

2024 Guidance and Standards Maintenance Cycle and Standards Public Review Announcements

This document contains both the **2024 Guidance and Standards Maintenance Cycle Announcement** and the **2024 Standards Public Review Announcement**. The maintenance cycle announcement provides a summary of all the planned changes to Risk MAP guidance and standards this year. The standards public review announcement provides the specific proposed changes for each standard and provides an opportunity for public review and comment by floodplain managers, engineers, and other Risk MAP stakeholders.

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FEMA has guidance and standards to support the Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP) program. These standards and guidance define the implementation details of the statutory and regulatory requirements for [National Flood Insurance Program \(NFIP\)](#) mapping. They describe how FEMA performs Flood Risk Projects, Letters of Map Change (LOMC), and related coordination activities. They are intended for mapping professionals and Cooperating Technical Partners (CTPs) under the Risk MAP Program. See the [FEMA website](#) for more information.

These guidance and standards need to be maintained. FEMA has a maintenance plan and issues updates each year. The annual cycle typically includes both significant changes reflecting impactful policy initiatives and simple maintenance. FEMA identifies these needs through routine reviews and by subject matter experts. Each change is identified as significant, simple, or minor.

We plan to publish revised standards and guidance in November 2024. The proposed changes to standards are listed in the second half of this document. **These changes are available for public review and comment from July 26 to Sep. 3 before they are included in the policy.** Proposed changes to guidance will be published at the beginning of August.



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If you have any questions, please contact fema-gs@fema.dhs.gov.

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Topics Reviewed

As part of the routine maintenance cycle for 2024, FEMA reviewed documents related to the following topics. Only standards and documents needing changes are listed in the following sections.

Topic	Topic (cont.)
Coastal – Data	Key Decision Points (KDPs)
Coastal – Flood Risk Products (FRPs)	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)
Discovery	Project Initiation
Endangered Species Act (ESA)	Project Management
Floodplain Boundary Standard (FBS)	Redelineation
Financial Management	Revalidation
FIRM Database	Summary of Map Actions (SOMA)
Floodplain Boundaries	Special Conversions
Floodway	

Significant Change Topics

Topic	Description
Floodway	There has been ongoing work for a few years to refine the program approach to mapping floodways based on 2D models. In addition, Floodplain Management has requested some significant updates to the current guidance. While this update is unlikely to address all outstanding issues with floodways, this update will address the requested changes from Floodplain Management and incorporate progress made refining the floodway mapping approach.
Discovery and Project Planning	The current Discovery guidance is oriented towards a Risk MAP lifecycle that begins before any significant hazard analysis is performed. With the shift to BLE, the overall approach to Discovery is changing and that will continue as the Future of Flood Risk Data (FFRD) is implemented, These proposed updates will align current guidance to these evolving approaches.
New Watershed Modeling Procedure	Working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), FEMA has been developing updated modeling practices that will support the technical vision of comprehensive, probabilistic watershed models developed through the Future of Flood Risk Data (FFRD) initiative. FEMA and USACE created a draft of the



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Topic	Description
	procedures last year and have been refining them through several pilot watersheds. This update will convert these new procedures into FEMA guidance. This work is not expected to be completed until 2025, however it will begin this year because of the significant scope of the change. The development of draft guidance will proceed in parallel to the development and testing of the procedures with USACE.

Significant and Simple Changes

The table below describes both the specific changes associated with the significant changes above and the simple maintenance items identified through routine maintenance reviews or on an ad hoc basis. A short summary describes the proposed changes. Simple changes have small impacts to current practices that require minimal or no changes in FEMA Regional operations and minimal or no impacts to stakeholders.

Item #	Doc. Type	Doc. Title/SID	Description
1	Standard	26	Proposing to rescind as the Discovery report is no longer required and often not ordered as part of a Risk MAP project.
2	Standard	82	Updating to align to current submission requirements and definition of a Technical Support Data Notebook (TSDN).
3	Standard	91	Updating to support the combination of two existing standards (SIDs 91 and 98) to define the V-Zone for all coastal Flood Risk Projects, regardless of the flooding source.
4	Standard	109	Updating stream channel centerline delineation requirements to include profile baselines, where available.
5	Standard	113	Rewording to simplify application of the standard and encourage use of the highest risk class.
6	Standard	133	Clarifying requirements for when the 1- and 0.2-percent-annual-chance floods must be delineated.
7	Standard	195	Including eLOMA and online LOMC as preferred options for submitting LOMC application packages.
8	Standard	198, 218, 404, 407	Rewording for improved clarity.
9	Standard	199	Including reference to applicable USGS quality requirements for lidar when used for defining lowest adjacent grade (LAG) or lowest lot elevation (LLE) for LOMAs.

