

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations for Pike County, Pennsylvania (All Jurisdictions)

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency has issued a preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and where applicable, Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report, reflecting proposed flood hazard determinations within Pike County, Pennsylvania (All Jurisdictions). These flood hazard determinations may include the addition or modification of Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Area boundaries or zone designations, or the regulatory floodway. Technical information or comments are solicited on the proposed flood hazard determinations shown on the preliminary FIRM and/or FIS report for Pike County, Pennsylvania (All Jurisdictions). These flood hazard determinations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that your community is required to either adopt or show evidence of being already in effect in order to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. However, before these determinations are effective for floodplain management purposes, you will be provided an opportunity to appeal the proposed information. For information on the statutory 90-day period provided for appeals, as well as a complete listing of the communities affected and the locations where copies of the FIRM are available for review, please visit FEMA's website at https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/BFE_Status/bfe_main.asp or call the FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).

Community	Community map repository address
Village of Innsbrook	Village Hall, 13600 State Highway M, Innsbrook, MO 63390.
Village of Three Creeks	Warren County Administrative Building, 101 Mockingbird Lane, Warrenton, MO 63383.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

[Docket ID FEMA-2026-0002; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-B-2604]

Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Comments are requested on proposed flood hazard determinations, which may include additions or modifications of any Base Flood Elevation (BFE), base flood depth, Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) boundary or zone designation, or regulatory floodway on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), and where applicable, in the supporting Flood Insurance Study (FIS) reports for the communities listed in the table below. The purpose of this notice is to seek general information and comment regarding the preliminary FIRM, and where applicable, the FIS report that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has provided to the affected communities. The FIRM and FIS report are the basis of the floodplain management measures that the community is required either to adopt or to show evidence of having in effect in order to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

DATES: Comments are to be submitted on or before November 4, 2026.

ADDRESSES: The Preliminary FIRM, and where applicable, the FIS report for each community are available for inspection at both the online location <https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload> and the respective

Community Map Repository address listed in the tables below. Additionally, the current effective FIRM and FIS report for each community are accessible online through the FEMA Map Service Center at <https://msc.fema.gov> for comparison.

You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. FEMA-B-2604, to David N. Bascom, Acting Director, Engineering and Modeling Division, Federal Insurance Directorate, Resilience, FEMA, 400 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, or (email) david.bascom@fema.dhs.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David N. Bascom, Acting Director, Engineering and Modeling Division, Federal Insurance Directorate, Resilience, FEMA, 400 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, or (email) david.bascom@fema.dhs.gov; or visit the FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) online at https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/fmx_main.html.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FEMA proposes to make flood hazard determinations for each community listed below, in accordance with section 110 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4104, and 44 CFR 67.4(a).

These proposed flood hazard determinations, together with the floodplain management criteria required by 44 CFR 60.3, are the minimum that are required. They should not be construed to mean that the community must change any existing ordinances that are more stringent in their floodplain management requirements. The community may at any time enact stricter requirements of its own or pursuant to policies established by other Federal, State, or regional entities. These flood hazard determinations are used to meet the floodplain management requirements of the NFIP.

The communities affected by the flood hazard determinations are provided in the tables below. Any request for reconsideration of the

revised flood hazard information shown on the Preliminary FIRM and FIS report that satisfies the data requirements outlined in 44 CFR 67.6(b) is considered an appeal. Comments unrelated to the flood hazard determinations also will be considered before the FIRM and FIS report become effective.

Use of a Scientific Resolution Panel (SRP) is available to communities in support of the appeal resolution process. SRPs are independent panels of experts in hydrology, hydraulics, and other pertinent sciences established to review conflicting scientific and technical data and provide recommendations for resolution. Use of the SRP only may be exercised after FEMA and local communities have been engaged in a collaborative consultation process for at least 60 days without a mutually acceptable resolution of an appeal. Additional information regarding the SRP process can be found online at https://www.floodsrp.org/pdfs/srp_overview.pdf.

