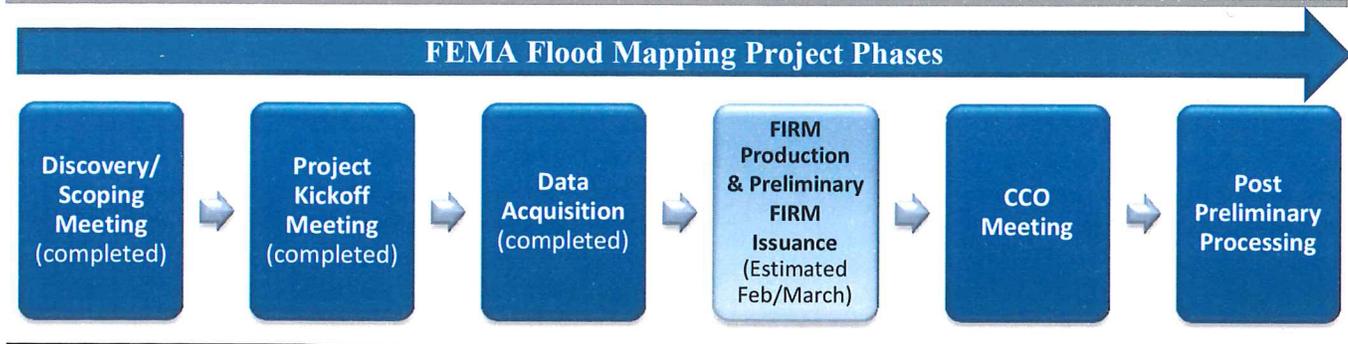


Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning Preliminary FIRM Issuance



Davis County, Utah



Risk MAP Overview:

FEMA's Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program is assisting communities nationwide to assess flood risks and encourage mitigation planning to avoid or minimize damage in the face of future disasters.

In an effort to better inform stakeholders, additional community interaction meetings were held during the preparation of this mapping update. Prior to the preliminary issuance of the FIRM panels for your community, FEMA held a Flood Study Review meeting during the Fall of 2013 to review the study findings and analysis results.

Preliminary FIRM Issuance

Davis County, Utah will soon enter the phase known as "Post Preliminary Processing". This phase of the project requires interaction from the local officials to assure the most accurate and up to date information is shown on the new/revised Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). Your community will soon receive their new/revised FIRMs on or about February/March 2013. Should you not receive your maps, please contact the State Risk MAP Coordinator, Amisha Lester.

Upon release of the preliminary FIRMs and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for Davis County and Incorporated Areas, the local officials will be alerted via letter to submit community comments for review and incorporation. Additionally, the Utah State Risk MAP Coordinator will contact community officials via phone, email or letter to arrange and formally present the study results during a

Community Consultation Officer's (CCO) Meeting. This meeting will be held approximately a month after receiving the preliminary FIRMs.

Appeals and Comments should be submitted by the community to:

Ryan Pietramali
Risk Analysis Branch Chief
FEMA Region VIII
Denver Federal Center, Building 710
P.O. Box 25267
Denver, CO 80225-0267

What has changed?

Your community mapping was updated and may indicate changes in the width and location of the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) for your community. The SFHA is the area subject to inundation by the base (1-percent annual chance) flood. Additionally, some Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) were updated or revised in your Community. A BFE describes the elevation of the flood waters for a storm equal to the 1-percent annual chance event and is indicated on the FIRM panels in Zone AE areas.

Please note the SFHAs may have changed in Zone A areas due to updated analysis and development within the watershed. There may be areas of additional flooding risk indicated on the preliminary FIRMs mailed to your community. FEMA welcomes public input during the Appeals and Comment period.

Submittal of appeals and comments to FEMA:

- The local community official will collect all appeals and comments, and submit them to the FEMA Regional Office.
- Appeals/Comments should be formally submitted to FEMA prior to the close of the 90-day appeal/comment period.

What should I review?

In order to assure the most up to date information is depicted on the FIRMs when issued preliminary, please review the following items sent to you in the preliminary issuance package:

- **Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)** – Please review panels for your community and submit comments on road names, stream names, and floodplain boundaries.
- **Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Text** – Please review text and information included for any potential updates needed.
- **Summary of Map Actions (SOMA) List** – Please review all cases and determination categories to assure proper reissuance and revalidation of previous Letter of Map Change determinations. Letters of Map Revision (LOMR) are incorporated into the final products up to 60 days before the Letter of Final Determination (LFD) date.
- **FIRM Database (on DVD/CD)** - Please review data on the disc provided; a tool can be downloaded if your community does not have GIS software. This software package is free and available for download on-line at: msc.fema.gov

Community Outreach

As a community leader, your citizens depend on you for up to date, accurate and timely information. As the new maps are presented, you are responsible for presenting the revisions and flooding risks to citizens. FEMA wants to help you communicate the flooding risks within your community by providing brochures, press releases, and outreach toolkits. Please contact your **FEMA Compliance Specialist** and your **State NFIP Coordinator** for additional information. We look forward to working with you to identify and discuss ways to inform your residents and business owners about risk and steps they can take to minimize their risks.

90-Day Appeal and Comment Period

After the CCO Meeting, FEMA will place a notification of the proposed flood hazard determination in the local newspaper twice as well as on FEMA's website, <https://www.fema.gov/fhm/bfe>.

Following the second publication of the notice in the local paper, a formal 90-day Appeal and Comment period will begin. The community will be contacted via letter prior to the beginning of this period. FEMA seeks a partnership with your community to assist in communicating the revision of your flood hazard maps.

The Appeal and Comment period allows both citizens and communities to file formal comments to FEMA on the preliminary maps. The local community will collect all appeals and comments and submits these to FEMA.