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Item #	Doc. Type	Doc. Title/SID	Description
10	Standard	215	Updating to clarify that certified elevation data is required for Conditional LOMCs. Rewording documentation requirements for demonstrating ESA compliance for improved clarity.
11	Standard	219	Updating language to reference both determinations and comments. Including the community map repository in the list of entities to which the determinations/comments are issued.
12	Standard	220	Proposing to rescind since guidance references applicable regulations.
13	Standard	226	Clarifying language for when standard is applicable.
14	Standard	306	Clarifying floodplain mismatch resolution requirements to include extents and water surface elevations.
15	Standard	316	Proposing to remove the contained in structure notes from FIRM panels but require them on flood profiles.
16	Standard	405	Updating to align to current practices.
17	Standard	406	Updating to align to current practices.
18	Standard	408	Updating to clarify relevant details for LODRs.
19	Standard	417	Updating to make the Percent Annual Chance and Percent 30-year chance grids optional.
20	Standard	524	Updating for improved clarity.
21	Standard	525	Updating to reflect new terminology on the revalidation templates.
22	Standard	553	Revising to clarify LOMC categorization requirements.
23	Standard	602	Proposing clarification to emphasize that levee information in the National Levee Database must be used and compared to the effective FEMA data for studies with levee systems.
24	Standard	613	Updating language to reference MT-1s instead of CLOMA/LOMA and removing the term “determinations” since not issued for CLOMAs.
25	Standard	614	Updating language to reference MT-1 requests instead of (C)LOMA/(C)LOMR-F determinations and rewording for improved clarity.

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Item #	Doc. Type	Doc. Title/SID	Description
26	Standard	619	Updating to clarify that a PFD delineation cannot be superseded by a wave hazard analysis or structure certification and the location of the PFD is independent of hazards related to surge and waves.
27	Standard	624	Updating to clarify requirement for certified survey data.
28	Standard	649 (New)	Proposing new standard to clarify that MT-1s are not issued where effective flood hazards are designated as "For Informational Purposes Only."
29	Guidance	Base Level Engineering	Minor updates linked to proposed levee updates.
30	Guidance	Coastal Data Capture	Updating general style and formatting.
31	Guidance	Coastal Floodplain Mapping	Updating to include new mapping example for areas where certified coastal structures exist seaward of the primary frontal dune.
32	Guidance	Coastal Non-Regulatory Datasets	Updating title to reflect change from "Non-Regulatory Datasets" to "Flood Risk Datasets," updating General Style and formatting.
33	Guidance	Coastal Structures	Updating to clarify that all certified coastal structures require an operation and maintenance plan and do not qualify for an exemption under 44 CFR 65.6(a)(13), as coastal floodplains are not "watercourses."
34	Guidance	Coastal Study Documentation and Intermediate Data Submittals	Updating general style and formatting.
35	Guidance	Coastal Wave Setup	Updating to address use of 2D analysis for coastal wave setup, add language about analysis methods, refresh URLs, and restructure the document for readability.
36	Guidance	Data Capture – Workflow Details, General Hydraulics	Updating guidance for bridge survey, sketches, cross sections, bathymetry and reference marks to clarify requirements for 2D models and account for modern collection technologies.
37	Guidance	Documentation of Endangered Species Act Compliance for Conditional Letters of Map Change	Enhancing guidance based on coordination with Flood Hazard Mapping (FHM) and the Office of Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (OEHP).
38	Guidance	Discovery	Proposing updates to align with the shift to BLE and the implementation of Future of Flood Risk Data as

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Item #	Doc. Type	Doc. Title/SID	Description
			well as other general changes in the overall Discovery process.
39	Guidance	Elevation	Updating discussion of 3DEP lidar coverage and Risk MAP project planning.
40	Guidance	FIRM Database Guidance	Proposing to remove ZM value requirements in S_Profil_BasIn; Add Shown_FIRM field for S_Profil_BasIn.
41	Guidance	FIRM Graphics Guidance	Proposing to remove S_Gen_Struct contained in label requirements.
42	Guidance	FIS Report Guidance	Proposing to include structure contained in note on flood profiles.
43	Guidance	Flood Depth and Analysis Grids	Updating to make the Percent Annual Chance and Percent 30-year chance grids optional.
44	Guidance	Flood Risk Database (FRD)	Updating to make the Percent Annual Chance and Percent 30-year chance grids optional.
45	Guidance	Floodplain Boundary Standards (FBS)	Updating to ensure consistency with revisions to SID 113, reference the new Floodplain Boundary Standard Audit Report template, and correct references to external information.
46	Guidance	Floodway Analysis and Mapping	Updating to address comments received from Floodplain Management.
47	Guidance	Hydrology: Rainfall-Runoff Analyses	Updating to clarify that road embankments should generally not be modeled as reservoirs except in rare cases coordinated with the FEMA Project Officer.
48	Guidance	Key Decision Point (KDP) Process	Formatting update to emphasize KDP5 step to distribute LFD letters as well as other minor revisions for improved clarity.
49	Guidance	Levees	Proposing updates and clarification to select content in Chapters 3, 4, and 6.
50	Guidance	Letter of Map Revision Incorporation Guidance	Proposing updates to align the language / directions for how to incorporate PMR data.
51	Guidance	MT-1 Technical	Updating to clarify guidance for determinations, LOMR-Fs, BFE calculations, lowest adjacent grade (LAG), Zone A99, retaining walls, fees, and resubmittals.
52	Guidance	MT-2 Requests	Proposing updates to align the language for how to incorporate both MT-2 and PMR data. Proposing updates to describe typical mapping requirements