The watersheds and/or communities affected are listed in the tables below. The Preliminary FIRM, and where applicable, FIS report for each community are available for inspection at both the online location <https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload> and the respective Community Map Repository address listed in the tables. For communities with multiple ongoing Preliminary studies, the studies can be identified by the unique project number and Preliminary FIRM date listed in the tables. Additionally, the current effective FIRM and FIS report for each community are accessible online through the FEMA Map Service Center at <https://msc.fema.gov> for comparison.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 97.022, "Flood Insurance.")

Elizabeth Asche,

Assistant Administrator, Federal Insurance Directorate, Resilience Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Community	Community map repository address
Sullivan County, New Hampshire (All Jurisdictions) Project: 18-01-0025S, 22-01-0008S, 20-01-0024S Preliminary Date: December 14, 2021; July 25, 2024; July 30, 2025	
Town of Acworth	Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Road, Acworth, NH 03601.

Community	Community map repository address
Town of Charlestown	Town Offices, 233 Main Street, Charlestown, NH 03603.
Town of Langdon	Municipal Office, 122, Route 12 A, Langdon, NH 03602.
Town of Lempster	Town Office, 856 NH Route 10, Lempster, NH 03605.
Town of Springfield	Town Offices, 2750 Main Street, Springfield, NH 03284.
Town of Unity	Town Office, 13 Center Road, Unity, NH 03603.
Town of Washington	Selectmen's Office, 7 Halfmoon Pond Road, Washington, NH 03280.

Morris County, New Jersey (All Jurisdictions)
Project: 23-02-0027S Preliminary Date: November 17, 2025

Borough of Butler	Borough Municipal Building, 1 Ace Road, Butler, NJ 07405.
Borough of Chatham	Borough Municipal Building, 54 Fairmount Avenue, Chatham, NJ 07928.
Borough of Florham Park	Borough Hall, 111 Ridgedale Avenue, Florham Park, NJ 07932.
Borough of Kinnelon	Municipal Building, 130 Kinnelon Road, Kinnelon, NJ 07405.
Borough of Madison	Borough Hall, Hartley Dodge Memorial Building, 50 Kings Road, Madison, NJ 07940.
Borough of Mendham	The Phoenix House, 2 W Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945.
Borough of Morris Plains	Borough Hall, 531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, NJ 07950.
Borough of Mount Arlington	Borough Hall, 419 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington, NJ 07856.
Borough of Netcong	Municipal Building, 23 Maple Avenue, Netcong, NJ 07857.
Borough of Riverdale	Municipal Building, 91 Newark-Pompton Turnpike, Riverdale, NJ 07457.
Borough of Rockaway	Borough Municipal Building, 1 E Main Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866.
Borough of Victory Gardens	Victory Gardens Borough Municipal Building, 337 S Salem Street, Dover, NJ 07801.
Borough of Wharton	Borough Hall, 10 Robert Street, Wharton, NJ 07885.
Town of Boonton	Town Hall, 100 Washington Street, Boonton, NJ 07005.
Town of Dover	Engineering Department, 100 Princeton Avenue, Dover, NJ 07801.
Town of Morristown	Town Hall, 200 S. Street, Morristown, NJ 07960.
Township of Boonton	Township Municipal Building, 155 Powerville Road, Boonton Township, NJ 07005.
Township of Chatham	Township Municipal Building, 58 Meyersville Road, Chatham, NJ 07928.
Township of Chester	Township Building, 1 Parker Road, Chester, NJ 07930.
Township of Denville	Township Municipal Building, Engineering Department, 1 St. Mary's Place, Denville, NJ 07834.
Township of East Hanover	Municipal Building, Construction Department, 411 Ridgedale Avenue, East Hanover, NJ 07936.
Township of Hanover	Hanover Township Municipal Building, 1000 Route 10, Whippany, NJ 07981.
Township of Harding	Harding Township Municipal Building, 21 Blue Mill Road, New Vernon, NJ 07976.
Township of Jefferson	Jefferson Township Municipal Building, 1033 Weldon Road, Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849.
Township of Long Hill	Long Hill Township Hall, 915 Valley Road, Gillette, NJ 07933.
Township of Mendham	Mendham Township Building, 2 W Main Street, Brookside, NJ 07926.
Township of Mine Hill	Township Hall, 10 Baker Street, Mine Hill, NY 07803.
Township of Montville	Municipal Building, Engineering Department, 195 Changebridge Road, Montville, NJ 07045.
Township of Morris	Morris Township Municipal Building, 50 Woodland Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960.
Township of Mount Olive	Mount Olive Township Hall, 204 Flanders-Drakestown Road, Budd Lake, NJ 07828.
Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills	Parsippany-Troy Hills Township Hall, 1001 Parsippany Boulevard, Parsippany, NJ 07054.
Township of Randolph	Township Municipal Building, 502 Millbrook Avenue, Randolph, NJ 07869.
Township of Rockaway	Township Municipal Building, 65 Mount Hope Road, Rockaway, NJ 07866.
Township of Roxbury	Roxbury Township Hall, 1715 Route 46, Ledgewood, NJ 07852.
Township of Washington	Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, NJ 07853.

