



NOTICE TO CONGRESS: MONTHLY UPDATE ON FLOOD MAPPING

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

May 2018



FEMA

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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

Risk MAP Is So Much More than a Map

Information is empowering. That is especially true for Risk MAP customers in the Nation’s coastal areas who are utilizing coastal data and mapping products in innovative ways to inform mitigation actions, strengthen partnerships, and understand their evolving risk. FEMA is working to harvest more value from the significant investment in flood risk data and information made over the last several years, specifically in coastal areas.

- From Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 to 2015, FEMA invested nearly \$223 million to update flood risk information and resources for populated coastal areas nationwide.
- Projects along 100 percent of the populated coastline have been initiated and when all coastal studies are complete, approximately 22,000 miles of coastline will have been studied.
- Counties containing coastal areas account for 44 percent of all mitigation actions taken.

This tells us that coastal communities, which are among the areas most vulnerable to flood damage, are very active in leveraging Risk MAP data to mitigate their risk.

Diverse stakeholders are using coastal data *beyond the flood map* to drive desirable behaviors and generate positive outcomes for communities nationwide. FEMA has learned of innovative uses of FEMA coastal data by other Federal agencies, states and local communities, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and of course, components within FEMA. These data have been used to inform a wide array of initiatives, from infrastructure planning and research, to grant applications, to development of adaptive strategies to address flood damage and sea level rise. These users are truly putting coastal data to work and redefining the art of the possible.

WHO ARE COASTAL DATA USERS AND HOW ARE THEY USING COASTAL RISK MAP DATA?

Internal FEMA Users



Data Applications

- Risk Rating Redesign
- Disaster response and recovery
- Communication materials
- Storm surge and wave predictions for active and impending cyclones

State & Local Communities



Data Applications

- Storm surge and wave predictions for active and impending cyclones
- Designing pump stations in cities to mitigate flooding
- Grant applications
- Understanding impacts of sea level rise on seawalls
- Green infrastructure research and investment
- Disaster response planning

Other Federal Agencies



Data Applications

- Sediment transport and morphological model support
- NACCS and SACCS studies' development
- Operation storm surge forecasting product
- Nuclear power plant coastal risk assessments
- Storm surge and wave predictions for active and impending cyclones

NGOs & Academia



Data Applications

- Green infrastructure research and investment
- Storm surge and wave predictions for active and impending tropical cyclones
- Adaptive strategy development to address flood damage reduction and sea level rise

A Spotlight on Coastal Data: St. Johns County, Florida received its preliminary coastal maps in May 2016 and is set to receive a Letter of Final Determination this May. This county includes the City of St. Augustine, which is virtually surrounded by water. In 2012, the city built a new seawall and repaired an existing seawall to provide protection to businesses and residential structures located within its historic districts. This construction, considered a resulting mitigation action of Risk MAP, incorporated the installation of approximately 1,200 linear feet of new seawall to provide protection to structures of great intrinsic and cultural value to the residents, tourists, and business owners of St. Augustine.

Today, the city is using FEMA coastal data in innovative ways to continue to protect its historic district, especially as it deals with back-to-back recovery from Hurricane Matthew in 2016 and Hurricane Irma in 2017. Specifically, the city worked with FEMA to obtain the 2D representation of 0.2-percent-annual-chance stillwater elevations to inform the design of pump stations to mitigate flooding in the historic city center.

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 a Letter of Final Determination (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). 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 |
|--------|-------|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 2 | NY | Erie County | July 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 1, 2019 |
| 2 | NY | Herkimer County | July 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 3 | PA | Adams County | May 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 3 | VA | Culpepper County | July 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 | Quarter 1, 2019 |
| 3 | VA | Greene County | July 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 | Quarter 1, 2019 |
| 3 | VA | Madison County | July 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 | Quarter 1, 2019 |
| 3 | VA | Rappahannock County | July 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 | Quarter 1, 2019 |
| 4 | AL | Escambia County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 4 | FL | Manatee County | July 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 | Quarter 1, 2019 |
| 4 | FL | Manatee County | July 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 | Quarter 1, 2019 |
| 4 | FL | Sarasota County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 4 | TN | Cheatham County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 4 | TN | Cheatham County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 4 | TN | Coffee County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 4 | TN | Dickson County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 4 | TN | Houston County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 4 | TN | Montgomery County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 4 | TN | Robertson County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 4 | TN | Stewart County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 4 | TN | Sumner County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 4 | TN | Williamson County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 5 | IL | Randolph County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 5 | MI | Monroe County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 5 | OH | Fairfield County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 5 | WI | Iron County | July 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 5 | WI | Lafayette County | July 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 5 | WI | Monroe County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 6 | LA | Jackson Parish | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 6 | LA | Winn Parish | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 6 | TX | Bandera County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 6 | TX | Bexar County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 6 | TX | Denton County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 6 | TX | Kendall County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 6 | TX | Kerr County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 6 | TX | Medina County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |



