

Nevada Floodplain Management News

SPRING 2023

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

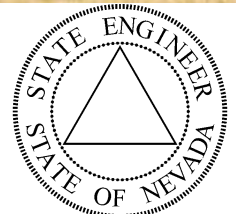
An Update from the Nevada Floodplain Management Program	Page 2
Featured Floodplain Manager: Brianna Greenlaw	Page 5
The Whole Picture: Nevada LiDAR Updates	Page 6
Flood Update 2023	Page 7
NDWR and Silver Jackets Classroom Curriculum	Page 8
Upcoming Trainings & Conferences	Page 9



STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES



An Update from the Nevada Floodplain Management Program

Written by Erin Warnock, Nevada State Floodplain Manager and NFIP Coordinator

Outreach Updates:

The Nevada Floodplain Management Program held our 9th annual Nevada Flood Awareness Week on November 13th-19th, 2022. We participated in in-person outreach events in Northern Nevada at locations in Carson City, Douglas County, and Storey County. We shared lots of great information via social media on [Nevadafloods.org](https://nevadafloods.org) and on Facebook - follow us if you're not already! We featured a flood awareness ad in Northern Nevada's free quarterly magazine *Growing Up Reno-Tahoe* for the week. Governor Sisolak officially Proclaimed Nevada Flood Awareness Week, and some of our local communities including Carson City and Storey County officially proclaimed Nevada Flood Awareness Week as well. We wrote an article about Flood Awareness for Lander County's local newsletter, which is something we are happy to do anytime for our communities, to help extend outreach efforts.



State Floodplain Manager Erin Warnock demonstrating flood scenarios at the Fernley STEM Festival.

The Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR) Floodplain Management Program supports in-person outreach throughout the year by attending events as requested, and by selecting appropriate events to participate in, with community, federal, and tribal partners. Recent in-person outreach efforts include the Fernley Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Festival and Reno Earth Day. The NDWR flood program team brought the interactive flood model and outreach materials with us to these events. Please reach out to our office if you would like to see us out in your community at a specific event!

Silver Jackets Updates:

The Nevada Silver Jackets, which is a state led US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) supported interagency team, have projects that are still underway along with some newly awarded projects and have already drafted the FY24 Project Proposals. We hosted in-person Nevada Flood Mitigation and Funding Opportunities Workshops in Washoe County last fall and in Clark County in February 2023. A condensed virtual mitigation workshop opportunity was held in October 2022 and we held a webinar focused on the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant on 5/25. To attend future Silver Jackets webinars or join our semi-annual meetings, please email Nvsilverjackets@usace.army.mil to register.

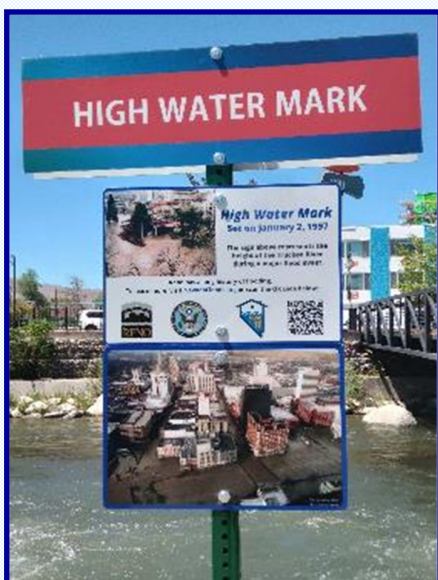


An Update from the Nevada Floodplain Management Program continued...

In November 2022, we hosted a virtual Nevada Watershed University Summit which focused on Floodplain Management in Arid Regions. This was a very informational and well-attended event, so we decided to propose something similar for a future project. Additionally, another ongoing Nevada Silver Jackets project includes the development of an informational pamphlet for teachers that summarizes all the standard classroom curricula we have created to go hand in hand with our virtual story map and computer game outreach materials. This pamphlet, and all other materials, will then be accessible on our website; [Nevadafloods.org](https://nevadafloods.org). Lastly, the Nevada Silver Jackets team prepared a draft Floodplain Management Plan for the South Fork Dam in Elko County with the goal of this being an example for applicants applying for funding from the FEMA Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) grant program.