Berkeley County, West Virginia and Incorporated Areas
Project: 21-03-0021S Preliminary Date: August 29, 2025

City of Martinsburg	Martinsburg City Hall, 232 N Queen Street, Martinsburg, WV 25401.
Unincorporated Areas of Berkeley County	Berkeley County Dunn Building, 400 W Stephen Street, Suite 201, Martinsburg, WV 25401.

Community	Community map repository address
Pike County, Pennsylvania (All Jurisdictions) Project: 23-03-0021S Preliminary Date: August 18, 2025	
Borough of Matamoras	Borough Hall, 10 Avenue I, Matamoras, PA 18336.
Borough of Milford	Milford Borough Office, 500 Broad Street, Milford, PA 18337.
Township of Blooming Grove	Municipal Building, 488 Route 739, Blooming Grove, PA 18428.
Township of Delaware	Delaware Township Office, 116 Wilson Hill Road, Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328.
Township of Dingman	Dingman Township Municipal Building, 118 Fisher Lane, Milford, PA 18337.
Township of Greene	Greene Township Municipal Building, 198 Brink Hill Road, Greentown, PA 18426.
Township of Lackawaxen	Lackawaxen Township Municipal Building, 169 Urban Road, Hawley, PA 18428.
Township of Lehman	Lehman Township Municipal Building, 193 Municipal Drive, Bushkill, PA 18324.
Township of Milford	Milford Township Building, 560 Route 6 And 209, Milford, PA 18337.
Township of Palmyra	Palmyra Township Building, 115 Buehler Lane, Paupack, PA 18451.
Township of Porter	Porter Township Building, 2186 Route 402, Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328.
Township of Shohola	Township Main Office, 159 Twin Lakes Road, Shohola, PA 18458.
Township of Westfall	Westfall Township Municipal Building, 102 La Barr Lane, Matamoras, PA 18336.
Morgan County, West Virginia and Incorporated Areas Project: 21-03-0020S Preliminary Date: November 21, 2025	
Town of Bath	Morgan County Courthouse, 77 Fairfax Street, Room 105, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411.
Town of Paw Paw	Morgan County Courthouse, 77 Fairfax Street, Room 105, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411.
Unincorporated Areas of Morgan County	Morgan County Courthouse, 77 Fairfax Street, Room 105, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411.
Bayfield County, Wisconsin and Incorporated Areas Project: 14-05-2832S Preliminary Date: July 31, 2025	
City of Bayfield	City Hall, 34 S Broad Street, Unit 101, Bayfield, WI 54814.
City of Washburn	City Hall, 119 Washington Avenue, Washburn, WI 54891.
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	Tribal Office, 88455 Pike Road, Bayfield, WI 54814.
Unincorporated Areas of Bayfield County	Bayfield County Courthouse, 117 E 5th Street, Washburn, WI 54891.
Village of Mason	Village Hall, 59400 Northern Lights Boulevard, Mason, WI 54856.
Ingham County, Michigan (All Jurisdictions) Project: 24-05-0020S Preliminary Date: July 25, 2025	
Charter Township of Delhi	Charter Township of Delhi Township Hall, 2074 Aurelius Road, Holt, MI 48842.
Charter Township of Lansing	Charter Township of Lansing Township Hall, 3209 W Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48917.
Charter Township of Meridian	Charter Township of Meridian Township Hall, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864.
City of East Lansing	City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823.
City of Lansing	City Hall, 124 W Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.
City of Williamston	City Hall, 161 E. Grand River Avenue, Williamston, MI 48895.
Township of Alaiedon	Alaiedon Township Hall, 2021 W Holt Road, Mason, MI 48854.
Township of Leroy	Leroy Township Hall, 1685 N M-52, Webberville, MI 48892.
Township of Locke	Locke Township Hall, 3805 Bell Oak Road, Williamston, MI 48895.
Township of Wheatfield	Wheatfield Township Hall, 985 E Holt Road, Williamston, MI 48895.
Township of Williamstown	Township Hall, 4990 N Zimmer Road, Williamston, MI 48895.
Village of Webberville	Village Hall, 115 S Main Street, Webberville, MI 48892.
Monroe County, Wisconsin and Incorporated Areas Project: 21-05-0011S Preliminary Date: October 07, 2025	
City of Sparta	City Hall, 201 W. Oak Street, Sparta, WI 54656.
City of Tomah	Zoning and Inspection Department, 819 Superior Avenue, Tomah, WI 54660.
Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin	Tribal Office Building, W9814 Airport Road, Black River Falls, WI 54615.
Unincorporated Areas of Monroe County	Zoning Office, 777 S Black River Street, Suite 2, Sparta, WI 54656.
Village of Kendall	Village Hall, 219 W South Railroad Street, Kendall, WI 54638.
Village of Melvina	Melvina Village Hall, 604 Central Drive, Cashton, WI 54619.
Village of Norwalk	Village Hall, 208 S Church Street, Norwalk, WI 54648.
Village of Oakdale	Oakdale Village Hall, 133 Well Drive, Tomah, WI 54649.

