

# NOTICE TO CONGRESS: MONTHLY UPDATE ON FLOOD MAPPING

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

September 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

### Using Flood Risk Products in Hazard Mitigation Plans

FEMA's Flood Risk Products are non-regulatory data communication tools that communities can use—along with the regulatory Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs)—to better understand their flood risk. Communities can use these tools to communicate flood risks to residents and other stakeholders, and to make better decisions to mitigate these risks. Communities that receive Flood Risk Products can potentially save time and money by using FEMA data that is specially packaged to help them achieve risk reduction goals.

These products include:

- Flood Risk Map and Report
- Flood Risk Database, including the following datasets:
  - Changes Since Last FIRM
  - Water Surface Elevation Grids
  - Flood Depth Grids
  - Percent 30-Year Chance Grid
  - Flood Risk Assessment
  - Areas of Mitigation Interest

Flood Risk Products have been around for many years, but historically there has been a low awareness among communities of what they are—or how to use them. In 2015, FEMA's Risk Management Directorate (RMD) set out to fix this by convening an integrated project team (IPT) on Flood Risk Products to provide RMD leadership with a strategy and recommendations for increasing the use of Flood Risk Products through training, outreach, and communications. Ideally, FEMA wants Flood Risk Products to go beyond the mapping project and be used by local officials and technical stakeholders in their long-term risk reduction efforts. In August 2018, FEMA published "Using Flood Risk Products in Hazard Mitigation Plans" to educate local planners on how to improve the ways flood risk is quantified and communicated in mitigation plans. The publication explains what Flood Risk Products are, how communities can get them, and how they are different from FEMA's regulatory products. It also includes case studies on how some communities have used the products. Most important, the publication walks the user through how each Flood Risk Product can be applied to help meet mitigation planning requirements. FEMA is sharing the publication with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders, including the American Planning Association's Hazard Mitigation and Disaster Recovery Division.



### 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 |
|--------|-------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 1      | NH    | Rockingham County     | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 1      | NH    | Strafford County      | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 2      | NJ    | Mercer County         | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 2      | NY    | Erie County           | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 3      | MD    | Baltimore City        | October 2018                   | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 3      | MD    | Frederick County      | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 3      | PA    | Columbia County       | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 3      | PA    | Dauphin County        | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 3      | PA    | Juniata County        | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 3      | PA    | Luzerne County        | October 2018                   | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 3      | PA    | Montour County        | October 2018                   | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 3      | PA    | Northumberland County | October 2018                   | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 3      | PA    | Snyder County         | October 2018                   | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 3      | PA    | Union County          | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 3      | VA    | Fauquier County       | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |



| Region | State | County Name           | Estimated Preliminary Issuance | Estimated Schedule of Community Meetings | Estimated Public Notice and Starting Appeal Period |
|--------|-------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 3      | VA    | Prince William County | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 3      | VA    | Radford City          | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 4      | FL    | Citrus County         | September 2018                 | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | FL    | Hamilton County       | September 2018                 | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | FL    | Hillsborough County   | October 2018                   | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | FL    | Madison County        | September 2018                 | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | KY    | Carroll County        | September 2018                 | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | KY    | Henry County          | September 2018                 | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | KY    | Oldham County         | September 2018                 | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | KY    | Spencer County        | September 2018                 | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | KY    | Trimble County        | September 2018                 | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | MS    | Bolivar County        | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | MS    | Coahoma County        | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | MS    | Humphreys County      | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | MS    | Marshall County       | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | MS    | Panola County         | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | MS    | Quitman County        | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | MS    | Sharkey County        | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | MS    | Sunflower County      | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | MS    | Tate County           | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | MS    | Tunica County         | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 4      | MS    | Washington County     | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 5      | MN    | Wilkin County         | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 5      | WI    | Kenosha County        | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 5      | WI    | Racine County         | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 5      | WI    | Walworth County       | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 5      | WI    | Waukesha County       | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 6      | LA    | Jackson Parish        | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 6      | LA    | Winn Parish           | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 6      | OK    | Oklahoma County       | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | IA    | Black Hawk County     | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | IA    | Bremer County         | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | IA    | Buchanan County       | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | IA    | Butler County         | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | IA    | Harrison County       | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | IA    | Scott County          | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | IA    | Story County          | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | KS    | Reno County           | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | MO    | Clark County          | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | MO    | Franklin County       | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | MO    | Mississippi County    | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | MO    | Pemiscot County       | November 2018                  | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | MO    | Stoddard County       | November 2018                  | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | MO    | Washington County     | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | NE    | Burt County           | October 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 |
|--------|-------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 7      | NE    | Nemaha County     | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 7      | NE    | Richardson County | September 2018                 | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 8      | CO    | Arapahoe County   | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 8      | CO    | Denver County     | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 8      | CO    | Douglas County    | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 8      | SD    | Union County      | November 2018                  | Quarter 1, 2019                          | Quarter 2, 2019                                    |
| 9      | AZ    | Yavapai County    | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 9      | CA    | Kern County       | October 2018                   | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 9      | HI    | Kauai County      | November 2018                  | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 10     | WA    | Kittitas County   | November 2018                  | Quarter 4, 2018                          | Quarter 1, 2019                                    |
| 10     | WA    | Yakima County     | September 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      | PR    | Puerto Rico Territory-wide | September 2018                         |
| 3      | MD    | Allegany County            | October 2018                           |
| 4      | NC    | Beaufort County            | October 2018                           |
| 4      | NC    | Carteret County            | October 2018                           |
| 4      | NC    | Craven County              | October 2018                           |
| 4      | NC    | Dare County                | October 2018                           |
| 4      | NC    | Hyde County                | October 2018                           |
| 4      | NC    | Jones County               | October 2018                           |
| 4      | NC    | Onslow County              | October 2018                           |
| 4      | NC    | Pitt County                | October 2018                           |
| 4      | NC    | Tyrrell County             | October 2018                           |
| 4      | NC    | Wake County                | October 2018                           |
| 5      | IN    | Johnson County             | November 2018                          |
| 5      | MN    | Blue Earth County          | September 2018                         |
| 5      | MN    | Nicollet County            | September 2018                         |
| 5      | MN    | Polk County                | November 2018                          |
| 5      | OH    | Athens County              | November 2018                          |
| 5      | OH    | Miami County               | October 2018                           |
| 6      | AR    | Saline County              | October 2018                           |



