

NOTICE TO CONGRESS: MONTHLY UPDATE ON FLOOD MAPPING

Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 and Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014

August 2020



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Introduction	1
2.	Risk MAP News	2
3.	Notification	3
3.1.	Estimated Release of Preliminary Maps	3
	Estimated Release of Revised Preliminary Maps	
3.3.	Actions Taken by FEMA	е
4.	LEGAL REQUIREMENTS	11
Арр	pendix A: Risk MAP process graphic	12
Δnn	gendix B: Resources	14

1. INTRODUCTION

Flooding is a serious risk to life and property in the United States, but flood risk changes over time. The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program helps communities understand and prepare for changing flood risks by updating flood maps. These updated flood maps help communities make decisions about building codes and other standards that make residents, homes, and businesses safer from flooding.

By law, FEMA must look at community flood maps every five years and decide whether to update or change them. FEMA must also tell Congress every month about any planned changes to community flood maps. This Notice to Congress includes information about:

- Communities that (in the next three months) are scheduled to receive updated draft maps from FEMA (called preliminary maps and revised preliminary maps)
- Communities that have received preliminary or revised preliminary maps from FEMA
- The period of time during which community notices will be published about the release of the maps and the appeals period
- Communities that have received Letters of Final Determination (LFDs) about their updated maps
- Communities where revised flood maps are considered final (called effective maps)

This monthly Notice to Congress will also include updates on the Risk MAP program, news on how communities are protecting themselves against flood risks, and other topics.

Risk MAP Vision

"The vision for Risk MAP is to deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to action that reduces risk to life and property."



2. RISK MAP NEWS

FEMA Successfully Engages Communities Across the Country Virtually

Events and meetings are an important part of FEMA's outreach and engagement with SLTT partners and the public. Due to the pandemic and ongoing response, FEMA has worked to adapt these engagements for virtual environments when connecting with communities across the country.

For example, FEMA Region VI held four virtual flood insurance workshops for 11 counties undergoing flood map changes in central Texas. These workshops provided an update on the map changes in the area and explained their effects on building and flood insurance requirements and insurance options. Both 2-hour workshops were attended by nearly 200 insurance and real estate professionals, surveyors, floodplain managers, and other stakeholders. Participants learned how FEMA's Newly Mapped Procedure could provide cost-saving options for properties moving from a low-to-moderate risk zone to a high risk zone on the proposed maps. Resources were provided to participants, and feedback from these workshops was positive. The Texas Department of Insurance (TDI), San Antonio Board of Realtors®, Austin Board of Realtors®, and Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) also held virtual workshops attended by more than 65 real estate professionals. Continuing Education Credits were provided for insurance and real estate professionals as well as Certified Floodplain Managers.

On May 12, FEMA Region VIII worked with the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, a FEMA Cooperating Technical Partner, to present a "Mapping Process and Floodplain Management" session during a virtual City Council meeting with the City of Three Forks. FEMA guided the presentation content and provided technology and virtual support. The event was one of the first virtual-only City Council meetings for the community in response to safety restrictions. The community had been uneasy about flood mapping; however, the presentation was well-received.

FEMA Region II hosted a Consultation Coordination Officer (CCO) meeting for Clinton County, NY virtually. As New York was at the highest level of safety restrictions, the team called all 17 communities to assess their ability and willingness to meet about their flood map update. The effort resulted in the attendance of more than 15 community leaders, as well as 13 state and county participants. Understanding the communities' desire for public awareness on the implications of a new flood map despite social distancing restrictions, a telephone townhall platform was used so that FEMA could efficiently connect with a large number of residents over the phone.

FEMA continues to use technology to engage with partners, local officials, and the public in new and innovative ways to deliver the support communities want and need.

3. NOTIFICATION

The following table shows preliminary and revised preliminary flood mapping studies that are expected to be released in the current month and the next two months. An additional table shows the studies where FEMA took action by issuing preliminary or revised maps; starting an appeal period; releasing an LFD or effective maps. All tables show the FEMA Region, state, and county where the action will take or has taken place. The tables also provide details on the flood mapping study status and estimated or actual dates.

3.1. ESTIMATED RELEASE OF PRELIMINARY MAPS

Some communities within the counties listed below have been studied to measure their flood risk. This flood hazard is shown in the Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report. The table identifies the month that FEMA plans to deliver the preliminary FIRM and FIS report to the designated community officials.

The column called "Estimated Schedule of Community Meeting" shows which quarter of the calendar year a community meeting to discuss the FIS and preliminary FIRM might be scheduled. In some cases, several meetings are needed to cover all communities that were studied.