The NDWR Floodplain Program and Nevada Silver Jackets team hosted a successful virtual Watershed University in 2022.



[Truckee River high water mark sign](#) installed in Reno's Wingfield Park. Created in collaboration with City of Reno.

Newly awarded projects include a Comprehensive High Watermark Campaign project that involves working with communities to create high watermark signage that also ties back to a more in-depth informational page on our website — [NevadaFloods.org](https://nevadafloods.org). Applications are available for local communities to request **FREE** High Water Mark signage for their communities. Another newly awarded project is the Nevada Arid Region Emergency Action Plan (EAP) project which is just being kicked-off! Our next semi-annual Nevada Silver Jackets meeting is on June 20, 2023, and is open to all interested stakeholders.

Please contact Nvsilverjackets@usace.army.mil for more information.

A new effort from the Nevada Floodplain Management Program includes hosting Nevada Local Floodplain Managers Quarterly Meetings. These quarterly meetings will incorporate a plethora of Floodplain Management information including Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) updates, State updates, funding opportunities, outreach opportunities, guest speakers, and general Flood Awareness Week planning. We hope that these meetings can serve as a platform to touch base quickly and efficiently with all our local communities each quarter, as we know many of our local administrators are wearing several hats.

An Update from the Nevada Floodplain Management Program continued...

FEMA Updates:

New priorities coming down the pipeline from FEMA, that are important for your awareness, include audits occurring at least once every five years for communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). In the past, these audits have been referred to as a Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or a Community Assistance Contact (CAC), however, FEMA is moving toward referring to these as simply “Audits” and streamlining these processes. FEMA also plans to increase accountability for potential violations detected either during these audits or in general. State NFIP Coordinators are now required to log any potential violations in FEMA’s new National Violations Tracker tool. FEMA’s overall goals are to touch base with NFIP communities more often, quickly identify any findings or potential violations, and then to take steps to enforce better compliance.

In recent years, FEMA updated the Policy for Agricultural and Accessory Structures ([Technical Bulletin P-2140](#)). The new guidance for Agricultural and Accessory Structures includes clarified definitions for an Agricultural Structure, Accessory Structure, Agricultural Development, Agricultural Structure Rep Loss/SD Exception, and new options for communities to allow wet floodproofing in lieu of elevation and dry floodproofing. If your community deals with Agricultural and Accessory Structures, please refer to Technical Bulletin P-2140 to review the updated information.



Floodplain Management Requirements for Agricultural Structures and Accessory Structures

FEMA Floodplain Management Bulletin P-2140

FEMA Risk Rating 2.0 has been in full effect for just over a year now. This methodology leverages industry best practices and cutting-edge technology to enable FEMA to deliver rates that are actuarially sound, equitable, easier to understand, and better reflect a property’s flood risk. FEMA plans to continue to build on and improve this new methodology. FEMA also has plans to make changes to the Community Rating System (CRS), so if you are a CRS Community, keep your eyes and ears open for more information. The NDWR flood program team will provide updated information during our Nevada Local Floodplain Managers Quarterly Meetings, during trainings and workshops, as well as in these semi-annual newsletters. ~△△△~

Featured Floodplain Manager:

Brianna Greenlaw

Carson City Floodplain Manager

Time as a floodplain manager:

- <1 year

Previous occupation:

- Civil Engineering Design & Project Management

Current flood projects:

- Morgan Mill Road River Access Area High Water Mark Structure (bottom right)
- East Carson City Area Drainage Master Plan
- Southeast Carson City Area Drainage Master Plan

Hopeful future projects:

