



State of New Mexico
Office of the State Engineer
Interstate Stream Commission

Dam Safety Bureau project selected for top honor by NMSPE
Simplified Inundation Mapping Toolset wins Project of the Year Award

A project developed by the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer Dam Safety Bureau was awarded the top honor of Project of the Year by the New Mexico Society of Professional Engineers (NMSPE). The Simplified Inundation Mapping Toolset was developed to simplify the process of creating inundation maps for dam owners to use in developing Emergency Action Plans (EAPs), and ultimately increase the compliance rate of EAPs throughout New Mexico.

“We are honored to receive this recognition from NMSPE,” said Dam Safety Bureau Manager **Sushil Chaudhary**. “The hard work of everyone in the Dam Safety Bureau and our consultants from CDM-Smith Inc. developed the toolset that can assist dam owners across New Mexico to complete this important emergency preparedness document efficiently.”

Dam owners can also use the toolset to perform a simplified risk assessment to identify and prioritize risk reduction measures. This will help them use their limited financial resources more effectively.

“This award demonstrates the dedication, time and hard work that our former Dam Safety Manager, Charles Thompson, along with our current Dam Safety Manager, Sushil Chaudhary and Dam Safety staff put into the Simplified Inundation Mapping Toolset for the continued safety of dams and residents in New Mexico,” said WRAP Director **John Romero**.

The NMSPE provides leadership for the advancement of engineering professionalism throughout New Mexico. Members range from university students to retired professionals located throughout the state in several different chapters.



Sushil Chaudhary, Ph.D., PE and Hui-Ming (Max) Shih, Ph.D., PE, CFM accept the Project of the Year Award at the NMSPE EWeek Conference in Albuquerque, Friday, February 24, 2023.

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The Office of the State Engineer is charged with administering the state's water resources. The State Engineer has power over the supervision, measurement, appropriation, and distribution of all surface and groundwater in New Mexico, including streams and rivers that cross state boundaries. The State Engineer is also Secretary of the Interstate Stream Commission.

The nine-member Interstate Stream Commission is charged with separate duties including protecting New Mexico's right to water under eight interstate stream compacts, ensuring the state complies with each of those compacts as well as investigating, conserving and protecting the waters of the State, in addition to water planning.

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