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Item #	Doc. Type	Doc. Title/SID	Description
			for habitat restoration based projects, including the possibility of multiple proposed projects in a revision reach.
53	Guidance	Physical Map Revision (PMR)	Proposing updates to align directions for how to incorporate MT-2 and PMR data. Also, other updates to align with AMP and other clarifying language. .
54	Guidance	Profile Baseline Guidance	Proposing to remove profile baseline ZM requirements.
55	Guidance	Redelineation	Expanding discussion for quality control and including new or updated references to relevant guidance. Removing profile baseline ZM requirements.
56	Guidance	Riverine Mapping and Floodplain Boundaries	Various minor style updates for improved consistency and clarity.
57	Guidance	Summary of Map Actions (SOMA) and Revalidation Letters	Updating to clarify letter timelines and LOMC categorization, and to add best practices for specific scenarios.
58	Guidance	Stakeholder Engagement: Project Planning and Discovery Process	Updating to align with updates to content and standards in the Guidance for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping: Discovery document.
59	Guidance	Stakeholder Engagement: Introduction and Key Terms	Updating to align with updates to content and standards in the Guidance for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping: Discovery document.
60	Technical Reference	Domain Tables Technical Reference	Proposing to add North American Datum 1983 (2011 to D_Horiz_Datum.
61	Technical Reference	FIRM Database Technical Reference	Proposing to add Shown_Index field to S_Profil_Basln feature class; Removing ZM value requirements in S_Profil_Basln.
62	Technical Reference	FIRM Panel Technical Reference	Proposing to remove S_Gen_Struct contained in label requirements.
63	Technical Reference	Flood Risk Database (FRD)	Proposing to make the Percent Annual Chance and Percent 30-year chance grids optional.
64	Technical Reference	FIS Report Technical Reference	Proposing to include structure contained in note on flood profiles.

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Item #	Doc. Type	Doc. Title/SID	Description
65	Technical Reference	Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS)	Proposing to update CNMS database schema to include new features and domains, updating NVUE assessment and reporting guidance, and updating the quality management plan to reflect the other changes.
66	Template	FIRM Database XML	Proposing to match FIRM Database Technical Reference and Domain Table Technical Reference changes.
67	Template	FIS Template	Proposing to include structure contained in note on flood profile.
68	Template	Floodplain Boundary Standard Audit Report	Proposing new template to provide users an editable version of the Floodplain Boundary Standard Audit Report to facilitate self-certification.
69	Template	Flood Risk Products Checklist	Proposing to make the Percent Annual Chance and Percent 30-year chance grids optional.
70	Template	Regulatory Products Checklists	Proposing to move several checks currently performed at Quality Review 5 (QR5) to QR3.

Minor Changes

Minor changes to standards and guidance do not have any impact on the current intent. They will not have any regional or stakeholder impact. These changes are intended to improve the consistency or clarity of the wording or to correct minor errors (e.g., typos).

SIDs	
134, 197, 612	
Guidance Documents & Technical Reference	Templates
None	None

If you have any questions, please contact fema-gs@fema.dhs.gov.

2024 Standards Public Review Announcement

Below is a summary of proposed standards changes for 2024. The summary of all planned changes to guidance and standards can be found above and posted to FEMA.gov [here](#).

Standards

The table below lists potential new standards and proposed updates to existing standards. FEMA will [publish](#) these standards in November 2024 during the annual update. **These draft updates are available for public review and comment from July 12 to Aug. 9 before they are included in the policy.**

Each update lists the Standard Identification Number (SID), implementation date, primary key word(s) and current version of the standard (if applicable). The approach to update these standards was chosen to avoid cost impacts on work that is underway.

The current standards and a list of acronyms are available on the [FEMA website](#).

SID	Implementation Date	Primary Keyword	Original Standard	Revised Standard
26	Effective immediately	Discovery	A Discovery Report must include a section listing the data and information collected, when they were received, data sources, and an analysis of the data and information. It must also include the outcomes and decisions made at the Discovery Meeting.	Proposed to rescind.
82	Effective immediately	Project Management	Final invoices shall not be paid until a TSDN is submitted, and certification is provided that contract or grant requirements are met.	Final invoices shall not be paid until summary documentation (TSDN, Project Narrative, etc.) is submitted, and certification is provided that contract or grant requirements are met.