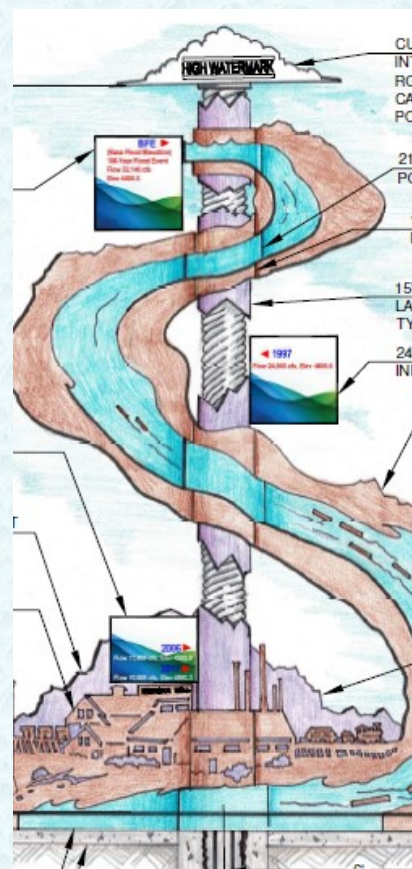
- Stormwater master plan

Hobbies:

- Hiking
- Camping
- Boating
- Skiing
- Spending time outdoors with family and friends



Brianna enjoying the outdoors.



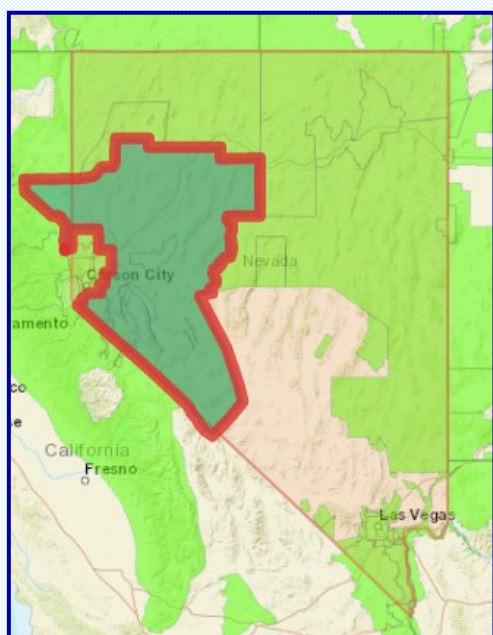
Conceptual sketch for the upcoming Morgan Mill high water mark collaboration between Carson City and Carson Water Subconservancy District.

The Whole Picture: Nevada LiDAR Updates

By Sarah Fichtner, Nevada Floodplain Mapping Coordinator

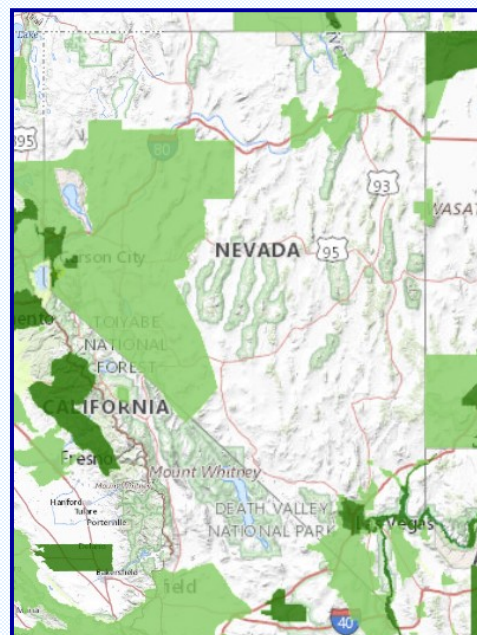
I'm sure you are reading our humble newsletter in the hopes that someone will spill the tea on Nevada's mapping updates. I am happy to inform you that you have come to the right place.

At the beginning of this year, the USGS 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) released a large batch of LiDAR that covers much of western Nevada. This project was awarded in 2020 but progress was delayed by COVID. The LiDAR that is in progress will be ready in 1-2 years, bringing Lidar coverage in Nevada up to 70%.