Finally, the column named "Estimated Public Notice and Starting Appeal Period" shows which quarter of the calendar year an appeal period starts in a study area. The appeals period starts after the second notice is placed in the local newspaper. In study areas that cover a number of communities, notices will have to be put in several local papers, which means each community in a study could have a different publication date.

Region	State	County Name	Estimated Preliminary Issuance	Estimated Schedule of Community Meetings	Estimated Public Notice and Starting Appeal Period
1	ME	Penobscot County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
2	NJ	Hunterdon County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
2	NJ	Somerset County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
3	MD	Baltimore County	August 2020	Quarter 3, 2020	Quarter 4, 2020
3	PA	Luzerne County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
3	VA	Alexandria City	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
3	VA	Arlington County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
3	VA	Dinwiddie County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
3	VA	Fairfax City	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
3	VA	Falls Church City	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
3	VA	Fauquier County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
3	VA	Manassas City	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
3	VA	Manassas Park	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
3	VA	Nottoway County	August 2020	Quarter 3, 2020	Quarter 4, 2020
3	VA	Prince William County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	AL	Colbert County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021

Region	State	County Name	Estimated Preliminary Issuance	Estimated Schedule of Community Meetings	Estimated Public Notice and Starting Appeal Period
4	AL	DeKalb County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	AL	Etowah County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	AL	Franklin County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	AL	Jackson County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	AL	Lauderdale County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	AL	Lawrence County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	AL	Marshall County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	GA	Barrow County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	GA	Gwinnett County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	GA	Hall County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	GA	Hancock County	August 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	GA	Morgan County	August 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	GA	Putnam County	August 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	KY	Daviess County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	KY	McLean County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	KY	Webster County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
4	SC	Allendale County	October 2020	Quarter 1, 2021	Quarter 2, 2021
4	SC	Bamberg County	October 2020	Quarter 1, 2021	Quarter 2, 2021
4	SC	Barnwell County	October 2020	Quarter 1, 2021	Quarter 2, 2021
4	SC	Hampton County	October 2020	Quarter 1, 2021	Quarter 2, 2021
5	IN	Allen County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	MI	Alcona County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	MI	Alpena County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	MI	Cheboygan County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	MI MI	Delta County	October 2020 October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5 5	MI	Kent County Leelanau County		Quarter 4, 2020 Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021 Quarter 1, 2021
5	MI	Mackinac County	September 2020 September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	MN	Itasca County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	MN	Lyon County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	OH	Allen County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	OH	Clermont County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	OH	Hamilton County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	ОН	Montgomery County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	ОН	Paulding County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	ОН	Warren County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	WI	Chippewa County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	WI	Taylor County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
5	WI	Waukesha County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
6	AR	Jackson County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
6	AR	Woodruff County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	IA	Benton County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	IA	Woodbury County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	KS	Brown County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	KS	Morris County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	KS	Nemaha County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	MO	Atchison County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021

Region	State	County Name	Estimated Preliminary Issuance	Estimated Schedule of Community Meetings	Estimated Public Notice and Starting Appeal Period
7	MO	Barry County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	MO	Holt County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	MO	Mississippi County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	MO	New Madrid County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	MO	Pemiscot County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	MO	St. Clair County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	MO	St. Louis County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	MO	Stoddard County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
7	NE	Wayne County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
8	CO	Denver County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
8	CO	Jefferson County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
8	CO	Larimer County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
8	MT	Mineral County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
8	MT	Silver Bow County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
8	SD	Deuel County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
8	SD	Marshall County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
8	SD	Roberts County	October 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
9	CA	Riverside County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021
9	CA	San Bernardino County	September 2020	Quarter 4, 2020	Quarter 1, 2021

3.2. ESTIMATED RELEASE OF REVISED PRELIMINARY MAPS

In some cases, FEMA may decide to issue a revised preliminary map to address changes to preliminary flood hazard determinations, or to address changes to a non-technical issue. The table below shows the studies for which FEMA plans to release revised preliminary maps. The actual release dates are scheduled in coordination with the state and/or local governments.

The table below shows an estimate for the month the revised maps will be released. Community meetings, notices in local papers, and dates of appeal periods are not shown because these are often not needed for revised preliminary maps.

