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State NFIP Coordinator/Section Manager, Floodplain Management Section

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## Staffing:

The Floodplain Management Section will soon welcome two new Water Planners. Marianne Hawkins will begin work on March 12 and will work with the communities in the northern portion of the State. She currently works in the Water Rights Section of the Division of Water. On April 9, Tim Padgett will begin work in the Floodplain Management Section. Tim will work with the communities in the southern portion of the State. He is getting ready to retire from Duke Energy. We are still short one employee.

## **Recent Flooding:**

Flooding during the last week of February has kept us even busier. Many areas in northern Indiana and also along the Ohio River were impacted. Among the hardest hit communities were Goshen, Elkhart, Carroll County, Utica, Hanover, and Clarksville. Dozens of communities were sent letters and information regarding post-flood procedures and responsibilities along with links to resources and sample documents. We receive numerous calls and emails daily as communities work with flood victims and their damaged structures.

## **Operation Stay Afloat:**

This biennial conference will be next Tuesday, March 13. There are currently over 170 registrants for the conference. We are excited to have such excellent presentations lined up. Obviously some folks signed up that had to back out due to post-flood issues.

## **CFM Exam and Refresher:**

FPM staff will be offering a refresher on the basics of floodplain management and the NFIP on March 27, followed by an offering of the CFM exam. Darren Pearson is proctoring the exam. Both will be held in the Indiana Government Center South Conference Center. If anyone is interested in taking the exam, they need to apply on the Association of State Floodplain Managers' website, floods.org