

Risk MAP FY09 Flood Mapping Production Plan



WHAT IS THE RISK MAP FY09 FLOOD MAPPING PRODUCTION PLAN?

Leveraging successes from Flood Map Modernization, FEMA must take the next step to refresh more of the underlying engineering data depicted on the flood map. Sound, reliable flood hazard information is a necessary component of ensuring the fiscal soundness of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). FEMA has identified a key goal for Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP):

- Address gaps in flood hazard data to form a solid foundation for flood risk assessments, floodplain management, and actuarial soundness of the NFIP.

With FY 2009 Congressional appropriations for Flood Hazard Mapping, FEMA is initiating flood map update projects to address gaps in required engineering and mapping for high flood risk areas impacted by coastal flooding, levees, and other flood hazards (e.g., lakes, rivers, and ponds). The Risk MAP FY09 Flood Mapping Production Plan provides the strategy for selection of FY09 Risk MAP flood map update projects and the planned schedule for their completion. It identifies those counties for which flood map update projects are being initiated in FY 2009 and the type of flood hazards being addressed by the engineering and mapping project (coastal, levee, other riverine flood hazards). Projects were selected in FY 2009 to leverage

established Cooperating Technical Partner (CTP) relationships. Those counties, including those performing CTP maintenance activities where CTPs provided a 25% cash match for mapping projects, are identified in the Risk MAP FY09 Flood Mapping Production Plan.

FEMA is committed to an ongoing collaborative planning process that results in high quality and timely products. FEMA will work with stakeholders to ensure that flood hazard information reflects existing conditions and is aligned with flood risk. Interested parties with questions pertaining to the Risk MAP FY09 Flood Mapping Production Plan are encouraged to contact their appropriate local and State officials, who are working with one of FEMA's 10 Regional Offices.

Coastal

Through Map Mod, FEMA updated the methodology for identifying and mapping coastal flood hazards along the Pacific, Atlantic, and Gulf of Mexico coastlines. A portion of FY09 funding has been allocated to perform updated large-scale storm-surge modeling for areas determined to be in most need.

FEMA estimates this funding will result in more than 20 counties representing about 1,800 miles of open coast receiving fully updated Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).

ABOUT RISK MAP

FEMA is beginning to transition from Flood Map Modernization (Map Mod) to Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) in fiscal year (FY) 2009.

The vision for Risk MAP is to work collaboratively with State, local, and Tribal entities to deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to action that reduces risk to life and property. It also aims to foster informed risk management decisions and actions to mitigate risk through a consistent risk-based approach to assessing potential vulnerability and losses. By analyzing and depicting flood risk, communities and the American public can better understand their risk and make informed decisions to reduce their vulnerability.

Map Mod transformed the majority of the flood hazard mapping inventory to 21st century digital technology and restored confidence in the reliability of floodplain boundaries, while making updates to the underlying engineering data. The dynamic nature of floodplains will require updated analysis of flood hazards periodically to maintain a reliable inventory.



FEMA

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For more information on Risk MAP and Flood Insurance, please visit the following websites:

www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm

www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/ffmm.shtm

<http://hazards.fema.gov>

www.floodsmart.gov

www.fema.gov/business/nfip

Levees

Additionally, in FY09, FEMA will fund the review and update of Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs) to ensure the flood hazards and risk premium zones associated with levees are accurate. FEMA will also continue the assessment of the accreditation status of levees identified on FIRMs. Portions of this funding will also allow FEMA to coordinate closely

with other Federal agencies to identify the Nation's levees and promote levee safety.

Riverine

Selection of potential flood map update projects for other riverine flood hazard areas relies on demonstrating physical, climatological, or methodological changes in accordance with FEMA's guidance for validating flood hazard data.