Areas of Nevada with LiDAR that is completed or in-progress are shown in green with the newly released LiDAR outlined in red. Image from [US Inter-agency Elevation Inventory](#) (left).

Available LiDAR as documented on [3DEP LidarExplorer](#) (right).



3DEP Baseline Data¹

Lidar

-  Planned FY23 Partnerships (subject to change)
-  FY23 Partnerships In-Progress
-  Available or In-Progress
-  Data Contribution Pending

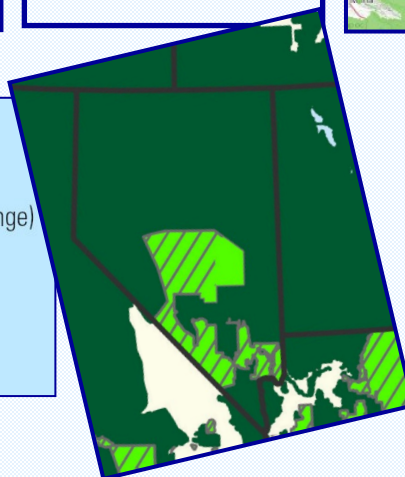


Image of current and future LiDAR projects in Nevada. The announcement of [3DEP FY23 Partnerships](#) includes a plan to collect LiDAR for the rest of the state within the next few years (bottom left and center).

But wait, there's more! More exciting updates, that is... Recently, 3DEP shared their 2023 fiscal year planned project areas which include the remaining 30% of Nevada (see image above)! Barring any changes or delays, we could see full LiDAR coverage for Nevada in the next 2-3 years. ~△△△~

2023 Flood Update

Nevada received a Major Disaster Declaration, FEMA-4708-DR, for flooding that occurred from March 8—March 19, 2023.

High flows in Nevada's streams and creeks will persist from continued snowmelt from the amazing snowpack as the days get warmer.

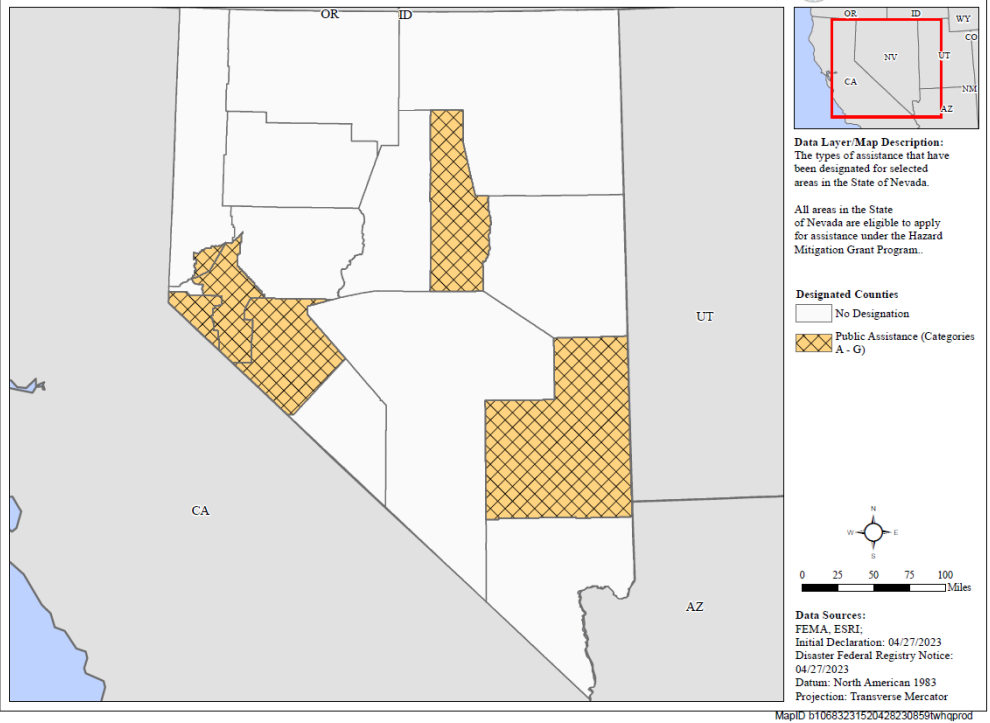
For more information about flooding and resources, please visit:

