



disaster preparedness report

National Weather Service

MARCH 1982

Last November we sent a copy of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's FEMA Film Catalog to all first order stations. We understood that most of you did not receive it so we have asked FEMA to send a copy to all stations. You should have the catalog by now. A new FEMA Publications Catalog is scheduled for this spring which will be sent to each station when available. FEMA has also mailed their winter and tornado kits to each station and will send future FEMA/NOAA publications for your information.

At the National Flash Flood Conference in October, it was suggested that flash flood hydrologists be added to the mailing lists for the Disaster Preparedness Report. We had assumed that Disaster Preparedness Reports are circulated or posted for all to read and placing additional personnel on the mailing list will not be necessary. If there are stations/offices that are not being reached, please let us know and we will add them to our distribution list.

The recent incident at the Ginna Nuclear Power Plant near Rochester, New York, provided our office with the chance to see just how prepared and coordinated we are. The near perfect execution of the emergency plan was pointed out in this memo from the NWS Director to the Director of the Eastern Region:

"During these days when much of the news is pretty bleak, it was most gratifying to read your account of the response by WSO Rochester, WSFO Buffalo, and your staff to the recent nuclear incident at the Ginna Nuclear Power Plant. My congratulations to you and all that participated for the effective planning with state and local officials and FEMA, and for the near-perfect execution of those plans during the emergency".

We hope to have a contract, by the next DP Report, for mailing damaged films to a local processor for repair. We will keep you informed.

Where we stand on updated disaster preparedness publications:

(1) The updated and revised Spotters Guide for Identifying and Reporting Severe Local Storms (NOAA/PA 81011) replaces NOAA/PA 70011 and is available in CLSC.

(2) Tornado Facts for your Survival (NOAA/PA 82001) replaces Tornado NOAA/PA 77027, and Severe Local Storm Warning Services and Tornado Statistics, 1953-1957, NOAA/PA 77018. Should be available in late April from CLSC.

(3) Brochures which have been updated/revised and available at CLSC: Flash Flood (NOAA/PA 77014), Survival In A Hurricane (NOAA/PA 70027), Skywarn - Seconds Save Lives (NOAA/PA 70010), Tornado - Safety Rules in Schools (NOAA/PA 74025), and Winter Storms (Poster) (NOAA/PA 78022). Changes may be made in the Winter Storm Warnings WSOM Chapter C-42 this spring thus we will hold off updating the Winter Storm brochure (79018) and Winter Storm Wallet Card "Riding Out Winter Storms" (80003) until we see if C-42 is revised. We will make necessary revisions before the next winter season. The Disaster Preparedness Catalog (NOAA/PA 76021) is being revised and should be available this summer.

(4) A new publication "Cooperative Flood Loss Reduction - A Technical Manual for Communities and Industry", has been sent to each field office in January. If you did not receive a copy or wish additional copies, let your regional DP know.

(5) Publications we no longer plan to reprint include:

1. Tornado Preparedness Planning - NOAA/PA 70009
2. Getting Through - NOAA/PA 70026
3. The Homeport Story - NOAA/PA 70028

These publications have been offered to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for possible revision and publication.

. WSFO Seattle has developed a unique feedback system for snow conditions utilizing the bus system in the Seattle area. This system has over 865 buses, traveling throughout the county. The buses are equipped with two-way radio contact to their dispatcher. WSFO Seattle has arranged with the dispatcher to telephone the forecast office with reports of snow amounts. If the forecasters need specific reports, they can call the dispatcher and he will contact buses that are in that area of the city or county. There are many hills and colder valleys where snow amounts vary considerably. Snowy conditions, particularly at the rush hour, make driving almost impossible. (What's New!) We feel that this is a rather unique program, which allows our forecasters to stay on top of the snow condition in the Seattle area.

. On December 1, Chuck Orwig, NWRFC, and Mike Holzinger, WSFO Seattle, met at the Hall of Justice in Kelso, Washington with the Corps of Engineers, officials from State Division of Emergency Services, Cowlitz County officials and other interested parties. The purpose of this meeting was to simulate a flood situation and attempt to identify problems that may occur in a real flood.

Mr. Orwig provided a scenario which included a description of likely flood producing weather, and river forecasts issued on two consecutive days. Mr. Holzinger provided information on the role of the WSFO. The state officials identified likely consequences of the high rivers.

The meeting was very successful, resulting in clarification of lines of responsibility between state, Federal, and local officials, and identification of problems that may arise under serious flooding situations. The meeting also clarified the capabilities of the National Weather Service to other Federal, state, and local officials.

. Steven Schurr, WPM, Topeka, put together an excellent winter season preparedness campaign.

Copies of awareness and preparedness letters were distributed to each broadcaster and publisher in Kansas.

