



Notice to Congress: Monthly Update on Flood Mapping

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

March 2023

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1. Introduction

Flooding is a serious risk to life and property in the United States that changes over time. The FEMA Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP) program helps communities learn and prepare for changing flood risks by updating flood maps. The new flood maps help officials review building codes and other standards that make residents, homes and businesses safer.

FEMA is required to review a community’s flood maps every five years. The agency must then 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) will receive updated draft maps from FEMA (called preliminary maps and revised preliminary maps).
- Communities that have received preliminary or revised preliminary maps from FEMA.
- When FEMA will publish community notices about the release of the maps and the appeal period.
- Communities that have received Letters of Final Determination (LFDs) about their updated maps.
- Communities whose maps are considered final (called effective maps).

This monthly Notice to Congress also includes an overview of the Risk MAP New, Verified, and Updated Engineering (NVUE) floodplain mileage mapped with improved standards, news on community and flood risk best practices.

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

Region 2 Completes First New Jersey Resilience Accelerator Riverine Community Cohort

The FEMA Region 2 team completed the first [New Jersey Resilience Accelerator](#) Riverine Community Cohort with a follow up workshop on January 12, 2023. At the workshop, FEMA and the participating communities celebrated meeting one of the Resilience Accelerator's key goals. This goal was to grow stakeholder engagement to build whole-community solutions for long-term resilience.

The New Jersey Resilience Accelerator is a technical assistance program. It provides local communities with the tools to reduce risk from climate change and natural hazards. Participating communities were nominated by their steering committees to join because of their ability to take action in resilience and their hazard mitigation needs following Hurricane Ida. At the workshop, [Bound Brook](#), [Manville Borough](#), [Millstone Borough](#), [Millburn Township](#), and the [City of Lambertville](#) shared updates on current resilience projects.

The Resilience Accelerator program has partnered with four New Jersey state agencies. Together, they offer communities two hands-on workshops to help them organize a resilience team and create an action plan. They also offer a follow-up session to measure progress; the riverine cohort follow-up session was held in mid-January.

The updates the communities shared at the workshop covered resilience actions planned and taken since the cohort last met in summer 2022. Projects included buyouts and elevations. They also included sewerage system overhauls, immersive art projects, and more.

At the workshop, the communities had the opportunity to connect to state and federal resources. Organizers from New Jersey state agencies and FEMA led conversations. The communities shared challenges and the agencies helped them envision possible solutions and consider available resources.

The Region 2 team led attendees through strategic communications training and exercise. This helped to define and identify pathways to connect with key audiences to move their resilience priority projects forward.

The City of Lambertville offered to host further meetings with the cohort communities without the direct support of the accelerator to build on chances to learn from peers. This was evidence that the Resilience Accelerator provided towns with the tools they need to work together.

A lesson learned was that at least one municipality listed internal communication as a major barrier to progress. Helping municipalities work together better internally is a key part of building strong resilience plans. It also helps them create messages that resonate with the public.

The Resilience Accelerator is currently working with five coastal communities, as well. This round included Rutgers University as a partner. Students from Rutgers' [Climate Corps](#) program and FEMA planners are working with cohort communities. They are helping to analyze current and future vulnerabilities to flooding. This approach looks at future conditions to learn which projects and plans will reduce risk the most.

3. Notification

The following table shows preliminary and revised preliminary flood mapping studies that FEMA expects to release in the current month and the next two months. An additional table shows the studies where FEMA issued preliminary or revised maps; started an appeal period; or released an LFD or effective maps. All tables show the applicable FEMA region, state and county. The tables also show the flood mapping study status and estimated or actual dates.

3.1 Estimated Release of Preliminary Maps

FEMA has studied some of the communities within the counties listed below to depict their flood risk. Their flood hazards are shown in the preliminary flood maps and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report. The table identifies when FEMA plans to deliver the preliminary flood map and FIS report to community officials.

