

NORFMA 2025 Annual Conference

September 23-25, 2025
Seaside, Oregon



NORFMA
NORTHWEST REGIONAL FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

RIDING THE WAVE!

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CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

11:00 am —5 pm: Conference Lobby

Registration Desk Open

1 pm — 5 pm: PACIFIC Auditorium

Optional training session, included with registration

Floodplain Administration Roles and Responsibilities: Everything You Need to Know to Get Started as an FPA

This training session, led by the WA, OR, and ID State NFIP Coordinators, will cover NFIP background, permitting, reading FIRMs, Elevation Certificates, inspections and compliance, recordkeeping, the tools and resources an FPA will use in their work, and communicating risk to the public and elected officials. It will cover the foundational information that an FPA needs to know for their day-to-day duties and provide resources for them to continue their learning.

Sponsor Booth Setup: Tuesday after 11 am, PREFUNCTION Space

5 pm—6 pm: PACIFIC Auditorium

New Member and New Floodplain Administrator Welcome

Meet-and-greet welcome for our new members and new floodplain administrators!

6 pm—9 pm: NECANICUM

Welcome Social

- ◆ Sponsored by AECOM
- ◆ Appetizers and two drink tickets included
- ◆ Please visit the registration desk for your nametag, tickets, and swag!

The AECOM logo is displayed in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters 'A', 'E', and 'O' are stylized with horizontal lines through them. The logo is positioned in the bottom right corner of the page, overlapping a light green background block.

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

7:30 am—5 pm: Conference Lobby
Registration Desk Open

10 am—12 pm and 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm: SUNSET Room
CRS OFFICE HOURS: Make appointments to sit down with your CRS representatives

7:30 am—8:30 am: PACIFIC Auditorium
Buffet Breakfast



8:30 am—8:45 am: PACIFIC Auditorium
Welcome and Introduction



BLACK & VEATCH

Deanna Horton, NORFMA Conference Chair (City of Spokane Valley)
Christina Wollman, NORFMA Chair (Perteet)
Lynn Schmidt, NORFMA Vice Chair (WA Ecology)

8:45 am—9:45 am: PACIFIC Auditorium
Plenary Session

Moderator: Christina Wollman, NORFMA Chair (Perteet)

- ◆ State of Local Emergency Management – *Kirk Holmes, Perteet*
- ◆ State of the States

9:45 am – 10:15 am

Break Time – Please visit our sponsors in the PREFUNCTION Space

- ◆ Snacks, coffee, and water provided



10:15 am—11:45 am

State Breakout Sessions

Network with conference attendees living and working in your state, get updates from the State NFIP and Emergency Management offices, and discuss specific challenges and opportunities in your area.

- ◆ **WA & BC – *NECANICUM WEST***
- ◆ **OR – *NECANICUM EAST***
- ◆ **ID – *RIVERSIDE***
- ◆ **AK – *SEASIDE***

12 pm—1:15 pm: PACIFIC Auditorium

Buffet Luncheon

Keynote Speaker



- ◆ Accepting the Risk, Preparing for Impact: Understanding Tsunamis in Oregon - *Laura Gabel, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)*

1:30 pm—3 pm

Concurrent Session A – NECANICUM WEST

- ◆ Channel Migration Zones in Integrated Floodplain Management - *Heather Rogers, WA Department of Ecology*
- ◆ Projected Future Fluvial Hazards along the Northeast Entrance Road Corridor in Yellowstone National Park, WY - *Tyler Jantzen, PE, CFM, Jacobs*
- ◆ Floodplains, farming, and fish passage - *Bridger Banco, Kelly Flint, HDR Inc.*

Concurrent Session B – NECANICUM EAST

- ◆ The Game of Floods – *Austin Bernales (BEF), Casey Kramer (Natural Waters)*. Join us for an introduction, tutorial, and to play the Game of Floods, a tool developed by BEF, Pierce County, and Floodplains by Design partners to demystify the CLOMR/LOMR process.

Session C, Workshop: Harnessing Geospatial Technologies for Flood Risk Assessment, Part 1 – RIVERSIDE

Kevin Mickey, Indiana University & Shane Hubbard, University of Wisconsin

This workshop examines how geospatial technologies, including FEMA's Hazus software and the Flood Assessment Structure Tool (FAST), can support the assessment of riverine and coastal flood impacts. These impacts may encompass damages to buildings and infrastructure, economic losses, and other community-related factors. Such information is crucial for hazard mitigation planning and can significantly enhance disaster response efforts. The workshop will explore how these tools evaluate flood impacts and will highlight best practices for using geospatial tools to analyze risk. Presenters will offer numerous demonstrations and provide opportunities for participants to engage in discussions about the presented information.