| Region | State | County Name      | Estimated Revised Preliminary Issuance |
|--------|-------|------------------|--|
| 6      | TX    | Burnet County    | September 2018                         |
| 9      | AZ    | Maricopa County  | November 2018                          |
| 9      | CA    | Mendocino County | October 2018                           |
| 10     | AK    | Sitka Borough    | September 2018                         |
| 10     | OR    | Lincoln County   | September 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      | ME    | Cumberland County  | Appeal Start        | 8/2/2018  |
| 1      | ME    | York County        | Appeal Start        | 8/1/2018  |
| 2      | NJ    | Atlantic County    | Maps Effective      | 8/28/2018 |
| 2      | NY    | Herkimer County    | Revised Preliminary | 8/3/2018  |
| 3      | MD    | Garrett County     | LFD Issued          | 8/1/2018  |
| 3      | PA    | Bradford County    | Preliminary         | 8/30/2018 |
| 3      | PA    | Butler County      | Maps Effective      | 8/2/2018  |
| 3      | PA    | Lebanon County     | Preliminary         | 8/20/2018 |
| 3      | PA    | Schuylkill County  | Preliminary         | 8/24/2018 |
| 3      | PA    | Wayne County       | LFD Issued          | 8/1/2018  |
| 3      | PA    | Wyoming County     | Preliminary         | 8/30/2018 |
| 3      | VA    | Greene County      | Preliminary         | 8/30/2018 |
| 3      | VA    | Louisa County      | Preliminary         | 8/30/2018 |
| 3      | WV    | Grant County       | LFD Issued          | 8/1/2018  |
| 4      | AL    | Lauderdale County  | Maps Effective      | 8/2/2018  |
| 4      | AL    | Lawrence County    | Maps Effective      | 8/2/2018  |
| 4      | AL    | Limestone County   | Maps Effective      | 8/16/2018 |
| 4      | AL    | Madison County     | Maps Effective      | 8/16/2018 |
| 4      | AL    | Marshall County    | Maps Effective      | 8/2/2018  |
| 4      | AL    | Morgan County      | Maps Effective      | 8/16/2018 |
| 4      | FL    | Hamilton County    | Maps Effective      | 8/28/2018 |
| 4      | FL    | Hernando County    | Preliminary         | 8/24/2018 |
| 4      | FL    | Suwannee County    | Maps Effective      | 8/28/2018 |
| 4      | FL    | Taylor County      | LFD Issued          | 8/1/2018  |
| 4      | GA    | Bryan County       | Maps Effective      | 8/2/2018  |
| 4      | GA    | Chatham County     | Maps Effective      | 8/16/2018 |
| 4      | GA    | McIntosh County    | Maps Effective      | 8/2/2018  |
| 4      | MS    | Itawamba County    | LFD Issued          | 8/15/2018 |
| 4      | MS    | Madison County     | Revised Preliminary | 8/17/2018 |
| 4      | MS    | Monroe County      | LFD Issued          | 8/15/2018 |
| 4      | NC    | Brunswick County   | Maps Effective      | 8/28/2018 |
| 4      | NC    | New Hanover County | Maps Effective      | 8/28/2018 |