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SID	Implementation Date	Primary Keyword	Original Standard	Revised Standard
91	Effective immediately	Coastal - Mapping	<p>For coastal Flood Risk Projects, VE Zones are identified using one or more of the following criteria for the 1-percent flood conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The breaking wave height zone occurs where 3-foot or greater wave heights could occur (this is the area where the wave crest profile is 2.1 feet or more above the static water elevation) (REQUIRED) 2. The primary frontal dune zone, as defined in 44 C.F.R. § 59.1 of the NFIP regulations (REQUIRED) 3. The wave runup zone occurs where the (eroded) ground profile is 3.0 feet or more below the Total Water Level, and 3.0 feet of wave runup height occurs in the analysis along the profile (REQUIRED) 4. The wave overtopping splash zone is the area landward of the crest of an overtopped barrier, in cases where the potential wave runup exceeds the barrier crest elevation by 3.0 feet or more and exceeds 1.0 cfs/ft (REQUIRED) 5. The high-velocity flow zone is landward of the overtopping splash zone (or area on a sloping beach or other shore type), where the product of depth of flow times the flood velocity squared is greater than or equal to 200 ft³/sec² (OPTIONAL) 	<p>For coastal Flood Risk Projects, VE Zones are identified using one or more of the following criteria for the 1% annual-chance flood conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The breaking wave height zone occurs where 3-foot or greater wave heights could occur (this is the area where the wave crest profile is 2.1 feet or more above the static water elevation) (REQUIRED) 2. The primary frontal dune zone, as defined in 44 C.F.R. § 59.1 of the NFIP regulations is based on the geometry of the regional feature and is independent of surge and wave driven coastal hazards (REQUIRED) 3. The wave runup zone occurs where the (eroded) ground profile is 3.0 feet or more below the Total Water Level, and 3.0 feet of wave runup height occurs in the analysis along the profile (REQUIRED) 4. The wave overtopping splash zone is the area landward of the crest of an overtopped barrier, in cases where the potential wave runup exceeds the barrier crest elevation by 3.0 feet or more and exceeds 1.0 cfs/ft (REQUIRED) 5. The high-velocity flow zone is landward of the overtopping splash zone (or area on a sloping beach or other shore type), where the product of depth of flow times the flood velocity squared is greater than or equal to 200 ft³/sec² (OPTIONAL)

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SID	Implementation Date	Primary Keyword	Original Standard	Revised Standard
109	Effective immediately	Floodplain Boundaries	Stream channel boundaries or centerlines must be shown within the identified 1-percent-annual-chance floodplain; if a regulatory floodway is developed, the stream must be shown within the regulatory floodway boundaries.	Stream channel centerlines and Profile Baselines for new studies must be shown within the identified 1-percent-annual-chance floodplain; if a regulatory floodway is developed, the stream, or Profile Baseline, where available, must be shown within the regulatory floodway boundaries.
113	Effective immediately	FBS	The flood risk class must be determined for each flooding source to identify what Floodplain Boundary Standard flood risk class must be met and what level of analysis is required. (Refer to Figure 2 in Appendix C).	If a singular risk class is used for all flooding sources to comply with the Floodplain Boundary Standard (FBS), then all flooding sources must meet the highest flood risk class (A) when evaluating FBS delineation reliability requirements (Refer to Figure 2 in Appendix C). Alternatively, the flood risk class may be determined for each flooding source to identify what FBS flood risk class must be met and what level of analysis is required.
133	Effective immediately	Floodplain Boundaries	Floodplain boundaries of the 1-percent-annual-chance flood must be delineated. If it is calculated, the 0.2-percent-annual-chance flood must be delineated.	Floodplain boundaries of the 1-percent-annual-chance flood must be delineated on the FIRM. If it is calculated, the 0.2-percent-annual-chance flood must be delineated on the FIRM for enhanced (i.e. Zone AE) flood studies.
134	Effective immediately	Redelineation	If the redelineation topographic data indicates that the effective hydraulic analyses are no longer valid, further actions must be coordinated with the FEMA Project Officer and the CNMS database must be updated.	If the redelineation topographic data indicates that the effective hydraulic analyses are no longer valid, further actions must be coordinated with the FEMA Project Officer and the CNMS database must be updated.

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SID	Implementation Date	Primary Keyword	Original Standard	Revised Standard
195	Effective immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	LOMC requestors shall submit requests, including the required review and processing fee if applicable, to the appropriate processing address. The address is provided in the application forms package that must be used in preparing a LOMC request for submittal.	LOMC requestors shall send requests and required review and processing fees, if applicable, through the eLOMA or online LOMC tools. Alternatively, requests can be sent by mail to the address in the LOMC application package.
197	Effective immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	<p>Upon receipt of a LOMC, the following shall be done:</p> <p>Make an initial determination as to the expected processing procedure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assign a case number • Create a case file • Enter the request into the MIP • Record the date of receipt 	<p>Upon receipt of a LOMC, the following shall be done:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make an initial determination as to the expected processing procedure • Assign a case number • Create a case file • Enter the request into the MIP • Record the date of receipt
198	Effective Immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	When processing a LOMC, any ongoing, past, or future map actions affecting the case shall be taken into consideration.	When LOMCs are processed, current, past, and future map actions are considered.
199	Effective immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	LOMC submittals must include certifications by a licensed professional authorized to certify the data under state law, except when LiDAR is provided to satisfy the lowest adjacent grade (LAG) requirements for LOMAs.	LOMC submittals must include certifications by a licensed professional authorized to certify the data under state law. For LOMAs, lidar can be used to define the lowest adjacent grade (LAG) or lowest lot elevation (LLE) if the dataset meets or exceeds the USGS Quality Level 3 accuracy requirement.

