MAP projects using HAZUS, which will expand the number of risk analyses being conducted in local

communities throughout the Nation, a live and interactive Central HAZUS User Group (HUG) meeting, and a session discussing how HAZUS is being used internationally.

One attendee stated that, “The conference was a great networking opportunity and meeting with the (software) developers was extremely helpful!”

For the second year, the conference featured a Map Gallery where attendees could vote on their favorite maps showcasing the accomplishments of GIS users incorporating their HAZUS work within six categories. There were many wonderful maps that were viewed and voted on and you will find the winners listed on page 2. And for the first time, attendees were able to obtain certification points towards their Geographic Information Systems Professional (GISP) and Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) certifications for participating in the conference.

We would like to thank all the speakers, presenters, volunteers, and staff that helped make this year’s conference such a success—a job well done! If you weren’t able to attend, please watch for conference proceedings to be online shortly at all HAZUS websites. And keep your eyes open for more information on next year’s conference—coming soon!

For more information about HAZUS visit: www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/HAZUS/

HAZUS Trained Professionals

Kingsley M. Allan, University of Illinois, IL

Robert Ammons, Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency, AL

Debbie Bailey, Pierce County Emergency Management, WA

Melony Barrett, University of Illinois, IL

Elizabeth Barton, Maine Emergency Management Agency, ME

Melissa Berry, South Carolina Emergency Management Division, SC

Mary Boguslaw, Maryland Emergency Management Agency, MD

William Booth, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, VA

Patricia Bowman, Santa Rosa County, FL

Suzanne Brunzell, Snohomish County Public Works, WA

Rick Burgess, FEMA Region 4, FL

Danielle Calhoun, Environment & Engineering, Inc., TN

Janelle Calma, Puayallup Emergency Management, WA

Adam Campbell, Zimmerman & Associates, Inc., MD

Ramon Campos, Fort Worth Office of Emergency Management, TX

Margaret Carew, Walsh Environmental Scientists & Engineers, LLC, CO

Scot Coleman, FL

Stephen W. Cowdin, California Department of Water Resources, CA

Christina Cummings, University of North Dakota, ND

Shelia R. Dale, Osage County Planning and Zoning, KS

Sean Donovan, FEMA Region 5, IL

Kelly Durst, FEMA Region 10, WA

Sue Evers, FEMA Region 7, KS

Tracy Ferguson, US Coast Guard-Maritime Security & Infrastructure Protection, Washington, DC

Kathleen E. Fischer, Yurok Tribe Planner, CA

Joshua S. Friedman, New York City Office of Emergency Management, NY

Maria Lourdes Funtanilla, Navy Installations Command (CNIC), MD

Vanessa Glynn-Linaris, Geo-Revs, AZ

William Goettlicher, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, CO

Lisa Graff, University of Illinois, IL

Rich Hamilton, Town of Hilton Head Island, SC

Shondra H. Hogan, Columbus Consolidated Government, GA

HAZUS Training Schedule at EMI

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE TITLE	DATES
E170	HAZUS-MH for Hurricane Enroll Now	April 25-28, 2011
E172	HAZUS-MH for Flood Enroll Now	January 3-6, 2011 July 11-14, 2011
E174	HAZUS-MH for Earthquake Enroll Now	February 7-10, 2011
E190	ArcGIS for Emergency Managers Enroll Now	November 1-4, 2010 March 14-17, 2011
E296	Application of HAZUS-MH for Risk Assessment Enroll Now	September 12-14, 2011
E313	Basic HAZUS-MH Enroll Now	October 11-14, 2010 January 17-20, 2011 September 19-22, 2011
E317	Comprehensive Data Management for HAZUS-MH Enroll Now	February 28-March 3, 2011

4th Annual HAZUS Conference Map Gallery

For the second year, the Annual HAZUS Conference featured a Map Gallery. The maps were displayed in the gallery for the duration of the conference. Attendees had the opportunity to vote on the maps for awards in six different categories. All of the maps and their abstracts will be included in the final conference proceedings. The winners from the Map Gallery are listed below:

- **Best Practice for Data Improvements to HAZUS-MH (Level 2 or 3 Analyses)**

“HAZUS Flood Level II Analyses: Integrating DFIRM Data for Hazard Mitigation Planning” designed by Shelby Hudson and Jeff Brislaw.

- **Best Incorporation of a HAZUS-MH Analysis into a Mitigation Plan**

“Using FEMA Level I HAZUS Flood Regions for State and Local Hazard Mitigation Planning” designed by Shelby Hudson and Jeff Brislaw.

- **Most Innovative Practice of HAZUS-MH**

“Putting Canada on the Map” designed by Murray Journeay and Nicky Hastings.

- **Best Multi-Hazard Analysis**

“A Multi Hazard Approach to Capturing Disaster Management Systems—New Madrid Seismic Zone/Transportation” designed by Asli Soyler and Pam McCauley Bush.

