

# FLOOD RISK DISCOVERY REPORT

### LOWER NEW WATERSHED I WEST WIRGINIA

Fayette County, Summers County, Raleigh County, City of Oak Hill, City of Hinton, City of Mount Hope, City of Beckley, Town of Ansted, Town of Fayetteville, Town of Gauley Bridge, Town of Meadow Bridge, Town of Thurmond, Town of Mabscott, Town of Sophia,

MEETING: July 26, 2023

FINAL REPORT: January 2024



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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program provides communities with flood information to help them understand their current flood risk and make informed decisions on actions to become stronger and safer against future risk. Discovery is the first phase of the Risk MAP process and begins a dialogue among FEMA and community members about (1) the nature of flooding in the watershed and the actions that communities are taking to address their flood hazards and risk; and (2) the data and information that may be used for developing the regulatory products and Flood Risk Products (for more information, please see page 14).

This report summarizes the Discovery efforts in the Lower New Watershed, which includes three counties, four cities and seven towns. The Discovery phase includes gathering tabular and spatial data and information on past and current flood risk from local communities and regional, State, and Federal entities. See Appendix H for a complete list of the stakeholders involved in Discovery.

The goals of Discovery are to (1) determine what flood hazard information already exists; (2) learn what flood hazard information is still needed to make mitigation decisions; and (3) identify what areas, critical infrastructure, and other resources could potentially be affected during a flood event. This report discusses the risks and needs identified during the Lower New Watershed Discovery process.

Highlights of the Discovery effort are listed on the right.

#### DISCOVERY HIGHLIGHTS:

- New Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data available for this watershed will allow for a dramatic increase in the accuracy of flood hazard mapping.
- All communities in the watershed participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- The watershed is predominantly comprised of established, rural, and suburban communities.
- Specialized flood risk dashboards were distributed to each community within the four watersheds being studied. These dashboards provide communities with a snapshot of their flood risk as well as their financial risk.





### PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Lower New Watershed includes all the land that drains into the New River from Hinton to Gauley Bridge in Southern West Virginia. FEMA Region III identified the Lower New Watershed as a priority for the Risk MAP program because newly available data presented an opportunity to better define flood hazards in the area. This watershed encompasses approximately 691 square miles.



COMMUNITY	POPULATION <sup>2</sup>	POPULATION IN WATERSHED <sup>2</sup>	COMMUNITY	POPULATION	POPULATION IN WATERSHED <sup>2</sup>
CITY OF BECKLEY	17,286	17,286	TOWN OF ANSTED	1,303	1,303
CITY OF HINTON	2,245	1,600	TOWN OF FAYETTEVILLE	2,887	2,887
CITY OF MOUNT HOPE	1,125	1,125	TOWN OF GAULEY BRIDGE	553	80
CITY OF OAK HILL	8,179	6,000	TOWN OF MABSCOTT	1,341	1,341
FAYETTE COUNTY	40,488	19,700	TOWN OF MEADOW BRIDGE	324	324
RALEIGH COUNTY	74,591	27,600	TOWN OF SOPHIA	1,130	1,100
SUMMERS COUNTY	11,959	3,600	TOWN OF THURMOND	5	5

<sup>1</sup> All populations are derived from the 2020 Census.

<sup>2</sup> Population in Watershed estimates are based on the percentage of jurisdiction's area within the watershed.



#### YOUR FLOOD RISK MAPPING TIMELINE

Discovery Meeting July 26, 2023

### NEXT STEPS: REGULATORY STUDY SCOPE DETERMINATION

If the data and research collected and performed during the Discovery phase support the need for a flood map update, the following timeline shows the steps of that process.

	Flood Risk Review	If a flood study is determined to be necessary as a result of the Discovery process, FEMA, State, and local officials will meet to review the draft floodplain mapping and methodologies used.		
Issue Preliminary Map		FEMA issues preliminary maps and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) reports to the community for review.		
	Community Coordination and Outreach (CCO)	Preliminary maps are reviewed with community officials at the CCO Meeting. The comment and appeal process is also explained.		
	Facilitate Public Comment and Appeal Period	Stakeholders have 90 days after the appeal start date to submit comments and/or appeals. Comments and/or appeals are reviewed, and flood maps may be updated appropriately.		
Issue Letter of Final Determination		Once a flood map is finalized, it is adopted by the community. A six-month adoption period begins to allow communities time to adopt adequate floodplain management ordinances based on the new flood map.		
3	Manage Your Floodplain	Community leaders monitor and track local development. Letters of Map Revision are required within six months of project completion for projects that change flood hazards in a specific area.		



### DATA COLLECTION

Discovery is a process of data mining, collection, and analysis through active collaboration with communities.

FEMA Region III gathered a significant amount of data before the Discovery Meeting to focus community engagement on identifying more localized information and sources of data. Additionally, the Region led the review of the Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMPs), FIS reports, and Comprehensive Plans for each of the jurisdictions prior to the Discovery Meeting.

The Region sent each community and stakeholder a Discovery Data Questionnaire prior to the meeting to collect additional local data such as current land use, zoning plans, risk assessment data, stormwater issues, latest orthophotography, and as-built information for manmade flood retention areas. FEMA also asked communities and stakeholders to identify areas of concern that could be addressed during the flood study through updated flood maps, revised ordinances, and desired mitigation projects.

The data collected were used to produce the Discovery Maps, Community Dashboards, and this Discovery Report. The table on the right provides an overview of the data collected. A complete list of data collected during the Discovery process is included in Appendix E.







### COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

The Lower New Watershed community characteristics information was developed to inform the Discovery Meeting and, through the flood risk mapping update, will continue to be used to identify technical assistance and tools that could support the community in its needs. For additional information on community characteristics, please see the Community Dashboards in Appendix A.



### LOWER NEW WATERSHED COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

The Lower New Watershed includes all the land that drains into the New River from Hinton to Gauley Bridge in Southern West Virginia. The New River runs approximately 360 miles through West Virginia and Virginia before joining the Gauley River to form the Kanawha River at the Town of Gauley Bridge, West Virginia. The watershed encompasses approximately 691 square miles in Fayette, Raleigh, and Summers Counties.

All communities within the Lower New Watershed—except the Town of Thurmond—participate in the NFIP. Participating jurisdictions adopt and enforce floodplain management ordinances to implement development standards in flood hazard areas. NFIP regulations represent the minimum standard for floodplain management. Communities are encouraged to consider higher standards and the adoption of more comprehensive regulations, especially when planning for future conditions. These standards can include buffers or setbacks, additional freeboard, regulation of high-risk land uses, conservation and designation of open space areas, and lower thresholds for substantial damage. Higher standards further reduce flood risk and can take advantage of the additional information and knowledge of local conditions available to community officials.

Communities that exceed the minimum requirements of the NFIP may be eligible to participate in the Community Rating System (CRS) program. One jurisdiction in the Lower New Watershed—Fayette County—currently participates in the NFIP's CRS program.



COMMUNITY	TOTAL POLICIES	TOTAL CLAIMS	RL' BUILDINGS	LEVEL OF NFIP REGS REQ'D	EFFECTIVE DATE OF FIRM/FIS	CAV <sup>2</sup> / CAC <sup>3</sup> DATES	# OF LOMCS⁴	TOTAL EXPOSURE IN THE FLOODPLAIN 2.145
ANSTED, TOWN OF	1	3	0	В	9/3/2010	01/31/1990 05/18/2201	0	\$174,633.14
BECKLEY, CITY OF	12	30	6	N/A	9/29/2006	08/19/2009 11/07/2018	1	\$6,209,087.55
FAYETTE COUNTY (UNINCORPORATED AREAS)	125	199	19	D	9/3/2010	05/18/2015 01/24/2018	4	\$34,399,166.82
FAYETTEVILLE, TOWN OF	6	1	0	N/A	9/3/2010	N/A 07/27/2017	0	\$0.00
GAULEY BRIDGE, TOWN OF	7	9	4	D	9/3/2010	02/01/1990 06/05/2019	0	\$422,565.88
HINTON, CITY OF	13	22	4	D	10/7/2021	04/22/1991 06/30/2017	1	\$13,821,014.16
MABSCOTT, TOWN OF	10	43	10	N/A	9/29/2006	08/20/2009 11/07/2018	0	\$10,650,060.50
MEADOW BRIDGE, TOWN OF	10	7	0	В	9/3/2010	01/31/1990 04/22/2015	0	\$1,998,003.57
MOUNT HOPE, CITY OF	6	42	10	В	9/3/2010	01/30/1990 10/24/2017	1	\$21,734,643.25
OAK HILL, CITY OF	7	7	0	В	9/3/2010	01/31/1990 05/19/2015	1	\$3,305,952.67
RALEIGH COUNTY (UNINCORPORATED AREAS)	148	343	36	D	6/16/2009	08/18/2009 08/19/2015	14	\$78,322,325.21
SOPHIA, TOWN OF	11	18	1	С	6/16/2009	08/20/2009 11/07/2018	2	\$3,617,225.12
SUMMERS COUNTY (UNINCORPORATED AREAS)	139	444	105	D	10/7/2021	03/01/2013 06/30/2017	2	\$4,345,096.05
THURMOND, TOWN OF	0	0	0	N/A	9/3/2010	N/A N/A	0	\$0.00

<sup>1</sup> RL=Repetitive Loss, <sup>2</sup> CAV=Community Assistance Visits, <sup>3</sup> CAC=Community Assistance Contacts

<sup>4</sup> The number of LOMCs and Total Exposure in Floodplain (TEIF) values are only for areas of these jurisdictions that are located within the Lower New Watershed.