Community	Community map repository address
Village of Warrens	Village Hall, 301 Main Street, Warrens, WI 54666.
Village of Wilton	Village Hall, 400 E Street, Suite 103, Wilton, WI 54670.
Village of Wyeville	Village Hall, 215 Wyeville Avenue, Wyeville, WI 54660.

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BILLING CODE 9110–12–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–7106–N–36]

Privacy Act of 1974; Matching Program

AGENCY: Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

ACTION: Notice of a reestablished matching program.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended by the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 and the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Amendments of 1990 (Privacy Act), and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance on the conduct of matching programs, notice is hereby given of the reestablishment of a matching program between the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and HUD's Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) grantees. Since publication of the previous matching program notice, HUD and FEMA have updated the data elements used in the matching program by adding and removing certain data fields to align with current programmatic requirements.

DATES: Please submit comments on or before September 8, 2026. The matching program will be effective on September 8, 2026, unless comments have been received from interested members of the public that require modification and republication of the notice. The matching program will continue for 18 months from the beginning date and may be extended an additional 12 months if the conditions specified in 5 U.S.C. 552a(o)(2)(D) have been met.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this notice at www.regulations.gov or to the Rules Docket Clerk, Office of General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 10276, Washington, DC 20410. Communications should refer to the docket number.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general questions about this matching program, contact Todd Richardson, General Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 8106, Washington, DC 20410, telephone number (202) 402–5706. To obtain additional information about this matching program and the contents of this Computer Matching Agreement between HUD, FEMA, and HUD's CDBG-DR grantees, please view this Computer Matching Agreement at the following website: www.hud.gov/stat/oa/computer-matching-agreement. HUD welcomes and is prepared to receive calls from individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as individuals with speech and communication disabilities. To learn more about how to make an accessible telephone call, please visit <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/telecommunications-relay-service-trs>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: HUD is providing this notice in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended by the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 (Pub. L. 100–503) and the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Amendments of 1990 (Pub. L. 101–508); Office of Management and Budget Final Guidance Interpreting the Provisions of Public Law 100–503, the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988, 54 FR 25818 (June 19, 1989); and OMB Circular A–108, 81 FR 94424 (December 23, 2016).