Concurrent Session D– SEASIDE

- ◆ The Evolution and Application of Stochastic Storm Transposition in Regional Flood Frequency Analysis - *Erica Schmitz, Stantec*
- ◆ From Texas to Hawaii: Alternative Gaging Equipment Enters the Market - *Jeffery Budnick, WEST Consultants, Inc.*
- ◆ Balancing Accuracy and Clarity: Tackling Flood Risk Representation in 2D Models - *Derek Hines, Stantec*

3:00 pm—3:30 pm

Break Time – Please visit our sponsors in the PREFUNCTION Space

- ◆ Snacks, coffee, and water provided.



3:30 pm—5 pm

Concurrent Session E – NECANICUM WEST

- ◆ Floodplain Managers Roundtable – *facilitated by Christina Wollman (Perteet)*

Concurrent Session F – NECANICUM EAST

- ◆ Updates from the South Fork Nooksack River Floodplain Permit Streamlining Workgroup - *Chris Frei (Watershed Science & Engineering)*
- ◆ Multi-Benefit Solutions: Crafting an Integrated Plan for the Chehalis Basin (60 min.) - *Heather Page, Anchor QEA, Inc*

Session G, Workshop: Harnessing Geospatial Technologies for Flood Risk Assessment, Part 2 – RIVERSIDE

Kevin Mickey, Indiana University & Shane Hubbard, University of Wisconsin

Second half of the workshop examining how geospatial technologies, including FEMA's Hazus software and the Flood Assessment Structure Tool (FAST), can support the assessment of riverine and coastal flood impacts.

Concurrent Session H – SEASIDE

- ◆ Forests into Flow: Timberland Strategies for Watershed-Wide Flood Restoration- *Cole Baldino, South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group*
- ◆ Spatiotemporal analysis of structures repetitively damaged by floods in Washington - *Kevin Zerbe, Washington Emergency Management Division*
- ◆ AI in Floodplain Management: Smarter Tools for Resilient Communities - *Lauren Lum, Forerunner*

5:30 pm — 9:00 pm
Networking Event


SEASIDE BEACH

WEAR CLOTHING AND SHOES FOR DINING OUTDOORS ON THE BEACH

- ◆ Sponsored by ESA
 - ◆ You must bring your nametag to confirm your full conference registration for participation in the event.
 - ◆ Dinner and drink tickets included.
 - ◆ Guest tickets may be purchased with conference registration.
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- ◆ The event will be held on the beach within walking distance of the hotels and conference center. We will have tent canopies, chairs, and tables for your use.



Photo: Pacific North Events & Tents



Thursday, September 25, 2025

7:30 am—noon Conference Lobby
Registration Desk Open

8:30 am—10:00 am: SUNSET Room
CRS OFFICE HOURS: Make appointments to sit down with your CRS representatives

7:30 am—8:45 am: PACIFIC Auditorium
Buffet Breakfast and Welcome Message

8:45 am—10 am: PACIFIC Auditorium
Plain Talk about Floodplain Permitting

Marjorie Wolfe (*Wolf Water Resources*) will lead a presentation and discussion about the theory, practice and unintended consequences of NFIP regulatory permitting for multi-benefit floodplain restoration projects, drawing on lessons learned and proposing solutions that reduce the cost of remapping where there is no increased risk.

10 am – 10:30 am
Break Time – Please visit our sponsors in the PREFUNCTION Space

- ◆ Snacks, coffee, and water provided

10:30 am — 12 pm
Concurrent Session I - NECANICUM WEST

- ◆ A process-based river corridor width optimization approach applied to the Nooksack River – *Andrew Nelson, Northwest Hydraulic Consultants*
- ◆ Allowing the River to do the Work: Analysis of Widening a Funnel in the Nooksack River- *Paula Harris, Whatcom County River & Flood Division and Mark Ewbank, Herrera Environmental Consultants*
- ◆ Ford Setback Levee Preservation - *Kevin Coulton, Environmental Science Associates*

Session J, CRS Users Group – NECANICUM EAST

All are welcome to attend regardless of Community Rating System status

- ◆ Opening the Black Box of Risk Rating 2.0: Turning Confusion into Clarity - *Bradley Hubbard, PE, PIA, CFM, National Flood Experts*

- ◆ Preparing a Floodplain Species Plan - *French Wetmore, French & Associates*
- ◆ CRS Users Group Discussion – facilitated by Christina Wollman, Perteet

Concurrent Session K– RIVERSIDE

- ◆ Reducing the Flood: Slowing Development in a River Floodplain - *Ryan V. Morgan, City of Star Idaho*
- ◆ WSDOT Best Practice to Address Flood Risk and Meet Local Floodplain Management Requirements - *Luke Assink, WSDOT and Henry Hu, HNTB*
- ◆ Lessons from the `Flood Triangle`: Resilient Flood Mitigation Strategies and Flood Risk Communication on the I-39/90/94 Corridor Study - *Tim Bedford, Jacobs*