<sup>5</sup> TEIF 2.1 (County Buildings) was created using local Building Footprint Features. Hazus building value data was subsequently dispersed proportionately to the footprints based on the area of the footprint. TEIF is intended to evaluate potential risk or economic loss in a dollar amount per community based on Hazus General Building Stock (Total Exposure) Values from FEMA's Hazus Version 2.2. VGIN building footprints for Quarter #1 of 2016 were utilized and building duplicates/overlapping buildings were removed prior to distribution of Hazus Building Value.



### RECENT FLOOD-RELATED PRESIDENTIAL DISASTER DECLARATIONS (2012-2016)

There are two forms of Presidential action that authorize Federal disaster assistance. Emergency Declarations (EMs) spur activities to protect property and strengthen public safety through Federal assistance, and Major Disaster Declarations (DRs) provide supplemental coordination and assistance beyond the ability of State and local governments.



HISTORY OF FLOOD-RELATED DISASTERS

The following is a list of past major flood events in the Lower New Watershed as reported in the effective FIS reports for each jurisdiction.



INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE & PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FEMA grant-funded assistance programs for communities with disaster declarations.

**Individual Assistance** provides community services or individual or household assistance. Communities in the watershed received approximately \$25.5 million in Individual Assistance funds since 1998. Communities that are ineligible for Individual Assistance, or households and individuals ineligible to receive funds under this program, can work with FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers to identify additional programs for financial assistance.

**Public Assistance** is separated into seven project categories (A-G). Projects in categories C through G are permanent work projects and are only available for major disasters. Communities in the watershed received approximately \$9 million in total public assistance since 1998 (under \$3 million for categories A and B and more than \$6 million for categories C-G). Funding for these projects is summarized by county below. Project amounts for categories A (debris removal), B(emergency protective measures), and C-G since 1998 are also shown on the Community Dashboards in the Appendix.

COUNTY	C - ROADS & BRIDGES	D - WATER CONTROL FACILITIES	E - PUBLIC BUILDINGS	F - PUBLIC UTILITIES	G - RECREATIONAL OR OTHER
FAYETTE COUNTY	\$218K	\$0	\$236K	\$1.6M	\$1.1M
RALEIGH COUNTY	\$460K	\$0	\$84K	\$2.1M	\$33K
SUMMERS COUNTY	\$33K	\$0	\$122K	\$61K	\$159K



	PRINCIPAL FLOOD PROBLEMS BY COUNTY
FAYETTE COUNTY	<ul> <li>Floods caused by overflows of the Kanawha River have occurred periodically in the past in Fayette County. These floods have generally occurred as a result of heavy rains over the Kanawha River basin, sometimes combining with spring thaw and snowmelt conditions. Major floods in Fayette County occurred on the Kanawha River in September 1861, September 1878, February 1897, May 1901, and March 1918 (Kanawha River Basin Coordinating Committee, 1971). Recent floods of lesser magnitude have also been experienced. These floods also affected the lower portions of the New River and the Gauley River in Fayette County. In addition, major flooding on the Gauley River is known to have occurred in July 1932 and March 1936.</li> <li>The greatest of the Kanawha River floods was that of September 1861, which reached a stage of approximately 54 feet at the site of the present gaging station at Charleston (Kanawha River Basin Coordinating Committee, 1971). At this site, the flood was approximately 1 foot below the current estimated 500-year flood elevation. Although no information is available on the specific damage effects of previous flooding in Fayette County, the COE estimated that a recurrence of the September 1861 flood would cause approximately \$250 million in damage along the entire Kanawha River (Kanawha River Basin Coordinating Committee, 1971).</li> <li>The following gages were used in the hydrologic analyses in the original study: gage No. 03179800 on the New River at Hinton, West Virginia, with 50 years of record; gage No. 03192000 on the Gauley River at Belva, West Virginia, with a record of 109 years; and gage No. 03192000 on the Gauley River at Belva, West Virginia, with a record of 58 years.</li> </ul>
RALEIGH COUNTY	<ul> <li>Most floods occur during late or early spring and result from heavy rainfall on frozen or saturated soil. The steep hillsides and stream gradients quickly convey storm runoff to the developed floodplains, causing floods. Man-made restrictions, primarily at bridges and culverts, add to the flood problems. According to residents of the area, the largest flood occurred in March 1963.</li> <li>Large floods on the New River are known to have occurred in 1878, 1885, 1940, and 1946. However, only the floods of 1940 and 1946 were recorded by the gage on the New River at Hinton. The largest of the recorded floods occurred in August 1940 and had a peak discharge of 246,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). The discharge of the 1946 flood was 124,000 cfs (USGS, annual publication).</li> </ul>
SUMMERS COUNTY	<ul> <li>Floods caused by overflow of the Greenbrier and New Rivers have occurred periodically in Summers County. These floods generally occur in winter or early spring as a result of heavy rains and may be worsened if the rain is accompanied by melting snow. Large floods of the New River are known to have occurred in 1878, 1885, 1940, and 1946. However, only the floods of 1940 and 1946 were recorded by the New River gage at Hinton. The largest of the recorded floods occurred in August 1940 and had a peak discharge of 246,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). The discharge of the 1946 flood was 124,000 cfs (USGS, 1980).</li> <li>The six largest floods on the Greenbrier River recorded at the gage at Alderson occurred in 1901, 1913, 1918, 1936, 1967 and 1974 (USGS, 1980). The largest of these floods by discharge was the flood of 1918 which had a peak discharge of 77,500 cfs. Records for the Greenbrier River gage at Alderson reveal that this flood had a peak discharge which was approximately 800 cfs greater than the 100-year flood and 5,400 cfs less than the 500-year flood, as analyzed in this study at the same gage.</li> <li>The floods of June 23 and 24, 2016, devastated many communities across West Virginia, including Summers County. Repeated rounds of torrential thunderstorms dumped more than 9 inches of rain in the hardest hit areas of West Virginia, causing the third deadliest flood event in state history with millions of dollars in damage to infrastructure and economic resources. While this flood event seemed to West Virginia residents to be an extremely unusual event, research by the United States Geological Survey and the Federal Emergency Management Agency suggests otherwise. It is critical to understand the June 2016 event so that West Virginia communities can take action to be safer in the future. This revision was initiated as a result.</li> </ul>



#### HAZARD MITIGATION PLANS

FEMA provides communities with resources to help them integrate the flood risk assessment data into their ongoing planning processes, including hazard mitigation planning. Information about the status of HMPs in the Lower New Watershed is provided in the table below. For more information about mitigation actions identified by each community in these plans, please see the Community Dashboards included in the Appendix.

COMMUNITY	HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN	STATUS		
FAYETTE COUNTY				
TOWN OF ANSTED				
TOWN OF FAYETTEVILLE		Expired 2/21/2022		
TOWN OF GAULEY BRIDGE	Planning and Development Council			
TOWN OF MEADOW BRIDGE	Region IV Hazard Mitigation Plan	Plan In Progress		
TOWN OF MOUNT HOPE				
CITY OF OAK HILL				
TOWN OF THURMOND				
RALEIGH COUNTY				
CITY OF BECKLEY				
TOWN OF MABSCOTT	Planning and Development Council	Expired 1/31/2022		
TOWN OF SOPHIA	Hazard Mitigation Plan	Plan In Progress		
SUMMERS COUNTY				
CITY OF HINTON				

#### HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE

FEMA administers three **Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA)** programs to provide funding for projects that reduce the risk to individuals and property from natural hazards.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP): Funding to implement long-term hazard mitigation planning and projects after a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration.

**Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)**: Funding to implement hazard mitigation planning and projects that prevent future losses before disaster strikes.

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA): Funding to implement planning and projects that reduce or eliminate long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the NFIP.

A summary of HMA grants received by county is provided to the right.

### HMA GRANTS RECEIVED



#### COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

### DISCOVERY MEETING

The Discovery Meeting is an opportunity for FEMA to engage directly with the communities in the study watershed. The meeting serves both to introduce communities to the flood risk mapping process and to gather information on local concerns, resources, and needs.

A Discovery Meeting was conducted for Lower New Watershed on July 26, 2023. Representatives of the following communities and agencies attended the meeting:



During the meeting, attendees were asked to provide information on areas of local concern, past risk assessment and mitigation projects, and future risk assessment and mitigation needs. Meeting attendees discussed their priorities with the project team and participated in a mapping exercise to provide information on specific reaches, contributing areas, and structures. Meeting invitees also received questionnaires designed to gather information on local resources, flood hazards, and mapping and mitigation priorities.

Discovery Meeting outcomes based on the meeting, mapping exercise, and questionnaires are summarized on the right.

The Discovery Map comments and Discovery Meeting minutes are included in Appendices F and G, respectively.

### MAP UPDATE REQUEST & FLOOD RISK CONCERN:

The City of Oak Hill, WV shared that development, south of the Oak Hill, WV Shopping Center has occurred without sufficient flood hazard information except the Advisory Flood Height information on the West Virginia Flood Tool that was studied in 2013. Currently, no effective Special Flood Hazard Area or history of flooding exists in that area. The City of Oak Hill requests more detailed study methodologies northwest and southwest of the shopping center as well as the Wolf Creek Subdivision.



#### POTENTIAL FLOOD RISK PRODUCTS AND DATASETS

Based on the findings of the Discovery process, FEMA Region III will consider a potential flood risk mapping project within the Lower New Watershed. FEMA Region III will explore the possibility of studying all riverine areas or a project studying limited stream reaches within the watershed.

A flood risk mapping project takes about three to five years to complete. When it is final, communities are provided with an updated Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), FIS reports, and FIRM databases, also known as Flood Hazard Products. Additionally, communities may receive a set of non-regulatory tools that they can use to better understand and make informed decisions to reduce risk. The following non-regulatory products may be delivered to the communities at the end of a project.