FEMA will share data to HUD to allow HUD to develop the funding formulas to request additional appropriations from Congress and allocate funding for CDBG-DR grant awards. The FEMA data will be used by HUD to calculate the amount of HUD's CDBG-DR grants, which are based on the number of unmet needs for the disaster. HUD performs a complex grants formulation process using Personally Identifiable Information (PII) data from FEMA and the Small Business Administration (SBA) to generate its CDBG-DR grant allocations and figures estimating unmet disaster needs for OMB and Congress. HUD has a separate agreement with the SBA. The SBA is not a party to this agreement. HUD will request data from FEMA on an as-

needed basis to share with CDBG-DR grantees to identify needs for the use of grant funds, conduct outreach to disaster-affected individuals, prevent duplication of benefits, and comply with requirements to limit certain flood disaster assistance to a person who failed to obtain and maintain flood insurance when required as a condition of previous federal flood disaster assistance or a CDBG-DR grant.

Participating Agencies

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and HUD's Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) grantees.

Authority for Conducting the Matching Program

A. Section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 5155, requires each Federal agency that administers any program providing financial assistance because of a major disaster or emergency to ensure that no individual or entity receives duplicate financial assistance under any program, from insurance, or through any other source.

B. Section 408(i) of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5174(i), authorizes the development of systems and databases to verify eligibility, minimize duplicative payments, prevent fraud, and administer disaster assistance programs.

C. Executive Order 13411, Improving Assistance for Disaster Victims, 71 FR 52729 (August 29, 2006), directs Federal agencies to reduce unnecessarily duplicative application forms and processes for Federal disaster assistance.

D. The DHS/FEMA–008 Disaster Recovery Assistance Files System of Records, 89 FR 73104 (September 9, 2024), and the DHS/FEMA–003 National Flood Insurance Program Files System of Records Notice, 79 FR 28747 (May 19, 2014), authorize FEMA to share information for disaster assistance administration, unmet needs determinations, duplication of benefits reviews, and approved computer matching programs.

E. The President may declare a disaster as an emergency under Section 501 of the Stafford Act and authorize

SCIENTIFIC RESOLUTION PANELS

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), through its flood hazard mapping program, Risk MAP (Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning), identifies flood hazards, assesses flood risks, and partners with states, tribes and local communities to provide accurate flood hazard and risk data to guide them in taking effective mitigation actions. The resulting National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) maps provide the basis for community floodplain management regulations and flood insurance requirements.

What is a Scientific Resolution Panel?

FEMA's Scientific Resolution Panel (SRP) process reinforces FEMA's commitment to work with communities to ensure the flood hazard data depicted on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) are developed collaboratively, using the best science available.

Flood hazards are constantly changing, and FEMA updates FIRMs through several methods to reflect those changes. When proposed changes to a FIRM are met with conflicting technical and/or scientific data during a regulatory appeal period, an independent third-party review of the information may be appropriate. An SRP serves as an independent third party.

The SRP process benefits both FEMA and the community:

- ▶ It offers a neutral review process by independent third parties.
- ▶ It confirms FEMA's commitment to using the best science for the purpose of accurately depicting flood hazards on flood maps.
- ▶ It provides an additional opportunity for resolving community appeals involving conflicting technical and/or scientific data.

While FEMA had previously established an SRP process, the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 formally established a statutory SRP process. The *Appeal and Comment Processing Guidance for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping*, which incorporates the legislative requirements for the SRP, is available at www.fema.gov/guidelines-and-standards-flood-risk-analysis-and-mapping.

For Additional Information

For more information on appeals, see the FEMA document *Appeals, Revisions, and Amendments to National Flood Insurance Program Maps: A Guide for Community Officials* at www.fema.gov/flood-maps/change-your-flood-zone/guide-community-members

Part 67 of the NFIP regulations, which pertains to appeals, is available at www.ecfr.gov/current/title-44/chapter-I/subchapter-B/part-67

FEMA's Guidelines and Standards for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping webpage includes the *Appeal and Comment Processing Guidance for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping*: www.fema.gov/guidelines-and-standards-flood-risk-analysis-and-mapping

Templates and Other Resources:

www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/32786?id=7577

Other Important Links:

- NIBS Scientific Review Panel website: www.floodsrp.org
- Risk MAP: www.fema.gov/flood-maps/tools-resources/risk-map
- Information on Recent and Upcoming Map Changes: www.fema.gov/flood-maps/change-your-flood-zone#lomc
- Flood Insurance: www.floodsmart.gov

RISK MAPPING, ASSESSMENT, AND PLANNING PROGRAM (RISK MAP)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's Risk MAP Program delivers quality data that increases public awareness and leads to action to reduce risk to life and property. Risk MAP is a nationwide program that works in collaboration with states, tribes, and local communities using best available science, rigorously vetted standards, and expert analysis to identify risk and promote mitigation action, resulting in safer, more resilient communities.

