



The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB)

The CWCB has partnered with the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District (UDFCD), a regional CTP partner, on floodplain studies in the Denver Metropolitan area. Both partners are participating actively in the preparation of high-quality floodplain mapping and are producing countywide Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs). CWCB prepared new and revised maps to show the effects of increased flood hydrology following large-scale wildfire events, development and growth in previously unstudied areas, and changes in engineering and mapping technology. The CWCB has taken a very proactive role with respect to flood hazard mapping, and has even produced preliminary countywide DFIRM products in as little as six months. Additionally, the CWCB has published a Statewide *Floodplain and Stormwater Criteria Manual* that provides much needed technical guidance for flood-related studies in Colorado.

Complete Story (link)

This manual serves as a technical guide to the overhauled (2005) floodplain rules and regulations for the State and can be found online at <http://cwcb.state.co.us/WatershedProtectionFloodMitigation/RelatedInformation/ToolsResources/CriteriaManual/>.

These Colorado partners are also producing new hydrologic and hydraulic analyses on high-priority stream reaches in conjunction with countywide DFIRM conversion work. The CWCB has also started work in the coordination of levee mapping and accreditation throughout the State between the communities, FEMA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In addition, the CWCB held a statewide seminar to update communities regarding how levee floodplains will be mapped. The CWCB has also helped FEMA to populate the Midterm Levee Inventory (MLI) database. The CWCB has benefited from the CTP partnership in many ways, but especially from the standpoint of technical coordination, study prioritization, study process, and State and local ownership of the maps. The partnership has allowed for greater involvement and influence in regard to how and where studies are performed. Through the CTP partnership, the CWCB has also been able to contract with two on-call consulting firms that assist greatly in DFIRM production work.