

FOREWORD

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), through its all-hazards mission to “Lead America to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and recover from disasters” strongly supports the strategic goals of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. FEMA’s Mitigation Division specifically supports the Department’s strategic goal for Protection, as identified in the *U.S. Department of Homeland Security Strategic Plan* issued in 2004, which includes strengthening nationwide preparedness and mitigation against natural disasters.

FEMA’s Mitigation Division manages the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), the cornerstone of the nation’s strategy for preparing communities for flood disasters. The NFIP was created to reduce flood damages by identifying flood risks, encouraging sound floodplain management practices, and providing a mechanism through which people can insure their investments. FEMA and its partners provide flood hazard data and maps to support flood insurance and floodplain management activities. Multi-Hazard Flood Map Modernization (Map Modernization) uses state-of-the-art technology, and engineering and digital mapping standards, to deliver reliable digital flood hazard data and maps in GIS format.

The Multi-Year Flood Hazard Identification Plan (MHIP) describes FEMA’s strategy for updating flood maps used for NFIP purposes. It builds on the recommendations of the Technical Mapping Advisory Council, and FEMA’s objectives for Map Modernization. It provides, for the first time, a five-year forecast of flood mapping activities thereby enabling mapping partners and flood map users to better plan for map updates, and increasing opportunities for sharing common data sets and leveraging resources across all levels of government and industry.

The MHIP is developed and updated through a collaborative process with local, state, regional, and national participants. Implementation of this plan relies on the continued support and efforts of flood mapping stakeholders across the country to provide high-quality and timely products. We encourage all stakeholders to continue providing input to the flood map update planning process.

The MHIP is available on FEMA’s Flood Hazard Mapping Web Site for all mapping stakeholders to support communities and states in protecting people and property from flood devastation. FEMA thanks its partners and stakeholders for their continued hard work as Map Modernization moves forward.

Sincerely,



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