



FEMA



Summary: User Guidance for Flood Risk Datasets and Products

Audience

The primary intended audience for this guidance is Local Officials, Local Planning Teams, Hazard Mitigation Grant Preparers, Floodplain Managers, Emergency Managers, Community Planners, and State/Regional Mitigation Planners. This document also provides FEMA Regions and RSCs with a common understanding of Flood Risk Datasets and Products. Because this document provides a comprehensive look at the Flood Risk Datasets and Products, it has inherent value to anyone that wishes to fully understand the new datasets and products and the inherent value they hold towards achieving flood risk reduction goals.

Purpose

Flood Risk Datasets and Products, if properly used, will enable better mitigation plans, and more flood resistant and resilient communities. The goal of this document is to therefore to provide an in-depth understanding of the content and value of Flood Risk Datasets and Products so that they may be properly used at the local level to further FEMA's goals for communities to become better prepared to address flood hazards, with a focus on areas identified as being of higher risk. Accordingly, this Operating Guidance document provides instructions on how each Flood Risk Product and Dataset can best be used at the local level to help accomplish actions that reduce flood risk.

This document should therefore be an effective means by which to raise the level of awareness of the value of these new datasets and products towards flood risk reduction goals, preparation of new, or revised mitigation plans, enhancement of public safety management activities, identification of potential mitigation projects, and collaboration with other local officials on important flood risk mitigation planning processes.

Risk MAP Guidance

This document is a component of Risk MAP Guidance. The Risk MAP program is managed by FEMA to develop flood risk information and work with communities to help them understand and act on the data to manage the risks. Risk MAP Guidance defines the product and process standards and best practices for the program:

- Standards are contained in the document "Guidelines and Standards for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping (G&S document)" which primarily contain standards, but currently substantial best practice information are also included.
- Procedure Memos supersede portions of the G&S document or address new issues not currently covered. In most cases they will be integrated into the G&S document over time.
- Operating Guidance describes best practices that support the Risk MAP standards.

RiskMAP
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