| Region | State | County Name | Estimated Preliminary Issuance | Estimated Schedule of Community Meetings | Estimated Public Notice and Starting Appeal Period |
|--------|-------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 7 | IA | Cerro Gordo County | May 2018 | Quarter 2 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Clayton County | July 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Clinton County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Delaware County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Dickinson County | July 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Dubuque County | July 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Fayette County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Floyd County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Fremont County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Henry County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Jefferson County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Jones County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Mills County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Mitchell County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | IA | Winnebago County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | KS | Reno County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | MO | Livingston County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | MO | Putnam County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | MO | Randolph County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | MO | Ripley County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | MO | Scotland County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | MO | Shelby County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | MO | Sullivan County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | MO | Vernon County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | MO | Washington County | July 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | MO | Wright County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | NE | Burt County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | NE | Nemaha County | July 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | NE | Richardson County | July 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 7 | NE | Seward County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 8 | MT | Golden Valley County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 8 | MT | Wheatland County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 8 | ND | Cass County | July 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 8 | UT | Grand County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 9 | AZ | Yavapai County | July 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 | Quarter 1, 2019 |



| Region | State | County Name | Estimated Preliminary Issuance | Estimated Schedule of Community Meetings | Estimated Public Notice and Starting Appeal Period |
|--------|-------|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 9 | HI | Kauai County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 10 | ID | Bannock County | May 2018 | Quarter 2, 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 |
| 10 | WA | Grays Harbor County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 10 | WA | Thurston County | June 2018 | Quarter 3, 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 |
| 10 | WA | Yakima County | July 2018 | Quarter 4, 2018 | Quarter 1, 2019 |

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 |
|--------|-------|----------------------------|--|
| 2 | NJ | Bergen County | May 2018 |
| 2 | PR | Puerto Rico Territory-Wide | July 2018 |
| 3 | DE | New Castle County | May 2018 |
| 3 | MD | Allegany County | June 2018 |
| 5 | MN | Blue Earth County | June 2018 |
| 5 | MN | Nicollet County | June 2018 |
| 5 | MN | Polk County | June 2018 |
| 5 | MN | Scott County | May 2018 |
| 6 | AR | Pulaski County | June 2018 |
| 6 | TX | Brazoria County | June 2018 |
| 6 | TX | Nueces County | May 2018 |
| 7 | MO | Jefferson County | May 2018 |
| 9 | CA | Mendocino County | June 2018 |
| 10 | AK | Sitka Borough | June 2018 |
| 10 | WA | Mason County | May 2018 |



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 | MA | Barnstable County | Preliminary | 4/18/2018 |
| 1 | MA | Bristol County | Preliminary | 4/18/2018 |
| 1 | MA | Norfolk County | Preliminary | 4/18/2018 |
| 1 | MA | Plymouth County | Preliminary | 4/18/2018 |
| 1 | RI | New port County | Preliminary | 4/18/2018 |
| 3 | PA | Lackaw anna County | Appeal Start | 4/25/2018 |
| 4 | FL | Dixie County | Maps Effective | 4/18/2018 |
| 4 | FL | Gadsden County | Preliminary | 4/11/2018 |
| 4 | FL | Leon County | Preliminary | 4/11/2018 |
| 4 | FL | Liberty County | Preliminary | 4/11/2018 |
| 4 | FL | Pasco County | Preliminary | 4/27/2018 |
| 4 | FL | Wakulla County | Preliminary | 4/11/2018 |
| 4 | GA | Bartow County | LFD Issued | 4/5/2018 |
| 4 | GA | Cobb County | LFD Issued | 4/5/2018 |
| 4 | GA | Columbia County | Appeal Start | 4/18/2018 |
| 4 | GA | Daw son County | Maps Effective | 4/4/2018 |
| 4 | GA | Hall County | Maps Effective | 4/4/2018 |
| 4 | GA | Lumpkin County | Maps Effective | 4/4/2018 |
| 4 | KY | Lyon County | Maps Effective | 4/18/2018 |
| 4 | NC | Chatham County | LFD Issued | 4/19/2018 |
| 4 | NC | Durham County | LFD Issued | 4/19/2018 |
| 4 | NC | Granville County | LFD Issued | 4/19/2018 |
| 4 | NC | Orange County | LFD Issued | 4/19/2018 |
| 4 | NC | Person County | LFD Issued | 4/19/2018 |
| 5 | IN | Bartholomew County | Appeal Start | 4/13/2018 |
| 5 | IN | Carroll County | Appeal Start | 4/25/2018 |
| 5 | MI | Lenaw ee County | Appeal Start | 4/26/2018 |
| 5 | MN | Norman County | Preliminary | 4/12/2018 |
| 5 | OH | Ashtabula County | Appeal Start | 4/26/2018 |
| 5 | OH | Butler County | LFD Issued | 4/19/2018 |
| 5 | OH | Cuyahoga County | Appeal Start | 4/26/2018 |



