National Policy Position 1-2021

Position Statement on Public Sharing of Dam-Related Flood Inundation Maps for Community Preparedness

ASDSO supports the public release of inundation maps depicting the flood boundary of reservoir releases for all dams with a significant or higher downstream hazard potential as defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Dam inundation maps need to be made publicly available for the protection of life and property, including inundation maps for all such dams regardless of ownership or regulatory responsibility. When reservoir releases occur because of a dam failure or are made under normal reservoir operations, actions taken by an informed public, emergency managers, first responders, and other local government agencies can reduce the potential downstream consequences of life loss and property damage if flooding were to occur. While dam owners and the dam safety community continue their efforts in managing and reducing the likelihood of such events from occurring, having dam inundation maps publicly available supports community preparedness. By providing the public with the resources needed, they can prepare in advance against the threat of a dam-related flood event at an individual and community level.

Adopted: Board of Directors meeting - September 11, 2021