Concurrent Session L– SEASIDE

- ◆ Quirky Challenges of Floodplain Management in Arid Rural Idaho – *Peter Jackson, IDWR*
- ◆ Chewelah, WA: Hazard Mitigation Plan Development through Base Level Two-Dimensional Hydraulic Modeling - *Mary Jordan Braley, Stevens County Land Services and Trent Rogers, PE, Ardurra*
- ◆ Waitsburg, WA: Risk Management and Cross Collaboration Benefitting Rural Communities - *Tyler Blue, Ardurra*

12 pm—1:15 pm: PACIFIC Auditorium
Buffet Luncheon & Membership Meeting



NORFMA Organization General Membership Meeting – *Christina Wollman, NORFMA Chair (Perteet) & the NORFMA Board.*

- General Discussion, Awards, News from Committees
- NORFMA Bylaws *Membership vote needed*
- Board election results
- Look ahead to 2026 and beyond

1:30 pm— 3 pm

Concurrent Session M – NECANICUM WEST

- ◆ Recent Updates to Flood-Resistant Design Standards: ASCE 7-22 Supplement 2 and ASCE 24-24 - *Matt Gilbertson, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger*
- ◆ Regional Substantial Damage Response Planning, Can it work? - *Rob Flaner, Black & Veatch Corporation*
- ◆ Current FFRMS & HUD Impacts - Where do we go from here? - *Peter Jackson, IDWR*



Concurrent Session N – NECANICUM EAST

- ◆ Communications tips for FPAs: Keep your message from meandering and keep the information flowing - *Celinda Adair & Michelle Gilbert, AtkinsRealis*
- ◆ Recover Faster: Parametric Flood Insurance and Flood Analytics (60 min.) – *Aaron Michel, Swiss Re*

Concurrent Session O – RIVERSIDE

- ◆ A review of permitted habitat restoration projects within the floodway & floodplain: challenges, solutions, and policy considerations from a series of case studies (45 min.) - *Lucas Evans & Rowyn Cooper-Caroselli, Wolf Water Resources*

Concurrent Session P – SEASIDE

- ◆ Stream Level Approach in HUC-10 Watershed Scale 2D Hydraulic Models for Flood Study Application: 2025 Update - *Patrick VanDewiele and Azadeh Bloorchian-Verschuyt, Stantec*
- ◆ Landslide Susceptibility Assessment for Informed Decision Making - City of Tukwila, Washington - *Richard Carter, BGC Engineering*
- ◆ Floodplain Mapping at the Corps - *Paul Sclafani, USACE*

3:30 pm – 4:15 pm: PACIFIC Auditorium

Closing Discussion

In less than a year, FEMA's workforce has been depleted, major programs cut, and there are calls for the agency to be reformed, if not eliminated. After decades of close federal partnership, how can/should state and local entities responsible for floodplain management best adapt to this new reality? This will be an open discussion on what we've learned and shared during the conference, thoughts and reflections, and your ideas for the upcoming year.

Farewell and thank you message

Conference Officially Ends

Dinner on your own.

Friday, September 26, 2025

7 am—8 am

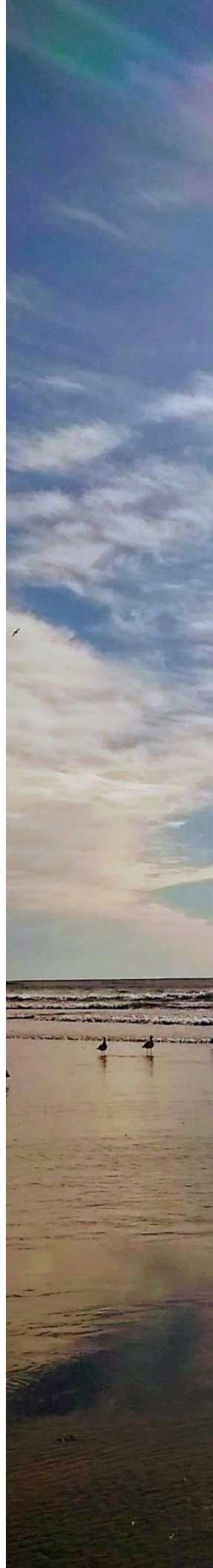
Breakfast on Your Own

8 am— appx 11am: Field Tour: Hit the beach with coastal hazards experts from OEM & DOGAMI

Meet at the Lewis & Clark End of the Trail statue at 8:00.

Join Oregon Emergency Management and the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries for a walk & talk along the Seaside beach to explore coastal hazards.

Participants should wear sturdy walking shoes and clothing suitable for the weather.





Many thanks to everyone who volunteered their time to bring us a successful conference!