An **appeal** is a formal objection to new or modified flood hazard information shown on a FIRM. This includes new Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) or base flood depths that are proposed or currently effective BFEs or base flood depths that are modified. It also includes new Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) proposed or the boundaries of currently effective SFHAs that are modified. The new SFHA zone designations are proposed or currently effective SFHA zone designations are modified or new regulatory floodways that are proposed or the boundaries of currently effective floodways that are modified. Appeals submitted by a community or an interested citizen through the community officials during the 90-day appeal and comment period will be reviewed for incorporation. **Appeals must be based on technical data** which provides alternative analyses that incorporate such methodologies, assumptions or data that quantify their effect on the flood hazard information. FEMA will review the analysis against the study findings and work with the community to find a resolution.

A **comment** is a formal objection to any information from the preliminary products, which do not relate to new or modified BFEs, base flood depths, SFHA boundaries, SFHA zone designations or floodways. Comments include the impacts of changes that occurred in the floodplain that should have previously been submitted to FEMA in accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 65.3. These include corporate limit revisions, road name errors and revisions, requests that include incorporation of Letter of Map Change (LOMAs, LOMR-Fs and LOMRs), base map errors, and other possible omissions or potential improvements to the mapping. Comments



submitted by a community or an interested citizen through the community officials during the 90-day appeal and comment period will be reviewed for incorporation.

FEMA will communicate the receipt of a formal appeal or comment by sending an acknowledgement letter to the community and the requestor. The appeals and comments received will be reviewed and resolved, as appropriate. If additional information is required, FEMA will alert the community and the requestor by letter. Once the appeal or comment is reviewed, the final products (FIRM, FIS, SOMA, FIRM database) are revised, as required. If appeals and comments received require updated products, the resolution package sent to your community will include an updated FIS/FIRM/SOMA/FIRM database, as required.

Letter of Final Determination (LFD)

An LFD is issued once all comments have been incorporated and all resolution letters have been sent. The LFD states the maps will become effective in six months; this is known as the “compliance period”. During the compliance period, communities must adopt revised ordinances incorporating the new FIRM data in order to remain in the National Flood Insurance Program. Contact the **FEMA Compliance Specialist**, for guidance and additional information.

Effective FIRM Issuance

Approximately two months after the issuance of the Letter of Final Determination, your community will receive digital copies of the products (maps, FIS and database) for adoption. When these maps are received they should be reviewed again to assure comments submitted are shown on the FIRMs. Note any local projects that are on-going should be submitted through the Letter of Map Change process for incorporation.

Approximately one month prior to the effective issuance of the FIRMs, you will receive copies of the Revalidation Letters prepared for Davis County and its incorporated communities. The Revalidation Letters act to validate previously determined Letters of Map Amendment (LOMA) and Letters of Map Revision - based on fill (LOMR-Fs). A digital version of the effective products may also be available to the public on FEMA’s Map Service Center (msc.fema.gov) as early as three months before the effective date.

Flood Insurance

Flood Insurance is required when a structure is located in a special flood hazard area (Zone A, AE, V, VE) and the owner of the structure has a federally-backed loan. As the flood hazards mapped in your communities change, there may be an increase in the number of residents required to purchase flood insurance.

There are a number of options for residents identified in special flood hazard areas, both prior to and after the effective issuance of the new FIRMs. Flood insurance information is available for community officials, residents, mortgage lenders and insurance agents. Please visit [FloodSmart.gov](https://www.floodsmart.gov) for more information

Flood Mitigation and Planning

Risk reduction creates safer communities by proactively reducing risk and enhancing the capability of states and communities to reduce risk from natural hazards. Please review any local or multi-jurisdictional plans that may exist for you community. The updated information included in the preliminary FIRMs can be used to update local hazard mitigation plans and allow communities to better identify additional mitigation projects.

Additional questions?

If you have questions or concerns, or would like to discuss any of the steps of preparing the FIRMs, please contact the **FEMA or State Compliance Specialist** for additional information.



Proposed Schedule

Below is an anticipated schedule for Davis County, Utah

Action	Proposed Date
Preliminary Map Issue Date (Community Comment Period Begins)	Feb/March 2014
CCO Meeting Date	March/April 2014
Target 90-day Formal Comment Period Start Date	May 2014
Target 90-day Formal Comment Period End Date	July 2014
Target Letter of Final Determination	Mid 2015
Target Effective Issuance Date	Early 2016

The dates may be modified due to comments received. If the dates are revised, FEMA or the State will contact communities as necessary.

Important Contact Information

FEMA Compliance and Insurance Specialist:

Barb Fitzpatrick, CFM
barbara.fitzpatrick@fema.dhs.gov
Office – (303) 235-4715
Cell – (303) 882-0314

FEMA Risk MAP – Program Specialist:

Sean CJ McNabb
sean.mcnabb@fema.dhs.gov
Office – (303) 235 4303
Cell – (303) 854 7306

FEMA Mitigation Planning Contact:

Julie Baxter, AICP, CFM
julie.baxter@fema.dhs.gov
Office – 303.235.4739
Cell – 303.882.0413

STATE NFIP Coordinator:

John Crofts, CFM
jcrofts@utah.gov
Office – 801.538.3332
Cell – 801.560.2637

STATE Risk MAP Coordinator:

Amisha Lester, CFM
alester@utah.gov
Office – (801) 538-3752
Cell – (801) 244-4092

STATE Engineering Contractor:

Remmet deGroot, CFM, GISP
URS Corporation
remmet.degroot@urs.com
Office – (801) 904-4020
Cell – (801) 232-0468