The column called “Estimated Schedule of Community Meeting” shows when FEMA may schedule a community meeting to discuss the FIS and preliminary flood map. 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 appeal period starts after FEMA places the second notice in the local newspaper. In study areas with several communities, FEMA must place notices in multiple papers. This can sometimes lead to each community having a different publication date.

Region	State	County Name	Estimated Preliminary Issuance	Estimated Schedule of Community Meetings	Estimated Public Notice and Starting Appeal Period
1	NH	Belknap County	April 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
1	NH	Carroll County	April 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
1	NH	Strafford County	April 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
1	MA	Middlesex County	April 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
1	MA	Norfolk County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
1	MA	Worcester County	April 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
1	NH	Rockingham County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
1	CT	Fairfield County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
1	NH	Rockingham County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
2	NY	Yates County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023

Region	State	County Name	Estimated Preliminary Issuance	Estimated Schedule of Community Meetings	Estimated Public Notice and Starting Appeal Period
2	NY	Ontario County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
3	MD	Montgomery County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
3	VA	Lunenburg County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	FL	Jefferson County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	FL	Madison County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	GA	Turner County	April 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	GA	Tift County	April 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	GA	Worth County	April 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	MS	Chickasaw County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	MS	Clay County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	MS	Itawamba County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	MS	Lee County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	MS	Lowndes County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	MS	Monroe County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	MS	Prentiss County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	MS	Tishomingo County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
4	NC	Anson County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Cabarrus County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Iredell County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Mecklenburg County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Rowan County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Stanly County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Union County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Davie County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Forsyth County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Surry County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Wilkes County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Yadkin County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Chatham County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023

Region	State	County Name	Estimated Preliminary Issuance	Estimated Schedule of Community Meetings	Estimated Public Notice and Starting Appeal Period
4	NC	Davidson County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Guilford County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Montgomery County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Moore County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Randolph County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Richmond County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	NC	Scotland County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
4	SC	Georgetown County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
5	IN	Clinton County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
5	OH	Warren County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
5	IN	Jay County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
5	IN	Huntington County	April 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
5	IN	Wabash County	May 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
5	MN	Wabasha County	May 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
5	MN	Olmsted County	May 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
7	MO	Reynolds County	April 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 3, 2023
7	MO	St. Louis County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
7	MO	Adair County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
7	MO	Douglas County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
8	SD	Spink County	April 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 1, 2024
8	SD	Yankton County	April 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 1, 2024
8	SD	McCook County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
8	CO	Delta County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 1, 2024
8	CO	Saguache County	May 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 1, 2024
8	SD	Brookings County	April 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 1, 2024
8	ND	Golden Valley County	April 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 1, 2024
8	ND	McLean County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
8	ND	Mercer County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023

Region	State	County Name	Estimated Preliminary Issuance	Estimated Schedule of Community Meetings	Estimated Public Notice and Starting Appeal Period
8	ND	Oliver County	March 2023	Quarter 2, 2023	Quarter 4, 2023
8	MT	Granite County	April 2023	Quarter 3, 2023	Quarter 1, 2024

3.2 Estimated Release of Revised Preliminary Maps

In some cases, FEMA may issue a revised preliminary map to address changes to preliminary flood hazard determinations. They may also address a non-technical issue. The table below shows the studies for which FEMA plans to release revised preliminary maps. FEMA coordinates the actual release dates 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 appeal period dates are not shown because these are often not needed for revised preliminary maps.

