

Windham Regional Emergency Management Committee
&
Bennington Regional Emergency Management Committee
Informational Session Agenda
November 14, 2023 @ 6pm
Virtual

Recording can be found: <https://youtu.be/Jyzju4qHdJk?si=0uLdV7NIsVITdyXK>

River Forecast Center (RFC) 5-Day Max Forecast

- Depicts the maximum inundation extent over the next 5 days derived from the official RFC forecast
- Maximum streamflows are available downstream of RFC forecast points whose forecast reaches the Action Stage or higher flood threshold categories.
- Limitation: only available downstream of AHPS forecast points - no tributaries
- Latency: 45 minutes after the hour (runs every hour)

Mississippi River floods May 2023

<https://www.nws.gov/forecast/river-forecast-center>

Guest Speakers:

Britt Westergard, Warning Coordination Meteorologist - National Weather Service, Albany forecast office

Attendees: Dara Zink – BCRC Regional Planner and REMC Staff; Taiga Christie – VEM Southern Reg Coordinator; Alyssa Sabetto, WRC Senior Planner and REMC Staff; Bill Levine – Stamford EMD, Jason Norton – Rupert EMD, Dave Emery- Vernon EMD, Gig Zboray- Whitingham EMD, Greg Lakis – Jamaica EMD, Todd Lawrence – Sunderland EMD, Eric Stevens- Grafton EMC

- 1) Welcome from Alyssa Sabetto and Dara Zink
- 2) Group Introductions
- 3) Call for any business items to add to the agenda – None given
- 4) National Weather Service (NWS) presentation
 - a) Britt discussed Flood Inundation Mapping (FIM) and reviewed what is available and asked to receive feedback from our area on how well this mapping works. The FIM for our area has been available since 10/1/23. This is dynamic flood mapping. She wants to remind the group that this is flood extent mapping which indicates the footprint of the

water and *not* the depth. Britt reviewed how to use the NWS GIS Water Viewer for the group.

- b) Follow-up links from Britt:
 - i) Main page with all FIM info (viewer instructions, survey, info sheets, etc.):
<https://www.weather.gov/owp/operations>
 - ii) Flood Inundation Mapping StoryMap overview:
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/c7ae8422207241b5873fff38a22cf66b>
 - iii) To sign up for Slack (chat with NWS):
<https://partnerservices.nws.noaa.gov/registration>
 - iv) Info on our water website update coming early 2024:
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/fce72e9168a7402dbfc49fc5b49cee2e>
 - v) Unlisted phone number for EMDs to reach an Albany NWS forecaster 24x7x365; call 518-626-7572
 - vi) If you need to be added to our email blasts, just email me and I'll take care of it.
britt.westergard@noaa.gov

5) Updates:

- a) Taiga - Update from Vermont Emergency Management
 - i) Nothing to add at this time.
- b) Alyssa – Update from Windham RPC
 - i) LEPC conducting Lithium-ion battery training for fire departments- BOL for LEMP information distribution and plan on rolling in some vulnerable population information into the LEMP tool – flood plain map update happening all over the state
- c) Dara – Update from BCRC
 - i) Look for survey to go out on the best time for REMC meeting – sign up for the LEPC

6. General Discussion and Q&A - No questions

7. Reminders and Other Items

- a. Topic suggestions/requests for future meetings/events/trainings
- b. The latest Vermont Emergency Management Newsletter: Vermont Emergency Management October 2023 Newsletter | Vermont Emergency Management
- c. REMC business – as needed

8. Next REMC Sessions: Windham February 20th - look for more info from Alyssa Bennington – TBD based on poling for best times