FLOOD RISH	(PRODUCT	WHAT IS IT?	HOW IS IT USED?		
	flood risk MAP	Illustrates overall flood risk within the project area by including the outcomes of assessments completed during the flood risk mapping project.	Can be used by communities as outreach tools to communicate risk to residents more clearly.		
	FLOOD RISK DATABASE	Provides communities with geospatial information and offers effective ways to visualize and commun	collected during the risk assessment process icate flood risk. Four datasets are included.		
	I. Changes Since Last FIRM	Highlights how the latest FIRM differs from the previous maps to help communities understand the changes and prepare for adoption of new maps.	Communities can use this to engage residents and businesses about their changing risk and the implications for flood insurance.		
19. Ober fait Doys Protection Pro	2. Flood Risk Assessment	Focuses on damage that results from floods of various magnitudes. Identifies flood-prone areas and vulnerable populations and property and provides an estimate of potential losses.	Can help guide community mitigation efforts by highlighting areas where risk reduction actions may produce the most effective results.		
19 Deph 100 Yean Un Yean	3. Flood Depth and Analysis Grid	Communicates detailed information about the depth and velocity of floodwaters, as well as the probability of an area being flooded over time.	Officials can use depth grids to show individuals the depth of flooding their home might experience at different flood frequencies.		
	4. Areas of Mitigation Interest	Explains how various physical factors affect the severity of flooding.	Information can be tied to the local HMP, which can help projects gain traction and help officials secure funding for those projects.		



#### SUMMARY AND NEXT STEPS

#### **SUMMARY**

As the first phase of a flood risk mapping project, Discovery helps commence a coordinated effort within the Lower New Watershed to ensure communities have information to improve their risk reduction efforts, including their hazard mitigation planning, mitigation action identification and implementation, and community outreach. The findings from the Lower New Watershed Discovery Report and Maps are based on an analysis of watershed-wide research, information provided by watershed communities and stakeholders, and input from meetings and engagement with the communities and stakeholders. This process and the resulting report and maps serve as the first step toward increasing communities' resilience to flooding within the Lower New Watershed. The coordination with communities in the watershed and the detailed study of flooding within those communities will continue at the outset of a flood risk mapping project in the Lower New Watershed.

#### ACTION ITEMS AND NEXT STEPS

- · Communities will provide feedback to FEMA on training and technical assistance needs.
- FEMA will have follow-up discussions with communities to discuss next steps in the flood risk mapping process should the data and research collected and performed during Discovery support the need for an update.
- Communities should continue to explore ideas to increase their resilience to flooding, such as cost-efficient mitigation projects and integration with hazard mitigation planning.
- Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and identified during Discovery.
- · Communities should stay in contact with FEMA for any additional mapping and public assistance needs.

#### QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please contact the FEMA Region 3 Project Manager, Andrew Jackson, at <u>Andrew Jackson4@fema.dhs.gov</u>.



#### FEDERAL AND STATE CONTACT INFORMATION

AGENCY	NAME	TITLE	EMAIL
YOUR PRIMARY FEMA CONTACT	Andrew Jackson	FEMA Region 3 Project Manager	Andrew.Jackson4@fema.dhs.gov
FEMA REGION 3	ELIZABETH RANSON	FEMA Region 3 Floodplain Management Specialist	Elizabeth.ranson@fema.dhs.gov
WEST VIRGINIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	TIMOTHY W. KEATON	WV NFIP/CTP Coordinator	Tim.w.keaton@wv.gov
WEST VIRGINIA GIS TECHNICAL CENTER	KURT DONALDSON	Project Manager	Kurt.Donaldson@mail.wvu.edu



# APPENDICES

- A. Community Dashboards
- B. Acronyms and Abbreviations
- C. References
- D. Glossary
- E. Additional Data
  - a. Data Collection for the Lower New Watershed
  - b. List of Topographic Data Sources by County
  - c. Results of CNMS Showing Flood Study Validity
  - d. Dams in the Watershed by County
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  - g. County Border Special Flood Hazard Area Floodplain Boundary Tie-In Issues
  - h. LOMCs Identified in the Watershed by Jurisdiction
- F. Discovery Maps
- G. Meeting Minutes
- H. Meeting Attendance Record
- I. Meeting Presentation



# **APPENDIX A | COMMUNITY DASHBOARDS**



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# City of Oak Hill/Fayette County, WV KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)

Issuance

Meeting

Meeting



& Outreach Meeting

Letter of **Final Determination** 





Effective Maps

### City of Oak Hill/Fayette, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on **February 21, 2022,** and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Identify undersized and inadequate culverts to correct the problem.
- Develop more in-depth municipal asset list to better understand the value of structures within the town.
- Enforce the floodplain ordinance for all new construction.
- Continue to buy both repetitive and non-repetitive loss properties in flood prone areas.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas 02-13-2013.pdf



Land Use Trend: **Suburban** 

01/31/1990 Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

05/19/2015 Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



PARTICIPATING in the National Flood Insurance Program

NOT PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



**Countywide Public** Assistance received

\$668K

Category A: Debris Removal

\$797K

**Category B: Protective** Measures

\$3.2M

Categories C-G: Permanent Work

## **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2.
- 3. Meeting

<sup>3</sup> Community Assistance Visit (CAV) / Community Assistance Contact (CAC)



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

# Town of Thurmond/Fayette County, WV

KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)







**Final Determination** 

### Town of Thurmond/Fayette, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on **February 21, 2022,** and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Develop more in-depth municipal asset list to better understand the value of structures within the town.
- Enforce the floodplain ordinance for all new construction.
- Continue to buy both repetitive and non-repetitive loss properties in flood prone areas.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas\_02-13-2013.pdf

Land Use Trend: **Small Town** 

N/A Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

N/A Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



NOT PARTICIPATING in the National Flood Insurance Program

NOT PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



Countywide Public Assistance received

\$668K

Category A: Debris Removal

\$797K

Category B: Protective Measures

\$3.2M Categories C-G: Permanent

Work

## **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2.
- 3. Meeting

<sup>3</sup> Community Assistance Visit (CAV) / Community Assistance Contact (CAC)



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

# Fayette County (Unincorporated Areas)/ Fayette County, WV KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)



& Outreach Meeting

Issuance

Meeting

Meeting

Letter of **Final Determination** 







Estimated structures in the community

# 1.155

Estimated structures in the flood high hazard area



7%

of the population is in the flood high hazard area

~YEAR 5

Effective Maps

### Fayette County (Unincorporated Areas)/Fayette, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on **February 21, 2022,** and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Develop a countywide storm water/drainage plan.
- Enforce the floodplain ordinance for all new construction.
- Identify undersized and inadequate culverts to correct the problem.
- Study wastewater issues related to flooding, storm water, and public health.
- Continue to buy both repetitive and non-repetitive loss properties in flood prone areas.
- Work toward meeting the requirements for participation in the Community Rating System (CRS).
- Undertake buy out projects in Dunloup Watershed areas (i.e. the Dunloup Watershed Voluntary Buyout Program).

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas 02-13-2013.pdf



Rating System

3. Meeting



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

# Greenbrier County (Unincorporated Areas)/ Greenbrier County, WV KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)



& Outreach Meeting

Meeting

Letter of **Final Determination** 









Estimated structures in the community

## 1290

Estimated structures in the flood high hazard area



of the population is in the flood high hazard area

~YEAR 5

Effective Maps

### Greenbrier County (Unincorporated Areas)/Greenbrier, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on **February 21, 2022,** and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Continue to work with the WVDOH to design road construction to be at the 100-year base flood elevation or higher.
- Maintain a database of all at risk structures in floodways and floodplains and distribute information to homeowners and businesses on the importance of purchasing flood insurance and flood proof techniques to protect their homes and businesses.
- Continue to make informational pamphlets available to Greenbrier County citizens that promote buying flood insurance.
- Continue to make permitting necessary (that is consistent with local floodplain ordinances) before any new construction is allowed.
- Determine feasibility of floodwalls or other structures to protect water treatment facilities from flooding.
- Provide opportunities for the leaders in Greenbrier County to participate in FEMA (and/or other agency) proactive programs.
- Install additional river or stream gauges in high-risk areas to gather critical flood data and provide rapid notification to residents, possibly by the installation of sirens or other alert methods.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas 02-13-2013.pdf

Land Use Trend: Rural



03/15/2015 Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

07/19/2018 Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



PARTICIPATING in the National Flood **Insurance** Program

PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



Countywide Public Assistance received

\$6.8M

Category A: Debris Removal

# \$1.6M

**Category B: Protective** Measures

\$4.1M

Categories C-G: Permanent Work

# **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2.
- 3. Meeting



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

# City of Beckley/Raleigh County, WV KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)



& Outreach Meeting

Issuance

Meeting

Meeting







of the population is in the flood high hazard area

~YEAR 5

Letter of **Final Determination** 

Effective Maps

### City of Beckley/Raleigh, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on January 31, 2022, and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Repair and maintain stormwater drain (and/or replace culvert as appropriate) along Market Street. Note that this part stretches outside the city limits and hence, coordination with the County would be necessary.
- Actively seek funding for and encourage the acquisition, elevation, relocation, and mitigation reconstruction of properties susceptible to hazards including but not limited to flooding.
- Work with current floodplain property owners to acquire their structures. This mitigation action would include seeking funds from FEMA under the HMGP. Emphasis would be given to previously un-funded HMGP applications.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas\_02-13-2013.pdf



# Town of Mabscott/Raleigh County, WV

KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)