Region	State	County Name	Estimated Revised Preliminary Issuance
1	MA	Middlesex County	April 2023
1	MA	Norfolk County	March 2023
1	MA	Worcester County	April 2023
1	RI	Providence County	April 2023
1	MA	Essex County	April 2023
4	FL	Sarasota County	March 2023
5	MN	Wilkin County	March 2023
6	OK	Canadian County	May 2023
6	OK	Oklahoma County	May 2023
6	TX	El Paso County	May 2023
6	TX	Guadalupe County	April 2023
8	ND	Richland County	April 2023
8	CO	La Plata County	May 2023
10	WA	Skamania County	May 2023

3.3 Actions Taken by FEMA

The table below shows the counties where FEMA released a preliminary flood map and FIS report. It also shows where FEMA began a 90-day appeal period, released a revised preliminary flood map and FIS report, or sent LFDs in the previous month. Counties where flood maps and FIS reports became effective during the previous month are identified.

Region	State	County Name	Action Taken	Date
1	CT	New London County	LFD Issued	2/1/2023
1	MA	Hampshire County	Maps Effective	2/9/2023
1	MA	Plymouth County	Revised Preliminary	2/3/2023
1	MA	Suffolk County	Revised Preliminary	2/3/2023
1	RI	Providence County	Preliminary	2/10/2023
1	MA	Bristol County	Preliminary	2/3/2023
1	MA	Essex County	Revised Preliminary	2/20/2023
3	PA	Columbia County	Appeal Start	2/22/2023
3	MD	Frederick County	LFD Issued	2/1/2023
3	WV	Kanawha County	LFD Issued	2/1/2023
3	VA	Amherst County	Preliminary	2/28/2023
3	VA	Buckingham County	Preliminary	2/28/2023
3	VA	Prince George County	Maps Effective	2/9/2023
4	AL	Madison County	Preliminary	2/9/2023
4	FL	Franklin County	Revised Preliminary	2/23/2023
4	GA	Newton County	LFD Issued	2/15/2023
4	KY	Breckinridge County	Appeal Start	2/8/2023
4	KY	Daviess County	Appeal Start	2/8/2023
4	KY	Henderson County	Appeal Start	2/8/2023
4	KY	Hancock County	Appeal Start	2/9/2023
4	TN	Jackson County	Appeal Start	2/14/2023
4	TN	DeKalb County	Appeal Start	2/15/2023
4	TN	Wilson County	Appeal Start	2/16/2023
5	MN	Le Sueur County	Appeal Start	2/16/2023
5	OH	Hamilton County	Preliminary	2/3/2023
5	MN	Blue Earth County	Preliminary	2/15/2023

Region	State	County Name	Action Taken	Date
5	MN	Dodge County	Preliminary	2/15/2023
5	IN	Parke County	Preliminary	2/17/2023
5	MN	Stevens County	Revised Preliminary	2/28/2023
5	MI	Saginaw County	LFD Issued	2/15/2023
5	WI	Florence County	LFD Issued	2/15/2023
5	IN	Bartholomew County	Maps Effective	2/23/2023
5	MI	Kent County	Maps Effective	2/23/2023
5	WI	Manitowoc County	Maps Effective	2/23/2023
6	LA	La Salle Parish	Maps Effective	2/23/2023
7	KS	Dickinson County	Appeal Start	2/16/2023
7	KS	Woodson County	Preliminary	2/3/2023
7	MO	Dent County	LFD Issued	2/1/2023
7	MO	Shelby County	LFD Issued	2/15/2023
8	MT	Beaverhead County	LFD Issued	2/15/2023
8	MT	Madison County	Preliminary	2/24/2023
8	ND	Burleigh County	Appeal Start	2/17/2023
8	CO	Hinsdale County	Appeal Start	2/10/2023
9	CA	Ventura County	Appeal Start	2/8/2023
10	WA	Thurston County	Appeal Start	2/1/2023
10	WA	Klickitat County	Appeal Start	2/22/2023
10	OR	Klamath County	Revised Preliminary	2/1/2023
10	WA	Lewis County	LFD Issued	2/15/2023

Information on “Preliminary and Revised Preliminary” Actions

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

Local officials should share their copies with residents, business owners, elected officials and others in the community. This can help add to or correct non-technical features such as layout and labeling of roads, bridges and streams. These types of changes can be made during the community review period, at a community meeting, and during the 90-day appeal period. FEMA will then update the final flood map and FIS report.