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SID	Implementation Date	Primary Keyword	Original Standard	Revised Standard
215	Effective immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	<p>Conditional LOMCs are subject to the same standards of a LOMA, LOMR-F, or LOMR except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because Conditional LOMCs are based on proposed construction, as-built information is not required. • The Conditional Comment Documents that are issued by FEMA do not amend or revise the effective FHBM or FIRM. • Conditional LOMRs and CLOMR-Fs must demonstrate compliance with the Endangered Species Act. 	<p>Conditional LOMCs are subject to the same standards of a LOMA, LOMR-F, or LOMR except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because Conditional LOMCs are based on proposed construction, as-built information is not required; however, proposed certified elevation data is required. • The Conditional Comment Documents that are issued by FEMA do not amend or revise the effective FHBM or FIRM. • Conditional LOMRs and CLOMR-Fs must provide documentation to FEMA to demonstrate compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
218	Effective immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	<p>LOMA, CLOMA, LOMR-F, CLOMR-F, LOMR and CLOMR determinations must be issued based on the effective FIRM and FIS for a community and may not be issued based on preliminary data for a FEMA-contracted Flood Risk Project or community-initiated map revision. However, if the effective SFHA does not have BFEs or flood depths established and the preliminary data is the best available, a one-percent-annual chance flood hazard water surface elevation may be calculated during LOMA, CLOMA, LOMR-F, or CLOMR-F reviews using data from these sources.</p>	<p>LOMC (LOMA, CLOMA, LOMR-F, CLOMR-F, LOMR and CLOMR) determinations must be issued based on the effective FIRM and FIS. If effective BFEs or flood depths are not available, the reviewer can use preliminary data from FEMA-contracted Flood Risk Projects or community-initiated map revisions if it is the best available to define the base flood (1-percent-annual-chance) elevation.</p>

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SID	Implementation Date	Primary Keyword	Original Standard	Revised Standard
219	Effective immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	Following the preparation of the LOMC determination document, the LOMC shall be included in the list of determinations that is to be sent to FEMA for official approval. Following approval, the requester shall be provided with FEMA's final determination. A copy of the LOMC determination document shall also be sent to the community CEO and floodplain administrator and to the requester when applicable.	All LOMC determinations/comments will be sent to FEMA for official approval. Upon FEMA approval the determinations/comments will be issued to the community CEO/requester and floodplain administrator/manager, including the community map repository.
220	Effective Immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	The reviews of LOMC requests shall be processed in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations Title 44 C.F.R. Parts 65, 67, 70, and 72.	Proposing to rescind.
226	Effective Immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	LOMC requests involving below-grade crawlspaces constructed within the SFHA shall follow guidance provided in FEMA Technical Bulletin 11.	MT-1 requests with below-grade crawlspaces constructed within the SFHA shall follow guidance in FEMA Technical Bulletin 11.
306	Effective Immediately	Floodplain Boundaries	Any existing mismatches in floodplains and flood hazard information between communities and counties must be resolved as part of a FIS Report/FIRM update.	Any existing mismatches in floodplain extents and water surface elevation information between communities and counties must be resolved as part of a FIS Report/FIRM update.
316	Effective for projects not yet in QR1	FIRM Graphics Standards	Hydraulic structures other than levees shall be labeled on the FIRM panel only if shown on the Flood Profile of the FIS Report. The label name must match what is shown on the Flood Profile. If 1-percent-annual-chance, 0.2-percent-annual-chance-flood discharge, and/or floodway are contained in the structure, a note must be placed on the FIRM panel near the feature to refer to the highest contained discharge.	Hydraulic structures other than levees must be labeled on the FIRM panel and match what is shown on the flood profile. The 1 percent annual-chance- flood discharge, 0.2 percent -annual-chance- flood discharge, and/or floodway are contained in the structure note shall only be labeled on the flood profile.

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SID	Implementation Date	Primary Keyword	Original Standard	Revised Standard
404	Effective Immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	The Compendium of Flood Map Changes shall be published every six months (180 days). Publication shall occur within 15 days of the close of the 6-month reporting period.	The Compendium of Flood Map Changes (LOMCs) shall be published every six months (180 days). Publication shall occur within 15 days of the close of the 6-month cycle.
405	Effective for projects whose revalidation letters have not yet been submitted.	Revalidation	Four weeks before the effective date of the revised map, the revalidation package shall be submitted to FEMA for review and approval using the standardized checklist, located at the Flood Risk Templates and Other Resources page on the FEMA website, prior to issuing the revalidation letters.	Forty-five days before the effective date of the revised map, the revalidation package shall be submitted to FEMA for review and approval using the standardized checklist, located at the Flood Risk Templates and Other Resources page on the FEMA website, prior to issuing the revalidation letters.
406	Effective Immediately	Revalidation	The LOMC-VALID letter shall be provided to the community CEO and floodplain administrator and the LOMC Subscription Service Coordinator within five business days of the effective date of the revised FIRM(s).	The LOMC-VALID letter shall be mailed to the community CEO and floodplain administrator and the Distribute Revalidation MIP Task submitted no less than five business days prior to the effective date of the revised FIRM(s).
407	Effective Immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	FEMA will make available the following at regular intervals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • final LOMCs with attachments • final SOMAs • revalidation letters. 	FEMA will make available the following at regular intervals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final LOMCs with attachments, as applicable • Final SOMAs • Revalidation letters
408	Effective Immediately	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	Requests for Letters of Determination Review (LODRs) shall be processed.	Requests for Letters of Determination Reviews (LODRs) can be submitted to FEMA by a lender and/or borrower within 45 days of notification that the structure is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) by the lender. The LODR request needs to be signed by both lender and borrower.