| Region | State | County Name               | Action Taken        | Date      |
|--------|-------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| 4      | SC    | Abbeville County          | Maps Effective      | 8/16/2018 |
| 4      | SC    | Aiken County              | Maps Effective      | 8/16/2018 |
| 5      | IL    | Brown County              | Maps Effective      | 8/16/2018 |
| 5      | IL    | Kankakee County           | LFD Issued          | 8/15/2018 |
| 5      | IL    | Pike County               | Maps Effective      | 8/16/2018 |
| 5      | IL    | Will County               | LFD Issued          | 8/15/2018 |
| 5      | IN    | Perry County              | Appeal Start        | 8/2/2018  |
| 5      | MI    | Gladwin County            | Maps Effective      | 8/2/2018  |
| 5      | MI    | Grand Traverse County     | Maps Effective      | 8/28/2018 |
| 5      | MI    | Leelanau County           | Maps Effective      | 8/28/2018 |
| 5      | MI    | Monroe County             | Preliminary         | 8/13/2018 |
| 5      | OH    | Lucas County              | Preliminary         | 8/13/2018 |
| 5      | WI    | Racine County             | LFD Issued          | 8/1/2018  |
| 6      | TX    | Brown County              | Maps Effective      | 8/28/2018 |
| 6      | TX    | Burnet County             | Appeal Start        | 8/15/2018 |
| 6      | TX    | Calhoun County            | Maps Effective      | 8/2/2018  |
| 6      | TX    | Williamson County         | Appeal Start        | 8/15/2018 |
| 7      | IA    | Des Moines County         | Preliminary         | 8/27/2018 |
| 7      | IA    | Dubuque County            | Preliminary         | 8/27/2018 |
| 7      | IA    | Jackson County            | Preliminary         | 8/22/2018 |
| 7      | IA    | Lee County                | Preliminary         | 8/27/2018 |
| 7      | IA    | Muscatine County          | Preliminary         | 8/29/2018 |
| 7      | IA    | Polk County               | LFD Issued          | 8/1/2018  |
| 7      | KS    | Barton County             | LFD Issued          | 8/15/2018 |
| 7      | MO    | Greene County             | Preliminary         | 8/23/2018 |
| 7      | MO    | St. Genevieve County      | LFD Issued          | 8/15/2018 |
| 7      | NE    | Seward County             | Preliminary         | 8/1/2018  |
| 9      | AZ    | Yavapai County            | LFD Issued          | 8/15/2018 |
| 10     | AK    | Matanuska-Susitna Borough | Revised Preliminary | 8/24/2018 |
| 10     | ID    | Ada County                | Appeal Start        | 8/20/2018 |
| 10     | ID    | Valley County             | LFD Issued          | 8/1/2018  |
| 10     | OR    | Multnomah County          | LFD Issued          | 8/2/2018  |
| 10     | WA    | Grays Harbor              | Preliminary         | 8/31/2018 |

### 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](https://www.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](https://www.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](mailto: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     | <a href="mailto:Dennis.Pinkham@fema.dhs.gov">Dennis.Pinkham@fema.dhs.gov</a>         |
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| 3           | Corey DeMuro       | 202-394-8588     | <a href="mailto:Corey.DeMuro@fema.dhs.gov">Corey.DeMuro@fema.dhs.gov</a>             |
| 4           | Danon Lucas        | 770-220-5292     | <a href="mailto:Danon.Lucas@fema.dhs.gov">Danon.Lucas@fema.dhs.gov</a>               |
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| 9           | Frank Mansell      | 510-627-7068     | <a href="mailto:Frank.Mansell@fema.dhs.gov">Frank.Mansell@fema.dhs.gov</a>           |
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## 4. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

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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).<sup>1</sup>

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.<sup>2</sup> 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 periods<sup>3</sup> that were initiated and maps that went effective last month.

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<sup>1</sup>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.