Information on “Appeal Start” Actions

The National Flood Insurance Act limits the right to appeal the preliminary flood map and FIS reports. Appeals can be made by owners or renters of real property in a community who believe that their property rights are adversely affected. The affected community can also appeal.

Important information about appeals and comments can be found in FEMA’s “Guidance for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping: Appeal and Comment Processing.” See

[https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-02/Appeal Comment Processing Guidance Feb 2019.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-02/Appeal%20Comment%20Processing%20Guidance%20Feb%202019.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. FEMA also publishes the final flood hazard information in the *Federal Register*. The updated flood map panels will become effective six months after the LFD date. FEMA archives final flood maps and FIS reports on the Flood Map Service Center (MSC) website at <https://msc.fema.gov>.

Resources are available to help homeowners understand the importance of flood insurance. There are steps they can take to reduce their rate. 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 flood map and FIS report issued by FEMA have become effective. Communities use effective flood maps 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 change once a flood map becomes effective. To view the effective flood maps, please visit the MSC at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search>.

The FEMA website at <https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps> has more flood mapping information and resources. The FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) can answer questions by telephone, toll free, at (877) 336-2627 (FEMA MAP) or by email at FEMA-FMIX@fema.dhs.gov. A list of additional resources can be found in [Appendix B](#) of this document. Please contact the appropriate FEMA Regional External Affairs staff listed below if you have questions or concerns.

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	Alexander Rico	(202) 480-1053	Alexander.Rico@fema.dhs.gov
3	Nicholas Morici	(267) 546-6419	Nicholas.Morici@fema.dhs.gov
4	Hallie Anderson	(202) 826-3190	Hallie.Anderson@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	Hanna Dickel	(816) 810-5382	Hannah.Dickel@fema.dhs.gov
8	Lynn Kimbrough	(303) 235-4943	Lynn.Kimbrough@fema.dhs.gov
9	Frank Mansell	(510) 627-7068	Frank.Mansell@fema.dhs.gov
10	Ashlie Chandler	(202) 706-1725	Ashlie.Chandler@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 their constituents will be affected by a flood map 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).

To meet these requirements, this document notifies Congress about studies with an estimated issuance of preliminary or revised preliminary flood maps in the current month and the next two months. It also lists preliminary or revised preliminary flood maps and/or LFDs that were issued last month.² FEMA issues LFDs to finalize the information on a preliminary flood map. This document also provides details on the required appeal periods that began and maps that went effective last month.³

¹ FEMA 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.