**Final Determination** 

### Town of Mabscott/Raleigh, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on January 31, 2022, and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Undertake "Stream Maintenance" along White Stick Creek.
- Actively seek funding for and encourage the acquisition, elevation, relocation, and mitigation reconstruction of properties susceptible to hazards including but not limited to flooding.
- Work with current floodplain property owners to acquire their structures. This mitigation action would include seeking funds from FEMA under the HMGP. Emphasis would be given to previously un-funded HMGP applications.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas 02-13-2013.pdf





Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

# Town of Sophia/Raleigh County, WV

KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)



**Final Determination** 





### Town of Sophia/Raleigh, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on January 31, 2022, and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Seek funding for acquisition of the residential properties along Riffe and Main Streets. These properties are located in the 100-year floodplain.
- Repair and maintain stormwater drain (and/or replace culvert as appropriate) along Valley Road beyond Virginia Street.
- Actively seek funding for and encourage the acquisition, elevation, relocation, and mitigation reconstruction of properties susceptible to hazards including but not limited to flooding.
- Work with current floodplain property owners to acquire their structures. This mitigation action would include seeking funds from FEMA under the HMGP. Emphasis would be given to previously un-funded HMGP applications.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas 02-13-2013.pdf



Land Use Trend: **Small Town** 



08/20/2009 Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

11/07/2018 Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



PARTICIPATING in the National Flood **Insurance** Program

NOT PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



Countywide Public Assistance received

\$121K

Category A: Debris Removal

\$671K

**Category B: Protective** Measures

\$2.6M

Categories C-G: Permanent Work

## **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2. and Public Assistance needs.
- 3. Meeting



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping

# Raleigh County (Unincorporated Areas)/ Raleigh County, WV KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)



Discovery Meeting

Flood Risk Review Meeting

Preliminary Map Issuance

Community Coordination & Outreach Meeting

Appeal Period

Letter of **Final Determination** 









Estimated structures in the community

# 2,455

Estimated structures in the flood high hazard area





of the population is in the flood high hazard area

~YEAR 5

Effective Maps

## Raleigh County (Unincorporated Areas)/Raleigh, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on **January 31, 2022,** and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Actively seek funding for and encourage the acquisition, elevation, relocation, and mitigation reconstruction of properties susceptible to hazards including but not limited to flooding.
- Minimize flood damage in the special flood hazard area, especially along the Clear Fork, Marsh Fork, Tommy, and White Stick Creeks.
- Work with current floodplain property owners to acquire their structures. This mitigation action would include seeking funds from FEMA under the HMGP. Emphasis would be given to previously un-funded HMGP applications.
- Flood-protecting treatment plants located in the floodplain.
- Develop and distribute public awareness materials about flood risks and preparedness.
- Undertake "Stream Maintenance" along Clear Fork, Marsh Fork, and Tommy Creeks, as well as near Fairdale.
- Secure roadsides against snowslips and landslides along Rock and Slab Fork Creeks. Also, secure parts of State Route 99 and State Route 3. Problem area at Berry Branch near Helen. Heavy flooding has often resulted in landslides caused by an abandoned mine slate dump.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/fema-mitigationideas 02-13-2013.pdf

Land Use Trend: Rural



08/18/2009 Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

08/19/2015 Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



PARTICIPATING in the National Flood **Insurance** Program

NOT PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



Countywide Public Assistance received

\$121K

Category A: Debris Removal

\$671K

**Category B: Protective** Measures

\$2.6M

Categories C-G: Permanent Work

## **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2. and Public Assistance needs.
- 3. Meeting



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping

# City of Hinton/Summers County, WV KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)

Issuance

Meeting

Meeting



& Outreach Meeting

Letter of **Final Determination** 





Effective Maps

### City of Hinton/Summers, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on January 31, 2022, and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Increase community education, street fairs disaster kits, and community involvement.
- Participate in HMGP projects.
- Increase participation in Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs.
- Apply for grant funding to acquire, elevate, or relocate structures in hazard-prone areas.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas 02-13-2013.pdf



Land Use Trend: **Small Town** 

04/22/1991 Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

06/30/2017 Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



PARTICIPATING in the National Flood Insurance Program

NOT PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



Countywide Public Assistance received

\$168K

Category A: Debris Removal

\$68K

Category B: Protective Measures

\$375K Categories C-G: Permanent

Work

## **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2.
- 3. Meeting

<sup>1</sup> Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Since 1978

<sup>3</sup> Community Assistance Visit (CAV) / Community Assistance Contact (CAC)



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

# Summers County (Unincorporated Areas)/ Summers County, WV KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)



Issuance

& Outreach Meeting

Meeting

Meeting





10,240 Estimated structures in the community 35 Estimated structures in the flood high hazard area 0% of the population is in the flood high hazard area

~YEAR 5

Letter of **Final Determination** 

Effective Maps
### Summers County (Unincorporated Areas)/Summers, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on **January 31, 2022,** and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Minimize the loss of life, damage to property, and disruption in commerce and governmental services posed by flooding.
- Review existing floodplain management practices, and revise as necessary.
- Increase public awareness of natural hazards and methods available to reduce the possible losses.
- Increase public education efforts: Establish a speaker's bureau available to any interested group, Seasonal public service announcements, conduct public meetings to educate the public regarding natural hazards, Distribute natural hazard literature at public locations such as schools, churches, post offices, etc.
- Take practice measures to remove homes from hazard areas.
- Increase enforcement of floodplain ordinances: implement stricter regulations for floodplain development.
- Increase participation in Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs.
- Apply for grant funding to acquire, elevate, or relocate structures in hazard-prone areas.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/fema-mitigationideas\_02-13-2013.pdf

Land Use Trend: Rural



03/01/2013 Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

06/30/2017 Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



PARTICIPATING in the National Flood **Insurance** Program

NOT PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



Countywide Public Assistance received

\$168K

Category A: Debris Removal

## \$68K

Category B: Protective Measures

\$375K

Categories C-G: Permanent Work

### **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2.
- 3. Meeting



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

Long-term Horizon: Possible Flood Risk Review

## Town of Ansted/Fayette County, WV

KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)







**Final Determination** 

### Town of Ansted/Fayette, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on **February 21, 2022,** and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Identify undersized and inadequate culverts to correct the problem.
- Enforce the floodplain ordinance for all new construction.
- Continue to buy both repetitive and non-repetitive loss properties in flood prone areas.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas\_02-13-2013.pdf



Land Use Trend: **Small Town** 



01/31/1990 Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

05/18/2015 Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



PARTICIPATING in the National Flood Insurance Program

NOT PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



Countywide Public Assistance received

\$668K

Category A: Debris Removal

\$797K

**Category B: Protective** Measures

\$3.2M Categories C-G: Permanent

Work

### **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2.
- 3. Meeting

<sup>3</sup> Community Assistance Visit (CAV) / Community Assistance Contact (CAC)



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

Long-term Horizon: Possible Flood Risk Review

# Town of Fayetteville/Fayette County, WV

KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)









of the population is in the flood high hazard area

~YEAR 5

Letter of **Final Determination** 

Effective Maps

### Town of Fayetteville/Fayette, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on **February 21, 2022,** and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Identify undersized and inadequate culverts to correct the problem.
- Develop more in-depth municipal asset list to better understand the value of structures within the town.
- Enforce the floodplain ordinance for all new construction.
- Continue to buy both repetitive and non-repetitive loss properties in flood prone areas.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas 02-13-2013.pdf



Land Use Trend: **Small Town** 



N/A Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

07/27/2017 Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



PARTICIPATING in the National Flood Insurance Program

NOT PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



Countywide Public Assistance received

\$668K

Category A: Debris Removal

\$797K

**Category B: Protective** Measures

\$3.2M Categories C-G: Permanent Work

- **NEXT STEPS:**
- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2.
- 3. Meeting

<sup>1</sup> Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Since 1978

<sup>3</sup> Community Assistance Visit (CAV) / Community Assistance Contact (CAC)



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

Long-term Horizon: Possible Flood Risk Review

## Town of Gauley Bridge/Fayette County, WV

KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)







### Town of Gauley Bridge/Fayette, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on **February 21, 2022,** and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Develop more in-depth municipal asset list to better understand the value of structures within the town.
- Enforce the floodplain ordinance for all new construction.
- Continue to buy both repetitive and non-repetitive loss properties in flood prone areas.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas\_02-13-2013.pdf





02/01/1990 Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

06/05/2019 Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



PARTICIPATING in the National Flood Insurance Program

NOT PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



Countywide Public Assistance received

\$668K

Category A: Debris Removal

\$797K

**Category B: Protective** Measures

\$3.2M Categories C-G: Permanent

Work

### **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2.
- 3. Meeting

<sup>3</sup> Community Assistance Visit (CAV) / Community Assistance Contact (CAC)



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

Long-term Horizon: Possible Flood Risk Review

## Town of Meadow Bridge/Fayette County, WV

KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)







Effective Maps

### Town of Meadow Bridge/Fayette, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on **February 21, 2022,** and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Develop more in-depth municipal asset list to better understand the value of structures within the town.
- Enforce the floodplain ordinance for all new construction.
- Continue to buy both repetitive and non-repetitive loss properties in flood prone areas.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas\_02-13-2013.pdf



Land Use Trend: **Small Town** 



01/31/1990 Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

04/22/2015 Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



PARTICIPATING in the National Flood Insurance Program

NOT PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



Countywide Public Assistance received

\$668K

Category A: Debris Removal

\$797K

**Category B: Protective** Measures

\$3.2M Categories C-G: Permanent

Work

### **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2.
- 3. Meeting

<sup>3</sup> Community Assistance Visit (CAV) / Community Assistance Contact (CAC)



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

Long-term Horizon: Possible Flood Risk Review

# City of Mount Hope/Fayette County, WV

KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)











Estimated structures in the community



Estimated structures in the flood high hazard area



of the population is in the flood high hazard area

~YEAR 5

Letter of **Final Determination** 

Effective Maps

### City of Mount Hope/Fayette, WV



Your Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on **February 21, 2022,** and now is the time to update it. Some projects you identified to reduce flood risk in this previous plan include the following:

- Identify undersized and inadequate culverts to correct the problem.
- Develop more in-depth municipal asset list to better understand the value of structures within the town.
- Enforce the floodplain ordinance for all new construction.
- Continue to buy both repetitive and non-repetitive loss properties in flood prone areas.