Region	State	County Name	Estimated Revised Preliminary Issuance
3	PA	Columbia County	August 2020
3	PA	Cumberland County	October 2020
3	PA	Montour County	October 2020
4	FL	Liberty County	August 2020
4	NC	Carteret County	September 2020
5	MI	St. Clair County	October 2020
5	MI	Wayne County	October 2020
5	MN	Blue Earth County	September 2020
5	ОН	Ottawa County	October 2020
6	TX	Nueces County	August 2020

Region	State	County Name	Estimated Revised Preliminary Issuance
9	AZ	Maricopa County	October 2020
9	CA	Imperial County	August 2020
9	CA	Los Angeles County	August 2020
9	CA	Riverside County	August 2020
9	CA	San Diego County	August 2020
10	AK	Ketchikan Gateway Borough	August 2020
10	OR	Harney County	October 2020

3.3. ACTIONS TAKEN BY FEMA

The table below shows the counties where FEMA released a preliminary FIRM and FIS report, began a 90-day appeal period, released a revised preliminary FIRM and FIS report, or sent LFDs in the previous month. It also identifies counties where FIRMs and FIS reports became effective during the previous month.

Region	State	County Name	Action Taken	Date
1	СТ	New London County	Preliminary	7/17/2020
1	CT	Windham County	Preliminary	7/17/2020
1	MA	Hampden County	Preliminary	7/17/2020
1	MA	Worcester County	Preliminary	7/17/2020
1	NH	Rockingham County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
1	RI	Kent County	Preliminary	7/17/2020
1	RI	Providence County	Preliminary	7/17/2020
1	RI	Washington County	Preliminary	7/17/2020
3	PA	Adams County	Maps Effective	7/22/2020
3	PA	Bradford County	Revised Preliminary	7/1/2020
3	PA	Lebanon County	Maps Effective	7/22/2020
3	PA	Wyoming County	Revised Preliminary	7/1/2020
3	VA	Frederick County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
3	VA	Louisa County	Maps Effective	7/22/2020
3	VA	Stafford County	Revised Preliminary	7/10/2020
3	VA	Winchester City	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
4	FL	Brevard County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
4	FL	Citrus County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020
4	FL	Hernando County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020
4	FL	Santa Rosa County	Appeal Start	7/23/2020
4	KY	Bell County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
4	KY	Boyd County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
4	KY	Mason County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
4	SC	Charleston County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
4	TN	Dickson County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020

Region	State	County Name	Action Taken	Date
4	TN	Houston County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020
4	TN	Montgomery County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020
4	TN	Stewart County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020
5	IL	Cook County	Appeal Start	7/16/2020
5	IL	Kane County	Revised Preliminary	7/15/2020
5	IL	Warren County	Appeal Start	7/2/2020
5	IN	Johnson County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
5	IN	LaPorte County	Appeal Start	7/17/2020
5	IN	Porter County	Appeal Start	7/17/2020
5	IN	Vanderburgh County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
5	MI	Grand Traverse Countv	Preliminary	7/17/2020
5	MI	Muskegon County	Appeal Start	7/26/2020
5	MI	Ottawa County	Appeal Start	7/24/2020
5	MN	Cottonwood County	Appeal Start	7/15/2020
5	MN	Koochiching County	Preliminary	7/9/2020
5	ОН	Clinton County	Appeal Start	7/29/2020
5	ОН	Greene County	Appeal Start	7/29/2020
5	ОН	Highland County	Appeal Start	7/29/2020
5	WI	Iron County	Preliminary	7/8/2020
5	WI	Walworth County	Appeal Start	7/30/2020
5	WI	Washington County	Appeal Start	7/15/2020
6	LA	Plaquemines Parish	LFD Issued	7/15/2020
6	OK	Canadian County	Maps Effective	7/22/2020
6	OK	Cleveland County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020
6	TX	El Paso County	Preliminary	7/8/2020
6	TX	Fort Bend County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
6	TX	Grayson County	Preliminary	7/24/2020
6	TX	Hays County	Appeal Start	7/30/2020
6	TX	Llano County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
6	TX	Matagorda County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020
7	IA	Bremer County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
7	IA	Clayton County	Maps Effective	7/22/2020
7	IA	Clinton County	Maps Effective	7/22/2020
7	IA	Dickinson County	Appeal Start	7/29/2020
7	IA	Dubuque County	Appeal Start	7/22/2020
7	IA	Emmet County	Appeal Start	7/23/2020
7	IA	Harrison County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
7	IA	Lee County	Maps Effective	7/22/2020
7	IA	Lyon County	Appeal Start	7/22/2020
7	IA	Sac County	Appeal Start	7/9/2020
7	IA	Story County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020