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SID	Implementation Date	Primary Keyword	Original Standard	Revised Standard																																																												
417	Effective Immediately	Flood Risk Datasets	<p>The minimum datasets associated with the Flood Risk Project are defined as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Flood Risk Product/Dataset</th> <th>New Flood Hazard Analysis¹ Conducted</th> <th>No New Flood Hazard Analysis¹ Conducted</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Flood Risk Database</td> <td>Required²</td> <td>Required²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Changes Since Last FIRM</td> <td>Automated³</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Water Surface Elevation Grids</td> <td>Required²</td> <td>Optional²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flood Depth Grids</td> <td>Required²</td> <td>Optional²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Percent Annual Chance & Percent 30-year Chance Grids</td> <td>Required²</td> <td>Optional²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flood Risk Assessment</td> <td>Required^{2,4}</td> <td>Required^{4,5}</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Areas of Mitigation Interest (AOMI)</td> <td>Required</td> <td>Required</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flood Risk Map</td> <td>Optional</td> <td>Optional</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flood Risk Report</td> <td>Optional</td> <td>Optional</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>¹ New Flood Hazard Analysis = flooding sources receiving regulatory-level analyses ² Shapefiles and GeoTIFFs are required for the submission. The FRD data in geodatabase format is optional and only required if specifically contracted. ³ CSUF is optional in areas where digital modernized floodplain boundaries are not available for the effective, and its creation would be performed by the mapping partner, not automated tool. ⁴ Riverine studies: 10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1%, and 0.2% annual-chance floods ⁵ Can be produced for flooding sources not receiving new analyses if based on effective data ⁶ Riverine Only ⁷ Riverine studies: 10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1%, and 0.2% annual-chance floods, and Annualized Coastal studies: only the 1% annual-chance flood ⁸ Levee studies: Riverward/Seward side - same as Riverine or Coastal Landward side - only based on the landward depth grid ⁹ Assessments are performed for the flood events with available depth grids. See Flood Risk Database Technical Reference for more information. ¹⁰ Analysis can be conducted at census block or user-defined facility level.</p>	Flood Risk Product/Dataset	New Flood Hazard Analysis ¹ Conducted	No New Flood Hazard Analysis ¹ Conducted	Flood Risk Database	Required ²	Required ²	Changes Since Last FIRM	Automated ³	N/A	Water Surface Elevation Grids	Required ²	Optional ²	Flood Depth Grids	Required ²	Optional ²	Percent Annual Chance & Percent 30-year Chance Grids	Required ²	Optional ²	Flood Risk Assessment	Required ^{2,4}	Required ^{4,5}	Areas of Mitigation Interest (AOMI)	Required	Required	Flood Risk Map	Optional	Optional	Flood Risk Report	Optional	Optional	<p>The minimum datasets associated with the Flood Risk Project are defined as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Flood Risk Product/Dataset</th> <th>New Flood Hazard Analysis¹ Conducted</th> <th>No New Flood Hazard Analysis¹ Conducted</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Flood Risk Database</td> <td>Required²</td> <td>Required²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Changes Since Last FIRM</td> <td>Automated³</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Water Surface Elevation Grids</td> <td>Required²</td> <td>Optional²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flood Depth Grids</td> <td>Required²</td> <td>Optional²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Percent Annual Chance & Percent 30-year Chance Grids</td> <td>Optional²</td> <td>Optional²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flood Risk Assessment</td> <td>Required^{2,4}</td> <td>Required^{4,5}</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Areas of Mitigation Interest (AOMI)</td> <td>Optional</td> <td>Optional</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flood Risk Map</td> <td>Optional</td> <td>Optional</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flood Risk Report</td> <td>Optional</td> <td>Optional</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>¹ New Flood Hazard Analysis = flooding sources receiving regulatory-level analyses ² Shapefiles and GeoTIFFs are required for the submission. 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524	Effective Immediately	SOMA	<p>When multiple determination LOMAs and LOMR-Fs include both removal and non-removal determinations, and all determinations remain the same based on the new or revised mapping, the case must be included in Category 2A or Category 2B in the MIP SOMA Workbench.</p>	<p>When multiple determination LOMAs and LOMR-Fs include both removal and non-removal determinations, and all determinations included in the original LOMC remain the same based on the new or revised mapping, the case must be included in Category 2A or Category 2B in the MIP SOMA Workbench.</p>																																																												
525	Effective Immediately	SOMA	<p>On the Preliminary and Final SOMA, the map number and map suffix must be listed in the Original Panel field and Current Panel field for each valid LOMC. On the Revalidation Letter, the FIRM Panel Number and map suffix must be listed for each valid LOMC.</p>	<p>On the Preliminary and Final SOMA, the map number and map suffix must be listed in the Current LOMC Panel Number field and New LOMC Panel Number field for each valid LOMC. On the Revalidation Letter, the FIRM Panel Number and map suffix must be listed for each valid LOMC.</p>																																																												