Find ideas to mitigate flood risk on fema.gov: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/femamitigation-ideas 02-13-2013.pdf



Land Use Trend: **Small Town** 

01/30/1990 Date of Last CAV<sup>4</sup>

10/24/2017 Date of Last CAC<sup>4</sup>



PARTICIPATING in the National Flood Insurance Program

NOT PARTICIPATING in the Community Rating System



Countywide Public Assistance received

\$668K

Category A: Debris Removal

\$797K

**Category B: Protective** Measures

\$3.2M

Categories C-G: Permanent Work

### **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1. identified during Discovery.
- 2.
- 3. Meeting

<sup>1</sup> Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Since 1978

<sup>3</sup> Community Assistance Visit (CAV) / Community Assistance Contact (CAC)



Communities should review their Floodplain Management Ordinance and Building Code to ensure alignment with flood risks discussed and

Stay in contact with FEMA for community mapping and Public Assistance needs.

Long-term Horizon: Possible Flood Risk Review

## APPENDIX B | ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

#### ACRONYM DEFINITION CAC **Community Assistance Contact** CAV **Community Assistance Visit** CCO Consultation Coordination Officer CHHA Coastal High Hazard Area CIS **Community Information System** CNMS Coordinated Needs Management Strategy ĊŔŚ **Community Rating System** DR Presidential Major Disaster Declaration ΈM. Presidential Emergency Declaration Federal Emergency Management Agency FEMA FIRM Flood Insurance Rate Map FIS Flood Insurance Study FMA Flood Mitigation Assistance GIS Geographic Information System HMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Hazard Mitigation Grant Program HMGP HMP Hazard Mitigation Plan IHP Individual and Households Program LIDAR Light Detection and Ranging Letter of Map Amendment LOMA LOMC Letter of Map Change Letter of Map Revision LOMR Mapping Information Platform MIP MLI Mid-Term Levee Inventory MSC Map Service Center NFHL National Flood Hazard Layer National Flood Insurance Program NFIP Natural Resources Conservation Service NRCS **PDM** Pre-Disaster Mitigation Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning Risk MAP Special Flood Hazard Area SFHA Short-Term Network STN Total Exposure in Floodplain ŤĖĺĖ TGA Targeted Growth Area USACE U.S. Army Corps of Engineers USGS U.S. Geological Survey VDEM Virginia Department of Emergency Management

Water-Surface Elevation



WSEL

### **APPENDIX C | REFERENCES**

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## **APPENDIX C | REFERENCES**

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**0.2-Percent-Annual-Chance Flood** – The flood elevation that has a 0.2-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded each year. Sometimes referred to as the 500-year flood.

**1-Percent-Annual-Chance Flood** – The flood elevation that has a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded each year. Sometimes referred to as the 100-year flood.

**Approximate Stream Miles** – Refers to areas mapped with approximate study methods. Approximate study methods show the approximate outline of the base floodplain, but generally do not produce a base flood elevation. These studies are performed in areas with little or no development or expectation of development.

**Base Flood Elevation (BFE)** - Elevation of the 1-percent-annual-chance flood. This elevation is the basis of the insurance and floodplain management requirements of the NFIP.

**Cfs** - Cubic feet per second, the unit by which discharges are measured (a cubic foot of water is about 7.5 gallons).

**Community Assistance Contact (CAC)** – The CAC is a telephone call or brief visit to an NFIP community for the purpose of establishing or re-establishing contact to determine if any program-related problems exist and to offer assistance.

**Community Assistance Visit (CAV)** – A CAV is a scheduled visit to an NFIP community for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive assessment of the community's floodplain management program. A CAV typically involves a tour of the floodplain, a meeting with local floodplain management officials, a review of the community's floodplain management ordinances, an examination of the community's floodplain development permit and variance files, and a meeting with the community to discuss any identified deficiencies, offer technical assistance, help address any deficiencies, and identify good floodplain management practices.

**Comprehensive Plans** – Local comprehensive plans, also referred to as master plans or general plans, provide a framework for the physical design and development of a community over a long-term planning horizon.

**Critical Facilities** – Facilities that, if damaged, would present an immediate threat to life, public health, and safety. Critical facilities may include hospitals, emergency operations centers, police stations, fire stations, and schools.

**Dam** – An artificial barrier that has the ability to impound water, wastewater, or any liquid-borne material, for the purpose of storage or control of water.

**Detailed Stream Miles** – Refers to areas mapped with detailed study methods. Detailed studies use hydrologic and hydraulic methods that produce BFEs, floodways, and other pertinent flood data. These studies are performed in developed areas and in areas experiencing rapid growth.

**Flood** – A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from (1) the overflow of inland or tidal waters or (2) the unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source.

**Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)** – An official map of a community, on which FEMA has delineated both the SFHAs and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.



**Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Report** – Contains an examination, evaluation, and determination of the flood hazards of a community and, if appropriate, the corresponding water-surface elevations.

**Flood Risk** – Probability multiplied by consequence; the degree of probability that a loss or injury may occur as a result of flooding. This is sometimes referred to as flood vulnerability.

**Floodplain** - The land adjoining the channel of a river, stream, ocean, lake, or other watercourse or water body that is susceptible to flooding.

**Floodplain Boundary Tie-Ins** – Refers to the contiguity of floodplain boundaries along the edges of the Risk MAP project study area. Areas where a significant mismatch, gap, or overlap is identified must be addressed to create a seamless transition.

**Freeboard** – A factor of safety usually expressed in feet above a flood level for purposes of floodplain management. "Freeboard" tends to compensate for the many unknown factors that could contribute to flood heights greater than the height calculated for a selected size flood and floodway conditions, such as wave action, bridge openings, and the hydrological effect of urbanization of the watershed.

**Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)** - A community's HMP documents the findings of its risk assessment and the long-term strategies it will pursue to reduce the effects of disasters on people, property, and the environment.

**HEC-RAS** - A computer modeling software used to conduct a hydraulic study, which produces flood elevations, velocities, and floodplain widths.

**Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA)** – One type of LOMC. Typically, a LOMA is issued when the scale of the FIRM does not allow for small areas of natural high ground to be shown outside the SFHA.

**Letter of Map Change (LOMC)** – A letter that reflects an official revision and/or an amendment to an effective FIRM, which has various uses. If a property owner thinks their property has been inadvertently mapped in an SFHA, property owners or their representatives may submit a request to FEMA for a LOMC. In another use, FEMA issues LOMCs in place of physically revising an effective FIRM.

**Letter of Map Revision (LOMR)** – One type of LOMC. LOMRs are generally based on the implementation of physical measures that affect the hydrologic or hydraulic characteristics of a flooding source and thus result in the modification of the existing regulatory floodway, the effective BFEs, or the SFHA. The LOMR officially revises the FIRM.

**Levee** – A human-made structure, usually an earthen embankment, designed and constructed in accordance with sound engineering practices to contain, control, or divert the flow of water so as to reduce risk from temporary flooding.

**Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR)** – A remote sensing technology that produces highly accurate and dense elevation data. FEMA uses LiDAR data to create digital elevation models for hydraulic modeling of floodplains, digital terrain maps, and other NFIP products.

**National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** – The program of flood insurance coverage and floodplain management administered under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 and any amendments to it, and



applicable Federal regulations promulgated in Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Subchapter B.

**Orthophotography** – Orthophotography data typically are high-resolution aerial images that combine the visual attributes of an aerial photograph with the spatial accuracy and reliability of a planimetric map.

**Redelineated Stream Miles** – Refers to areas that are remapped using more detailed topographic data than that used to prepare the effective FIRM. Redelineation is a useful technique for updating flood hazard information when effective discharges and BFEs appear accurate, but the SFHA seems inaccurate.

**Repetitive Loss (RL) Building** – Any insurable building for which two or more claims of more than \$1,000 were paid by the NFIP within any rolling 10-year period, since 1978. An RL property may or may not be currently insured by the NFIP.

**Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP)** – A FEMA strategy to work collaboratively with State, local, and Tribal entities to deliver quality flood data that increases public awareness and leads to action that reduces risk to life and property.

**Riverine** – Of, or produced by, a river. Riverine floodplains have readily identifiable channels.

**Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)** – Portion of the floodplain subject to inundation by the 1-percent-annualchance or base flood.

**Stafford Act** – Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, PL 100-707, signed into law November 23, 1988; amended the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, PL 93-288. This Act constitutes the statutory authority for most Federal disaster response activities, especially as they pertain to FEMA and FEMA programs.

**Substantial Damage** – Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its pre-damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

**Total Exposure in Floodplain (TEIF)** – An analysis of the total potential economic losses (exposure) in the SFHA.

Watershed - An area that drains into a lake, stream, or other body of water.

**Zone A** – Areas subject to inundation by the 1-percent-annual-chance flood event generally determined using approximate methodologies. Because detailed hydraulic analyses have not been performed, no BFEs or flood depths are shown. Mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements and floodplain management standards apply.

**Zone AE** – Areas subject to inundation by the 1-percent-annual-chance flood event determined by detailed methods. BFEs are shown. Mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements and floodplain management standards apply.