NevadaFloods.org

NDEM—[DEM/HS \(nv.gov\)](https://DEM/HS(nv.gov))

FEMA—[4708 | FEMA.gov](https://4708.FEMA.gov)

FEMA-4708-DR, Nevada Disaster Declaration as of 04/27/2023



Map indicates the areas of Nevada that were part of the Major Disaster Declaration for flooding that occurred from March 8—March 19, 2023.

SAVE THE DATE



October 11–12, 2023

Reno-Sparks Convention Center

Visit ngis.org for more information

Floodplain Managers, do you want to:

- Earn CRS credit?
- Improve your points for FMA Grant applications?
- Educate your community's youth about flooding in Nevada?

Yes? YES!! NDWR and Nevada Silver Jackets have a great resource for you!



**FREE
Classroom Curricula!**

Available for download at
NevadaFloods.org

or follow the links for:

[Nevada Rivers](#)

&

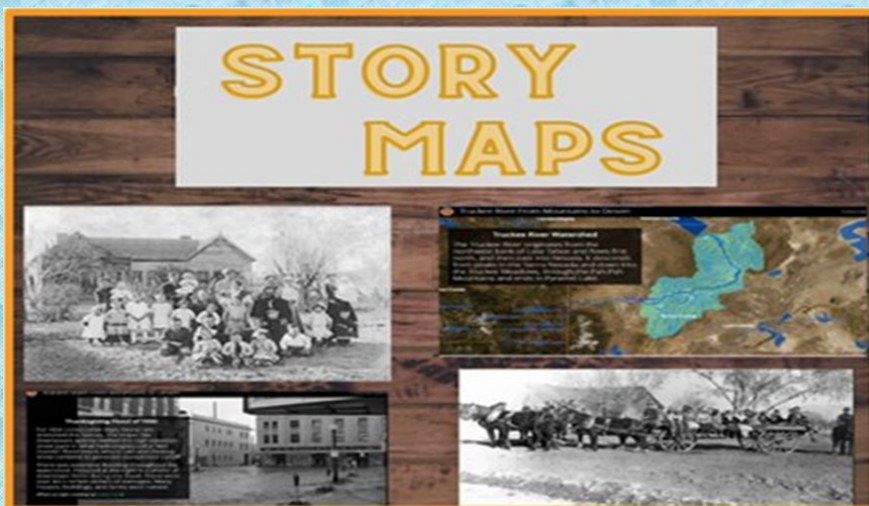
[Flood Fighter; Nevada](#)

*Flood Fighter:
Nevada Curriculum
based Materials and
Android/iOS
Platform*



Story Maps for
Each Major River in
Nevada:

Truckee River
Carson River
Walker River
Humboldt River
Virgin River
Muddy River





State of Nevada Division of Water Resources

Upcoming Trainings and Conferences

June 20 - 9:30 am | Nevada Silver Jackets Meeting*

July 13 - 10:00 am | Nevada Local Floodplain Managers Virtual Meeting*

Sept. 5-8 | Floodplain Management Association (FMA) Annual Conference

Oct. 11-12 | Nevada Geographic Information Society (NGIS) Conference

Nov. 12-18 | Nevada Flood Awareness Week

***Virtual**

Nevada Floodplain Management News is a Publication of the Nevada Floodplain Management Program

If you want to:

- Attend one of our meetings or webinars
- Submit content for Nevada Floodplain Management News
- Share comments or questions

Please contact Floodplain Mapping Coordinator, Sarah:

sfichtner@water.nv.gov

