

The following are announcements shared at our October 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting:

1. **HAPPENING TODAY @ 11 AM: FEMA Webinar Expiring GFIPs and Key Updates:** Understand the Flood Insurance Requirement following FEMA disaster assistance for individuals and households. There will be two offerings: one for Floodplain Administrators and the other for the residents in your community. The sessions will cover active or recently expired Group Flood Insurance Policies (GFIPs), with a special focus on GFIPs awarded after Hurricane Ida, [DR-4611-LA](#).
  - a. **Floodplain Administrators** - *Thursday, October 24, 2024, 11 a.m. - noon CT* | [REGISTER](#)  
One CEC is approved through ASFPM for CFMs®.
  - b. **Share with Your Community** - *Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 11 a.m. - noon CT* | [REGISTER](#)
2. **HAPPENING TODAY:** The Coastal Prairie Conservancy and partners are excited to announce the 2024 Lands & Legacies Conference! A joint conference between the Texas Coastal Prairie Initiative (TCPI) and the Texas Grasslands and Savannas Initiative (TGSi), this year's conference is hosted by The George Ranch in Richmond, Texas on October 24th and 25th. [2024 Conference — Texas Coastal Prairie Initiative](#)
  - a. Conference topics will include restoration and conservation success stories, new conservation easement funding opportunities in Texas, land management guidance for landowners, partnership projects and strategies, green energy and sustainable land management, prairie education, climate change opportunities and challenges, and land use changes in Texas.
3. Current Funding Opportunities- More Information can be found [through TDEM here](#). All areas within the State of Texas are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Any eligible activity in [FEMA's HMA Guidance](#) may also be considered for the below. Please reach out to our TDEM contacts should you need an assistance or guidance when applying.
  - a. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP): Post Fire Fiscal Year 2024
    - i. **Closes November 1, 2024**
  - b. DR-4781, April/May Severe Storms and Flooding
  - c. DR-4798, Hurricane Beryl
    - i. **Closes March 14, 2025**
4. The Texas General Land Office is rolling out a new Hurricane Harvey DR program. Please send any questions to [cdr@recovery.texas.gov](mailto:cdr@recovery.texas.gov). Answers will be posted on an FAQ page on the program page within two days of submittal.
  - a. If you were not able to attend the Disaster Recovery Reallocation Program webinar hosted on Monday October 21st, you can find the presentation and more information at [Disaster Recovery Reallocation Program \(DRRP\)](#).
  - b. The recording of the webinar can be accessed directly at [DRRP Webinar - 10/21/2024](#).
5. The 2<sup>nd</sup> round of Texas Regional Flood Planning Process is getting started with an opportunity for project sponsors to submit amendments. A flyer is attached!
  - a. If interested in submitting a FME, FMS, or FMP in the 2024 Flood Plan Amendment, please reach out to the San Jacinto Technical Consultant at [SJRFPG.TechCon@freese.com](mailto:SJRFPG.TechCon@freese.com).
  - b. For information on the RFPG and its meetings, please visit [www.sanjacintofloodplanning.org](http://www.sanjacintofloodplanning.org). Meeting attendance is available online or in person.