**Zone AO** – Areas subject to inundation by 1-percent-annual-chance shallow flooding (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain) where average depths are between one and three feet. Average flood depths derived from detailed hydraulic analyses are shown in this zone. Mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements



and floodplain management standards apply. Some Zone AO have been designated in areas with high flood velocities such as alluvial fans and washes. Communities are encouraged to adopt more restrictive requirements for these areas.

**Zone AH** – Areas subject to inundation by 1-percent-annual-chance shallow flooding (usually areas of ponding) where average depths are between one and three feet. BFEs derived from detailed hydraulic analyses are shown in this zone. Mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements and floodplain management standards apply.





#### a. Data Collection for the Lower New Watershed

Data Types	Deliverable/Product	Source	
Average Annual Loss	Discovery Map Geodatabase	FEMA's Hazus Average Annualized Loss Viewer	
Boundaries: Community	Discovery Map Geodatabase	Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Databases	
Boundaries: County and State	Discovery Map Geodatabase	U.S. Census	
Boundaries: Watershed	Discovery Map Geodatabase	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)	
Census Blocks	Discovery Map Geodatabase	U.S. Census	
Comprehensive Plan Summary	Discovery Report, Community Dashboards	City, County, and Town Planning Commissions	
CRS Participation	Discovery Report, Community Dashboards	FEMA Community Information System (CIS)	
Dams	Discovery Map Geodatabase, Discovery Report, Community Dashboard	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) National Dam Inventory	
Declared Disasters	Discovery Report, Community Dashboards	Disaster Declaration Database	
Effective Floodplains: Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs)	Discovery Map Geodatabase	FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) from the Flood Map Service Center (MSC)	
Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants	Discovery Report, Community Dashboards	FEMA Region III's Database	
Identified Mitigation Actions	Discovery Map Geodatabase, Discovery Report, Community Dashboard	Planning District Commission Hazard Mitigation Plans	
Individual Assistance	Discovery Report	FEMA Individuals and Households Program Database	
Letters of Map Change	Discovery Map Geodatabase, Discovery Report, Community Dashboard	FEMA's Mapping Information Platform (MIP)	
Levee Inventory	Discovery Map Geodatabase, Discovery Report, Community Dashboard	FEMA's National Levee Inventory Map	
Mitigation Plan Status and Summary	Discovery Report, Community Dashboard	Planning District Commissions	
National Hydrography Stream Data	Discovery Map Geodatabase	FEMA's NFHL	
NFIP Participation	Discovery Report, Community Dashboard	CIS	
Population and Socioeconomic Characteristics	Discovery Report, Community Dashboard	U.S. Census Bureau	
Public Assistance	Discovery Report	FEMA Public Assistance Database	
Stream Gages	Discovery Map Geodatabase, Discovery Report, Community Dashboard	USGS	
Structures	Discovery Map Geodatabase, Community Dashboard	FEMA's NFHL	
Study Needs: FEMA	Discovery Map Geodatabase, Discovery Report	CNMS	
Topography	Discovery Map Geodatabase	See Table b.	
Total Exposure in Floodplain (TEIF)	Discovery Map Geodatabase, Discovery Report	Region III TEIF Database	
Transportation: Roads and Railroads	Discovery Map Geodatabase	U.S. Census	



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### b. List of Topographic Data Sources by County

County or City	Source	Date	Website
Fayette County	2018 FEMA Region III Southcentral (Central Lot) QL2 LiDAR	2018	Pending
Fayette County	2016 FEMA Region III 3DEP WV East	2016	http://data.wvgis.wvu.edu/elevation/
Greenbrier County	2016 FEMA Region III 3DEP WV East	2016	http://data.wvgis.wvu.edu/elevation/
Mercer County	2012 FEMA VA LiDAR Eastern Panhandle	2012	http://data.wvgis.wvu.edu/elevation/
Mercer County	2016 FEMA Region III 3DEP WV East	2016	Pending
Raleigh County	2016 FEMA Region 3DEP WV East QL 2 LiDAR	2016	http://data.wvgis.wvu.edu/elevation/
Raleigh County	2018 FEMA South Central WV (Central Lot) QL2 LiDAR	2018	Pending
Summers County	2016 FEMA Region III 3DEP WV Northeast	2016	http://data.wvgis.wvu.edu/elevation/

#### c. Results of CNMS Showing Flood Study Validity

County or City	Detailed Study Stream Mileage		Approximate Study Stream Mileage			Redelineated Study Stream Mileage			
	Unverified	Unknown	Valid	Unverified	Unknown	Valid	Unverified	Unknown	Valid
Fayette County	2.99	0	0	55.57	0	0	0	0	2.96
Greenbrier County <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Raleigh County	14.42	0	8.38	64.81	0	0	26.41	0	26.69
Summers County	11.03	0	11.26	0	0	2.35	0	0	0
Total	28.44	0	19.64	120.38	0	2.35	26.41	0	29.66

<sup>1</sup>County has no streams within the watershed

Valid: Study is accurate per known data Unknown: Validity needs to be assessed Unverified: Study needs to be updated



#### d. Dams in the Watershed by County

County	Total
Fayette County	8
Raleigh County	10
Summers County	0
Total	18

### e. Levees in the Watershed by County

County	Total
Fayette County	0
Raleigh County	0
Summers County	0
Total	0

### f. Stream Gage Information

Gage ID	Gage Location	County	Years of Record
01559790	Raystown Branch Juniata River at Wolfsburg, PA	Bedford	0
03184500	New River At Hinton, WV	Summers	84
03185000	Piney Creek At Raleigh, WV	Raleigh	49
03185400	New River At Thurmond, WV	Fayette	40
03185020	L. Beaver C. Trib Nr Shady Springs, WV	Summers	12
03185500	New River At Caperton	Fayette	30
03186000	New River At Fayette	Fayette	36
380649081083301	New River Below Hawks Nest Dam, WV	Fayette	15*

\* Only gage height data available



### g. County Border Special Flood Hazard Area Floodplain Boundary Tie-In Issues

County Border	Issue/Problem	Stream Reach	Latitude	Longitude
Fayette-Raleigh	Flood Zones Mismatched	Mill Creek	37° 52' 51.357" N	81° 9' 11.398" W
Fayette-Raleigh	Flood Zones Misaligned	New River	37° 52' 33.140" N	81° 4' 26.172" W
Fayette-Raleigh	Flood Zones Mismatched	New River	37° 49' 5.657" N	80° 56' 40.677" W
Raleigh-Summers	Flood Zones / BFEs Misaligned	New River	37° 42' 48.856" N	80° 53' 51.571" W
Raleigh-Summers	Flood Zones / BFEs Misaligned	New River	37° 46' 52.934" N	80° 54' 45.127" W
Fayette-Summers	Flood Zones Mismatched	Meadow Creek	37° 50' 59.586" N	80° 51' 33.765" W
Raleigh-Mercer	Pol_Ar Gaps/Overlaps	McKinney Branch	37° 35' 26.684" N	81° 6' 38.735" W



### h. LOMCs Identified in the Watershed by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Number of Letters of Map Amendment	Number of Letters of Map Revision	Number of Letters of Map Change
Fayette County	4	0	4
Town of Ansted	0	0	0
Town of Fayetteville	0	0	0
Town of Gauley Bridge	0	0	0
Town of Meadow Bridge	0	0	0
City of Mount Hope	I	0	I
City of Oak Hill	I	0	I
Town of Thurmond	0	0	0
Raleigh County	13	I	14
City of Beckley	I	0	I
Town of Mabscott	0	0	0
Town of Sophia	2	0	2
Summers County	2	0	2
City of Hinton		0	
Total	25	I	26



## APPENDIX F | DISCOVERY MAPS



# Flood Risk: Lower New Watershed





# Potential Loss: Lower New Watershed







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MERCER

# Mapping Needs: Lower New Watershed



MAP SYMBOLOGY	ELEVATION DATA AVAILABLE FOR LOWER NEW WATERSHED	WATERSHED LOCATOR	
Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS) Validation Status NVUE COMPLIANT	USGS acquired FEMA South Central WV Lidar for Fayette County and Raleigh County in 2018.		MAPPING NEEDS DISCOVERY MAP
Other Fischer Standard   State Boundary FIS Discharge Standard   Municipal Boundary Equation from Regression   Municipal Boundary -2   County Boundary -1   Stream Line 0   Major Road and Highway 1   Special Flood Hazard Area 2	USGS acquired FEMA Region III East Lidar for ayette, Greenbrier County and Summers County in 2016. USGS acquired FEMA VA LiDAR Eastern Panhandle Lidar for Mercer County County in 2012. USGS acquired 3DEP WV East QL 2 Lidar for Raleigh County County in 2016 USGS acquired 3DEP WV Northeast Lidar for Summers County County in 2016	05050006 05050004 05050009 05050009 05050002	LOWER NEW WATERSHED Study Area: AYETTE COUNTY, WV SUMMERS COUNTY, WV RALEIGH COUNTY, WV TALEIGH COUNTY, WV

JANUARY 2024

### APPENDIX G | MEETING MINUTES







#### MEETING SYNOPSIS: GAULEY & LOWER NEW WATERSHEDS FLOOD RISK DISCOVERY MEETING

#### **Meeting Details**

Date	07/26/2023	Time	10:00 a.m 12:00 p.m.
Watershed	Lower New	Location	New River Convention Center, 497 Mall Road, Oak Hill, WV 25901
Total Community Sign-Ins	5	Communities Represented	Fayette County, City of Oak Hill, Town of Ansted, Minden Community
Total Non- Community Sign-Ins (e.g., Federal, State, Regional organizations or NGOs)	7	Entities Represented	Federal: FEMA Region III State: WV State NFIP Regional: Region I PDC
Format	The meeting opened with a formal presentation/sl ide-show followed by a Discovery Map review and comment exercise.	Materials Shared	<ul> <li>Agenda</li> <li>PowerPoint Presentation: Agenda, Introductions, the NFIP and Flood Risk Data, Project Area Overview, Risk MAP Program and Discovery Overview, Reducing Risk in Communities, Next Steps, Watershed Discovery Maps, Risk and Action Identification Exercise</li> <li>Discovery Maps: Flood Risk, Mapping Needs, Potential Loss</li> <li>Community Dashboards</li> </ul>



### Gauley and Lower New Watersheds Flood Risk Discovery Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 26, 2023 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

497 Mall Road, Oak Hill, WV 25901

#### Welcome and Introductions

- Introductions were made for the presenters of the meeting:
  - o Crystal Smith, Program Specialist
  - o Andrew Jackson, Civil Engineer, FAC-COR Level III
  - o Tim W. Keaton, State NFIP/CTP Coordinator
- Agenda Overview
  - Welcome and Overview
  - o The National Flood Insurance Program and Flood Risk Data
  - Flood Risk Study Project and Discovery Overview
  - Reducing Flood Risk in Communities
  - Next Steps
  - Risk and Action Identification Exercise

#### Presentation

See the presentation for the slides that align with the notes throughout this section.