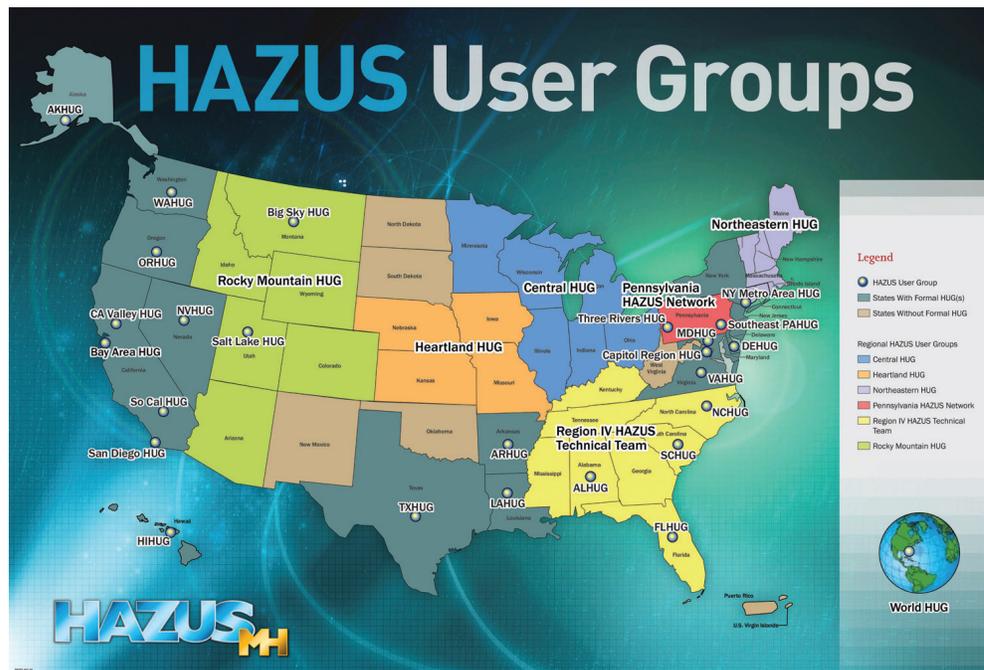
- **Best Integration of Other Tools with HAZUS-MH**

“FEMA Region IV Coastal Flood Loss Atlas” designed by Nicolaos Almonar and Moses Wilkins.

- **Best Practice for Incorporating Risk MAP**

“A Risk Assessment Product: HAZUS Risk Assessment” by Melis Mull.

HAZUS User Group News



HAZUS User Groups (HUGs) are sweeping the nation! We are well on our way to having HUGs in all 50 states.

Our newest member is the Alaska HUG formed by Dan Mahalak from Seward, Alaska and Nick Delmedico from FEMA Region X. The six regional HUGs: Rocky Mountain HUG, Heartland HUG, Central U.S. HUG, Northeastern HUG, Pennsylvania HAZUS Network and the Region IV HAZUS Technical Team, are working toward individual HUGs in each of their states. New HUG leaders for West Virginia, Georgia, California and Maryland identified themselves at the 4th Annual HAZUS Conference in Indianapolis in August. For more information about starting a HUG or to become involved in your state, please contact Jamie Caplan. (jamie@jamiecaplan.com)

The National HUG Leadership Calls which are hosted by FEMA and held each

month are expanding. This fall we will begin a HAZUS Higher Education Resources Consortium Call. This call will give HAZUS users in higher education an opportunity to share resources with each other and with HUG leaders nationwide. Watch for a GovDelivery e-mail and Web posting to announce these calls. The National HUG Leadership Call on August 10 included 14 HUG leaders, each of whom gave a brief update on activities in their region. The National Topic Specific Call on the same day featured Shane Hubbard giving an update on his work with HAZUS and the Iowa Dam Breach. Shane is collecting lessons learned to share an upcoming HAZUS Success Story.

Individual HUGs have found tremendous success featuring guest speakers on their calls. Shelby Hudson and Jeff Brislaw presented a PowerPoint presentation titled *QA/QC of HAZUS Flood Level 1 Analysis* on the July RMHUG call, the SCHUG featured Rob Lowe speaking about how HAZUS fits into the Risk MAP cycle, and the FLHUG is working on a lunch-and-learn series of guest speakers. HUG calls are open to all HAZUS users. Watch your e-mail and visit www.useHAZUS.com for announcements regarding future HUG calls.

(continued)

HAZUS Trained Professionals (continued)

Caleb Hopkins,
AECOM, MA

Katherine Hurley,
Hennepin County Public Works
Administration, MN

John Ingargiola, FEMA Headquarters,
Washington, DC

Allen W. Kniphfer, Jefferson County Emergency
Management Agency, AL

Tom LeBlanc, Texas Governor's Division of Emergency
Management, TX

Miguel A. Lopez, Municipality of Ponce, PR

Michael Lowry, Northrop Grumman Information
Systems, SC

Michael McDaniel, City of El Segundo, CA

Shanna Michael, Watershed Concepts, AECOM Water, MO

Ashlee S. Moore, Indiana Department of Homeland
Security, IN

Robert B. Murray, HDR Engineering Inc, CA

Carole L. Neidich-Ryder, Bowne AE & T Group, NY

Corrie Neighbors, University of California, CA

Kyle Ness, URS Corporation, NM

Gabriela Noriega, Emergency Management Office, Los
Angeles County, CA

Ronda Oberlin, Lansing Fire Department, MI

Rodney Odom, FEMA Region 7, KS

Brian Penix, West Virginia Division of Homeland
Security, WV

Jessica Phillips, Dare County, NC

Stacy Robinson, PBS&J, Inc., NC

Matt Rummel, Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Inc., IN

Philip Schneider, National Institute of Building Sciences,
Washington, DC

Julie B. Sendra, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security, ID