| Region | State | County Name | Action Taken | Date |
|--------|-------|---------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 5 | OH | Erie County | Appeal Start | 4/26/2018 |
| 5 | OH | Lake County | Appeal Start | 4/26/2018 |
| 5 | OH | Lorain County | Appeal Start | 4/26/2018 |
| 5 | OH | Ottawa County | Appeal Start | 4/25/2018 |
| 5 | OH | Sandusky County | Appeal Start | 4/25/2018 |
| 5 | OH | Scioto County | Preliminary | 4/13/2018 |
| 5 | OH | Tuscarawas County | LFD Issued | 4/19/2018 |
| 6 | LA | Calcasieu Parish | Appeal Start | 4/11/2018 |
| 6 | LA | Franklin Parish | LFD Issued | 4/5/2018 |
| 6 | LA | West Carroll Parish | LFD Issued | 4/5/2018 |
| 6 | OK | Tulsa County | Appeal Start | 4/18/2018 |
| 7 | IA | Davis County | Maps Effective | 4/4/2018 |
| 7 | IA | Hancock County | Maps Effective | 4/4/2018 |
| 7 | IA | Jasper County | LFD Issued | 4/5/2018 |
| 7 | KS | Saline County | Maps Effective | 4/18/2018 |
| 7 | KS | Wilson County | Preliminary | 4/27/2018 |
| 7 | MO | Camden County | Maps Effective | 4/18/2018 |
| 7 | MO | Lincoln County | LFD Issued | 4/5/2018 |
| 7 | MO | Miller County | Maps Effective | 4/18/2018 |
| 7 | MO | Morgan County | Maps Effective | 4/18/2018 |
| 8 | CO | Arapahoe County | Maps Effective | 4/18/2018 |
| 8 | CO | Denver County | Maps Effective | 4/18/2018 |
| 8 | CO | Morgan County | Maps Effective | 4/4/2018 |
| 9 | CA | Los Angeles County | Maps Effective | 4/4/2018 |
| 9 | CA | Ventura County | Maps Effective | 4/4/2018 |
| 9 | CA | Ventura County | Maps Effective | 4/4/2018 |
| 10 | AK | Juneau Borough | Appeal Start | 4/11/2018 |
| 10 | OR | Washington County | LFD Issued | 4/19/2018 |
| 10 | WA | King County | Appeal Start | 4/17/2018 |

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/prelim-pending>.

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 fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/34953.

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/national-flood-insurance-program>.

To view upcoming map changes, please visit the Preliminary and Pending National Flood Hazard Layer at <https://msc.fema.gov/prelim-pending>.

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 fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-flood-hazard-mapping. In addition, the FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX) is available to answer questions by telephone, toll free, at 1-877-336-2627 (FEMA MAP) or by email at FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcads.com. A list of additional resources for information can be found in *Appendix C* 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 | Corey DeMuro | 202-394-8588 | Corey.DeMuro@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 | Michael Cappannari | 816-283-7080 | Michael.Cappannari@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

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.



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.

²For definitions of flood map, LFD, and other terms, please refer to Appendix B.