#### The National Flood Insurance Program and Flood Risk Data

- An overview was provided of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which allows property owners to purchase flood insurance at a reduced rate when communities adopt and enforce floodplain management ordinances based on current flood maps.
- Over 22,616 communities participate in the NFIP, with over 5 million policies.
- Over 5 million policies in the NFIP nationwide, >14,700 in WV
- Flood Risk Data for West Virginia can be accessed by the following platforms:
  - The West Virginia Flood Tool at <u>www.mapwv.gov/flood</u>
  - FEMA's Flood Map Service Center (MSC) at <u>https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home</u>
  - o National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) at https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/national-flood-hazard-layer

#### Flood Risk Study Project and Discovery Overview

- The goal of the Risk MAP program is to deliver quality flood hazard data that helps communities increase public awareness and leads to action that reduces risk to life and property.
- FEMA has decided to update the existing maps due to factors such as the recent availability of highresolution elevation data (Light Detection and Ranging [LiDAR]), the advanced age of effective flood studies for non- coastal areas, new hydrologic calculations, affordable model-backed Zone A flood studies, and ability to provide new flood risk products.
- Many different types of data are collected and analyzed before the Discovery meeting, including:
  - o Watershed and Jurisdiction Boundaries
  - o Dams and Levees
  - o Stream Data
  - Declared Disasters
  - o Effective Floodplains: Special Flood Hazard Areas
- The typical Risk MAP project takes an average of 3-5 years to complete.



- The goal of the Discovery phase is to share information to communities and learn about flood risk and mitigation activities and capabilities.
- Outcomes of the Discovery process include a Discovery report, Discovery maps, and identification of potential study areas.

#### **Reducing Flood Risk in Communities**

- Specialized flood risk dashboards are available and will be distributed to each community within the four watersheds being studied. These dashboards provide communities with a snapshot of their flood risk as well as their financial risk.
- Ways a community can improve their resilience to flooding were shared, including:
  - o Improving and implementing Hazard Mitigation Plans
  - o Influencing decisions about development, ordinances, and flood mitigation projects
  - o Communicating with citizens about flood risk

• Implementing hazard mitigation actions can save communities money in the long run. By implementing higher standards in a floodplain management ordinance, communities can experience a benefit-cost ratio of \$5: \$1. Additionally, for every \$1 spent on federally funded actions that reduce riverine flood risk, \$7 is saved.

#### Next Steps

- Information provided by communities is crucial to the Risk MAP process. Requested information includes:
  - Completed Discovery data questionnaire, with GIS contact
  - $\circ \quad \text{Areas of Concern}$
  - o Areas of historical flooding and other flood risks
  - o Mitigation projects addressing flood risks
  - o Ideas about ways to increase resilience

### Closing

Project contacts were provided to meeting attendees, and meeting concluded with a Discovery Map review and comment exercise.

#### **Action Items**

- 1. Participants will:
  - a. Complete and submit Discovery data questionnaires to FEMA, with GIS contact information
  - b. Provide areas of concern, including areas of recent or planned development and areas of high growth or other significant land changes
  - c. Provide information about areas of historical flooding and other flood risks
  - d. Provide information about mitigation projects that address flood risks
  - e. Provide ideas to increase their community's resilience to flooding, such as training, cost-efficient mitigation, and integration with hazard mitigation planning
- 2. FEMA and Partners will:
  - a. Have follow-up discussions with communities regarding areas to be updated
  - b. Provide a copy of the final Discovery report and meeting materials to all meeting participants and communities

#### Contacts

FEMA Region III

Andrew Jackson Civil Engineer Andrew.Jackson4@fema.dhs.gov 202-718-2755

Elizabeth Ranson Mitigation Planning Elizabeth.Ranson@fema.dhs.gov 215-347-0686

#### State Partners

Timothy W. Keaton State NFIP/CTP Coordinator Tim.W.Keaton@wv.gov 304-414-7659

Kurt Donaldson WVGISTC Manager Kurt.Donaldson@mail.wvu.edu 304-293-9467

#### Mapping Partners

Crystal Smith Stakeholder Engagement Specialist Crystal.Smith@wsp.com

Madison Matera Stakeholder Engagement Specialist Madison.Matera@wsp.com

#### **Questions/Comments**

Question: WV has advisory flood heights, are they incorporated?

Answer: YES, the tool is one of the best in the nation!

**Question:** Are Elevation Certificates something that should be sent to FEMA/State and will they be beneficial

**Answer:** They are beneficial, we are looking for more areas where new development or projects will impact flood elevations as well as any areas that look different from what you have experienced

Question: Should we do LOMAs right now, since they may no longer be valid with new data?

Answer: You can still move forward with LOMAs

Question: There are areas in Oak Hill that are A, can they be converted to AE?

Answer: Yes possibly, show us the areas on the maps and we will make note of this request

Question: What about Mitigation Plans?

Answer: Mitigation plans can be amended, but they need to be readopted if amended

**Question:** Can we get CRS points for building something acceptable on the buyout list of properties and what is the process?

Answer: You would need to create a site plan and also get FEMAs advance approval

### **APPENDIX H | MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD**



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#### **Discovery Meeting – Gauley and Lower New Watersheds**

Date / Time: July 26 – 10am

Location: New River Convention Center - 497 Mall Road, Oak Hill, WV 25901

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Email	Sign-In
Justin	Watkins	Region I PDC	Justin@regiononepdc.org	
Robert	Wilson	Town of Ansted	Rtwilson55@gmail.com	
Allen	Ballard	Fayette County	Allenballard14@gmail.com	
Ben	Love	City of Oak Hill	blove@oakhillwv.gov	
Damita	Johnson	City of Oak Hill	djohnson@oakhillwv.gov	
Steve	Hayslette	Minden Community	daddymuff@aol.com	
Tim	Keaton	State NFIP	Tim.w.keaton@wv.com	
Ruthie	Maniscalchi	State NFIP	Ruthie.a.maniscalchi@wv.gov	
Julie	Sears	State NFIP	Julia.r.sears@wv.gov	
Andrew	Jackson	FEMA	Andrew.Jackson4@fema.dhs.gov	
Crystal	Smith	ARC PTS	Crystal.Smith@fema.dhs.gov	
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Madison	Matera	ARC PTS	Madison.Matera@fema.dhs.gov	

\*\* For a complete list of all invited stakeholders, please refer to the Community Contact List – CERC.xlsx that is delivered to FEMA's Mapping Information

Platform (MIP) in conjunction with this report under case number 19-03-0005S (within the Lower New Discovery Preparation subfolder).

#### **APPENDIX I | MEETING PRESENTATION**







### Gauley and Lower New Watershed Flood Risk Discovery Meeting

FEMA REGION 3 July 25 - 26, 2023



# Why Are We Here?

- Discuss flood risk changes
- Gather local information
- Collaborate on planning, taking action, and communicating risk





- Welcome and Overview
- The National Flood Insurance Program and Flood Risk Data
- Flood Risk Study Project and Discovery Overview
- Reducing Flood Risk in Communities
- Next Steps
- Risk and Action Identification Exercise





#### Introductions

- Name
- Municipality or organization
- Role in floodplain management







# The National Flood Insurance Program and Flood Risk Data





#### National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

- Allows property owners to purchase flood insurance at reduced rates
- State and local governments agree to adopt and enforce floodplain management ordinances
- Over 22,616 communities participate in the NFIP\*
- Over 5 million policies in the NFIP nationwide, >14,700 in WV\*

\*Data current as of April 2023: FEMA Community Status Book.