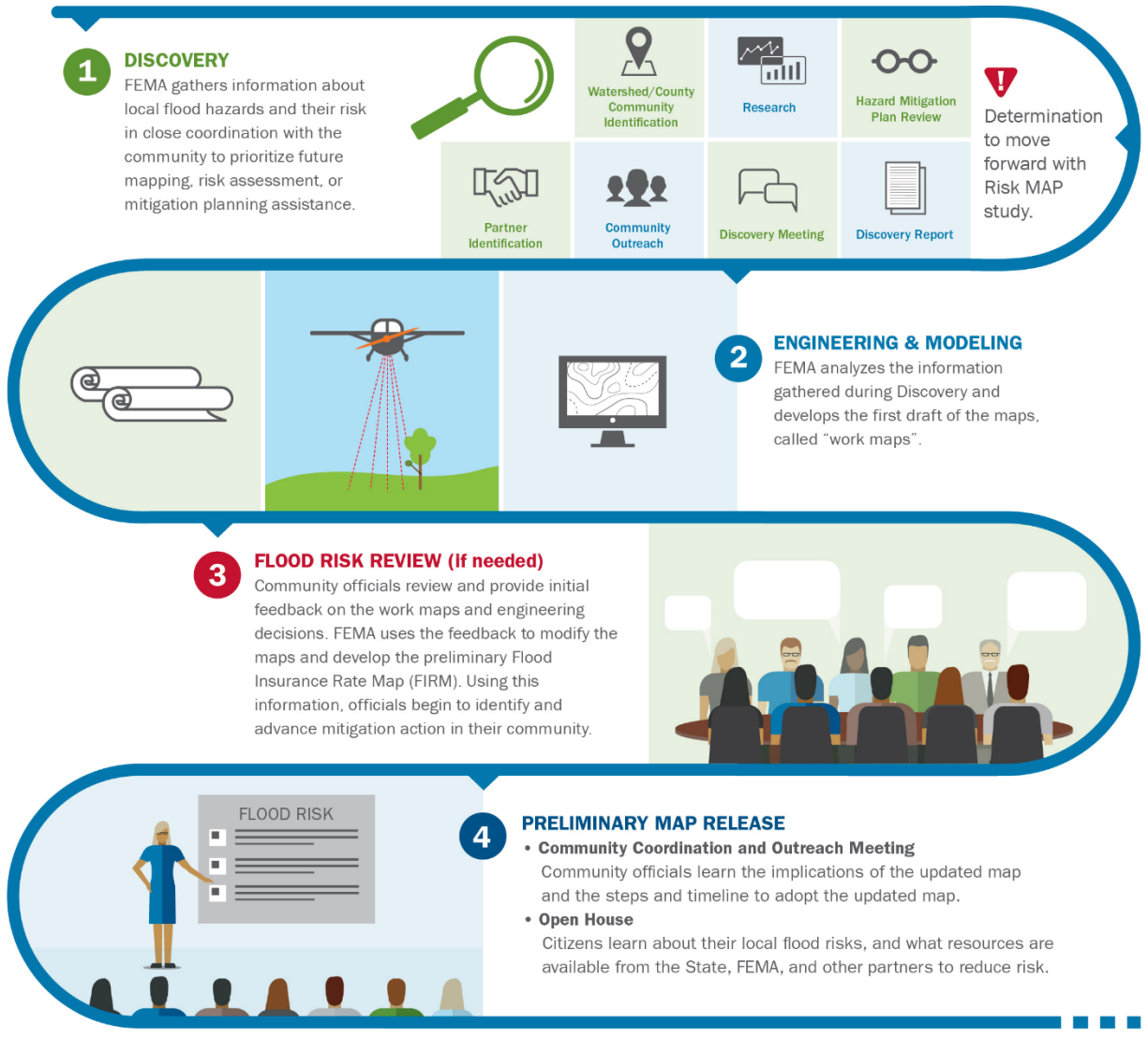
² For definitions of flood map, LFD, and other terms, please refer to Appendix B.

³ For more details, see “Information on ‘Appeal Start’ Actions” in Section 4.3.