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

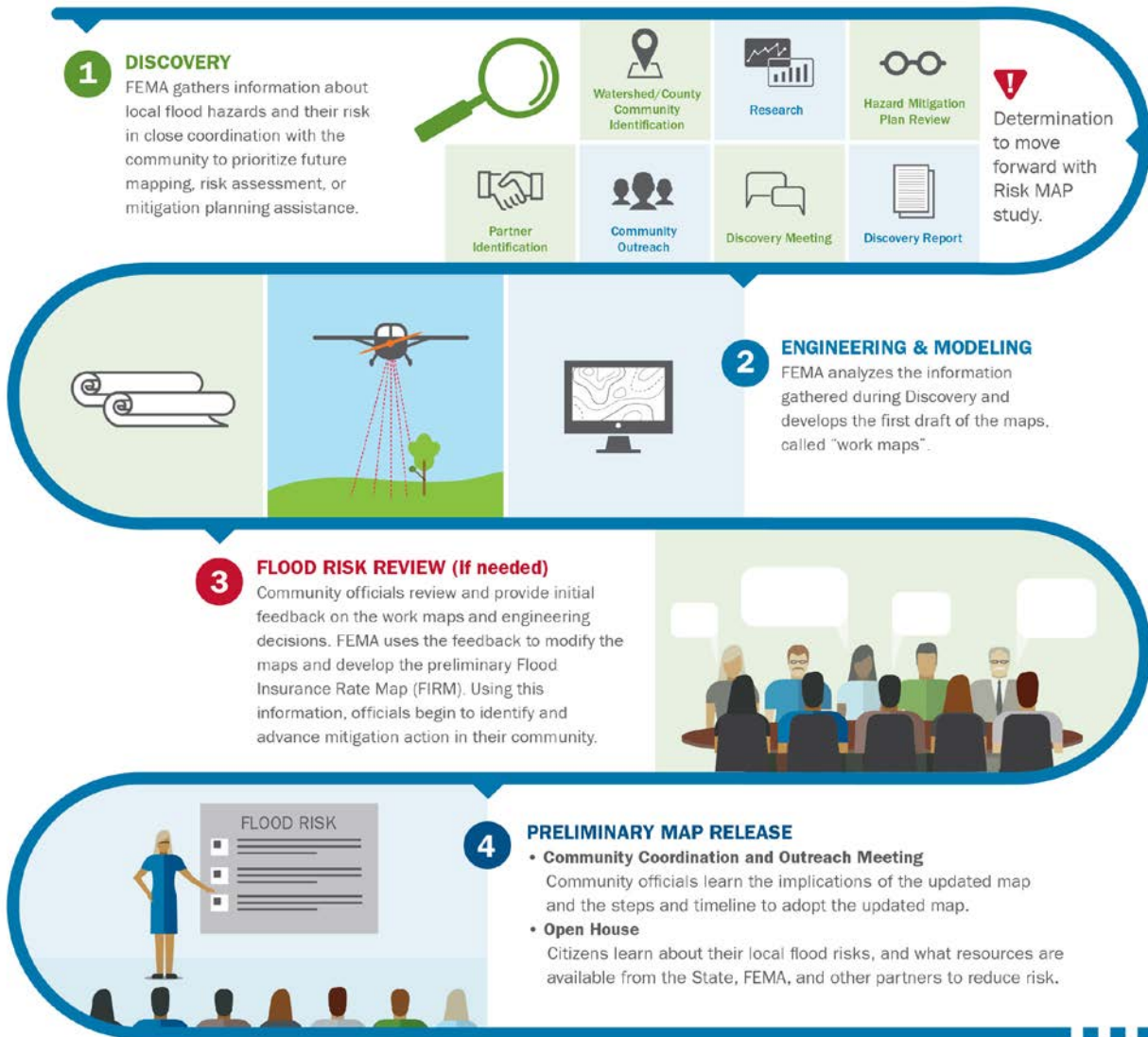
<sup>3</sup>For more details, see "Information on 'Appeal Start' Actions" in Section 4.3.



## APPENDIX A: RISK MAP PROCESS GRAPHIC

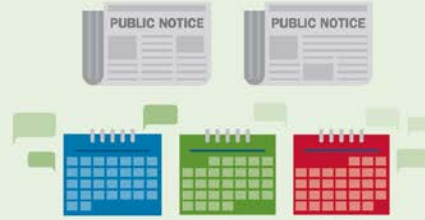
The information graphic below shows the process for flood map creation and updates.

### FEMA Risk MAP Process



## 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.



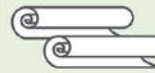
- 7 ADOPTION & COMPLIANCE**  
Communities participating in the NFIP must adopt a compliant floodplain management ordinance by the map effective date to remain in good standing as an NFIP participant.



- 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

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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

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Website</b> | <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/resources-documents/collections/341">fema.gov/media-library/resources-documents/collections/341</a> |
|----------------|---|

### National Flood Insurance Program

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Website</b> | <a href="https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program">fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program</a> |
|----------------|---|

|              |                          |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Phone</b> | 888-379-9531 (toll free) |
|--------------|--------------------------|

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>E-mail</b> | <a href="mailto:floodsmart@fema.dhs.gov">floodsmart@fema.dhs.gov</a> |
|---------------|--|

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Social Media</b> | Twitter at <a href="https://twitter.com/NFIPtraining">@NFIPtraining</a> |
|---------------------|---|

### Risk MAP Program

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Website</b> | <a href="https://www.fema.gov/risk-mapping-assessment-planning">fema.gov/risk-mapping-assessment-planning</a> |
|----------------|---|

|              |                          |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Phone</b> | 877-336-2627 (toll free) |
|--------------|--------------------------|

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>E-mail</b> | <a href="mailto:FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcfs.com">FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcfs.com</a> |
|---------------|--|