Mohamad Sleiman, FEMA Region 4, GA

Lynn Seirup, New York City Office of Emergency
Management, NY

Brian Shumon, FEMA Region 2, NY

Tammy Stack, Saluda County Emergency Management, SC

Lawrence Stawiarski, Carbon County GIS Department, PA

Tracy Toutant, National Geospatial-Intel Agency,
Washington, DC

Jaime Tyson, Watershed Concepts, AECOM Water, GA

Danielle Verdugo, Earth Consultants International, CA

Michael Villeneuve, Department of Veterans Affairs,
Office of Emergency Management, Washington, DC

Scott Wade, East Carolina University, NC

Cathy Walker, Office of Superintendent of Public
Instruction, WA

Samuel Moses Wilkins, FEMA Region 4, GA

The **HAZUS Practitioners** will be listed in the next
HAZUS Hot Zone Newsletter.
They are currently on the HAZUS Websites.

continued from HAZUS User Group News



The HAZUS User of the Year award program recently recognized Philip McCormick as the **3rd Quarter 2010 HAZUS User of the Year**. Mr. McCormick is the Emergency Operations Coordinator for the

City of Riverside, California. He is responsible for coordinating city recovery efforts following major emergencies; for maintaining the city emergency resource database, city hazard and risk management mapping system, emergency operations center computer and communications systems; and serves as a liaison to the Department of Defense, local school districts, and local colleges and universities. Mr. McCormick is recognized as one of the leading experts in California in using HAZUS and is an active member of the Southern California HUG (SoCal HUG). He is known among his peers for consistently giving 110% effort and for striving for nothing less than perfection in every task or project he is charged with.

In other HUG news, Shelby Hudson, co-chair of the RMHUG, was the “Michael Phelps of the HAZUS Conference” according to Eric Berman, HAZUS Program Manager. Shelby swept the awards ceremony at the conference with two Map Gallery awards in the categories of **Best Practice**

HAZUS Success Stories

Five Classrooms and Four Time Zones Combined for the Inaugural Virtual HAZUS Training Class

Over 100 people were simultaneously trained in HAZUS in a course taught in five classrooms in four different time zones this past summer. This logistical phenomenon will allow more HAZUS training courses to be held in the years to come. The secret to success for this course was the integration of traditional classroom techniques with virtual distance learning technologies. A new HAZUS Success Story details this logistical phenomenon. The story can be downloaded from the [FEMA Library](#) or from [USEHAZUS](#). This new method of training was made possible by Adobe® Connect,™ the University of Kentucky, and Kevin Mickey (Indianapolis, Indiana), Nick Delmedico (Bothell, Washington), Gene Longenecker (Long Beach, Mississippi), Melissa Berry (Columbia, South Carolina), Moses Wilkins (Columbia, South Carolina), and Adam Campbell (Baltimore, Maryland).

for Data Improvements to HAZUS-MH (Level 2 or Level 3) with a map representing **HAZUS Flood Level II Analyses: Integrating DFIRM Data for Hazard Mitigation Planning** and in the category of **Best Incorporation of a HAZUS-MH Analysis into a Mitigation Plan** with the map titled **Using FEMA Level I HAZUS Flood Regions for State and Local Hazard Mitigation Planning**. She was also named as the **1st quarter HAZUS Users of the Year for 2010** as well as receiving the **HAZUS User Group Leadership Award**.

Shanna Michael is now the president of the Heartland HUG. Melissa Berry has expanded the SCHUG website which can be viewed at: <http://www.useHAZUS.com/schug/>. Canada is interested in adopting the HAZUS program and they are exploring ways to form HUGs throughout Canada through the Natural Resources Canada Earth Sciences Sector. A new HUG map and flyer were released at the HAZUS Conference in Indianapolis. It can be viewed at: <http://www.useHAZUS.com/hugs/regional/>.

Special thanks go to Jan Crider, Dan Coats, Kevin Mickey and the CHUG—they were terrific hosts at the HAZUS Conference in Indianapolis.

HAZUS Technical Compendium

Cathy Walker, the Washington HAZUS User Group (WAHUG) leader, has provided a new Technical Compendium article titled, “Installing HAZUS-MH MR4 on Windows® 7 Professional.” You can find this article and the other compendium articles on the HAZUS Wiki at: http://www.useHAZUS.com/wiki/Category:_HAZUS_Technical_Compendium/

All HAZUS users are encouraged to contribute to the HAZUS Technical Compendium by documenting their tips and contacting jamie@jamiecaplan.com.

Contact Information

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