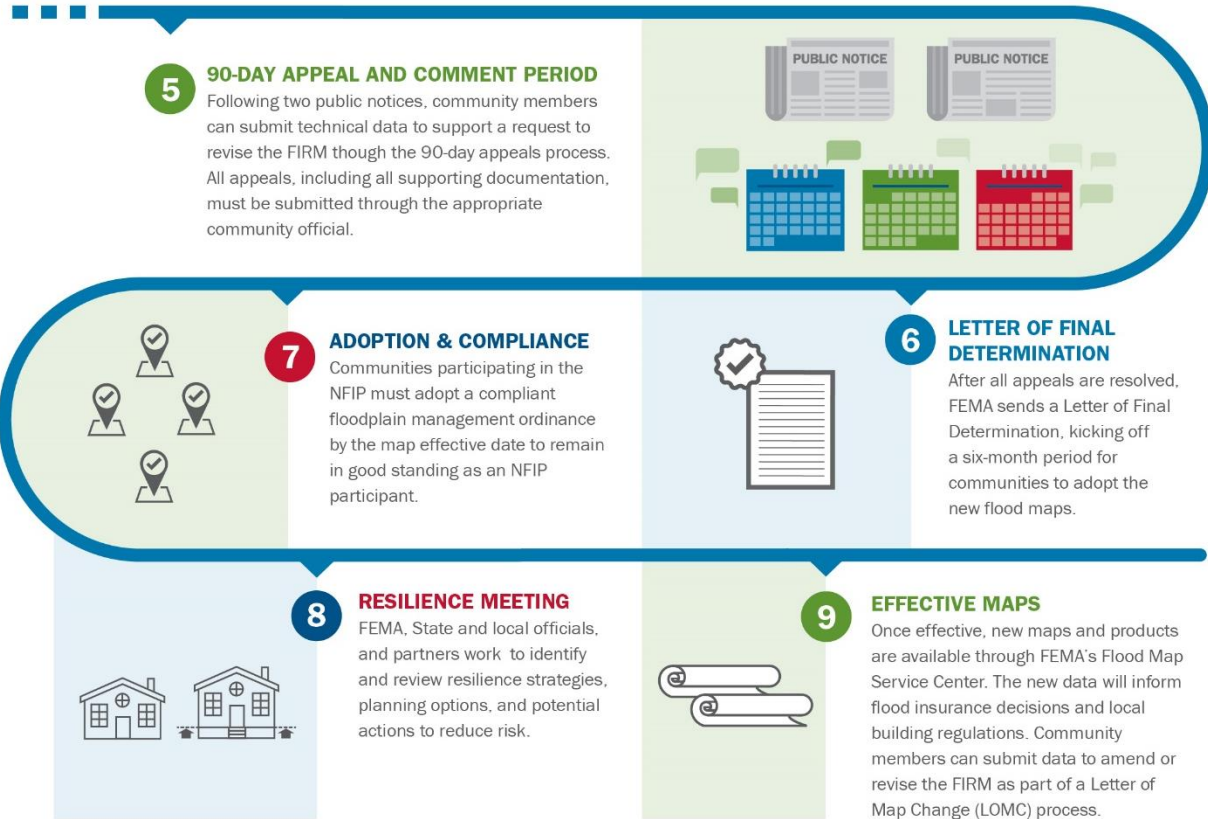
Appendix A: Risk MAP Process Graphic

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

FEMA Risk MAP Process



Risk MAP Process Continued



Appendix B: Resources

The following resources provide more information on this report's key elements.

Implementing 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
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National Flood Insurance Program

Website	https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance
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Phone	(877) 336-2627 (toll free)
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E-mail	floodsmart@fema.dhs.gov
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Risk MAP Program

Website	https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/tools-resources/risk-map
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Phone	(877) 336-2627 (toll free)
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E-mail	FEMA-FMIX@fema.dhs.gov
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Appendix C: NVUE Overview

FEMA uses the New, Validated, or Updated Engineering (NVUE) metric to measure how well its floodplain mapping reflects current risks in flood-prone areas. By increasing NVUE, FEMA’s Risk Management Directorate (RMD) helps local communities make informed decisions about flood risk and build resilience while also complying with the requirement of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) to “revise and update all floodplain areas and flood risk zones identified, delineated, or established based on an analysis of all-natural hazards affecting flood risks on a five-year cycle”.

As of the first quarter of FY2023, the total FEMA flood hazard mapping inventory included approximately 1.2 million miles of flooding sources (riverine and coastal) which covers communities that make up 98% of the U.S. population. FEMA continually updates its mapping for the existing inventory to increase the percent NVUE and adds to it by studying previously unmapped areas.

Mapped vs. Unmapped Miles

Of the **3.6 million** miles of flooding sources in the United States there are 1.3 million miles impacting areas of potential development for which Risk MAP is developing a strategy to address.