Region	State	County Name	Action Taken	Date
7	IA	Tama County	Appeal Start	7/24/2020
7	IA	Wapello County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
7	KS	Ellsworth County	Appeal Start	7/23/2020
7	KS	Reno County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
7	MO	Clark County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
8	CO	Jefferson County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020
8	CO	Larimer County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020
8	SD	Union County	LFD Issued	7/15/2020
8	WY	Carbon County	Preliminary	7/16/2020
9	AZ	Coconino County	Preliminary	7/10/2020
9	AZ	Coconino County	Preliminary	7/13/2020
9	AZ	Yavapai County	Appeal Start	7/21/2020
9	CA	Stanislaus County	Appeal Start	7/30/2020
9	CA	Ventura County	LFD Issued	7/29/2020
9	CA	Ventura County	Revised Preliminary	7/31/2020
10	ID	Bannock County	Maps Effective	7/22/2020

Information on "Preliminary and Revised Preliminary" Actions

For the flood risk studies shown above, FEMA gave copies of either the initial or the revised FIRM and FIS report to all communities involved. Copies are also online at https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search and https://msc.fema.gov/fmcv.

FEMA encourages local officials to widely share their copies with residents, business owners, elected officials, and others in the community. This helps in adding to or correcting non-technical information such as layout and labeling of roads, bridges, and streams, and other features. Requests to change such information can be made during the community review period, at a community meeting, and during the 90-day appeal period. Approved changes will be shown on the final FIRM and in the final FIS report.

Information on "Appeal Start" Actions

Under the National Flood Insurance Act, there are limited rights to appeal findings in the preliminary FIRM and FIS reports. Appeals can be made by owners or renters of real property within a community who believe that their property rights are adversely affected, and/or by an affected community. Important information on the process can be found in the document called "Guidance for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping: Appeal and Comment Processing," which can be found at https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-

 $02/Appeal_Comment_Processing_Guidance_Feb_2019.pdf.$

Information on "LFD Issued" Actions

A statutory 90-day appeal period was held, and FEMA resolved any appeals or comments received during that period. FEMA has sent the LFD to the Chief Executive Officer of all affected communities, all individual appellants, and the State Coordinating Agency and will publish the final flood hazard



information in the *Federal Register*. The updated FIRM panels will become effective six months from the date of the LFD. Final FIRM and FIS reports will officially be archived on the Flood Map Service Center (MSC) website at https://msc.fema.gov.

Property owners' flood insurance rates may be affected once a FIRM becomes effective. Resources are available to help homeowners understand the importance of flood insurance and the steps they can take to reduce their rates. For additional information about flood insurance, visit https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance.

To view upcoming map changes, please visit the Flood Map Changes Viewer at https://msc.fema.gov/fmcv.

Information on "Maps Effective" Actions

The updated FIRM and FIS report issued by FEMA have become effective. Effective FIRMs are used by communities to administer floodplain management regulations and mitigate flood damage. Local citizens use them to determine the flood zone for their property or structure. Lending institutions use them to determine whether flood insurance is required. Insurance rates may be affected for property owners once a FIRM becomes effective. To view the effective FIRMs, please visit the Map Service Center at https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search.

Additional flood mapping information and resources can be found on the FEMA website at https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps. In addition, the FEMA Map Information and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) is available to answer questions by telephone, toll free, at 1-877-336-2627 (FEMA MAP) or by email at FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com. A list of additional resources for information can be found in Appendix B of this Notice to Congress. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the information in this document, please contact the appropriate FEMA Regional External Affairs staff listed below.

FEMA Regional External Affairs Contact List

FEMA Region	Name	Telephone Number	Email Address
1	Dennis Pinkham	617-956-7547	Dennis.Pinkham@fema.dhs.gov
2	Kevin Sullivan	202-480-1053	Kevin.Sullivan@fema.dhs.gov
3	Nicholas Morici	267-546-6419	Nicholas.Morici@fema.dhs.gov
4	Danon Lucas	770-220-5292	Danon.Lucas@fema.dhs.gov
5	Dan Shulman	312-408-4427	Dan.Shulman@fema.dhs.gov
6	Juan Ayala	940-898-5105	Juan.Ayala@fema.dhs.gov
7	Luis Zenteno	202-875-3473	Luis.Zenteno@fema.dhs.gov
8	Megan Floyd	303-235-4638	Megan.Floyd@fema.dhs.gov
9	Frank Mansell	510-627-7068	Frank.Mansell@fema.dhs.gov
10	Cam Rossie	425-487-4651	Camilla.Rossie@fema.dhs.gov

4. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (Biggert-Waters), as amended by the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014, directs FEMA to notify Members of Congress when constituents in their districts will be affected by a flood mapping update. Public Law 112-141, div. F, title II, §100216, July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 927; Pub. L. 113-89, §§27, 30, Mar. 21, 2014, 128 Stat. 1033, 1034; 42 U.S.C. §4101b (d) (1)(G)(i) and (H) (2014). Under Biggert-Waters:

