


# ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES DIVISION UPDATE

Floodplain Management activities,  
July through December 2015



December 2015

## FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE



- **National Issues of Interest**
  - Waters of the U.S (WOTUS)
  - Executive Order 13690, Floodplain Management
  - Flood Insurance
  
- **Regional Participation**
  - Program for Public Information (PPI) Committee
  
- **Local Implementation**
  - Elevation Certificate Program
  - Community Rating System (CRS) update
  - Physical Map Revision (PMR) process
  
- **Capital Improvement Program project coordination**
  - Piney & Antelope Creeks

## FEDERAL LEGISLATION



### ■ WOTUS

- Implementation halted pending legal review; Rule put on temporary hold nationally
  - Federal Appeals court (Cincinnati's 6<sup>th</sup> US Circuit) granted 18 states' request to stay the controversial rule (including Colorado)
  - Challenges to rule will not be consolidated; multiple challenges will proceed on parallel tracks in seven district courts

### ■ Executive Order 13690 issued January 30, 2015 amending EO 11988, *Floodplain Management*

- Establishes the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS)
  - Guides the selection of an approach to establish the floodplain for FEMA's critical and non-critical actions
- ASFPM will issue comments on the proposed implementation framework

### ■ Homeowner's Flood Insurance Affordability Act (HFIAA) of 2014

- Newly Mapped Procedure implemented April 1, 2015
  - Eligible for preferred risk policy for first 12 months
  - Policyholders are encouraged to maintain and keep current policies
- FEMA to implement additional rate increases April 1, 2016
  - Non-residential business properties (Pre-FIRM)

## REGIONAL & LOCAL ACTIVITIES



### ■ Denver Metro "Program for Public Information (PPI) Committee"

- Community Rating System (CRS) Program to promote targeted and consistent flood safety messaging
- Additional CRS credit for public outreach if done through committee
- UDFCD sponsored and facilitated committee of seven local governments
- Final PPI Document
  - Reviewed by FEMA through Insurance Services Office
  - PPI must be locally adopted
- Annual review and report required

### ■ Elevation Certificate Program

- Program to assist property owners newly mapped into high-risk areas
  - Elevation Certificates ensure accurate insurance rating
  - Survey data may support Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) application to remove structure from the high-risk area
- Roll-out first quarter 2016
- Included in 2016 ERD budget

## COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM (CRS)



### ■ Community Rating System (CRS) 5-year Cycle Verification Results

- A voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements.
- Verification Visits were held November 2014
- Improved from CRS Class 8 to CRS Class 7
  - 15% flood insurance premium discount for properties in the high-risk area
  - Effective October 1, 2015
- FEMA plaque for Class 7 communities, "the best of the best"
  - Matt Buddie, FEMA Region VIII NFIP Specialist, **presented the Mayor and City Council with plaque on November 16**
  - Plaque presentation for the **Board of County Commissioners is scheduled for December 15 at 9:30am**

## PHYSICAL MAP REVISION (PMR)



### ■ FEMA Physical Map Revision (PMR) process

- UDFCD Flood Hazard Area Delineation (FHAD) Studies were submitted to FEMA for flood map revision
  - Piney, Antelope, Willow, Cottonwood & Tributaries, First and East Toll Gate Creeks
- When FEMA issues final maps, UDFCD will notify newly mapped in properties
- Anticipate effective date to be late Summer or early Fall 2016

### ■ Received FEMA notification for new PMR in 2016

- Incorporating reviewed and approved UDFCD FHAD Studies
  - Dutch, Coon, and Coal (upstream of Yale Ave) Creeks
  - *Coyote Run and Box Elder Creeks (outside of SEMSWA service area)*

### ■ Expect FEMA notification for a second PMR in 2016

- Cherry (downstream of Reservoir), Littles, Unnamed, West Toll Gate, Happy Canyon & Green Acres Tributary, Sand, Coal (downstream of Yale Ave), and Senac Creeks

### ■ Similar public outreach process planned

- notification letters, public meetings, and website information

## CIP PROJECT COORDINATION



- **CIP Project Coordination (FP impacts, PMR timing, Insurance)**
  - **Piney Creek Ranches Phase 1 (January 2016)**
    - Project is "no impact" with slight decreases in the base flood elevations, floodplain width
    - Will notify affected property owners of the changes
    - Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) to follow
  - **Piney Creek through The Farm (January 2016)**
    - Updated floodplain modeling based on existing conditions and sediment deposition
      - *Additional properties are at flood risk*
    - Project will be "no impact" to existing conditions and will lower base flood elevations and reduce floodplain width
    - Public meeting scheduled on **December 16 at 6:30pm at Fox Hollow Elementary School**
    - LOMR to follow
  - **Piney Creek Ranches upstream of Caley (Fall 2016)**
    - Project will eliminate **Piney Creek spill** at E Caley Ave
    - Conditional LOMR (CLOMR) will be required, includes property owner notification
    - LOMR will remove properties newly mapped in through the Piney Creek PMR
  - **Arapahoe Road widening**
    - Antelope Creek box culvert will eliminate **Arapahoe Road overtopping and spill**
    - LOMR will remove properties newly mapped in through the Antelope Creek PMR

## QUESTIONS