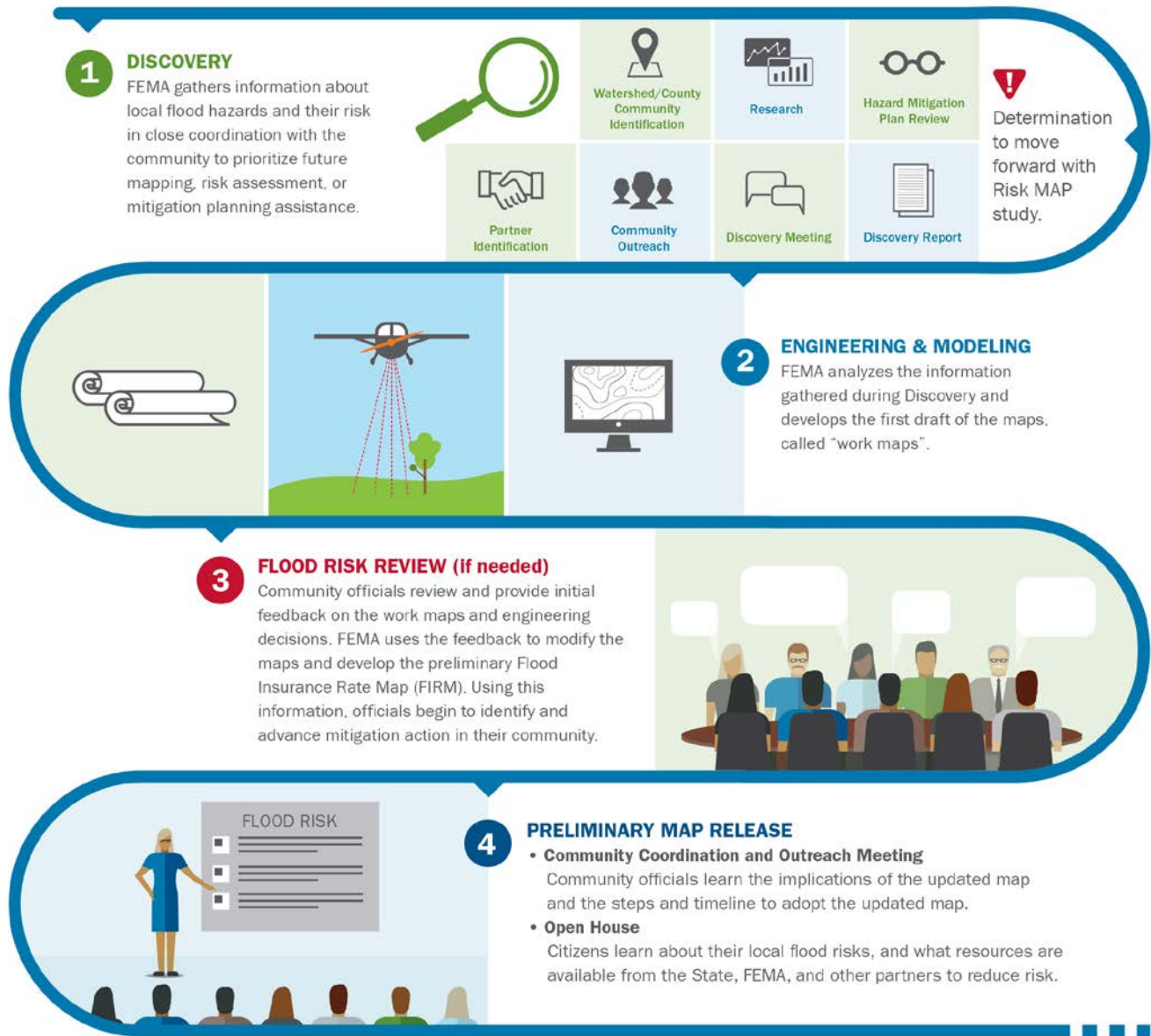
³For more details, see "Information on 'Appeal Start' Actions" in Section 4.3.



APPENDIX A: RISK MAP PROCESS GRAPHIC

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

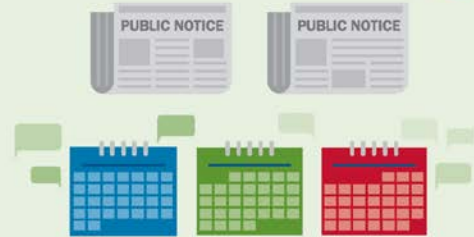
FEMA Risk MAP Process



Risk MAP Process Continued

5 90-DAY APPEAL AND COMMENT PERIOD

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



7 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.



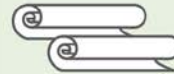
8 RESILIENCE MEETING

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



9 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.



RiskMAP
Increasing Resilience Together



FEMA



FEMA

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 | fema.gov/media-library/resources-documents/collections/341 |
|----------------|---|

National Flood Insurance Program

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Website | floodsmart.gov |
| Phone | 888-379-9531 (toll free) |
| E-mail | floodsmart@fema.dhs.gov |
| Social Media | Twitter at @NFIPtraining |

Risk MAP Program

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Website | fema.gov/risk-mapping-assessment-planning |
| Phone | 877-336-2627 (toll free) |
| E-mail | FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com |