6. GLOD Flood Study Central Region Update: Modeling for the Central Region is nearing completion! We anticipate baseline modeling for each of the watersheds within our region to be completed in the next few months through Q1 of 2025. Shortly after that, we will be holding a series of in-person meetings presenting the results and giving folks a chance to get their hands on the models. These meetings will also give communities a chance to validate flooding hotspots identified by our models.
7. Development for the Mitigation Assistance for Tailoring Choices (MATCH) Tool has also been underway since we last spoke about it at H-GAC's previous meeting in April; thank you again for allowing us to speak on the Tool's development. The feedback we've gotten from stakeholders has really helped steer development towards accomplishing the Tool's goal of aligning unfunded mitigation projects with funding sources.
  - a. We'll be reaching out in the coming months about the in-person workshops on our modeling results once those dates and locations are finalized, as well as providing updates on the MATCH Tool as development reaches significant milestones.
  - b. We will also be sending out one more quarterly email and funding newsletter before the end of this year, which we hope can provide some helpful information and resources before we share our modeling results in 2025.
  - c. Please reach out to [glofloodstudies.central@recovery.texas.gov](mailto:glofloodstudies.central@recovery.texas.gov) if you have any questions.
8. On October 2, 2023, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) and supplementary policy that proposed to implement the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) and update the agency's 8-step decision-making process for floodplain reviews by changing how FEMA defines a floodplain with respect to certain actions and how FEMA uses natural systems, ecosystem processes, and nature-based approaches when developing alternatives to locating a proposed action in the floodplain.
  - a. [Effective on Sept. 9, 2024, FEMA's new Federal Flood Risk Management Standards](#)
  - b. HUD recently implemented an important update to its Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS), which directly impacts communities across the country. One of the key components of this new rule is a 2-foot freeboard requirement for new construction in Special Flood Hazard Areas and insured under FHA Single Family mortgage insurance programs. If a community does not have a similar 2-foot freeboard requirement in its floodplain regulations, it risks severely limiting homeownership opportunities, as homebuyers may no longer be able to access HUD-financed homes in these areas. [TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE HUD Updates to Floodplain Management Regulations at 24 CFR 55](#)
9. FEMA Region 6 BLE Training on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024- Learn how to apply [Base Level Engineering](#) to your grants and grants management programs, specifically through the [Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities \(BRIC\)](#) program. One hour of CEC is approved for this training through ASFPM for CFMs®. 0.1 Credit Hour is also available for Professional Engineers.
10. NOAA Webinars on Nature Based Solution- This five-part webinar series features projects funded by the NOAA Climate Program Office, Climate and Societal Interactions (CSI) Division's [Adaptation Sciences \(AdSci\)](#) and [Climate Adaptation Partnerships \(CAP\)](#) programs, focused on the research and application of nature-based solutions (NbS) for climate adaptation.

- a. **Tue. Nov. 26, 2024 2-3 pm CST:** Building Coastal Adaptive Capacity through Nature-based Solutions – [Register here](#)
- b. **Tue. Dec. 17, 2024 2-3 pm CST:** Utilizing Nature-Based Solutions for the Advancement of Multiple Objectives, Co-Benefits, and Health – [Register here](#)
- c. **Thur. Jan. 23, 2025 12-1 pm CST:** Challenges and Opportunities of Scaling Nature-based Solutions for Climate Adaptation – [Register here](#)

11. **TFMA Art Calendar Contest:** TFMA and the Outreach Committee completed the selection and distribution process for the 2025 annual calendar. We were very happy to have 12 schools participate across the state of Texas. We appreciate the members helping to get the word out to the local elementary and middle schools (public, private, homeschool, etc.). The winning art pieces are featured in the popular TFMA calendar which promotes the Association's education and outreach activities to inform communities on the dangers of driving across flood barriers and not following one of the main rules of the road:

**"Turn Around Don't Drown"**

**TFMA has started taking submittals from K-6<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2026 Calendar.**

TFMA encourages students from the entire state of Texas to participate. *We are requesting that you reach out to schools (homeschool, charter, ISD's), teachers, etc. in your local area to promote the art contest for the 2026 TFMA Calendar.* We are looking forward to another great response for art submittals. The information has been updated on this [website](#). Please contact the TFMA office with any questions at [tfma@tfma.org](mailto:tfma@tfma.org) or call 512-260-1366.

12. RFMC Vacancies

***Would you like to serve as our next RFMC Chair or Co-Chair?*** Our Chair and Co-Chair positions for this committee are accepting nominations. If you would like to be considered for these exciting opportunities to help shape the future of the RFMC, please reply to this email stating your interest. The committee will discuss this item and any nominations in January 2025.

**As a reminder, future meetings of the RFMC will be as follows:** Registration links coming soon!

- January 15th- Virtual, via Zoom
- April 16th- In-person, at H-GAC
- July 16th- Virtual, via Zoom
- October 15th- In-person, at H-GAC

Thank you for participating in our committee,

**AMANDA ASHCROFT, AICP**  
*Planner*