### Flood Insurance Rate Maps and Studies

#### Key Terms:

- Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)
- Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Report
- Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)
- Flood Zone
- Base Flood Elevation (BFE)
- Regulatory Floodway
- Cross Section





# Typical FIRM Panel and Flood Zones







# Study Types

		Approximate (Zone A)	Detailed (Zone AE)		
Survey	Channel XS	None	Field survey at road crossings		
	Hydraulic Structures	None	Field survey		
Hydrology	Methodology	Historically regression equations with gage analysis where applicable - Alternate methods such as HEC-HMS or Rainfall Run off			
Hydraulics	Recurrence Interval	10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1%+ and 0.2% annual chance			
	Manning's "n"	Aerial Imagery (Horizontal Variation)			
	Channel Geometry	Lidar	LiDAR; Supplemented with field survey		
Mapping	Boundaries	1% annual chance	1% and 0.2% annual chance		
	Flood Zones	Zone A (no mapped BFEs but WSELs available in FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer)	Zone AE (all XS with labeled WSELs, and Floodways) and 'Shaded' Zone X		
FIS Report	Tables	Study Summaries, Summary of Discharges	Study Summaries, Summary of Discharges, Floodway Data, Roughness Coefficient		
	Profiles	None	10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, 1+, and 0.2% annual chance		

#### FEMA Flood Risk GIS Datasets

Flood Depth & Analysis Grids



Changes Since Last FIRM

Water Surface Elevation Grids Flood Risk Assessment



#### Where to Find Flood Risk Data

#### WV Flood Tool

- Digital mapping source publicly available that shows propertylevel flood risk
- www.mapwv.gov/flood

#### FEMA's Flood Map Service Center (MSC)

- Where you can view effective maps online for free
- https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home

#### National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL)

- Geospatial database that contains current effective flood hazard data
- <u>https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/national-flood-hazard-layer</u>







### Where Can I Find My Flood Maps?

The FEMA Map Service Center (MSC) is the official public source for flood hazard information: <u>https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home</u>



#### National Flood Hazard Layer

# Visit <u>https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-hazard-layer-nfhl</u> for multiple options to view and download NFHL data.

Accessing the National Flood Hazard Layer

#### Map Service Center

#### NFHL ArcGIS Viewer

Access localized National Flood Hazard Layer data by searching FEMA's Map Service Center. Or you you may view, download, and print current local digital effective flood hazard data in an ArcGIS map.

FEMA's Map Service Center 🦻

NFHL Viewer 🥕

In the NFHL Viewer, you can use the address search or map navigation to locate an area of interest and the NFHL Print Tool to download and print a full Flood Insurance Rate Map (FRM) or FIRMette (a smaller, printable version of a FIRM) where modernized data exists. Technical GIS users can also utilize a series of dedicated GIS web services that allow the NFHL database to be incorporated into websites and GIS applications. For more information on available services, go to the <u>NFHL GIS Services User Guide</u>.

You can also use the address search on the <u>FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC)</u> to view the NFHL data or download a FIRMette. Using the "Search All Products" on the MSC, you can download the NFHL data for a County or State in a GIS file format. This data can be used in most GIS applications to perform spatial analyses and for integration into custom maps and reports. To do so, you will need GIS or mapping software that can read data in shapefile format.

FEMA also offers a download of a KMZ (keyhole markup file zipped) file, which overlays the data in Google Earth<sup>™</sup>. For more information on using the data in Google Earth<sup>™</sup>, please see <u>Using the National Flood Hazard Layer Web Map Service (WMS) in Google</u> <u>Earth<sup>™</sup></u>.

#### Draft National Flood Hazard Layer

The <u>Draft National Flood Hazard Laver</u> is for early awareness of possible changes to regulatory flood map information. Until the data becomes effective and it appears in the National Flood Hazard Laver, the data cannot be used to rate flood insurance policies or enforce the federal mandatory purchase requirement.

#### Preliminary Flood Hazard Data

Preliminary flood hazard data provides the public an early look at their home or community's projected risk to flood hazards. Preliminary data may include new or revised Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Reports and FIRM Databases. <u>View your community's preliminary flood hazard data</u>.

#### Pending Flood Hazard Data

Pending flood hazard data provides the public an early look at their home or community's projected risk to flood hazards. Pending data may include new or revised Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Reports and FIRM Databases. <u>View your community's preliminary flood hazard data</u>.



# Flood Risk Study Project and Discovery Overview





#### Why Are We Here?

### Through collaboration with state and local partners like yourselves, our goal is to deliver **quality flood hazard data** that helps you **increase public awareness** and **leads to action** that reduces risk to life and property.





# Watershed Maps



### Watershed Maps



#### Watershed Maps



# Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Status

Jurisdiction	Effective FIRM Date	Jurisdiction	Effective FIRM Date
Clay County	02/06/2013	Raleigh County	06/16/2009
Fayette County	09/03/2010	Randolph County	09/29/2010
Greenbrier County	07/05/2023	Summers County	10/07/2021
Kanawha County	08/01/2023	Webster County	05/03/2022
Nicholas County	09/24/2021		
Pocahontas County	11/04/2010		





# Why Now? Better Data!

- Availability of High-Resolution Elevation Data (LiDAR) (USGS QL2 LiDAR) <u>http://data.wvgis.wvu.edu/elevation/</u>
- Age of effective flood studies
- New hydrologic calculations (30-40 more years of rainfall data)
- Affordable model-backed Zone A flood studies (HEC-RAS)
- Ability to provide new Flood Risk Products (depth grids, etc.)







### **Discovery: Data Collection & Collaboration**

- Examples of data gathered and analyzed before the meeting include the following:
  - Watershed and Jurisdiction Boundaries
  - Dams and Levees
  - Stream Data
  - Declared Disasters
  - Effective Floodplains: Special Flood Hazard Areas
  - Letters of Map Change
  - NFIP Participation
  - Individual and Public Assistance
  - Mitigation Plan Status and Summary
  - Population and Socioeconomic Characteristics







# Flood Risk Data Questions

#### Data

- What data do you already have available?
- What is your data wish list?
- Technical Assistance
  - What technical challenges are you facing, and what assistance could support your efforts right now?
- Training and Outreach
  - What trainings and outreach would help support your existing or planned efforts?

\*For more information on floodplain management, insurance and mitigation strategies, sign up for FEMA's "Resilience Report" e-newsletter





# **Typical Flood Study Timeline**



Risk



### **Discovery: Outcomes**

#### Discovery Report

· Summary of data, analysis, meetings and action items or decisions

#### Discovery Maps

- Flood Hazards
- Potential Economic Loss
- Mapping Needs
- Potential Study Areas









# Reducing Flood Risk in Communities







### Flood Risk Dashboard



### **Dashboard of Your Community Profile**



#### City of Summersville/Nicholas County, WV

KNOW YOUR RISK (The information presented below are estimates as of August 2022.)



#### How Can You Improve Your Community's **Resilience to Flooding Now?**







Influence decisions about development, ordinances and flood

Help to maintain the sustainability of your community by increasing resilience to flooding.

# Hazard Mitigation Actions Save

Nation *BCR r	al Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) Per Peril numbers in this study have been rounded Overall Hazard Benefit-Cost Ratio	Beyond Code Requirements \$4:1	Federally Funded \$6:1
	<b>Riverine Flood</b>	\$5:1	\$7:1
	Hurricane Surge	\$7:1	Too few grants
1	Wind	\$5:1	\$5:1
	Earthquake	\$4:1	\$3:1
1	Wildland-Urban Interface Fire	\$4:1	\$3:1

Mitigation Saves Fact Sheet (fema.gov)



#### Hazard Mitigation Plans

- Hazard Mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters.
  - Occurs before, during and after disasters and serves to break the cycle of damage and repair
  - Long-term risk reduction
  - Essential part of community resilience

www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/docu ments/fema\_local-mitigation-planninghandbook\_052023.pdf



#### Local Mitigation Planning Handbook

May 2023







# **Next Steps**





#### Information We Need From You

- Completed Discovery data questionnaire, with GIS contact
- Areas of Concern
- Areas of historical flooding and other flood risks
- Mitigation projects addressing flood risks
- Your ideas about ways to increase resilience



#### **Project Contacts**



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#### **Mapping Partners:**

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<u> </u>	NV F	Iood Tool er: When In Doubt, It's Not Out!		A Spence Grantsv	r ville →
Views		Layers	Search	Tools	
Public Expert	Risk MAP	← Risk → ■ Reference → ● Basemaps → Address	← e.g., 123 street name, city, state, zip Q		8 🚔 🕥
	Q ()	BUILDING-LEVEL RISK: 100-YEAR FLOOD Primary Structure (Future Map) LOMA Verified (In or Out SFHA) Building Exposure Cost Building Year Pre-FIRM & Post-FIRM	The		Flood Hazard Area: Location is NOT WITHIN any identified flood hazard area. Unmapped flood hazard areas may be present. Flood Zone: Out of Flood Zone Stream: Watershed (HUC8): Coal (5050009)
		Foundation Type Foundation Type Elevation Certificates (Building Type) Minus-Rated Structure	R	R	FEMA's Flood Map: 54005C0280D ± NFHL   Map Effective Date: 5/16/2013   Contacts: Boone
A statu	Inction	Building Damage Loss Estimate	z	ne A	Flood Height®: N/A
		CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE			Water Depth®: N/A HEC-RAS Model: N/A
		FLOOD DEPTH		1	Flood Profile: N/A
KA Re		OTHER NATURAL HAZARDS			Community : Boone County
		MITIGATED PROPERTIES & OPEN SPACE	👢 🚼 🛱 🗌		Freeboard: 2 ft CRS Class: 10 CID: 540007
	70.	PRIMARY FLOOD HAZARD LAYERS	• <u></u> . • <del>`</del> .		Location (lat, long): (37.973309, -81.702404) WGS84
		PRELIMINARY/DRAFT FLOOD LAYERS	R		Location (UTM 17N): (4203085, 438308) WGS84
	XU)	OTHER FLOOD ZONE SYMBOLOGY	R	BOO	External Viewers: 📃 🔣 🕨 💭
	1 -	MISCELLANEOUS LAYERS	ERA IR		Elevation: 1005.7 ft (Source: FEMA 2018-20) NAVD88
		* indicates that data is from FEMA			Address : multiple addresses
		Show Legend			Parcel 🗌 : 03-01-0018-0083-0000   Assessment 🔺
		R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R	Real Provide American		Flood Risk Information Related Resources Flood Risk Assessment 3D Flood Visualization N/A
- And	R R R			ch Branch	

200m 600ft scale - 1' 9 028 www.mapwv.gov/flood 9263