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553	Effective Immediately	SOMA	<p>LOMCs shall be categorized on the SOMA as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Category 1 (LOMCs Incorporated) - Includes those LOMRs (and some LOMAs and LOMR-Fs) whose results are unaffected by new or revised flood hazard data, and whose results can and will be incorporated into the revised FIRM panel(s). Large metes-and-bounds or multi-lot property removal LOMR-Fs are sometimes incorporated through Category 1 when scale limitations do not prohibit it; although typically, these LOMAs and LOMR-Fs will be revalidated through Category 2. Structure removal (both single and multiple determination) LOMCs cannot be incorporated due to scale limitations and therefore shall not be included in Category 1. - Category 2A (LOMCs Not incorporated on revised panels) - Includes those valid LOMCs that shall remain effective and/or are within the revised panel footprint of the study. - Category 2B (LOMCs Not incorporated on unrevised panels) - Includes those valid LOMCs within a community that shall remain effective and/or fall on unrevised panels within that community. - Category 3 (LOMCs Superseded) - Includes those LOMCs whose results will not be reflected on the revised FIRM panel because the flood hazard data on which the determinations are based are being superseded by new detailed flood hazard data, or the information available was not sufficient to make a determination 	<p>LOMCs shall be categorized on the SOMA as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Category 1 (LOMCs Incorporated) - Includes those LOMRs (and some LOMAs and LOMR-Fs) whose results are unaffected by new or revised flood hazard data, and whose results can and will be incorporated into the revised FIRM panel(s). Large metes-and-bounds or multi-lot property removal LOMR-Fs are sometimes incorporated through Category 1 when scale limitations do not prohibit it; although typically, these LOMAs and LOMR-Fs will be revalidated through Category 2. Structure removal (both single and multiple determination) LOMCs cannot be incorporated due to scale limitations and therefore shall not be included in Category 1. - Category 2A (LOMCs Not incorporated on revised panels) - Includes those valid LOMCs that shall remain effective and are within the revised panel footprint of the study. - Category 2B (LOMCs Not incorporated on unrevised panels) - Includes those valid LOMCs within a community that shall remain effective and fall on unrevised panels within that community. - Category 3 (LOMCs Superseded) - Includes those LOMCs whose results will not be reflected on the revised FIRM panel because the flood hazard data on which the determinations are based are being superseded by new detailed flood hazard data, the information available was not sufficient to make a
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SID	Implementation Date	Primary Keyword	Original Standard	Revised Standard
			- Category 4 (LOMCs To Be Redetermined) - Includes those LOMAs and LOMR-Fs issued for multiple lots or structures for which new determinations must be made because the determination for one or more properties or structures has changed as a result of the new or revised flood hazard information, and therefore cannot be revalidated.	determination, or were superseded by another LOMC. - Category 4 (LOMCs To Be Redetermined) - Includes those LOMAs and LOMR-Fs issued for multiple lots or structures for which new determinations must be made because the determination for one or more properties or structures has changed as a result of the new or revised flood hazard information, and therefore cannot be revalidated.
602	Effective Immediately	Levee	For the analysis and mapping of flood hazards associated with levee systems, data and documentation from the USACE National Levee Database (NLD) must be leveraged as a starting point. Effective FEMA data and supplemental data from local communities, tribal entities or other federal or state agencies, including terrain data, should be evaluated, and the most accurate data shall be used. FEMA shall provide USACE with updated levee data for incorporation into the NLD as appropriate.	For the analysis and mapping of flood hazards associated with levee systems, data and documentation from the USACE National Levee Database (NLD) must be leveraged as a starting point. Then, this data must be compared to effective FEMA data and supplemental data from local communities, tribal entities or other federal or state agencies, including terrain data, should be evaluated, and the most accurate data shall be used. FEMA shall provide USACE with updated levee data for incorporation into the NLD as appropriate.

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SID	Implementation Date	Primary Keyword	Original Standard	Revised Standard
612	Effective Immediately	Key Decision Points (KDPs)	<p>Flood Risk Projects must follow the Key Decision Points (KDPs) process and each KDP must be documented.</p> <p>A Flood Risk Project shall not advance in its project lifecycle beyond a KDP without Regional and HQ approval.</p> <p>The six distinct KDPs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KDP 0: decision to initiate a Flood Risk Project or group of Flood Risk Projects. • KDP 1: decision to move forward with a Flood Risk Project through data development, risk awareness, and/or outreach tasks • KDP 2: decision to develop Preliminary FIRM products • KDP 3: decision to distribute Preliminary FIRM products to communities • KDP 4: decision to initiate the Appeal Period • KDP 5: decision to issue the LFD 	<p>Flood Risk Projects must follow the Key Decision Point (KDP) process and each KDP must be documented.</p> <p>A Flood Risk Project shall not advance in its project lifecycle beyond a KDP without regional and headquarters approval.</p> <p>The six distinct KDPs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KDP 0: decision to initiate a Flood Risk Project or group of Flood Risk Projects • KDP 1: decision to move forward with a Flood Risk Project through data development, risk awareness, and/or outreach tasks • KDP 2: decision to develop Preliminary FIRM products • KDP 3: decision to distribute Preliminary FIRM products to communities • KDP 4: decision to initiate the Appeal Period • KDP 5: decision to issue the LFD
613	Effective Immediately	Coastal – General	FEMA does not issue CLOMA or LOMA determinations in V zones where the primary frontal dunes (PFDs) define the inland limits of V zones.	FEMA does not issue MT-1s in V zones where the primary frontal dunes (PFDs) define the inland limits of V zones.
614	Effective Immediately	Coastal – General	FEMA will only use BFEs in the format of the effective flood hazard map for (C)LOMA or (C)LOMR-F determinations where effective flood hazard areas are the result of coastal flood hazard analysis.	For MT-1 requests where effective flood hazard areas are the result of coastal flood hazard analysis, FEMA will only use BFEs in the format of the effective flood hazard map.