In all: 193 publishers of 214 weekly newspapers

47 daily newspapers

8 farm publications

2 university newspapers

188 broadcasters of 134 radio stations and 16 TV stations

Included in packages for each broadcaster and publisher were:

Winter Storms (Poster) NOAA/PA 78022

Riding Out Winter Storms NOAA/PA 80003

Also in the packages for the daily newspapers were:

Winter Storms (Pamphlet) NOAA/PA 79018

Winter Survival Pamphlet--Department of Energy
DOE/OPA-0019R

Letters promoting winter safety were published in newsletters from the Kansas Division of Emergency Preparedness and the Kansas Department of Education.

Included in the Department of Education newsletter was an offer to the schools of the use of the slide series, "Winter Storms - The Deceptive Killers." The response to this offer was overwhelming, and several additional copies of the series had to be rounded up. In all, 28 school districts presented the slides to nearly 5,000 students. Copies of NOAA/PA 79018 and NOAA/PA 80003 were provided each student and a supply of NOAA/PA 78022 and NOAA/PA 77017 was given each school for posting.

Many praised the program and several asked for something along the same lines for the severe weather season. All this resulted from just one note in the Department of Education Newsletter. Evidently, a need for weather information exists in the schools in Kansas.

Taped public service announcements are being prepared. They will be supplied to all Kansas radio stations wanting them.

The need for weather information seems to grow every day.

. Ted Fathauer, MIC Fairbanks, reports his station conducted 4 drills during 1981. An oil spill drill was conducted in April, and a Flash Flood drill was conducted in May -- at the usual time before spring breakup. One coastal flood drill was conducted in July and a second in September.

. Tom Sokolowski, Geophysicist-in-Charge of the Alaska Tsunami Warning Center in Palmer, reports that two separate multi-stop community preparedness trips were made during 1981. The first trip was to more than 8 southeastern Alaska coastal communities, visiting with those individuals who have disaster warning responsibility for Alaska. The second trip was to Kodiak where briefings were given to military base personnel and to city and state individuals. To each community visited, a presentation was given which consisted of a detailed briefing of the TWS, seismicity of the area, past historical tsunamis, and the potential tsunami hazard of the area.

. The Alaska Tsunami Warning Center is now conducting regular tours through the Center each Friday from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. So far this year, approximately 280 people have toured the ATWC facility. Approximately 10 presentations have been given to special groups and schools within commuting distance from the ATWC. These tours and outside presentations include a briefing of the TWS, information concerning earthquakes and tsunamis, and a question and answer period. The educational material used during the tours and presentations include slides, movies, and earthquake-tsunami information brochures.

. Glen Roberts, Cold Bay OIC, reports that on July 12, 1981, a tsunami evacuation drill was held in Cold Bay. All Federal, state, and local agencies were represented along with private individuals. This was the first tsunami drill for Cold Bay and familiarized everyone with the common evacuation route.

. Another way to increase public awareness. In response to requests for a detailed outline on conducting a poster contest, we will include the following:

As a part of the 1982 Ohio Tornado Safety Week Campaign, the Ohio Committee on Tornado Safety in cooperation with Lynn Maximuk, DPM, Cleveland is again sponsoring a Tornado Safety Poster Contest. The contest is open to all Ohio students in Grades 1 through 6. Participation by all schools, public and private, is encouraged. This contest can be used as a valuable learning experience to help students learn tornado safety precautions.

Rules Are:

1. Any pupil in Grades 1-6 enrolled in any Ohio school is eligible, provided that the school he or she attends sponsors a local poster contest at his or her grade level. There is also a category for special education students.
2. Entries must be related to the theme of tornado safety, and will be judged on originality, effort and content. All entries should be no larger than 11" by 14". Only one entry per pupil will be accepted. No joint entries (by more than one person) will be accepted. All entries received will become property of the Ohio Committee on Tornado Safety and none will be returned.
3. Each school is encouraged to conduct the contest during March or early April so that the winners may be selected during the Ohio Tornado Safety Week which is March 28 - April 3, 1982. First, second, and third place winners should be chosen at each grade level in each school by a judge or judging committee established by the school administration. Blank award certificates for grade level winners are available.

4. First place winners at each grade level at each school should be forwarded for regional judging to an appropriate regional office of the National Weather Service, as indicated on the attached list. These entries must be forwarded to arrive by April 30, 1982.

EACH ENTRY MUST INCLUDE: Student's name, age, complete address, home telephone number, name of school, location of school, grade level. Regional winners at each grade level will be selected by a committee designated by the responsible National Weather Service Office.