Who Can Request an SRP?

A community, tribe, or other political entity with the authority to adopt and enforce floodplain ordinances for the area under its jurisdiction can request that FEMA use an SRP when conflicting technical and/or scientific data have been presented. For additional information, review the *Appeal and Comment Processing Guidance for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping* at www.fema.gov/guidelines-and-standards-flood-risk-analysis-and-mapping.

When Can Communities Request an SRP?

A community can request an SRP if the following requirements have been met:

- ▶ It has not yet received a Letter of Final Determination (LFD) from FEMA.
- ▶ Conflicting technical and/or scientific data, submitted during the 90-day appeal period, resulted in different flood hazards than those proposed by FEMA.
- ▶ At least 60 days of community consultation with FEMA (but no more than 120 days) have taken place.

Additionally, a community that receives a FEMA-issued resolution letter and has not previously exercised the SRP process will have 30 days from the issuance of the letter to request an SRP.

Independent Panel Sponsor

The SRP process is managed by the National Institute for Building Sciences (NIBS), a non-profit organization independent of FEMA. NIBS will administer the SRPs, ensuring that proper guidelines and procedures are employed and maintaining a cadre of experts from which panel members are selected.

Panel Member Selection

Five panelists are convened for each appeal brought to the SRP request. Panel members are technical experts in surface water hydrology, hydraulics, coastal engineering, and other engineering and scientific fields that relate to the creation of FIRMs and Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) throughout the United States.

Based on the technical challenges associated with each request, NIBS develops a list of potential members with relevant expertise, from its cadre of experts. NIBS also checks that those listed are available to serve, do not reside in the state from which the appeal or data were filed, and have no personal or professional interest in its findings for the flood risk project.

NIBS provides the list to the community and FEMA to select the panel members. The community selects at least the simple majority (three), and FEMA selects the remaining panel members from the short list of cadre members, based on the technical challenges of the appeal or data submittal.

The Process

To request a review by an SRP, the community's Chief Executive Officer or designee completes an SRP Request Form and submits it to FEMA during the time periods outlined above. Once FEMA confirms that the situation and the conflicting technical and/or scientific data are eligible for an SRP, it forwards the SRP Request Form to NIBS, which will initiate the panel selection process and develop a list of potential members.

Once the panel is convened, panel members are provided with a summary of the issue, FEMA's data, and the data the community submitted during the 90-day appeal period. Panel members review the data and, on a point-by-point basis, deliberate and make a decision based on the scientific and/or technical challenges.

If the community feels it is necessary to make an oral presentation in support of its request, it must include a justification on the SRP Request Form.

Resolution

The panel must present its written report to the community and FEMA within 90 days of being convened, and that report will be used by the FEMA Administrator for making the final determination. A panel determination must be in favor of either FEMA or the community on each distinct element of the dispute, and the panel may not offer any alternative determination as a resolution. In the case of a dispute submitted by the community on behalf of an owner or lessee of real property in the community, the panel determination must be in favor of either FEMA, the community, or the owner/lessee on each distinct element of the dispute.

If changes to the maps are recommended in the panel's determination, and FEMA elects to implement the panel's determination, FEMA will incorporate the changes into a revised Preliminary FIRM and, if appropriate, FIS report. The revised products will be available to the community for review, with a resolution letter, before FEMA issues an LFD.

Once the SRP provides its determination and FEMA issues its resolution letter to implement the recommendations, the SRP recommendations are binding on all appellants and not subject to judicial review.

If the FEMA Administrator elects not to accept the panel's findings, the Administrator will issue a written justification within 60 days of receiving the report from the SRP. Under these circumstances, the appellants maintain their right to appeal FEMA's final determination to the appropriate Federal District Court.

Figure 1: SRP Timeline