-Sincerely, Deanna Horton, Conference Committee Chair

NORFMA Board

Chair – Christina Wollman, AICP, CFM (Perteet)

Vice Chair – Lynn Schmidt, PE, CFM (WA Dept. of Ecology)

Secretary – Brynné Walker (King County, WA)

Treasurer – Michelle Gilbert, CFM (AtkinsRéalisis)

State and Provincial Representatives

Alaska – Vacant

British Columbia – Andrew Giles, M. Env. Studies, PMP (Ministry of Water, Lands, and Resource Stewardship)

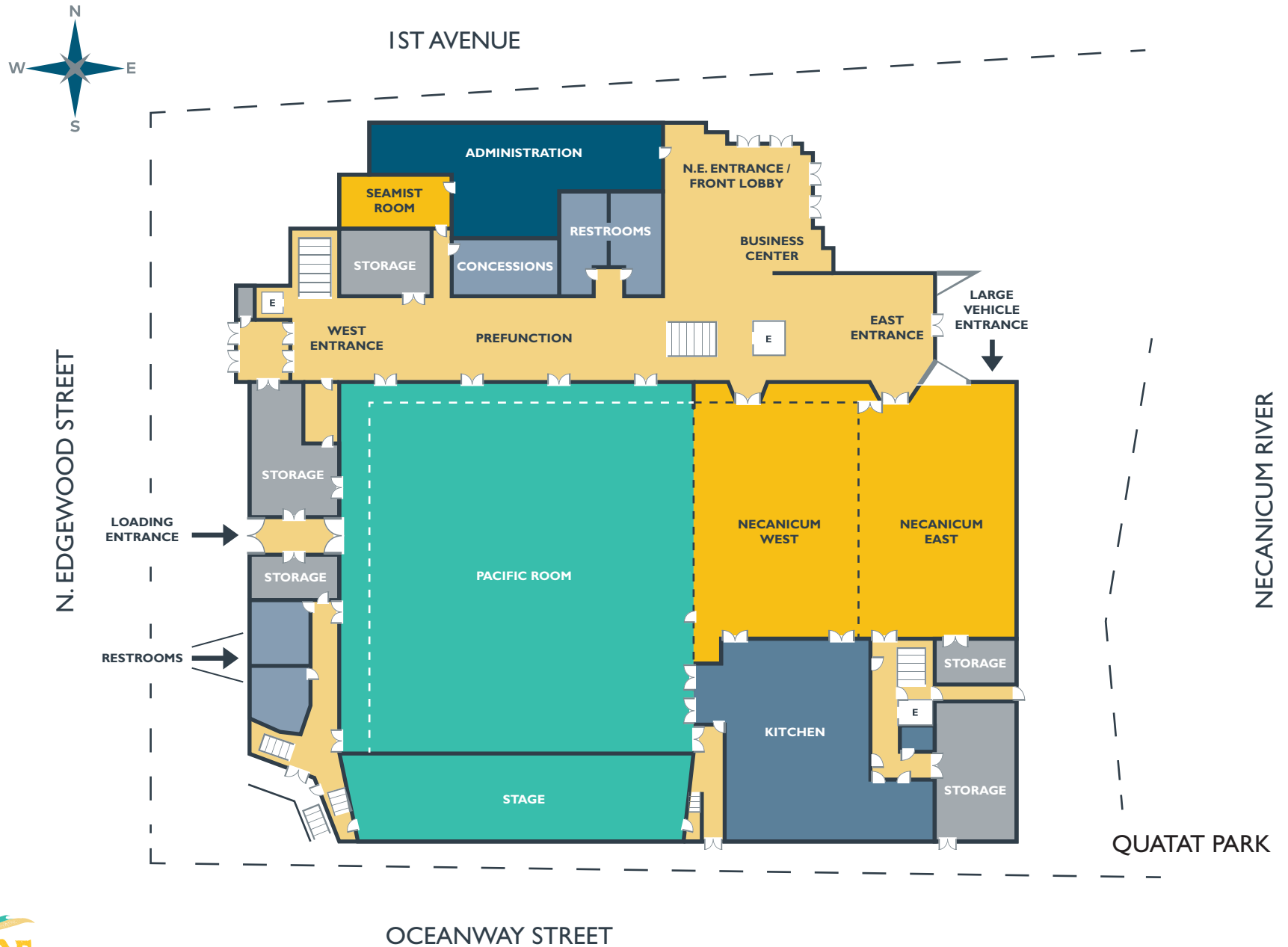
Idaho – Brandon Hobbs, PE, CFM (HDR)

Oregon – Melissa Jenck, CFM (Tillamook County)

Washington – Nicole Henson (Spokane County)

SEASIDE CIVIC AND CONVENTION CENTER

MAIN LEVEL FLOOR PLAN



SEASIDE CIVIC AND CONVENTION CENTER

UPPER LEVEL FLOOR PLAN