5. Regional winners from each grade level and special education classes will become state finalists and these entries will be forwarded to the Ohio Committee on Tornado Safety in Columbus. All regional grade level and special education winners will be notified by mail. Each will receive complimentary passes to Sea World of Ohio, Aurora, Ohio; and an invitation to attend the Tornado Safety Poster Contest Award Ceremony hosted by Sea World on June 26, 1982. At the ceremony, prizes will be presented to all regional winners by the Pizza Hut Restaurants of Ohio. Regional winners will also receive certificates from the Governor of Ohio, the National Weather Service, and the Ohio Committee on Tornado Safety.

This year one million twister brochures are being printed. These will be offered to every elementary school system in the state, and they will be distributed in every Pizza Hut Restaurant in Ohio. Also, Pizza Hut Restaurants of Ohio are putting up a substantial prize fund for the poster contest winners.

Attached is an updated list of Disaster Preparedness Meteorologists (DPM) and Focal Points throughout the country. The list does not include all the dedicated meteorologist-in-charge/official-in-charge/hydrologist-in-charge and other station personnel who, daily enrich their communities in disaster preparedness knowledge.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS ROSTERNWS HEADQUARTERS STAFF, 427-8090

Robert L. Carnahan	Chief, Wx & Flood Warnings	Dave Smith	New Orleans (Focal)	682-6891
James B. Jones	Deputy Chief	Alan Moller	Fort Worth (DPM)	334-3401
Richard A. Wood	Program Leader, DB	Alfonso Castaneda	Lubbock (DPM)	738-7362
Barbara Pakenham	Program Analyst	Brian Peters	Memphis (DPM)	222-3833
Betty Jo Guiffre	Secretary	Francisco Torres-	San Juan (DPM)	8-909-753-4893
		Cordero		
Maria Rice	Secretary	R. Calvesbert	San Juan (Fl. Fl. Hyd.)	8-809-783-5893
Lorraine V. Brown	Clerk			

EASTERN REGION

Eugene Kilgore	Public Services Met.	665-3712
Albert Kachic	Reg. Hydrologist	665-7028
Lynn Maximuk	Cleveland (DPM)	293-4949
Mary Parker	Columbia, SC (DPM)	677-5501
Rich Schwerdt	Washington, DC (DPM)	763-8300
Dave Curtis	Hartford, RFC (DPM)	244-2178
Phil Neff	Harrisburg, RFC (DPM)	590-2256
Tom Fair	Boston (Focal)	223-1354
Tom Dunham	Buffalo (Focal)	437-4800
Tom Beitel	Philadelphia (Focal)	597-0844
Jack Rumkunas	Portland (Focal)	833-3552
Tim Scrom	Albany (Focal)	562-6586
Glenn Austin	Charleston (Focal)	924-1405
Theresa Rossi	Pittsburg (Focal)	722-2882
Dave Sisk	Pittsburg (Focal)	722-2882
Laurence Lee	Raleigh (Focal)	672-4436
Harold Gibson	New York	662-5340

SOUTHERN REGION

Larry Mooney	Regional (DPM)	334-2812
Marvin Maddox	Atlanta (DPM)	246-7586
Jay Shelley	Birmingham (DPM)	229-1549
Dennis Decker	Jackson (DPM)	490-4639
Vacant	Little Rock (DPM)	740-5331
Neil Marchbank	Oklahoma City (DPM)	749-4155
Clifford Brock	San Antonio (DPM)	730-5025
Robert Case	Miami (Focal)	350-5547

CENTRAL REGION

Laurence (Bud) Shaffer	Assistant Chief, MSD	758-3239
Ken Kling, Fl. Flood	Coordinator	758-3229
Charles Stwertnik	Chicago (DPM)	353-4680
Robert Corbett	Des Moines (Focal)	862-4492
Kenneth Rizzo	Ann Arbor (Focal)	378-2220
William Gery	Indianapolis (Focal)	331-5411
Guy Tucker	St. Louis (Focal)	279-7018
Steven Schurr	Topeka (Focal)	752-2630
John Feldt	Louisville (Focal)	352-5210
Jerry McDuffie	Sioux Falls (Focal)	782-4244

WESTERN REGION

Vacant	Regional DP	588-4000
Tony Haffer, Deputy	Reg. Hydrologist	588-5137
Charles Ruscha	Seattle (Focal)	446-6087
Phil Peck	Portland (Focal)	423-2340
Norm Hoffman	San Francisco (Focal)	463-7767
Don Lust	Los Angeles (Focal)	799-7215
Bob Behm	Phoenix (Focal)	261-3500
Thomas Cylke	Reno (Focal)	470-5719
Bill Alder	Salt Lake City (Focal)	588-5133
Lee Krough	Boise (Focal)	554-9860
Dave Olsen	Great Falls	585-1311

ALASKA REGION

Burt Goldenberg, Chief, MSD-Anchorage	8-907-271-5127
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PACIFIC REGION

Takase (Dick) Hiyane, DP (Focal) Honolulu	8-808-836-1831
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