



## AGENDA

**Day 1: Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**12:30pm – 5:30pm**



### **Greetings and opening remarks (12:30-1:00pm)**

Welcome delivered by the National Association of Wetland Managers and the Association of State Floodplain Managers. Time will be set aside to set workshop goals, discuss logistics, and give the cohort a chance to introduce themselves to others.

### **Floodplains, Wetlands, and Green Infrastructure (1:00-2:00pm)**

A key component of nature-based natural hazard mitigation is replicating the functions of naturally occurring ecological resources. This session will focus on the functional benefits that nature-based solutions provide and how to select design criteria, modeling methods, and project locations for projects to maximize ecological benefits while providing opportunities for optimizing hazard buffering capacities. Existing resources to help in these efforts will also be discussed.

- Lesley Bertolotti, Sustainable Communities Program Manager, The Nature Conservancy
- Ron Brockmeyer, St Johns River Watershed Management District
- Del Schwalls, Schwalls Consulting

### **BREAK (2:00-2:15pm)**

### **Hazard Mitigation and Clean Water Programs (2:15pm – 3:45pm)**

Both hazard mitigation and Clean Water Act programs rely on strong cooperation across multiple levels of government to achieve their goals and outcomes. This session will feature presentations from federal agency representatives working at both regional and national levels followed by questions and discussion. Panelists will speak about their roles and experience and outline collaboration opportunities between agencies and among hazard mitigation and Clean Water Act planning.

### **BREAK (3:45pm – 4:00pm)**

### **Coming to a common language roundtable discussion (4:00pm – 5:00pm)**

Often water quality and hazard mitigation professionals use their own unique terminologies and acronyms that are not readily understood outside of their respective fields. This discussion will focus on defining terminology used in both natural and hazard mitigation practices and identifying the dual benefits of many projects implemented. Part of the discussion will focus on the benefits of: ecosystem management versus resiliency enhancements; and local community versus watershed scale planning.

- Del Schwalls, Schwalls Consulting

### **State and Local Huddles (5:00pm – 5:30pm)**

Building off the last session, these state and local huddles will be an opportunity for each state and local pair to talk with one another about their work, and to then talk as a one state group about opportunities for collaboration with one another



## AGENDA

### Day 2: Thursday, January 22nd

### 8:30am – 5:30pm



#### **Land Use Planning (8:30-9:30am)**

Local and regional governments have an array of land use planning tools at their disposal to ensure the resiliency of their communities in the face of new and existing hazards. As development in coastal and floodplain areas continues to increase, integrated land use planning can protect sensitive ecological areas for watershed health as well as people and property. This session will review the role land use plays in watershed management and how where and how we build can affect flooding in a community, before delving the role of planners and how planning is interconnected across departments. It will also feature an introduction to the Plan Integration for Resilience Scorecard™, a process that can you're your community spatially evaluate its networks of plans to reduce hazard vulnerability and protect its well-being.

- Joe DeAngelis, Research Manager, Grant Funded Projects, American Planning Association
- Matthew Malecha, Director, Plan Integration for Resilience Scorecard™ Lab, Texas A&M University

#### **Permitting & Regulations Across Water Quality and Mitigation Projects (9:30-10:30am)**

Understanding the permitting and regulatory requirements for constructing nature-based mitigation and water quality projects is a key element to the successful design and implementation of these strategies. This session will engage the participants to discuss past experiences

- Tracy Sanders, Senior Project Manager, US Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District
- Tim Trautman, Formerly Charlotte-Mecklenburg Stormwater Services

#### **BREAK (10:30-10:45am)**

#### **Exercise #1: Barriers to collaboration and implementation (11:00am-12:00pm)**

This exercise will engage participants in breakout roundtable discussions on successes and challenges they have faced related to collaboration around integrated planning and implementation of joint projects, including acquiring funding. Exercise worksheet attached at the end of the agenda.

#### **LUNCH (12:00pm-1:00pm)**

#### **Hydrologic and Hydraulic Studies (1:00-2:00pm)**

Hydrologic and Hydraulic (H&H) Studies examine the movement of water through a watershed, basin wide impacts, and are important for identifying potential upstream and downstream impacts of a specific project. This session will go over the basics of what an H&H study contains, and delve into how H&H modeling can be used for implementing green infrastructure, stormwater and other drainage projects.

- Fouad Jaber, Professor, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Extension Agricultural Engineering Specialist, Texas A&M
- Bill Brown, Senior Project Manager, ASFPM

#### **Mobile Tour of Project Sites in Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve (2:00-5:00pm)**

We will view GTM NERR's salt marsh restoration project to advance best practices towards protecting coastal ecosystems and infrastructure. The project engages multiple stakeholders in the design of an innovative approach focused on using thin-layer placement of dredged sediments to build elevation and increase habitat. We will view the project from chartered pontoon boats and be joined by project experts to lead discussions. (Pending final approvals)



## AGENDA

**Day 3: Friday, January 23rd**  
**8:30am – 1:00pm**

### **Getting to Implementation (8:30-9:30am)**

There are a number of potential funding opportunities available to assist with hazard mitigation and water quality improvement project planning and construction. This session will focus on various state and federal loan and grant programs which are designed to assist communities with these projects that could enhance aquatic systems and resiliency. Participants will gain a better understanding of the funding sources available to support nature-based practice planning, design, or implementation; the requirements of each funding type; and the process of applying to potentially receive these funds.

- Mackenzie Todd, Coastal Resilience Specialist, North Carolina Division of Coastal Management
- Bill Brown, Senior Project Manager, ASFPM

### **Exercise #2: Project development scenario to work through with your cohort (9:30-10:30am)**

Participants will break into small groups to think through the development of a plan and process for integrating nature-based practices in and around a city to achieve flood risk reduction and water quality benefits. Participants will brainstorm potential project partners, what permit/regulatory needs may there be, what agencies to bring to the table, funding sources, cost/benefit analysis (project justification), what project success looks like, and how it may be tracked. After the analysis is completed, everyone will re-convene to discuss via “report outs” the scenario, the needs/issues identified, and any questions and concerns raised. See the following pages for the exercise worksheet.

### **Break (10:30-10:45am)**

### **Building and Sustaining Relationships (10:45-11:45am)**

This session will focus on strategies to sustain and strengthen relationships between water quality and hazard mitigation programs as well as between levels of government. It will include an overview of cross cutting examples of successful projects and partnerships in the Gulf which will lead into a discussion around strategies to establish and make the most out existing relationships to successfully plan and implement projects that will positively impact your community.

- Tracie Sempier, Resilience Engagement Lead, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant

### **State and Local Huddles (11:45am-12:45pm)**

Building off the Building and Sustaining Relationships session, state and local pairs will huddle to strategize as a group around how they may bolster their collaboration and actions they might take to ensure their relationships are sustained beyond this program.

### **Wrap Up (12:45pm – 1:00pm)**