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SID	Implementation Date	Primary Keyword	Original Standard	Revised Standard
619	Effective Immediately	Coastal – Mapping	When revising the dune feature identified as the Primary Frontal Dune in an effective FIS, the revised feature must be as continuous as, or more continuous than, the effective PFD and provide an accurate representation of the regional dune feature .This is especially important in areas with multiple ridges throughout a dune field, areas with man-made dunes, and property-specific revisions, including requests that the PFD designation be removed altogether. Community coordination may be required to make this assessment.	As defined in 44 C.F.R. § 59.1 and clarified in SID 91, the Primary Frontal Dune (PFD) is defined by the geometry of the regional feature and is independent of surge and wave driven coastal hazards. The PFD therefore may not be superseded by updated analyses of these hazards. When revising PFD, revisions must provide an accurate representation of the regional, geomorphological dune and must be as continuous as, or more continuous than, the effective PFD. This is especially important in areas with multiple ridges throughout a dune field, areas with man-made dunes, and property-specific revisions, including requests that the PFD designation be removed altogether. Community coordination may be required to make this assessment.
624	Effective Immediately	Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA)	The Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) designation shall not be conditionally or effectively removed from a structure or property by letter when the lowest adjacent grade to the structure or lowest point on the property is or would be below the applicable 1-percent-annual-chance flood elevation, unless certified data can be presented to demonstrate that naturally occurring intervening high ground exists between the structure or property and the source of flooding.	The SFHA designation shall not be conditionally or effectively removed from a structure or property by letter when the lowest adjacent grade to the structure or lowest point on the property is or would be below the applicable 1-percent-annual-chance flood elevation, unless certified survey data can be presented to demonstrate that naturally occurring intervening high ground exists between the structure or property and the source of flooding.
649	Effective Immediately	Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA)	Proposed new standard.	FEMA does not issue MT-1s within communities or areas where flood hazards are designated "For Informational Purposes Only" on the effective map.

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SID 417 TABLE COMPARISON

Original Table:

Flood Risk Product/Dataset		New Flood Hazard Analysis ¹ Conducted	No New Flood Hazard Analysis ¹ Conducted
Flood Risk Database		Required ²	Required ²
Flood Risk Dataset	Changes Since Last FIRM	Automated ³	N/A
	Water Surface Elevation Grids	Required ⁴	Optional ⁵
	Flood Depth Grids	Required ⁴	Optional ⁵
	Percent Annual Chance & Percent 30-year Chance Grids	Required ⁶	Optional ⁵
	Flood Risk Assessment	Required ^{7,9}	Required ^{8,9}
	Areas of Mitigation Interest (AOMI)	Required	Required
Flood Risk Map		Optional	Optional
Flood Risk Report		Optional	Optional

¹ New Flood Hazard Analysis = flooding sources receiving regulatory-level analyses

² Shapefiles and GeoTIFFS are required for the submission. The FRD data in geodatabase format is optional and only required if specifically contracted.

³ CSLF is optional in areas where digital modernized floodplain boundaries are not available for the effective, and its creation would be performed by the mapping partner, not automated tool.

⁴ Riverine studies: 10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1%+, and 0.2% annual-chance floods

⁵ Can be produced for flooding sources not receiving new analyses if based on effective data

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⁷ Riverine studies: 10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1%+, and 0.2% annual-chance floods, and Annualized

Coastal studies: only the 1% annual-chance flood

Levee studies: Riverward/Seaward side - same as Riverine or Coastal
Landward side - only based on the landward depth grid

⁸ Assessments are performed for the flood events with available depth grids. See Flood Risk Database Technical Reference for more information.

⁹ Analysis can be conducted at census block or user-defined facility level.

Revised Table:

Flood Risk Product/Dataset		New Flood Hazard Analysis ¹ Conducted	No New Flood Hazard Analysis ¹ Conducted
Flood Risk Database		Required ²	Required ²
Flood Risk Dataset	Changes Since Last FIRM	Automated ³	N/A
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How to Submit Comments to FEMA

You may provide comments via email at: fema-gs@fema.dhs.gov. Comments received prior to September 3 will be reviewed and addressed, as appropriate, before the standards are finalized.