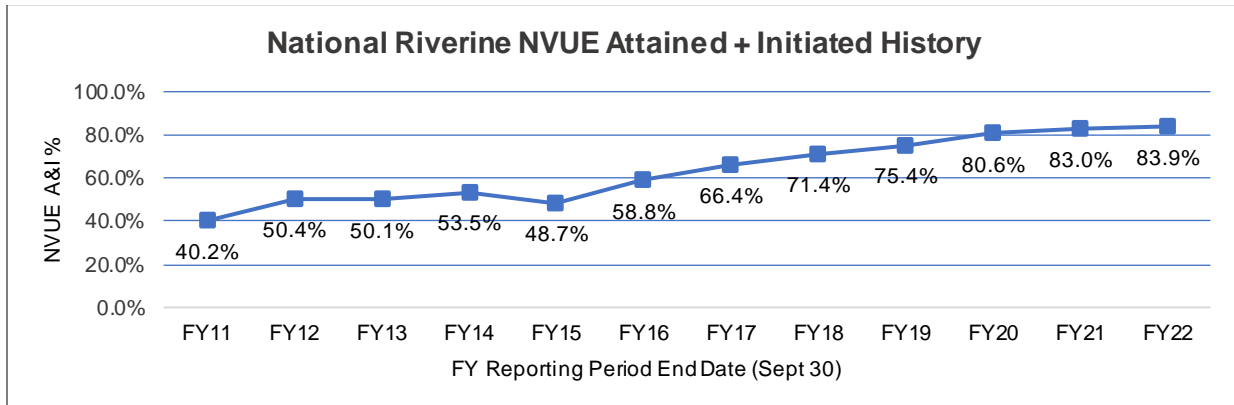
- **1.2 million** miles mapped and maintained by FEMA.
- **1.1 million** miles on Federal Lands and do not need to be mapped.
- **1.3 million** unmapped miles.

Risk MAP is responsible for ensuring the Nation’s flood hazard information is current and up to date.

The table below provides NVUE metric information for riverine and coastal flooding sources. FEMA continually tracks and assesses the NVUE status for every mile of mapped as part of a five-year review cycle.

National NVUE Attained and Initiated Summary Table: FY23 – Q1					
	NVUE Measured at Preliminary Issuance				
	Full Inventory of Mapped Miles	NVUE Attained Miles	NVUE % Attained	NVUE Initiated Miles	NVUE % Attained + Initiated
Riverine	1,206,292	464,669	38.5%	540,979	83.4%
Coastal	43,391	35,618	82.1%	3,881	91.0%
Total	1,249,683	500,287	40.0%	544,860	83.6%

Typically, the amount of new or updated engineering studies funded each fiscal year exceeds the studies that lose their NVUE status after the 5-year assessment review. Recently this has led to an upward trend of riverine NVUE percent as shown in the graph below.



In FY2020, FEMA achieved a significant program milestone by reaching 80% NVUE. Maintaining 80% NVUE is a priority of the Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program. Information about how FEMA calculates NVUE and the factors that impact NVUE are listed below.

NVUE Calculation

The percent of NVUE “Attained + Initiated” represents the quarter-end number of NVUE miles over FEMA’s mapped inventory. NVUE “Attained” is a subset of NVUE. It represents the percent of the NVUE inventory for which FEMA has issued preliminary maps for review or effective maps for regulatory purposes. Please note that when new engineering studies cover previously unmapped miles, they increase both the NVUE denominator and numerator at Preliminary Issuance.

Increases to NVUE: When FEMA’s 10 regional offices fund new engineering studies, they track the total NVUE miles. FEMA bundles the engineering studies into mapping projects and tracks them as they progress through the Risk MAP project lifecycle.

Decreases to NVUE: FEMA reviews the existing NVUE studies (NVUE Attained) every 5 years (per Title 42 of the CFR, Chapter III, Section 4101(e)(3)). If mapped flood hazards see significant physiological, climatological, and/or engineering methodology changes since the date of the original study, they lose their NVUE status and no longer count as NVUE miles.