- The Administrator shall, not less than 30 days before issuance of any preliminary map, notify the Senators for each State affected and each Member of the House of Representatives for each congressional district affected by the preliminary map in writing of the estimated schedule for:
 - Community meetings regarding the preliminary map
 - Publication of notices regarding the preliminary map in local newspapers
 - The commencement of the appeals process regarding the map

See Biggert-Waters, as amended, at 42 U.S.C. §4101b (d)(1)(G)(i).1

Biggert-Waters also states:

• The Administrator shall, upon the issuance of any proposed map and any notice of an opportunity to make an appeal relating to the proposed map, notify the Senators for each State affected and each Member of the House of Representatives for each congressional district affected by the proposed map of any action taken by the Administrator, with respect to the proposed map or an appeal relating to the proposed map.

See Biggert-Waters, as amended, at 42 U.S.C. §4101b (d)(1)(H).

In accordance with these requirements, this document serves as notification to Congress and provides details on studies with an estimated issuance of preliminary or revised preliminary flood maps in the current month and the next two months, and studies for which preliminary or revised preliminary flood maps and/or LFDs were issued last month.² LFDs are the actions taken by FEMA to finalize the flood hazard data shown on a preliminary FIRM. This document also provides details on statutory administrative appeal periods³ that were initiated and maps that went effective last month.



Notice to Congress: Monthly Update on Flood Mapping August 2020

¹FEMA is working to develop the additional administrative process required to implement 42 U.S.C. §4101b (d)(1)(G)(ii) and will update this Notice as appropriate

 $_{\rm 2}\,\text{For}$ definitions of flood map, LFD, and other terms, please refer to Appendix B.

³ For more details, see "Information on 'Appeal Start' Actions" in Section 4.3.

APPENDIX A: RISK MAP PROCESS GRAPHIC

The information graphic below shows the process for flood map creation and updates.

FEMA Risk MAP Process



DISCOVERY

FEMA gathers information about local flood hazards and their risk in close coordination with the community to prioritize future mapping, risk assessment, or mitigation planning assistance.





Outreach



Discovery Meeting



Discovery Report



Determination to move forward with Risk MAP study.









FEMA analyzes the information gathered during Discovery and

develops the first draft of the maps, called "work maps"



FLOOD RISK REVIEW (if needed)

Community officials review and provide initial feedback on the work maps and engineering decisions. FEMA uses the feedback to modify the maps and develop the preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). Using this information, officials begin to identify and advance mitigation action in their community.





PRELIMINARY MAP RELEASE

- **Community Coordination and Outreach Meeting** Community officials learn the implications of the updated map and the steps and timeline to adopt the updated map.
- Open House Citizens learn about their local flood risks, and what resources are available from the State, FEMA, and other partners to reduce risk.

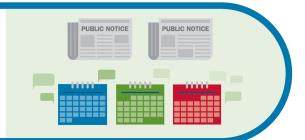
Notice to Congress: Monthly Update on Flood Mapping August 2020

Risk MAP Process Continued



90-DAY APPEAL AND COMMENT PERIOD

Following two public notices, community members can submit technical data to support a request to revise the FIRM though the 90-day appeals process. All appeals, including all supporting documentation, must be submitted through the appropriate community official.





ADOPTION & COMPLIANCE

Communities participating in the NFIP must adopt a compliant floodplain management ordinance by the map effective date to remain in good standing as an NFIP participant.



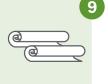
6 LETTER OF FINAL DETERMINATION

After all appeals are resolved, FEMA sends a Letter of Final Determination, kicking off a six-month period for communities to adopt the new flood maps.



RESILIENCE MEETING

FEMA, State and local officials, and partners work to identify and review resilience strategies, planning options, and potential actions to reduce risk



EFFECTIVE MAPS

Once effective, new maps and products are available through FEMA's Flood Map Service Center. The new data will inform flood insurance decisions and local building regulations. Community members can submit data to amend or revise the FIRM as part of a Letter of Map Change (LOMC) process.







Notice to Congress: Monthly Update on Flood Mapping
August 2020

APPENDIX B: RESOURCES

The following additional resources provide a better understanding of key elements of this report.

Implementation of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 and the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act

Website	https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance/rules-legislation/laws

National Flood Insurance Program			
Website	https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance		
Phone	888-379-9531 (toll free)		
E-mail	floodsmart@fema.dhs.gov		

Risk MAP Program	
Website	https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/tools-resources/risk-map
Phone	877-336-2627 (toll free)
E-mail	FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com