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WATER RESOURCES DISASTER RECOVERY

Associate Editor ~ Eric J. Fitch ~ fitche@marietta.edu

This issue of IMPACT is devoted to what happens next, be it next week, next month, next year, next decade, or even next time. The subject here is Water Resource-caused natural disasters and what happens in terms of recovery and mitigation against repeating the disasters in the future. This issue presents a wide array of geographic locations and impacts, as well as a wide sampling of time frames and stages of “recovery.”

OVERVIEW

4 After the Disaster
   Eric J. Fitch (fitche@marietta.edu)

FEATURE ARTICLES

5 Lake Okeechobee, Florida: The Next Hurricane Disaster?
   Stephen P. Leatherman (Stephen.Leatherman@flu.edu),
   Keqi Zhang, and Chengyou Xiao
In 1928, one of the worst disasters in American history resulted in the loss of 2,500 lives. Despite the decades of work by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and incredible investment in dollars and infrastructure, many more people remain in harm’s way today than back in the 1920s. A Katrina-type hurricane could result in a much greater magnitude of a disaster than in 1928.

8 1993 Upper Mississippi Flood: A Personal Look Back and a Look Forward at Preparations for the Next Major Flood
   Robert K. Holmes, Jr. (bholmes@usgs.gov)
Nearly 15 years ago, the Upper Mississippi River basin experienced what has since come to be known in the region as “The Great Flood.” This article reflects on the situation and circumstances that led to the flood and its catastrophic impact, and what has been done in preparation for the next “big one.”

12 Disaster Recovery Following the 1997 Spring Floods in Minnesota
   Kent Lokkesmoe (kent.lokkesmoe@dnr.state.mn.us)
Few corners of America are immune from the disastrous combination of flooding waters and inadequate protective infrastructure. A region that had been impacted by the “Great Flood of 1993” was struck again four years later with massive flooding on the Red River of the North and the Minnesota River. Recovery efforts and planning for future flood control was extended by these events to a whole new region.

14 Impacts of Hurricane Rita Along the Southwest Louisiana Coast, U.S.A.
   Gregory W. Stone (gagreg@lsu.edu),
   Felix Jose, and Walter S. Guidroz
The 2005 Atlantic Hurricane season was one for the record books ... 28 tropical and subtropical storms, with 15 becoming hurricanes. In another year, Hurricane Rita would have been a big deal. She caused significant harm to the Texas and Louisiana coasts, coming onshore as a significant Category 3 after peaking as an extremely strong Category 5 a few days earlier. Recovery efforts often roll Rita in with her more notorious sister Katrina. Rita’s impacts are just now becoming understood and this article points out some very surprising facts on her impacts.

17 Coping With Multiple Hazards in the Cascadia Corridor:
   A Transdisciplinary Disaster Management Approach
   Jason K. Levy (Jason.levy@wwu.edu)
Many of the most beautiful and popular areas, especially on the coasts, are vulnerable not to single natural hazards, but multiple ones. Often these hazards are interlinked and can result in not a single natural disaster, but a cascade of calamity. This article examines what is necessary to plan for and cope with this type of circumstance.

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   Eric J. Fitch
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   Marshall A. Brown
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   Michelle Henrie and Kyle S. Harwood

Guest Columnists – Gerald Sehlke and Mark Colosimo
(Opinions expressed by our columnists are their own and do not represent the opinion or position of AWRA.)

Scheduled Topics for Future Issues ...

JANUARY 2008
GIS AND WATER RESOURCES
LORRI PELTZ-LEWIS (GUEST EDITOR) (LPELTZLEWIS@MP.USBR.GOV)

MARCH 2008
SUPPORTING WATER SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION
MICHELLE HENRIE (MHENRIE@BHFS.COM)
CLAY J. LANDRY (LANDRY@WATEREXCHANGE.COM)

MAY 2008
RIPARIAN ECOSYSTEMS & BUFFERS:
AT THE WATER’S EDGE
ALBERT TODD (GUEST EDITOR) ATODD@FS.FED.US
LAUREL PHOENIX (PHOENIXL@UWGB.EDU)

All of the topics listed above are subject to change. For information concerning submitting an article to be included in the above issues, contact the designated Associate Editor or the Editor-In-Chief N. Earl Spangenberg at (espangen@uwsp.edu).